



CHILDREN OF GOD  
RELIEF INSTITUTE  
NYUMBANI

# ANNUAL REPORT

#2024

[www.nyumbani.or.ke](http://www.nyumbani.or.ke)

# Letter from the Executive Director



*"In 2024, we continued to provide safe homes, critical healthcare, quality education, and pathways to self-sufficiency for 637 children and 78 grandparents in our residential programs."*

## Dear Friends, Supporters, and Members of the Nyumbani Community,

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the resilience of the children and communities we serve and the unyielding support of partners like you. This past year presented both opportunities and challenges, requiring us to adapt and strengthen our commitment to providing comprehensive care for those affected by HIV/AIDS in Kenya.

While we celebrate significant achievements in our Nyumbani Children's Home, Nyumbani Village, and Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory programs, 2024 also marked a difficult but necessary transition with the official closure of our Lea Toto community outreach program. This decision, necessitated by resource limitations, was made with heavy hearts, acknowledging the immense impact Lea Toto had over its 25 years of service to over 12,000 HIV-positive children and 30,000 community members. We are exploring avenues to continue supporting affected communities within our current capacity. Despite this change, our core mission remains steadfast.

In 2024, we continued to provide safe homes, critical healthcare, quality education, and pathways to self-sufficiency for 637 children and 78 grandparents in our residential programs. Our Diagnostic Laboratory continued its vital work, contributing to healthcare and sustainability.

Through a consultative approach, we successfully reviewed COGRI's strategic plan, 2024-2028. This will enable us to focus on workable organizational goals for the next five years.

It is my pleasure therefore to share with you this report that details our activities, achievements, and financial stewardship in 2024. It is the result of the dedication of our staff, well-wishers and volunteers and the profound impact of your generosity. As we look ahead to 2025, we are focused on child protection and safeguarding, holistic care and development and re-integration. We shall foster partnerships that prioritize participatory development, amplifying our beneficiaries' voices of hope, and embracing innovative solutions, we stand ready to address the various emerging challenges with resilience and purpose. We invite you to continue partnering with us as we strive to create a brighter, healthier future for vulnerable children and families in Kenya.

With sincere thanks,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Judith'.

**Judith Wamboye**  
**Executive Director**  
**Children Of God Relief Institute, Nyumbani**

# Addressing the Challenge

## *The Persistent Burden of HIV in Kenya—and Why Nyumbani’s Work Must Endure*

### **KENYA HIV SNAPSHOT (2024)**

- **1.37M** people living with HIV
- **139,000** children affected
- **36,000** adults newly infected per year
- **29%** of new infections: ages 15–24
- **67%** viral suppression in children
- **70%** of HIV care funded by donors



Let’s be clear with the facts: HIV hasn’t gone away. And for many children and families in Kenya, it’s still a daily, life-defining challenge. According to Kenya’s latest HIV estimates, 1.37 million people are living with HIV. Of those, 139,000 are children. They’re names, faces, and futures.

And while progress has been made, the road ahead is anything but smooth. Young people, especially adolescent girls, are still disproportionately affected. In fact, 29% of all new infections occur in adolescents and youth. That’s nearly a third of all new cases landing squarely on the shoulders of our youngest generation.

Children living with HIV continue to fall behind. Viral suppression, the ability to keep the virus in check, is lowest among children under 14, hovering around 67%. That’s a long way from where it needs to be. And let’s not forget the 690,000 children orphaned by HIV in Kenya. They deserve more than survival; they deserve a future.

Even as HIV becomes less visible in public discourse, the need for care is only growing more complex. Nyumbani’s model—holistic, family-centered, and consistent—offers something uniquely essential: long-term care rooted in love, dignity, and respect. In 2024, Nyumbani supported 637 children directly, ensuring not only treatment but also education, counseling, nutrition, and a sense of belonging.

Even as HIV becomes less visible in public discourse, the need for care is only growing more complex. Nyumbani’s model—holistic, family-centered, and consistent—offers something uniquely essential: long-term care rooted in love, dignity, and respect.

In 2024, Nyumbani supported 637 children directly, ensuring not only treatment but also education, counseling, nutrition, and a sense of belonging. This isn’t just about numbers; it’s about nurturing. Nyumbani reaches the most vulnerable, even when others can’t or won’t. It doesn’t wait for the perfect conditions or rely solely on external aid—it moves with urgency and heart.

Over 70% of Kenya’s HIV programs are still donor-funded. That means any funding cuts, delays, or shifts in priorities can cause ripple effects—medication stock-outs, service disruptions, children left waiting. And let’s not forget stigma. It still keeps far too many from seeking care or even acknowledging their status.

In this fragile ecosystem, organizations like Nyumbani are indispensable. Their consistency is the safety net we can’t afford to lose.

The numbers tell a sobering story, but behind every figure is a face, a child, a chance. Kenya’s fight against HIV is far from over, and the cost of complacency is far too high. Continued support for Nyumbani is a moral and practical necessity. We owe it to this generation, and the next, to keep showing up. With care. With commitment. With hope.

***“We cannot do it alone.  
But together? We can give  
every child the future they  
deserve.”***

# Who We Are

## MISSION

To provide quality comprehensive care and support to HIV infected and affected children, families and communities in a sustainable manner.

## VISION

Sustainable communities for children infected and affected by the HIV pandemic inspired by Christian Compassion.

## CORE VALUES

Faith in God

Compassion

Respect

Integrity

Team Work

Professionalism



## Our Approach

Inspired by the Christian compassion of our founder, Father Angelo D'Agostino, our approach is built on a simple promise: every child deserves to be loved, to be healthy, and to have a future they can build for themselves. We see the whole child, providing comprehensive, long-term support that empowers them to reach their God-given potential.

Since 1992, we have touched 40,000 lives.

### Holistic

We believe a child's well-being is a complete circle. Our care model seamlessly integrates advanced medical treatment with nutritional support, quality education, psychosocial counseling, and spiritual guidance. By addressing the physical, cognitive, and emotional needs of each child, we ensure they don't just survive—they learn to thrive in every aspect of their lives.

### Child-Centered

Every action we take revolves around the individual child. From creating personalized antiretroviral regimens to developing tailored education plans, our focus is on the unique journey of each person in our care. We listen to their voices, nurture their talents, and equip them with the life skills and confidence needed to reintegrate into society as capable, self-reliant adults.

### Long-Term

Our commitment does not end after a few years. We walk with our children from the moment they enter our care—often as infants—through their primary and secondary schooling, and into tertiary and vocational education. This unwavering, long-term presence provides the stability and consistent support necessary to break the cycle of poverty and create lasting, generational change.

# 2024 at a Glance



**Over 637 HIV+ children served in 2024**



**Over 40,000 children served cumulatively**



**Over 95% Viral Suppression rate**



**Over 20 million invested as capital to microfinance projects**



**1,708 Patients treated**



**216 children in tertiary education**



**Over 100 Volunteers involved**



**11,582 clients served by NDL**

# Our Programs

## Program Highlights



# Nyumbani Children's Home

Founded in 1992 by Fr. Angelo D'Agostino as Kenya's first hospice for HIV-positive children, Nyumbani Children's Home has evolved with advancements in treatment. It is now a loving home providing comprehensive care, education, and support, having nurtured over 500 children and celebrated over 100 alumni.



# Nyumbani Children's Home 2024 Highlights

1

Nyumbani Children's Home in Karen, Nairobi, provides a nurturing environment for orphaned and abandoned HIV-positive children. In 2024, the Home cared for 95 children (48 girls, 47 boys).

**Core Activities:** Providing safe accommodation, medical care (including ART with a 98% viral suppression rate), diagnostic services, nutritional support, psychological support, counseling, spiritual care, emotional support, education, vocational training, life skills, and reintegration programs.

