

March 2026



harvesters

Spreading the Gospel, Serving Others & Building Community



DONORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank You!

We are deeply grateful for the ways Harvesters continued to impact lives across Africa and Asia in 2025. And we are especially thankful for you. Whether through financial gifts or faithful prayers lifted on our behalf, each one made a difference.

In this edition, you'll read stories of that impact — lives changed because of your generosity and the dedicated work of our teams on the ground. The Lord has been faithful, allowing us to meet urgent needs, create lasting change, share the Gospel, and help individuals grow in their relationship with Him.

As we look ahead to 2026, we do so with anticipation and trust in all that God will continue to accomplish.

Thank you for being part of this work.



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Harvesters International Ministries



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Adapting For The Future

Family, Stability, And A Fresh Start

We are so excited about our newest Hope For Life home in Russia — **Adaptation House**. This home will serve orphaned young people who have recently graduated from high school or vocational schools. They have aged out of the traditional orphan care system but aren't quite ready or able to live independently.

During this important time of transition, house parents Denis and Lisa provide the **steady guidance, encouragement, and love** every young adult needs. They have faithfully served with Hope For Life for many years and, along with raising their own children, have opened their hearts and home as foster parents to many others.

Currently, four boys live at Adaptation House. While the home is designed for ten residents, our desire is to **never turn away a young person** who needs a safe place to land. Each resident may stay for three months, with additional time provided as needed, giving them **space to grow** in responsibility, confidence, and practical life skills.

Our prayer is that this home will be more than shelter — that it will be a **place of belonging, stability, and hope** as these young adults step into independence.

Please join us in praying for every young person who will walk through the doors of Adaptation House.



Denis, Lisa and family



Family Meal Around The Table

Hope For Every Day

Food and Stability For A Suffering Family

The staff of one of our schools in India not only provides an excellent education for students, they also care for the whole family. Kamlesh and Ranu shared this story of how their holistic approach supported a young widow **when she needed it most**.

*"My name is Sheetal Yashpal. I lost my parents at a very young age. After that, my relatives arranged my marriage. **God blessed me** with a very loving husband who cared for me deeply and had a government job. We were also blessed with two beautiful children who study at Jeevan Jyoti School. Our life was happy and peaceful.*

*One unfortunate day, my husband lost his life in a serious motorcycle accident while going to work. With his loss, **our entire world collapsed**. My children and I were left alone, and life became extremely difficult. To survive, I started working as a laborer in the fields, but even then, **I could not always arrange sufficient food** for my children.*



Sheetal with her children

*At that painful time, Jeevan Jyoti School became a great support for us. The school started providing grocery packets twice a month for both of my children. Because of this help, my children and I are able to **eat properly and live with dignity**. This support has been a true blessing in our lives.*

*Today, my children go to school happily and focus on their studies without fear or hunger. From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely thank you for understanding our needs and standing by us during the hardest phase of our lives. **Your help has brought hope and stability** back into our home.*

May God always keep your storehouses full and bless you abundantly. I pray for all of you every day with a thankful heart."

Community Stands Together

Voices Rise To Protect Girls From FGM

On February 6, 2026, the grounds of Kalemnyang Senior School came alive with color, song, and a shared commitment to protect girls. The **International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM** is more than a date on the calendar—it is a turning point.

The event was organized by Pokot Outreach Ministries through its Girl and Women Empowerment Program, which works to **protect the rights and dignity of girls** and women across the region.



Students performed at the rally

More than 1,500 adults from Riwo Ward gathered alongside 1,000 students from 15 schools. Teachers, religious leaders, local and national administrators, and political leaders stood shoulder to shoulder in a united declaration: **zero tolerance for FGM**.

The air echoed with powerful songs, moving poems, and dramatic performances. The **students spoke boldly** against harmful cultural practices—FGM, early marriage, and teenage pregnancy—declaring zero tolerance through art and creativity.

The most powerful moment came when three women who once circumcised girls stepped forward. With **trembling yet resolute** voices, they publicly renounced the practice and promised to become ambassadors of change.

Tears flowed. Applause thundered. **Hope rose**.

That day, Kalemnyang was more than a school—it became **a beacon of transformation**, proving that when a community stands together, harmful traditions can give way to a future where **every girl is safe, valued, and free**.

Choosing To Protect

One Woman's Decision To End FGM

In the quiet hills of Emboasis, Kenya, where the wind moves gently through the tall grass, and the sun sinks slowly behind the ridges, 65-year-old Chepochew Domongole once carried a small, worn leather bag that defined her life.

