



Anna and one of her children in front of the newly built latrines on her homestead.

PROVIDING SAFE SANITATION TO FAMILIES

Today, 445 million women and girls do not have access to a toilet. Anna, a mother of three who lives in Busia County, Kenya, used to be one of these women. Anna and her children used to relieve themselves in the bushes, open fields or near a river, and bathe in a nearby stream after sunset. When the rains came, the water would flow through her home, bringing waste with it.

This all changed when Anna met Mary, an Amref-trained Community Health Worker who persuaded Anna to construct a toilet and shower to keep herself and her family healthy. According to Mary, Anna's family often suffered from diarrhea and typhoid, and her children often missed school.

Because of your support Anna is now a proud owner of a latrine and shower where her family finds safety and privacy. In addition, Mary educated Anna on how to prevent diseases like typhoid and diarrhea.

Anna says: ***"This toilet has given me a sense of pride. It has provided privacy and my family no longer develops diarrheal diseases because we now follow the best hygiene practices that Mary taught us, such as washing hands with soap after visiting the toilet,"*** she says.



Youth advocates holding a discussion with actress Megalyn Echikunwoke.

YOUTH IN ACTION: YOUR IMPACT!

With over 3,000 youth advocates and over 700 youth-led organizations, Amref's Youth in Action (Y-Act) has become the largest youth advocacy network in Kenya. Y-Act mobilizes youth to identify health priorities for their communities, and then develop effective strategies to influence policymakers.

In the past few months, these youth advocates have achieved significant success influencing policy on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights and gender issues in several counties. One such example is in Nairobi County, where Y-ACT advocated the County Government to develop an Adolescent, Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) policy framework.

As a direct result of these efforts, the County Department created a technical working group, half of which was comprised of young adults, which then developed the County ASRH policy. Now in its final stages of review, the ASRH policy will budget for and allocate resources for youth friendly services across Nairobi. This all thanks to our donors.

ARTBALL 2019

HONORING ZANELE MUHOLI WITH THE REES VISIONARY AWARD

APRIL 27, 2019
VIP RECEPTION → 7:00
PARTY → 8:30

A/D/O
29 NORMAN AVE
BROOKLYN, NY

#AmrefArtBall

ART AUCTION, COCKTAILS & ENTERTAINMENT

TICKETS → amrefusa.org/artball

RUN THE TCS NEW YORK CITY MARATHON WITH TEAM AMREF

Amref Health Africa is proud to be an official charity partner of the **2019 TCS New York City Marathon** which will take place on November 3, 2019.

In 2019, Team Amref will raise funds to support our work in making quality maternal care more accessible for women living in under-served communities.

Don't wait, entries will fill up fast! Apply today and you can help us provide thousands of women in Africa with quality maternal care AND run in the biggest, most exciting marathon in the world.



READY TO RUN?

JOIN THE TEAM

Visit amrefusa.org/nyc-marathon for more details and to apply.



INVESTING IN GIRLS' EDUCATION TO FIGHT FGM

You play a critical role in changing the lives of girls in Kenya. Together, we were able to create a scholarship program to support girls living in Samburu County, Kenya. This program enables girls to complete their secondary school education and receive advocacy training to become anti-FGM ambassadors. The 30 girls currently supported by the scholarship are from the Samburu tribe which exhibits high rates of FGM, child, early and forced marriages, and low enrollment rate for girls in secondary school. Out-of-school youth face an increased risk to these harmful traditional practices.

Many of the girls come from households that could not afford secondary school fees, as secondary school is not compulsory in Kenya. These 30 girls have now been given the opportunity to improve their economic and health outcomes and improve their communities from within.

"I encourage all girls to finish school, to not agree to undergo FGM or to be married young. I learned a lot about FGM from Amref Health Africa. We saw what happens to girls."

-Saloni, Scholarship Recipient (right)

"I want to tell all girls in the world that are my age to be hard working when it comes to your education so that you can go to university. I also want more girls to be frontline in advocating against FGM."

-Elizabeth, Scholarship Recipient (left)



Darmi was once entrusted by her community to perform FGM on girls coming of age, but now she is actively fighting against FGM and child marriage.

KOOTA INJENA: ENDING CHILD MARRIAGE AND FGM

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

Thanks to you our donors, Amref's Koota Injena initiative is changing minds about the harmful traditions of Child Early and Forced Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) among 40 clans in nomadic, pastoralist communities in Kenya. Koota Injena—"come let us talk" in Borana--invites elders, youths and respected members of the community to do just that: come together to discuss how these practices negatively affect girls and their entire communities.

MEET DARMİ

Darmi is typical of the women in her village: She was circumcised at just eight years old, and married off to a much older man shortly after. For her, FGM and child marriage were accepted parts of her community, so when she was approached to become a circumciser herself, she gladly accepted. She explains, **"The community perceives the circumciser as someone who has wisdom."**

Thanks to you, through our Koota Injena initiative, Darmi attended a seminar where she learned about the harmful effects of FGM and child marriage. **"Once I understood, I decided to stop circumcising. I came to realize that FGM was a tradition that brought absolutely no value to a girl. It just brings a lot of pain. I am reformed and I can't go back to cutting. Now I am trying do something better for the community."**

Using the training she received, Darmi educates others: **"Whenever I get the opportunity, I gather women and tell them the effects of FGM and why it is not good for girls."** As an important member of the community, she frequently attends naming and wedding ceremonies. **"I tell the respected elders present not to marry off their girls young, to take them to school."**

And when **"people still approach me and ask me to circumcise their daughters, I say no. I tell them that there are no positive effects of FGM. It is something that we must change."**



Darmi telling one of her neighbors about the negative effects of FGM and child marriage at a discussion she leads every week.



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We're proud of the way we manage
our funds.

WE ARE AN AFRICAN-LED ORGANIZATION TRANSFORMING AFRICAN HEALTH FROM WITHIN AFRICA

Amref Health Africa strengthens health systems and trains African health workers to respond to the continent's most critical health challenges: maternal and child health, noncommunicable and infectious disease (Cancer, Diabetes, HIV/AIDS, TB, malaria, etc), access to clean water and sanitation, and surgical and clinical outreach. Our approach is community-based and makes the people we reach partners, rather than just beneficiaries. We are the largest Africa-based NGO.

97% of our staff come from the communities where we work.

PLANNED GIVING

Including Amref Health Africa in your will is a powerful way to help African communities for generations to come. Planned Giving extends the power of your generosity by arranging now for a donation to us in the future. Planned Giving is easy and can be done in a few different ways. Please contact our office for more information!