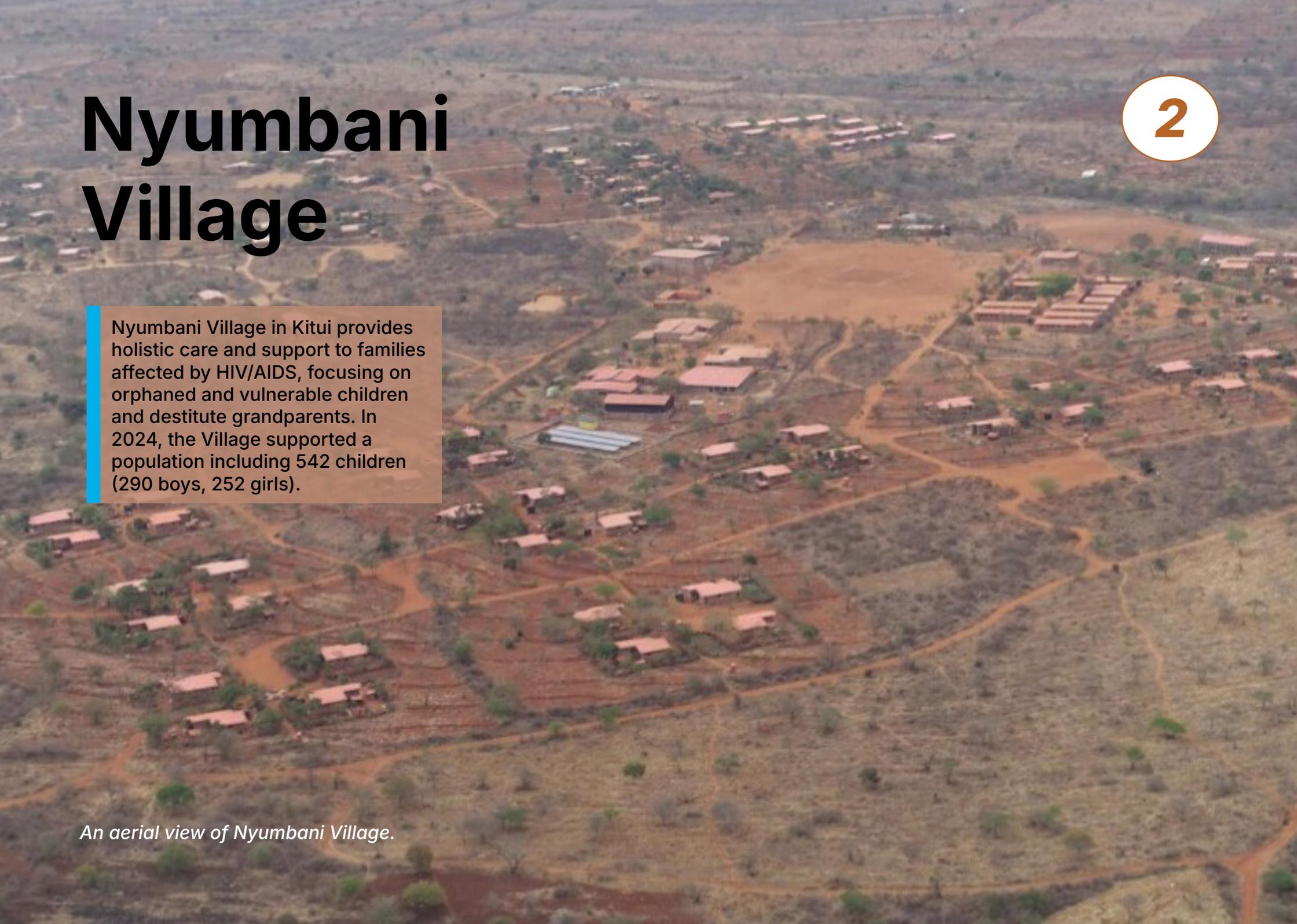
**2024 Achievements:** Appointed an independent counselor, successfully reintegrated 11 children, updated the Child Safeguarding Policy, ensured all 25 high school students are in boarding school, implemented pre-home visit assessments. Awarded "Creative School of the Year" at the MASK Awards 2024

**Health Focus:** 92 children on ART (62 on 1st line, 30 on 2nd line), 8 ENT surgeries, 107 hospital referrals, 10 hospital admissions, 24 dental treatments, 18 children supported in Respite care, 63 treated for eye problems, supported 2 children with Bipolar disorder, provided psychological counseling for all children with 3 external referrals, mentorship for teens and young adults. Pharmacy provides ART and opportunistic drugs; concerns noted regarding future free ARV supply due to funding changes.

**Education & Reintegration:** 6 children in Pre-Unit (2 joined Grade 1), 63 in public primary schools, 25 in secondary schools (11 completed secondary in 2024/2025), 11 young adults in college/university (1 graduated), 11 children successfully discharged/reintegrated, 54 visited families during holidays, ongoing family tracing.

**Staff & Visitors:** 48 staff at Nyumbani Home (part of 171 total COGRI staff), hosted 26 international volunteers, and over 500 notable visitors.

# Nyumbani Village



2

Nyumbani Village in Kitui provides holistic care and support to families affected by HIV/AIDS, focusing on orphaned and vulnerable children and destitute grandparents. In 2024, the Village supported a population including 542 children (290 boys, 252 girls).

*An aerial view of Nyumbani Village.*

# Nyumbani Village 2024 Highlights

*Nyumbani Village was officially opened in 2006. It was opened to provide holistic care to the 'Left Behind Generation'.*

*It is based on a 1000 acres land with capacity to hold 1,000 children and 100 caregivers and staff.*

*It provide a unique model where grandparents take care of grandchildren in a blended family set-up.*

*In 2024, Nyumbani Village took care of 542 children and 78 grandparents.*



## Key Achievements Summary:

- 542 Children in the village
- Families provided with adequate food
- 49 Students supported in tertiary education by uk-kisomo and 50 under cogri initiative
- 7 Businesses are now operational under microcredit. Schools participated in ball games (handball boys reached regional) and music (reached national with 4 items)
- Sold over 200 baskets generating over 2900 euros for restoration and supplies
- Children participated in field games,
- Received national and 50 international visitors
- Spanish volunteers organized olympics and ball games, winners rewarded.
- Grandparents participated in activities and were rewarded.
- Runners up in the Malei Open Handball tournament

### Academic and Research Achievements:

Students excelled at the WFPF Virtual Youth Institute, with Lawson High School students presenting a research paper on global food security and the Village emerging as second-best among 20 shortlisted schools. The number of students qualifying for university and diploma entry increased from 23 to 35.

### Village Sustainability (Farming & Production):

Harvested rain-fed crops (sorghum, green grams, maize, beans, sunflower) despite poor rains, showcased products at the Kitui Agricultural Show. Greenhouses produced vegetables and watermelon, supplying families and selling excess. Apiculture included 164 beehives (64 colonized). Livestock included 51 cows, 49 goats, 44 poultry, producing significant milk for both the local consumption and surplus for sale. The agro-processing department efficiently processed produce for the market.

*Ag. Nyumbani Village Manager, Mr Anthony Ngui alongside handball players pose after placing second in the Malei Open tournament.*

### Nyumbani Village Guest Houses:

We accommodated guests and volunteers, in our Nyumbani Village guest house and the Eco-Lodge (Kjer House).

### Trees for Children (T4C):

578 acres of the Nyumbani Village farm are planted with melia trees. This is a valuable tree species with diverse uses, particularly in dryland areas. It is hoped that upon maturity, its high-quality timber proceeds will be used for the wellbeing of the needy children under our care. Within the year the program benefitted from its fuelwood, fodder for livestock and bee forage. Major activities through the year included gapping, mulching, pruning, and shrub removal. Currently looking for how much was harvested.

