



Annual Review 2015

CHANGE, NOT CHARITY



www.kitechild.org

ABOUT US

Kitechild was started in 2010 by two UCLA alumni seeking to elevate the quality of life and opportunities for children living in orphanages. Pollyanna and Jacqueline became close friends while attending UCLA, and it was soon after graduation that the idea was born to start a movement that put the cause of orphaned children on the map – but in a new way, not in the typical “30 cents a day sponsor a child” way that has been the norm for many years.

Having been raised by missionary parents who traveled to many orphanages when she was a child, Pollyanna had seen first-hand that despite the dire circumstances the children often lived in, they were nonetheless hopeful and resilient. Jacqueline became a foster parent to her 15 year old brother when she was only 24 years old, and saw first hand how becoming an orphan, or losing your family, can happen instantly and often is more complex than a parent dying, but more common due to realities such as poverty, abuse, and neglect. Inspired by these personal experiences, they embarked on co-founding Kitechild in 2010.

Kitechild... **What's in a name?**

In order for a kite to take off and soar on its own, it needs a little bit of help, a little bit of a guidance to catch the wind at just the right spot. Once you run with it and give it the support it needs, a kite can take off on its own and soar high into the sky. Similarly, our partner children often just need a little guidance, some support, someone to hold their hand along the way and let them know they are capable of growing healthy and happy.

The **Children**

Vulnerable children are often portrayed as sad, hopeless, lost cases, but we have learned through our years of research and trips into the field that this is simply not true: they are full of HOPE, JOY, and HUGE POTENTIAL in spite of all the hardships they've been through.

We believe in **Change, not charity**

Together with orphanage directors and local communities, we develop and fund sustainable micro-projects that elevate the quality of life for our partner kids. When a Kitechild project either generates income or saves a home money, the funds are redirected to meet the needs for the children, such as quality nutrition, or school fees. Projects such as chicken coops add healthy protein in the form of eggs to the children's diet, our aquaponics farm provides healthy vegetables and tilapia to a home that could only afford to feed their children rice and beans. Each project is sustainable and transparent, and our donors receive regular updates over time which show how the project has grown and how their investment is changing lives.

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PROJECTS IN 2015



Greenhouse, Watoto Wema, Kenya

February 2015

Number of Children: 62

Impact: The greenhouse is currently growing kale and tomatoes, which are both consumed by the children to elevate their nutrition, and surplus produce is sold in local markets to generate income to pay for school fees of the older children.



Seven Greenhouses, Fiwagoh Home, Kenya

March 2015

Number of Children: 220

Impact: The seven greenhouses are currently growing spinach, kale, and tomatoes, which have been added to the children's diet. The surplus produce is sold in local markets and has generated income to hire a social worker who has reintegrated 17 children into the community.



Chicken Farm, Ashirvad Home, India

June 2015

Number of Children: 79

Impact: This income generating farm is set to scale and generate enough income to build and maintain a computer lab for the children, including hiring a computer teacher, as computer skills are crucial to securing many jobs in India.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Since 2010 to date, we have successfully launched 14 projects in 5 countries, impacting over 600 children. The revenue generated from the projects have provided nutritious meals, sent hundreds of children to school, and allowed homes to hire social workers to reintegrate older children into their communities. A few of our current projects below, clockwise from left: *Aquaponics Tilapia Farm, Honduras; Dairy Cows, Kenya, Solar Panels, Liberia; Chicken Farm, India.*



UPCOMING PROJECTS IN 2016

Four Greenhouses, St. Catherine's Children's Home, Nairobi, Kenya

Solar Panel Installation, Good Samaritan Children's Home, Nairobi, Kenya

Borehole/Well, Huruma Children's Home, Nairobi, Kenya

Solar Lighting Installation, LAMP Home, Narsapur, India

Aquaponics Farm/Tilapia Pond, Casa Guatemala, Rio Dulce, Guatemala

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ACHIEVEMENTS & MILESTONES



We launched our largest scale project to date - a seven greenhouse installation at the Fiwagoh Home in Nakuru, Kenya, costing \$25,000.00USD. The greenhouse is generating enough income to hire a social worker, who has so far reintegrated 17 children back into their communities.



In June, Kitechid headed back to India to assess potential partners, conduct further research on the state of vulnerable children, oversee 2 new project installations, and hire our in-country liaison, Shobha Annamalai, to help us monitor and grow our projects.



Due to the increase in scale of our projects as well as complexity, we are proud to partner with and receive technical advice and support from Engineers without Borders. We have a dedicated team of engineers who provide guidance and feedback on our project development, execution, and troubleshooting.



Why Kitechild?

The countries we work in lack social services to support vulnerable children - meaning there is little to no adoption, foster care, or a 'Child Protective Services' department to aid children who are abused or abandoned.

While orphanages are not the best living situation for children, it is often the only choice. We support the growth and potential of these children by supporting those homes that strive to provide the best care possible. Each partner home is also required to work with a social worker to integrate children back into their communities. Our project-based model requires commitment, monitoring, and transparency from our partners, and our long term goals are to transform the standards of care while children must live in these homes.

Thank you for your support in helping us serve vulnerable children in the best way possible, so they may grow into healthy, happy, and productive members of their own communities.