For over fifteen years, Chepochew was known in the community as a circumciser. Families called her with respect. **Girls were brought to her at dawn.** Songs were sung to silence fear. It was tradition, and she believed she was doing honorable work — **preparing girls for womanhood** as she herself had once been prepared.

But behind the songs, **there were cries.**

At first, Chepochew told herself that pain was part of growing up. That it had always been done, that **she was preserving culture.** Yet over time, she began to see things she could not forget — a girl who bled too long, another who developed infection, a young bride who struggled in childbirth, a mother who never returned from the hospital. Some of **those girls had been in her hands.**

The turning point came in 2018 when activists and government officers began holding FGM education meetings in Emboasis. Chepochew did not think she would attend. Curiosity — and **perhaps a quiet stirring in her heart** — led her there. They spoke about the health consequences, the trauma, the deaths caused by FGM. They spoke about the law and the rights of girls to grow up whole and unharmed. For the first time, Chepochew heard the practice described **not as culture but as violence.**

She went home unsettled. That night, sleep would not come. Faces rose before her — girls she had cut, women who later suffered complications, families who had mourned in silence. The weight of it **pressed heavily on her chest.**



In the weeks that followed, she attended more meetings. She asked questions. **She listened.** She began to understand that what she had defended for so long had no health benefits — only risks, pain, and sometimes death. The **knowledge pierced her deeper than any blade** she had ever held.

One morning, she took her leather bag outside. These tools had once been her livelihood. They had fed her children and earned her respect. Now, they felt like a burden. Slowly, deliberately, **she laid them down.**

“I will not cut another girl,” she said aloud, as though making a vow before heaven itself.

Chepochew began speaking openly about her change of heart. At community gatherings, she stood up — her voice trembling at first — and **told her story.** She warned parents of the dangers. She told fellow cutters that the practice was harmful and illegal. **She urged them to stop** before more girls suffered.

“Let us go to church,” she would say. **“Let us repent.** Let us ask God to forgive us and open other ways for us to earn a living. **No money is worth a child’s life.”**

Some were shocked. Others resisted. But **many listened,** because they knew Chepochew. They knew she had once been a strong defender of the practice. **Her transformation carried weight.**

Today, Chepochew walks through Emboasis with a message of protection. She **speaks to young girls about their worth** and tells them their bodies are not to be harmed in the name of tradition. She works alongside activists and local leaders to safeguard those at risk.

She cannot undo the past. The memories remain — a sorrow she carries quietly. But **she has chosen a different legacy.** Instead of being remembered for cutting girls into womanhood, she hopes to be remembered as the grandmother who **stood up, laid down her tools, and chose to protect.**

And in that choice, she found a deeper kind of honor — one that harms no one and heals many.

“I will not cut another girl.”

A Place To Call Home

Children Impacted By Conflict Find Safety, Care, and Healing

We are grateful for the continued work of Robert and Happiness who oversee our children's homes in DR Congo. These homes are filled with staff who **provide a loving and supportive environment** to children who have experienced horrors that they should never see. Robert shared this story of four children from the same family, victims of the armed conflict, who currently live at Free Life Children's Home.

In January 2025, fighting between the loyalist army and the M23 rebels intensified in several neighborhoods of Goma. Heavy weapons fire, forced displacement, and fear became part of daily life for residents there.

In a small house in the Mugunga Quarter, lived four children from the same family: Gloria (13), Blessing (12), Solomon (10), and little Paradis (5). Their father was a motorcycle taxi driver, and their mother sold vegetables at the market. They didn't have much, but **they ate together every evening** and went to school when the situation allowed.

On January 27, clashes broke out not far from their home. Their parents decided to stay inside, thinking it would be safer. Mid-morning, artillery fire struck the neighboring street. Shrapnel ripped through the house. The father was hit instantly. The mother, wounded, **tried to protect the children** before succumbing to her injuries a few hours later due to lack of

medical care. The children survived, hiding under the bed. **Neighbors arrived to rescue them** and were thankful they were alive.



Gloria, Paradis, Blessing & Solomon

For several days, the four children remained in the neighborhood, taking turns staying with neighbors already overwhelmed by the situation. They **barely spoke**. Gloria refused to cry in front of her siblings. Blessing had nightmares. Solomon constantly demanded to know when their mother would return. Paradis clung to her sister's clothes.