Children playing football at Nyumbani Village.



### Education (Village Schools):

#### Primary School (Hot Courses Primary):

410 enrolled (168 Boys, 126 Girls), including 116 from the community. 59 KPSEA candidates had average performance. Participated in ball games (Handball boys Regional) and music (National). Installed solar system. Planted 500 tree seedlings. small farm produced maize and beans.

#### Secondary School (Lawson High School):

265 enrolled (122 Boys, 143 Girls), including 25 from the community. 71 KCSE candidates: 15 C+ and above while the rest got C and below. Participated in handball boys and basketball girls up to county level.

### COGRI Vocational Training Centre (CVTC):

119 enrolled (74 boys, 45 girls), including 27 from the community. 36 candidates sat for the NITA exam with a majority passing. The carpentry unit was actively involved in production and sales (internal and external). Some of the products were selected for showcasing at the Kitui Agricultural Show. The courses offered include Fashion design, Carpentry, Metal processing, Masonry, Hairdressing & beauty therapy.

### Village Catholic Dispensary:

Saw 1,708 patients (1,389 residents, 319 community). Tested 994 clients in the lab (804 Village, 190 community). Managed 99 HIV clients (71 residents, 28 community) with a 93% suppression rate; noted 2 transfers in and 15 transfers out. Conducted 3,093 counseling and testing sessions. Initiated Immunization and Antenatal Clinic (ANC) services and installed cervical cancer screening equipment; conducted community sensitization outreach.

# Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory

3

Established in 1998, Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory delivers ISO accredited, high-quality medical testing, supporting HIV care, research, and community health across Kenya.

The Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory (NDL) in Karen continued its vital role in 2024, providing essential medical diagnostic services that underpin Nyumbani's programs and contribute to its sustainability. Despite a challenging environment, NDL demonstrated remarkable resilience, strategically enhancing its operations and expanding its reach.

Client Volume & Revenue Performance: In 2024, NDL served 10,582 clients, a decrease of 20% compared to the 13,389 clients served in 2023. Despite this reduction in client attendance, NDL achieved a notable 1% increase in total revenue. This impressive achievement highlights NDL's ability to optimize its services and maintain financial strength amidst fluctuating client numbers.

## Enhancing Quality and Operational Excellence:

NDL remains steadfast in its commitment to delivering high-quality diagnostic services, evidenced by a series of strategic initiatives and achievements in 2024:

**Accreditation and Audits:** NDL successfully underwent the Kenya Accreditation Services (KENAS) audit in June 2024, resulting in re-accreditation to ISO 15189:2022 standards. Furthermore, the Biosafety and Biosecurity Audit conducted in the same month yielded an impressive score of 87.75%. In addition, the VL Scorecard Audit conducted in April achieved a score of 88%. An internal audit was also conducted through a partnership with Family Health International (FHI).

## Equipment Upgrades and Maintenance:

Servicing of Lab machines, and equipment was done. The lab received the Mindray BC-5000 5-part Haematology analyzer machine, to replace mindray BC-5300 which failed. Notably, the laboratory received an Alinity machine from the government for viral load testing, with a capacity of running 300 samples per day.

**Staff Development and Training:** Lab technologists received training on the C111, Chemistry Analyser and AVL Electrolyte Analyser machines. The lab technologists also received training on how to operate and run samples on the Alinity machine. A Presentation of FACS Lyric machine for CD4/8 counts was done to the same staffs by application specialists from Becton, Dickinson and Company (BD).

# Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory

## 2024 Highlights

**Nyumbani Diagnostic Lab is ISO 15189:2022 accredited.**

Other trainings included HIV Drug Resistance Surveillance training ,VL/EID method verification procedure, review, and evaluation of quality indicators within the VL/EID testing Laboratories.

**Infrastructure Improvements:** New signposts were designed and erected at the main gate along Dagoretti Road to establish the organization's presence, replacing the faded old branding signs. The Laboratory also received a complete desktop computer set as a donation from AMREF. Strategic Partnerships and Community Engagement: NDL actively fostered collaborations and engaged with the community in 2024.

**Government Collaboration:** The Laboratory Director attended a Technical Working Group meeting for HIV Viral Load in Kisumu where they discussed at length about the reception of samples from government Comprehensive Care Centers (CCCs) for free testing.

**Research and Referral Partnerships:** NDL had a visit from KEMRI Welcome Trust representatives who are targeting to collaborate with the Lab as their referral laboratory in their upcoming researches. Plans are also underway to partner with Cana Hospital located in Kajjado County. NDL is looking forward to engaging with more research institutions for partnerships.



*Lab Technician at the Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory conducts tests on the new machine.*

**Medical Camps and Community Outreach:** NDL held two successful free medical check-ups during the year. The events were well attended and the beneficiaries appreciated services offered.

**Professional Engagements:** The HIV Drug Resistance Surveillance training was conducted by NASCOP with an aim to start the Drug Resistance Study, in which all laboratories are expected to participate.

**Onboarding Specialists:** A gynecologist was onboarded for collaboration in consultation services.

### Marketing and Visibility

The Marketing department successfully produced and published a documentary video showcasing the lab history, departments, and significant achievements across the years. It's currently being used for social media campaigns.

NDL also maintains a strong online presence as at 2024 with 2,600 followers on Face Book, 10,000 followers on LinkedIn, 500 followers on Tiktok, and 1,160 followers on X (formerly Twitter).

### Future Outlook

NDL is committed to continuous improvement and sustainable growth, with plans to introduce continuous medical education (CME) for the staff, revive quarterly inter-lab testing across departments, and capitalize on emerging opportunities and drive sustainable growth. The laboratory also looks forward to working hand in hand with Karika Organization for future events.

# Lea Toto Community Outreach Program

The Lea Toto program, which provided vital community-based care to HIV-positive children and affected families in Nairobi's informal settlements since 1998, was officially closed in 2024 due to resource limitations. In its 25 years of operation, Lea Toto cumulatively served over 12,000 HIV-positive children, achieving an impressive viral suppression rate of above 90%, and supported over 30,000 Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and community members. We honor the legacy and impact of the Lea Toto program and the dedicated staff who served through this program.



# PRINCIPAL AREAS OF IMPACT



1. Healthcare and Wellness
2. Empowering Futures Through Education
3. Talent & Life Skills Development
4. Building Economic Resilience & Opportunity
5. Community Engagement and Advocacy
6. Investing in a Sustainable Future
7. Fostering Social Connection & Reintegration

# Healthcare and Wellness



# Healthcare and Wellness



**At the heart of Nyumbani's mission lies an unyielding commitment to holistic health and well-being.** In 2024, we continued to provide comprehensive medical care, vital nutritional support, and essential psychosocial services, ensuring that every child and family member receives the compassionate attention needed to thrive. Our integrated approach fosters not just physical recovery, but also emotional strength and a renewed sense of hope.

We achieved remarkable viral suppression rates of 98% at Nyumbani Home and 93% at Nyumbani Village. Our Respite Center provided critical care to 18 children, managed 107 hospital referrals, and provided 24 dental treatments. The Village Catholic Dispensary served 1,708 patients, conducted 994 lab tests, and facilitated 3,093 counseling and testing sessions. We also successfully initiated Immunization and Antena-

tal Clinic (ANC) services and installed cervical cancer screening equipment, further expanding our community health outreach. Thanks to a partnership with Avenue Healthcare, 8 children received ENT surgeries.

The Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory remained a beacon of medical excellence in 2024, playing a pivotal role in advancing health outcomes across our programs and for the wider community. Through state-of-the-art technology, stringent quality controls, and a dedicated team, the laboratory provided accurate and timely diagnostic services, directly contributing to effective treatment, viral suppression, and the overall well-being of thousands.

In 2024, NDL conducted an impressive 30,406 tests and served 13,389 clients, generating Kshs 51,681,848 in revenue. The laboratory demon-

strated outstanding performance in External Quality Assessment (EQA) platforms and successfully updated its quality management system towards the ISO 15189:2022 standard, with internal audits completed and assessment pending in June 2024. NDL also actively participated in critical training initiatives, including KENAS ISO 2022 support and Biosafety and Biosecurity training, and continues its vital collaboration with the Ministry of Health for HIV Viral Load and TB testing.

# 98% Undetectable, 100% Committed: How Nyumbani is Redefining Pediatric HIV Care

When the global health community established the ambitious 95-95-95 targets in 2021, few could have predicted the complexities that would emerge in pediatric HIV care. Today, while Kenya has demonstrated remarkable progress in adult HIV treatment, pediatric viral suppression rates among children under 14 remain below 70% nationally. This is a sobering reminder that our youngest patients face unique challenges requiring unprecedented solutions.

At Nyumbani, we've taken a different path. Our outcomes speak to what's possible when evidence-based medicine meets commitment: 98% viral suppression at Nyumbani Children's Home and 95% at Nyumbani Village. These represent children whose futures have been fundamentally transformed through the principle that Undetectable equals Untransmittable (U=U).

## The Human Impact of Clinical Excellence

Consider Elijah (name changed to protect privacy), who arrived at our Respite Care facility in early 2024. He was severely malnourished, weakened by tuberculosis, and carrying a viral load that threatened his young life. Elijah embodied the complex clinical challenges our team faces daily. Today, he runs with his classmates, excels in his studies, and lives with an undetectable viral load. His transformation shows what systematic, compassionate care can achieve. Elijah's story isn't an exception, but rather the standard we've built through five interconnected pillars of care that address the multifaceted nature of pediatric HIV.



## Our Framework for Excellence

### Clinical Precision as Foundation

Excellence begins with diagnostic accuracy. Every child entering our care undergoes comprehensive evaluation at our ISO 15189-certified laboratory, which is a standard that ensures immediate, precise clinical intelligence. This diagnostic foundation enables our multidisciplinary team to develop individualized antiretroviral regimens, typically utilizing highly effective combinations such as dolutegravir/lamivudine/tenofovir, aligned with current Kenyan Ministry of Health and WHO protocols.

*"I am most fulfilled when I see a child who was once malnourished playing happily with other children, indistinguishable from those without HIV. That calling drives me to excel every day."*

**Sarah - Resident Nurse, Nyumbani**

Our clinical infrastructure extends beyond medication management. With dedicated pediatric HIV specialists, on-site laboratory technologists, and established referral pathways to Kenya's leading medical institutions, we've created an ecosystem where complex cases receive the specialized attention they demand.

### Adherence Through Understanding

The most sophisticated treatment protocols fail without consistent adherence, which is a challenge particularly acute in pediatric populations. Our approach recognizes that medication com-

pliance in children requires addressing not just the clinical aspects, but also the psychological, social, and developmental factors that influence health behaviors.

Through continuous monitoring, individualized support strategies, and age-appropriate education, our social workers, nurses, and counselors create sustainable adherence patterns. For children in educational settings, we've developed collaborative protocols with school health programs to ensure seamless care continuity without compromising confidentiality.

### **Holistic Health Architecture**

We understand that viral suppression occurs within the broader context of child development. Optimal nutrition forms the cornerstone of immune function and treatment efficacy. Every meal in our residential programs is strategically designed to support both growth and therapeutic outcomes.

The stable, nurturing environment provided by our trained caregivers creates the psychological safety necessary for healing. When children feel secure, they're more likely to engage with treatment, communicate openly about their health, and develop the resilience that extends far beyond HIV management.

### **Human Capital as Competitive Advantage**

Our clinical outcomes reflect the expertise and dedication of our team. As Sarah, our resident nurse at Nyumbani Children's Home, puts it: "I am most fulfilled when I see a child who was once malnourished playing happily with other children, indistinguishable from those without HIV. That calling drives me to excel every day."

This sentiment represents more than individual motivation. It reflects our institutional commitment to continuous professional development, ensuring our team remains at the forefront of pediatric HIV care innovations.



### **Data-Driven Optimization**

Our protocols for newly admitted children and those with elevated viral loads include comprehensive testing every three months: viral load, CD4 count, liver function, creatinine, and complete blood count. For children achieving viral suppression, we maintain six-month monitoring intervals, adhering strictly to national guidelines while exceeding standard care expectations.

This systematic approach enables early detection of any treatment challenges, allowing immediate intervention before clinical deterioration occurs. When viral loads increase, our team immediately investigates potential causes, from adherence challenges to possible drug resistance, ensuring no child's progress is compromised.

## **The Path Forward: From Excellence to Transformation**

Our commitment extends beyond achieving 100% viral suppression, though that remains our unwavering goal. We're building a replicable model that demonstrates how strategic investment in pediatric HIV care can transform individual lives while contributing to broader public health outcomes. The U=U principle isn't merely a clinical concept for us. It's a promise to the children in our care and a commitment to breaking generational cycles of HIV transmission. Every percentage point in our suppression rates represents a child whose future is no longer defined by their HIV status.

### **A Blueprint for Global Impact**

Nyumbani's success emerges from the convergence of clinical excellence, operational discipline, and unwavering commitment to child welfare. Our model proves that exceptional outcomes in pediatric HIV care aren't just aspirational but are achievable through systematic application of evidence-based practices delivered with compassionate expertise. As we continue refining our approach and sharing our learnings with the global health community, we remain grounded in a simple truth: every child deserves the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their HIV status.

Through our comprehensive model of care, we're not just treating a virus but nurturing the leaders, innovators, and changemakers of tomorrow. This transformative work is possible through the dedication of our staff, the resilience of our children, and the strategic partnership of supporters who recognize that investing in pediatric HIV care yields dividends far beyond individual health outcomes.

*Together, we are building a blueprint of hope.*

A young man in a blue uniform is focused on operating a green lathe machine in a workshop. He is wearing safety glasses on his head. In the background, other students in similar uniforms are working at their own machines, creating a busy, industrious atmosphere. The workshop has a brick wall and various tools and equipment are visible.

# Empowering Futures through Education

In 2024, Nyumbani continued to champion education as the cornerstone of lasting change. By providing comprehensive academic support, access to quality schooling, and tailored mentorship programs, we are not merely imparting knowledge; we are unlocking potential, fostering critical thinking, and equipping young minds with the tools to build vibrant, self-sufficient lives and lead their communities into a brighter tomorrow.

In 2024, we proudly supported 216 children in tertiary education, while our Nyumbani Home saw 6 children transition to Grade 1 and 11 young adults pursue college/university studies, with one successfully graduating. At Nyumbani Village, our students excelled, with Lawson High School presenting a research paper on global food security at the WFPF Virtual Youth Institute, and the Village being recognized as second-best among 20 shortlisted schools. We also saw a significant increase in university and diploma qualifications, from 23 to 35 students, and our COGRI Vocational Training Centre (CVTC) enrolled 119 students, with a majority of 36 candidates successfully passing their NITA exams.

