

THE MATHARI CHILDREN'S FUND



Mathari

It's difficult to describe a place like Mathari - and even more difficult to imagine the life of a child in this slum on the outskirts of Nairobi, Kenya. **About 600,000 people live there in dire poverty.**

People live in shacks made from scrap material, with dirt floors and no sanitation. When it rains the shacks become flooded and the muck contributes to the rising tide of TB and other diseases.

Work is irregular, at best. Adults try to make a living by selling vegetables or carrying water. A lucky few operate small shops; some make alcohol for the ubiquitous drinking dens. Children roam the streets looking for scraps to eat or sell.



The Children



Getting into school is the only chance a kid has - for safety as well as for a more hopeful future.

Life on the streets is the only other option- a grim future containing rampant abuse, violence, and disease. Sniffing glue is the main street activity, and most kids will be drawn into stealing money to support this terrible addiction. Theft - even by children - is punished by mob justice: being burnt or beaten to death, or being thrown from a cliff.

Children are often killed just for stealing food.

The Fund

The Mathari Children's Fund, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping impoverished children and young adults in Mathari. We are committed to helping them gain the skills and self-confidence they need to grow up in one of the most difficult environments in the world. There are currently 125 children successfully enrolled in school, technical training, or rehabilitation programs.

All funds are directly channeled to meet the needs of these children. Fees are paid directly to the schools. A small salary is paid to three social workers who coordinate payments and work with the children. Statements detailing all expenses are updated annually at www.mathari.org.

OUR COMMITMENT

Your money goes directly to save lives and to offer hope for the future of Mathari's children.

All administrative costs are covered by donations specifically designated for that purpose. **100% of your contribution will go directly to Mathari.**

All of our financial information is available on-line at www.mathari.org

Why Help?

- **Because we, the volunteers who run the fund, pay ALL the administrative expenses. Where else can you put 100% of your donation to work saving lives?**
- **Because it costs so little to achieve so much. Where else can you keep a child alive and learning for the cost of one cappuccino per week?**
- **Because it works. These children help themselves once you give them the chance. 70% of our children perform better than their classmates. 10% of them lead their class. They have skills, confidence and optimism that were completely lacking when they first entered the program.**
- **Because you can!**

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Sponsor a kid to school!

A small amount makes a big difference.

\$395 sponsors a year of secondary school.

\$250 sponsors a year of technical training.

\$160 sponsors a year of primary school.

\$20 buys books, shoes, and other school-related necessities.

We accept all donations gratefully

HOW TO FIND OUT MORE

1. Visit our website at www.mathari.org
2. Contact us by mail at 10 Rogers Street, Unit P4, Cambridge, MA 02142
3. Email us at support@mathari.org

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

Send a check payable to *The Mathari Children's Fund, Inc.*; 10 Rogers Street, Unit P4, Cambridge, MA 02142. Or donate via our website, www.mathari.org using PayPal.

All donations are tax deductible in the US and may be eligible for matching funds from your employer.

All donations go directly to Mathari.