One of our UBC pastors came to our Free Life Children's Home to present the case of these children, whose parents were members of his church. Arriving at the orphanage was not easy. The **children didn't understand** why they had to stay there. At night, Paradis would cry out. Solomon wet the bed. Blessing refused to go to school. Gloria felt guilty for not being able to save their parents. Over time, thanks to our support and the presence of other children who had experienced similar traumas, **they began to adapt**.

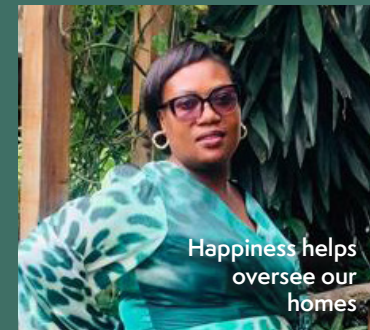
Today, the four children still live at the home. The memories remain heavy. Sometimes Happiness and I take turns sleeping at the orphanage to help these children adjust.

Blessing plays soccer to forget. Solomon often draws their old home. Paradis still sleeps with a light on. They almost never talk about their parents, but **every detail of their lives bears the mark**.

Their story is not exceptional. It resembles that of many children we have taken in recently — children who did not choose war but who must live with its consequences.



Robert with one of our residents



Happiness helps oversee our homes



Mangaza prepares food for the children



Tantine is headmistress of the primary school

Clear Sight Project

Opening Doors For The Gospel

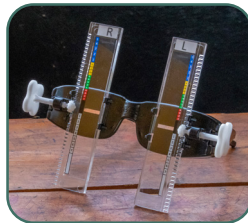
Harvesters' mission has always been rooted in sharing the Gospel and strengthening the work of local churches in Africa and Asia. **Meeting practical needs** has proven to be a great way to open doors for spiritual conversations and long-term discipleship. Clear Sight Project was created with that same heart.



In many communities across Africa and Asia, **poor eyesight is a daily reality** that quietly limits people's lives. Tasks many consider simple – reading, learning, working – are difficult or impossible. Clear Sight Project addresses this need in a practical way, helping people participate more fully in day-to-day life and regain access to God's Word.

In December, Harvesters took an important step forward by conducting a pilot trip for **Clear Sight Project** in Rwanda. The purpose of this trip was twofold: to meet real vision needs and to test a process that could be refined and expanded as a gospel-centered outreach. Harvesters' team worked alongside a local Rwandan eye doctor to serve communities in three different areas.

The team utilized a specialized device designed to accurately determine the lens needed to correct an individual's vision. Once their needs were assessed, **eyeglasses were quickly assembled** by inserting the proper lens into a frame.



Each pair of glasses is tailored to the individual's specific need. The team also had a large supply of "readers" for those that needed them. 340 individuals were assessed and provided with glasses – many of whom had **never before received eye care**.

While the process and logistics were encouraging, the most meaningful moments came through personal interactions. One team member, Micah, shared: "As I was handing out the assembled glasses and readers, part of my process was making sure each person could read the Rwandan text on

my phone. I pulled up the text and handed the phone to a woman, and she politely shook her head. Then she reached into her purse and **pulled out her Bible**. We sat there for a moment, and as she began to read, she smiled and nodded—**she could see clearly**. Of all the things I take for granted in my life, I never considered not being able to connect with the Father through reading Scripture. Who knows how long it had been since she was able to read God's Word. Because of Clear Sight Project—and because of faithful donors—**now she can**."



She wanted the first thing she read to be the Word.

Moments like this reveal the heart of Clear Sight Project—restored vision allowing people to read Scripture, follow along in church, and engage more fully in worship and community life. In many cases, receiving glasses also creates **natural opportunities for prayer and conversation**, as well as connection with local church leaders—opening doors for continued ministry long after the team has left.

The December pilot confirmed that Clear Sight Project is both **effective and deeply needed**. Everywhere the team served, more people were waiting. Local churches expressed excitement about the opportunity to continue partnership in this work. The need is great but so is the opportunity to support churches as they reach their communities in practical and meaningful ways. Further, Clear Sight Project will offer opportunities for effective outreach to people living in areas with no churches.



This trip gave us "**clear sight**" of what's possible. As we look to the future, we are excited to continue developing and expanding Clear Sight Project.

Livestock Gifts At Work

Chickens And Goats Bring Hope And Help

Through our **Gifts That Matter** campaign, many donors chose to give livestock — **practical, life-changing resources** that continue providing for families long after the day they're received. Seira Community Church in Rwanda recently blessed families and students in Cyumuzi Village with chickens and goats, creating new opportunities for nourishment, income, and hope.