## FROM DREAMS TO REALITY: Nyumbani Graduates Charting New Paths

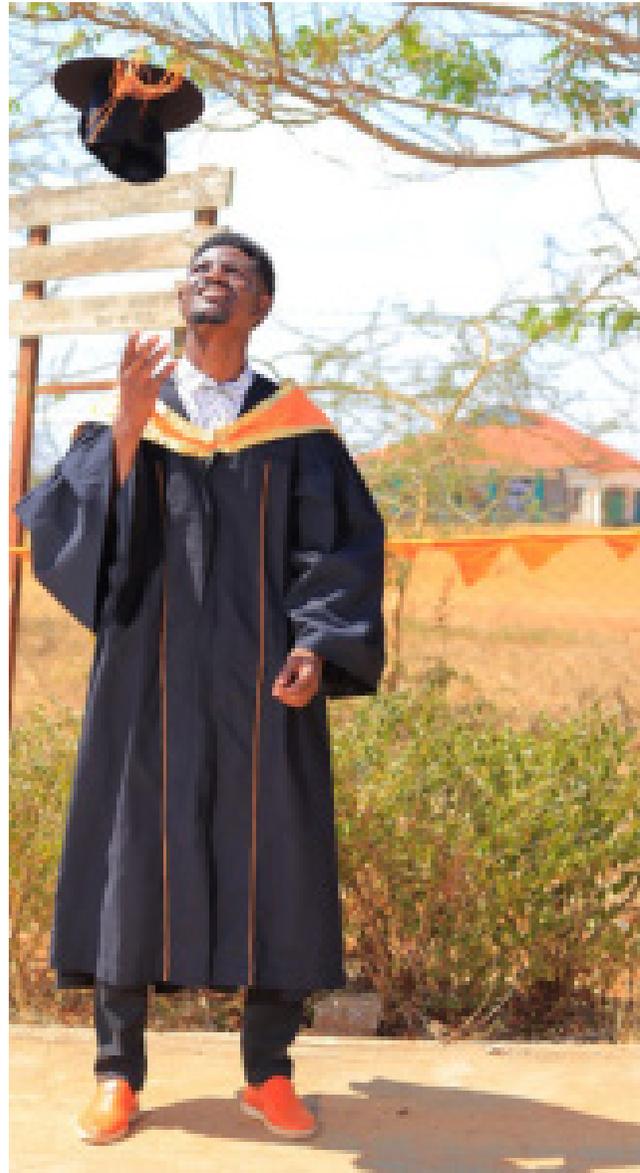
Last year, three exceptional students from Nyumbani achieved a significant milestone, graduating with university degrees and joining a growing legacy of alumni whose lives have been profoundly transformed. Here are the inspiring stories of two of these graduates:

### **Steven: Building a Future, Byte by Byte**

"When I was just a young child, I faced an incredibly uncertain future after losing my parents to HIV/AIDS. But Nyumbani Village became my loving home, a place where I found stability, quality education, and a clear path forward. Thanks to their unwavering support, I pursued my passion and proudly graduated last year with a Bachelor's degree in Information Technology from South Eastern Kenya University. Nyumbani didn't just give me a home; they gave me the tools and the confidence to build a future, one byte at a time."

### **Susan: A Compassionate Calling, Impacting Lives**

"Arriving at Nyumbani Village after the tragic passing of my parents was a difficult chapter in my life. Yet, it was here that I discovered a deep-seated desire to help others, a calling that led me to pursue a degree in Sociology. Nyumbani nurtured that desire, providing me with the education and encouragement I needed to succeed. Last year, I proudly graduated from Egerton University with my Bachelor's degree. My journey from Nyumbani has equipped me with the understanding and compassion to make a real difference in the lives of others, and I am forever grateful for the foundation they provided."



*Steven and Susan celebrate their graduations.*

# Building Economic Resilience & Opportunity

A man in a pink polo shirt with 'XBTS' and an Adidas logo on the chest is reaching up to touch a large sunflower head. He is standing in a field of sunflowers. In the background, there is a large, curved, translucent structure that looks like a greenhouse or a covered walkway. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Recognizing that true empowerment extends beyond the classroom, our efforts in 2024 have significantly bolstered economic resilience within our communities. Through targeted vocational training, micro-enterprise development, and access to vital resources, we are enabling individuals and families to cultivate sustainable livelihoods, fostering independence, and creating a ripple effect of prosperity that strengthens the entire community fabric.



Our CVTC Carpentry unit actively engaged in production and sales, showcasing furniture at the Kitui Agricultural Show. Under our microcredit program, we funded 24 businesses, with Kshs 203,000 injected as capital in 2024. 7 Business are repairing the loans.

Furthermore, our Village Sustainability initiatives saw successful harvests of rain-fed crops, and our greenhouses consistently produced vegetables and watermelon for both families and sale. Our apiculture program expanded to 164 beehives, and our livestock produced over 4,400 liters of cow milk and 260 liters of goat milk per month, demonstrating robust self-sufficiency.

We also empowered grandparents through arts and crafts, selling over 200 baskets and generating over 2,900 euros with the help of the Vuela Volunteers group of 2024.



*Top: A community member hired by Nyumbani helps harvest onions in Nyumbani Village Agro-Processing Unit.*

*Bottom: CVTC students make furniture at the school work-shop.*

# Talent & Life Skills Development

Beyond academic and economic pursuits, Nyumbani is committed to cultivating the unique talents and essential life skills of every individual under our care. From artistic expression and athletic prowess to vital practical competencies, our programs in 2024 provided diverse platforms for personal growth, confidence building, and the development of well-rounded individuals ready to navigate the complexities of adulthood with creativity and resilience.

This year, Nyumbani Home was proudly awarded “Creative School of the Year” at the MASK Awards 2024.

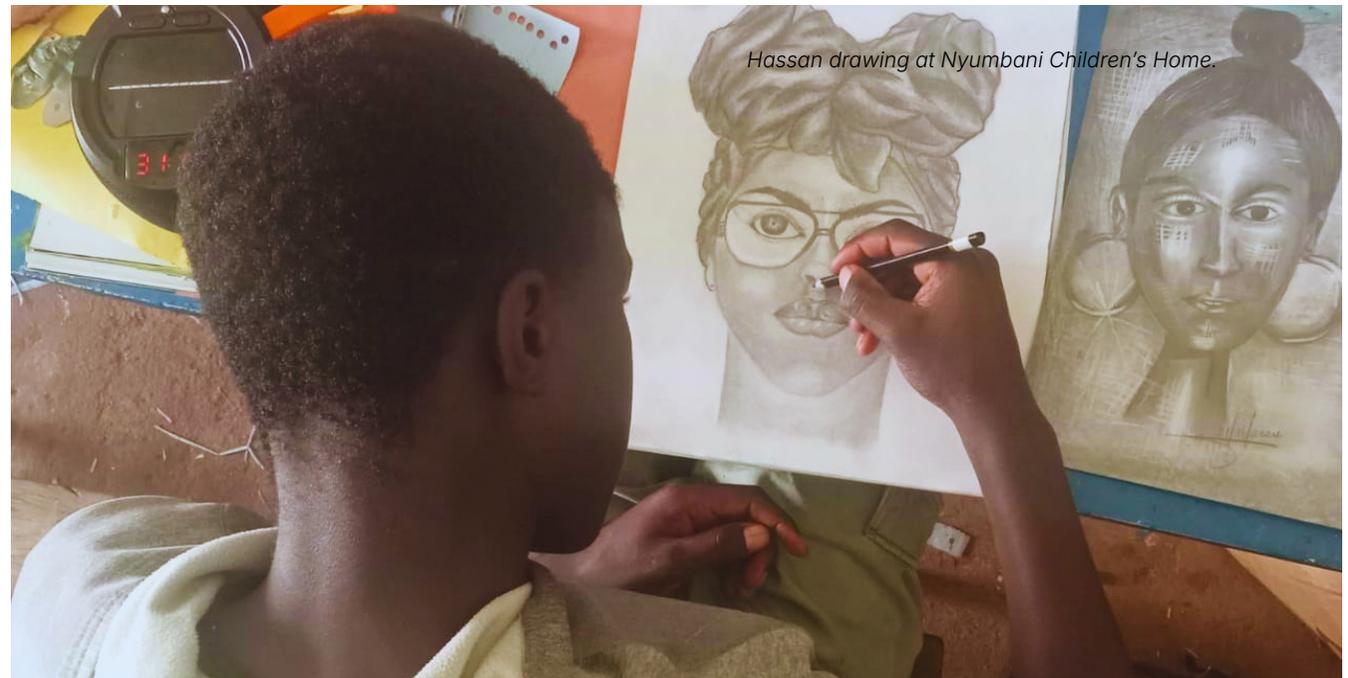
Our Nyumbani Village schools showcased exceptional talent, with our Handball boys reaching the Regional level in ball games and our music teams achieving national recognition with four items reaching the National level in music festivals. These achievements underscore our dedication to nurturing every facet of our children’s potential.



# Dreams to Canvas, Passions to Professions: Nyumbani's Artistic Triumphs



*In 2024, Nyumbani Children's Home was named Creative School of the Year by MASK awards among participants from 56 countries.* >>>>



Hassan drawing at Nyumbani Children's Home.

**NAIROBI, Kenya** – In the vibrant halls of Nyumbani Children's Home, it's clear that fostering talent is as fundamental as providing a loving home. A recent visit revealed a dynamic environment where young artists are not just dreaming, but actively building their futures, supported by a steadfast dedication to skill development.

"At Nyumbani Children's Home, I discovered my passion for art, and they gave me the canvas to truly explore it," shared Hassan, a bright-eyed young artist who is already accumulating accolades. He recounted how, from a very young age, he was encouraged to draw, finding immense support from dedicated art teachers like Sam and John, who have volunteered their

time since 2002. "They see each brushstroke as a chance for us young talents to thrive," Hassan explained, emphasizing how he believes art helps with creativity and even time management. Nyumbani's commitment to nurturing these abilities is evident in their consistent support for children participating in competitions like the MASK Awards, where students have been winning prizes for the past four to five years. Hassan proudly noted that through initiatives like the COGRI Art Club, Nyumbani is helping him and others "reach our full potential in the arts".

The long-term impact of this nurturing environment is powerfully illustrated by Paul, an alumnus who has successfully transitioned from budding talent to a professional artist. "My story

shows how Nyumbani transforms lives by investing in our talents," Paul reflected, now running his own thriving business. "As an alumnus, I was guided by mentors like Sam and John, who saw something special in my art. Their encouragement and the environment at Nyumbani paved the way for me." Paul underscored that the skills and discipline he cultivated at Nyumbani were "not just hobbies; they were the foundation of a viable career." He concluded, "Nyumbani didn't just give me a home; they gave me a future built on my own creativity and passion."

Through dedicated mentorship, consistent encouragement, and platforms for recognition, Nyumbani is proving that by investing in the innate abilities of its children, it is indeed helping them paint their own vibrant success stories.

# Photo Speak: Some of the art by our children.



Some of the artworks that won the 2024 Creative School of the Year award. >>>>



# Community Engagement and Advocacy

*Vuela volunteers pose outside the Nyumbani village gate.*



## Strengthening Communities through Engagement & Advocacy

In 2024, Nyumbani Home hosted 26 international volunteers and over 500 visitors, fostering global connections.

Nyumbani Village welcomed many national and international visitors, broadening our support network. The Village Clinic conducted community health outreach, reinforcing our public health commitment. Our strength is powered by 171 staff and the support of 26 international and 134 local interns



*A grandparent teach a Vuela 2024 volunteer, the art of basket weaving.*



### **A Story of Connection and Empowerment: A new gym thanks to collaboration.**

A partnership with student volunteers from the VUELA Program resulted in the renovation of the Nyumbani Village Social Hall and the creation of a new community gym. This initiative brought residents and volunteers together for a common goal.

The project was primarily funded through a successful basket-selling enterprise spearheaded by the volunteers, which raised nearly €3,000. These funds directly paid for materials for new doors and windows for the hall and fully equipped the new gym. The volunteers worked alongside Nyumbani youth and staff, ensuring community ownership of the project.

The partnership's impact extended to health and wellness education. Volunteers conducted workshops on hand, menstrual, and personal hygiene for hundreds of children, donating essential supplies. They also established weekly sessions with the community's grandmothers ('Shushus'), introducing them to the new gym equipment and leading discussions on health and physical activity.

The renovated Social Hall and new gym are significant additions to the village. This project strengthened community bonds and created a new hub for health, wellness, and connection for all our residents.

# Bridging Divides, Building Futures: Nyumbani's Road to International Recognition



*Top: A documentary showcasing the process and impact of the KEN Road from the builders and the local community. [Click to watch.](#) >>>>*

*Left: A moment of pride: Nyumbani's E.D. Judith Wamboye and Spanish Board Chair Amor Sola Menendez accepting the VI Jose Ibarra Entrecanles Foundation Prize for International Cooperation on behalf of Nyumbani Village.*

**KWA VONZA, Kenya** – In the heart of Kenya's rural landscape, a project born out of necessity has transformed a community, earning international acclaim for its profound impact.

Nyumbani Village, a haven for children orphaned by HIV, has been honored with the prestigious VI International Cooperation Award by the Jose Ibarra Foundation for the construction of the vital KEN Road. This 10-kilometer artery, connecting Nyumbani Village to the town of Kwa Vonza, is a lifeline that has brought safety, economic opportunity, and renewed hope to thousands.

For years, the journey between Nyumbani and Kwa Vonza was a treacherous one, especially during the torrential rainy seasons. "Getting in or out of the village was a nightmare," recalls Judith Wamboye, Nyumbani's Executive Director. "The old road would just disappear, making it impossible to reach the hospital or even get food supplies. It was a daunting task transporting the sick from Nyumbani Village to the hospital or community members

to our hospital." This precarious access put the entire community at risk, particularly in emergencies.

The construction of the new KEN Road, complete with a bridge designed to withstand heavy rains, has dramatically altered this reality. "It's a game-changer for us," says Mary, a Nyumbani worker who commutes daily from Kwa Vonza. "Now, teachers and staff can come to work reliably, and we can transport everything the village needs without worry. During an emergency, this road could literally save lives".

The benefits extend far beyond the logistical. For the girls of Nyumbani and the surrounding area, the road has brought a new sense of security. "Walking to Kwa Vonza used to be scary, especially in the evenings," admits a young Nyumbani resident named Asha. "Now, with the new road, we feel so much safer".

Economically, the road is already sowing seeds of growth. "Better communication links have started creating job

opportunities, and we expect the local economy to develop gradually because of this," explains John, a community member of Kwa Vonza. The signs of progress are already visible, with new buildings and excavations springing up along the improved route. This infrastructure is not just serving Nyumbani Village but also the entire neighboring community of approximately 2500 people.

Furthermore, the KEN Road is paving the way for enhanced educational opportunities. "We anticipate that this improved access will allow more people to come and study or receive training right here at Nyumbani," adds a Nyumbani education officer. The project, which saw an investment of 380,000 euros and involved 40 collaborators, stands as a testament to the power of international cooperation.

In a poignant reflection on this project, Judith Wamboye, Executive Director of Nyumbani, shared, "This project is like a newborn baby we had been waiting for for a long time. A new birth. A new beginning."

# Investing in a Sustainable Future



# Investing in a Sustainable Future

Our vision for Nyumbani is rooted in long-term sustainability, ensuring that our impact endures for generations to come.