Bizimana Fidel shared how this gift changed his family's future:



*"My name is Bizimana Fidel. Before this help, my family was very poor. Seira Community Church gave us chickens and a goat, and **our life changed**.*

*The chickens give us eggs, and we sell some to earn money. Now we can pay school fees, buy food, and get medical care. **Because of this support, my family's life is better.**"*

In addition to helping families like Bizimana's, the church distributed chickens to 30 students at Cyumuzi School, providing a sustainable source of nutrition through eggs and poultry. These simple resources strengthen children's health while also teaching families small-scale farming skills that can generate ongoing income.

Seira Community Church is deeply grateful for every donor who made this possible. Your gifts are not only meeting immediate needs — they're helping families build stability, dignity, and a brighter future.



The children are excited to watch their chickens grow!

Munyemana has attended one of our Union of Baptist Churches in DR Congo for years and is grateful for the care and compassion of her pastor and church family. She shares:

*"My name is Munyemana, and I am a 65-year-old widow. Since my husband's death, I have lived alone and faced many difficulties. For a long time, my greatest comfort was my goat, which I considered not only an asset but, above all, a companion. It was with me every day and **helped me cope with the loneliness**.*

*Unfortunately, the Wazalendo (a local militia) stole my goat. This loss deeply affected me. I felt very **discouraged, sad, and hopeless**.*

*But I never stopped trusting in God. I continued to pray, convinced that the Lord sees the suffering of widows and that **He never abandons those who hope in Him**.*

*By the grace of God, my pastor from Union of Baptist Churches came to visit and pray with me and **gave me a new goat**. This gesture filled my heart with immense joy. I understood that **God had not forgotten my tears**.*



*Every time I take this goat to gather grass and graze it, I feel a **great peace in my heart**. Walking with it calms me, gives me strength, and helps me forget my pain. This goat is for me a living sign of God's love and a sign of His provision. I have milk to drink again, and I look forward to breeding the goat so that I can earn money from selling the kids.*

*I thank God with all my heart and I bless the donors for this act of compassion. Thanks to this gesture, I have **rediscovered hope** and the joy of continuing to live."*

More Than A Meal

Food, Fellowship, and Dignity

Every day in Vijayawada, India, freshly cooked meals are prepared in the kitchen of Sion Assembly Church. For years, the church has carried out a simple yet powerful mission: to **feed the hungry**. Children, widows, laborers, and the elderly living under bridges or roadside, not only receive food but also experience love, dignity, and fellowship.

This daily food distribution project began with a vision — that no one in the community should go to bed hungry during the time of COVID. Cooks from SAC **prepare meals, serve with joy, and pray** with those who come. What began as a small effort has grown into a lifeline for many.

The Story of Ramesh

Among those who came regularly was Ramesh, a middle aged man who was lame and had no legs. His only means of mobility was a small, three-wheeler cycle, which he pedaled with his hands to move through the streets of Vijayawada. Each day, he would slowly make his way to the food distribution point, **determined to pick up his meal** despite the challenges of his condition.

Life has been cruel to Ramesh. With his disability, steady work was impossible, and he often went days without proper food. **Hunger and loneliness** weighed heavily on him, and he felt forgotten by society.



One evening, as usual, Ramesh arrived at the place where SAC was distributing food, drawn by the sight of people being served with kindness. He received a plate of food—rice and curry—along with a smile. For the first time in weeks, **he ate until he was full**. But more than feeling full, he felt something stir in his heart: hope.

Day after day, Ramesh returned. He noticed that the volunteers prayed before serving, thanking God for His provision. He listened quietly to the short words of encouragement shared at the meal. One verse especially touched him:

I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry.
John 6:35

Ramesh realized that while his stomach was being filled, **his soul was also being fed**. He began asking questions about Jesus and soon joined the church's fellowship. Through prayer and guidance, **he accepted Christ as his Savior**.

Today, Ramesh not only receives food but also **helps encourage others** who come to the feeding program. He testifies that the project saved his life — both physically and spiritually. His story is a living witness that **a plate of food can open the door to eternal hope**.

The Sion Assembly Church's feeding project is more than charity. It is the hands of Christ extended to the hungry, showing that **God cares for both body and soul**. Each meal is a seed of love, and sometimes, as in Ramesh's case, it brings someone to salvation.



**"A plate of food
can open the door
to eternal hope."**





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