In 2024, we continued to strategically invest in environmentally conscious practices, innovative income-generating projects, and self-sustaining initiatives. These efforts not only minimize our ecological footprint but also empower our programs to thrive independently, securing a resilient and prosperous future for all.

Our Village Sustainability initiatives saw successful harvests of rain-fed crops, and our greenhouses produced a consistent supply of vegetables and watermelon, contributing to food security and generating income. Our apiculture program expanded to 164 beehives, and our live-stock production remained strong.

The Trees for Children (T4C) project continued its vital work, with 578 acres planted with melia trees, and ongoing activities like gapping, mulching, and pruning.

The CVTC Carpentry unit demonstrated strong business acumen, showcasing furniture at the Kitui Agricultural Show and collecting significant revenue.

Furthermore, the Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory generated Kshs 51,681,848 in revenue, directly supporting our programs.



*Nyumbani's E.D inspects crops at the Nyumbani Village greenhouse farm.*



*Honey Moringa and Sunflower oil from the Nyumbani Village farm.*



*Melia Trees continue to grow at the Nyumbani Village farm under the trees for children project.*



*Lab Technicians conducts tests at the Nyumbani Diagnostic laboratory in Karen, Nairobi.*

# Fostering Social Connection & Reintegration

In 2024, Nyumbani deepened its commitment to fostering strong social connections and facilitating successful family reintegration. We believe that a sense of belonging and supportive relationships are paramount to a child's development. Our efforts ensured that children could reconnect with relatives, build healthy bonds, and transition back into family settings with comprehensive support, fostering stability and a loving environment. This year, we successfully reintegrated 11 children with their families. Additionally, 54 children visited their families during holidays, strengthening crucial family bonds, and our ongoing family tracing efforts continue to pave the way for more successful reintegrations. We also proactively updated our Child Safeguarding Policy to ensure the utmost protection and well-being of all children in our care.



# Safeguarding and Child Protection at Nyumbani

*"To us, safeguarding isn't just policy—it's a promise. We listen, we protect, and we act. Every child deserves to feel safe, seen, and heard."*

— Ann, Nyumbani Child Safeguarding Officer

**At Nyumbani, the safety and wellbeing of every child are our highest priorities. Child safeguarding is at the heart of all we do, and our comprehensive Child Protection Policy ensures that children are cared for in a safe, supportive, and empowering environment.**

*Top right: Staff follow along a child safeguarding training at Nyumbani Children's Home..*



## A Strong Policy Foundation

Nyumbani's Child Protection Policy provides clear guidelines for preventing, identifying, and responding to any form of harm. It protects both children and staff by outlining expectations and responsibilities, and by providing a structured approach to handling concerns.

## Key Safeguarding Measures

**Code of Conduct:** All staff and volunteers annually commit to upholding child safeguarding standards.

**Reporting & Investigation:** Concerns are reported to the Program Manager and escalated to the Safeguarding Committee. Investigations are handled sensitively, confidentially, and in writing, with actions taken based on the findings.

**Safe Recruitment:** All employees must present a current police clearance and undergo reference checks prior to joining.

**Training:** Regular training ensures staff, volunteers, and even children understand their rights, reporting channels, and how to create a protective environment.

## Creating a Safe, Supportive Space

Children live in well-supervised cottages with dedicated caregivers ("mums" and "uncles") who provide daily support and guidance. Supervision during play, separate living spaces for older children, and clear boundaries help maintain safety and respect at all times.

## Listening to Children

We teach children about their rights and encourage them to speak up. Age-appropriate channels are in place so children can report concerns to trusted adults; be it a caregiver, counsellor, or program manager.

## Review and Accessibility

The Child Protection Policy is reviewed periodically to reflect best practices and legal standards. The Executive Director serves as the policy custodian and point of contact for access and questions.

At Nyumbani, we remain committed to creating a nurturing, joyful space where children can grow, learn, and thrive free from harm. Together with our partners and supporters, we continue to uphold the dignity and safety of every child under our care.

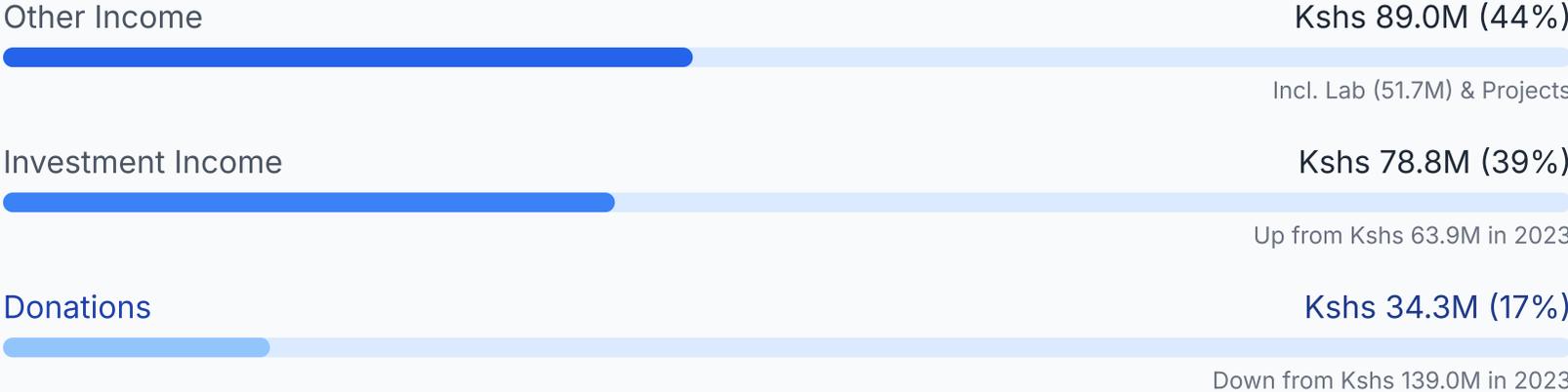
# Financial Stewardship

## A Year of Strategic Transition

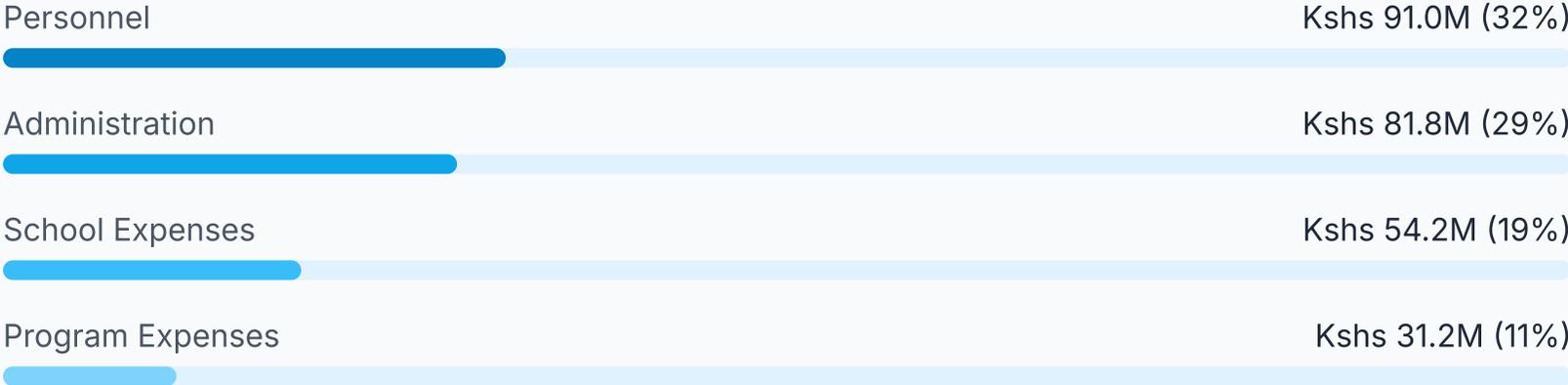
2024 was a pivotal year. The closure of the Lea Toto program led to a significant, expected decrease in both donations and expenditures. Through prudent financial management and a strategic shift in investments, we successfully navigated these changes, reducing our overall deficit and strengthening our long-term sustainability.



## Income Breakdown 2024



## Expenditure Breakdown 2024



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY FY2023

## FY2023 report as of December 31st, 2023

In the year FY23, Funding stood at Kes 298 Million against Kes 329 Million in 2022

### Summary Income FY2023 (Kes)

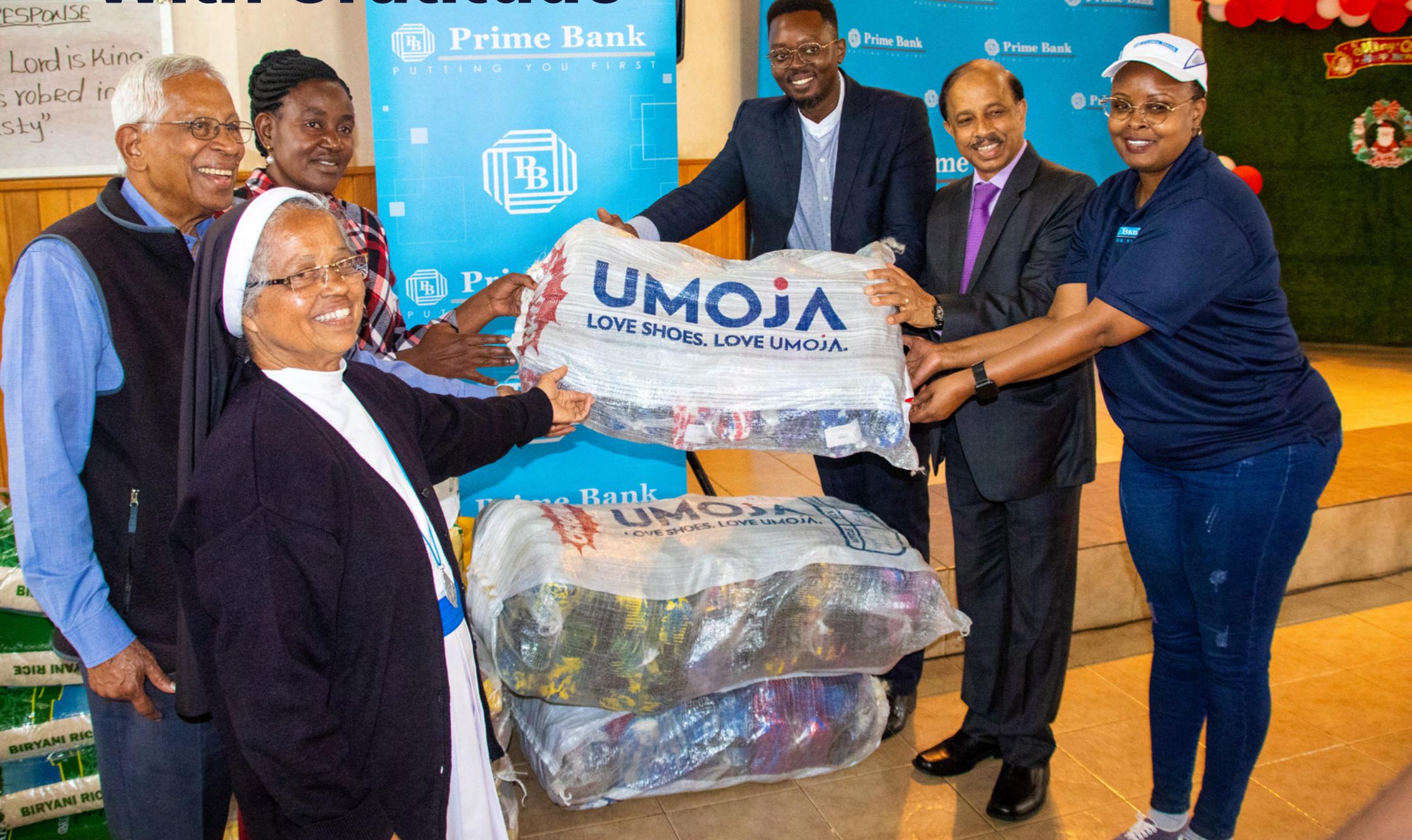
<u>Income</u>	<u>KES</u>
Donations (Cash, sponsorships, grants)	138,974,753
Other Income (sustainability projects)	
Nyumbani Village	12,363,406
Nyumbani Home	15,483,170
Nyumbani Diagnostic Laboratory	49,240,927
Investment Income	63,927,093
Lea Toto Programme	14,114,159
USAID	13,177
Amortization of capital grants	4,261,496
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>	<b><u>298,378,181</u></b>

### Summary Expenses FY2023 (Kes)

<u>Expenses</u>	<u>KES</u>
Programme expenses	53,472,718
School Expenses	104,730,052
Trees for children project expenses	4,040,947
Personnel expenses	113,413,602
Production Expenses	1,271,869
Farm Expenses	9,109,249
Other expenses	13,793,705
Administration Expenses	91,313,410
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>391,145,552</u></b>

More information on the audited accounts are available on our website. <https://nyumbani.or.ke/audit-reports/>

# With Gratitude



# WITH GRATITUDE

We express our deepest gratitude to all our donors, partners, foundations, corporate sponsors, and individual supporters. Your contributions, whether financial, in-kind, or through volunteering, make our work possible. We are especially thankful for the dedication of our international and local volunteers in 2024.

Special thanks to Amigos de Nyumbani and the other Nyumbani boards.



ESCUELA  
DE ENFERMERÍA  
Y FISIOTERAPIA



# With Gratitude

## Our Team:

Nyumbani's achievements are a direct result of the hard work and commitment of our dedicated staff. In 2024, COGRI had a total of 171 staff members, including 48 at Nyumbani Home, 14 at the Diagnostic Laboratory, and 110 at Nyumbani Village. We also benefited from the support of 26 international volunteers and 134 local volunteers.

## Awards and Recognitions

"Creative School of the year" – MASK AWARDS 2024

VI Jose Entrecaneles Ibarra Foundation Prize for international Cooperation.

Won in collaboration with the Nyumbani Spanish Chapter – Amigos de Nyumbani



# Looking Ahead

## Strategic Priorities for 2025

### **Enhancing Sustainability Initiatives:**

Strengthening income-generating activities at Nyumbani Village (farming, carpentry, guest house marketing) and Nyumbani Home (basil export) to reduce reliance on external funding.

### **Improving Infrastructure:**

Addressing critical infrastructure needs at Nyumbani Home (borehole, cottages, drainage, dining area tiling) and Nyumbani Village schools (Science/Computer labs, Dining Hall).

### **Streamlining Governance, Management, and Institutional Consolidation, and Revitalization**

### **Strengthening Programmatic Quality:**

Focusing on areas identified for improvement such as school performance, adherence support, discipline management, and successful job placement/reintegration settlement. Implementing planned policy reviews (SOPs, IT, Reintegration, Child Safeguarding).

### **Exploring Funding Diversification:**

Actively seeking new funding sources and strengthening relationships with existing donors to ensure the long-term viability of programs, particularly in light of decreased donations and the closure of Lea Toto.





# CHILDREN OF GOD RELIEF INSTITUTE NYUMBANI

FOR ANY  
FEEDBACK OR  
COMMENTS, PLEASE  
CONNECT WITH US

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Children of God Relief Institute  
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