



Shitungu Rises

Empowering Dreams - Building Futures

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Tuesday, March 18, 2025

Hi, I'm Joyce Lisbin, the founder and Executive Director of the Kenya Village Empowerment Organization, (KVEO), focused on supporting Shitungu, a small Kenyan community. You are invited to explore our new website and learn more about Shitungu, meet our dedicated leaders, and discover why KVEO was established and how our work is so special.

www.shitungurises.org

A Community-Driven Journey

Click on the page **About Shitungu** (in words and photos) to discover how community members meet regularly to cooperate on projects that improve the lives of all residents and lead toward self sufficiency. This journey starts with establishing three essentials: food, education, and work.

Food

Ongoing drought and a struggling economy have resulted in many families experiencing food shortages often having only one meal a day. KVEO is committed to providing (a modest) \$400 monthly emergency stipend for the community so its 120 residents can purchase basic food supplies.

Your donation of just \$5.00 can help feed a family for an entire week.

Extreme weather conditions leave the community with a shortened season for growing their own vegetables. To reduce food insecurity, villagers are researching hydroponic gardening as a sustainable food solution.



Education

Thanks to generous donations, KVEO has been able to cover tuition and lunch costs for the 46 Shitungu students from preschool through high school. Families take responsibility for uniforms, books, and sports participation. Annual tuition is \$231.00 for grade school and \$747.00 for high school.



There are no free public schools in Kenya. Your support ensures children can continue their education.



Work - Creating Sustainable Livelihoods

KVEO provided start up funds for a community based soapmaking business. Each family sells bars of soap to neighbors in nearby villages or at the local market. This small enterprise provides crucial additional financial support to supplement various jobs held by the residents.

New business projects are currently under development to expand economic opportunities for residents.

The Urgent Need for Action

Rapidly shifting changes in U.S. policies have made long-term planning challenging here and around the world. Recent slashing of USAID (U.S. American Agency for International Development) funds to Kenya seriously impacts the Shitungu community. An immediate consequence of these cuts is fewer health care workers resulting in more expensive and limited access to medical care.



Immediate action essential to protect the health and well being of the Shitungu villagers.

How You Can Help

- **Visit Our Website** – Learn more about KVEO's mission at shitungurises.org
- **Share the Link** – Spread the word through social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Bluesky).
- **Donate** – Every contribution makes a difference. **Please consider contributing to help meet Shitungu's immediate needs for food, education and work.**

Together, we can uplift Shitungu and create lasting change. Thank you for your support!

Warm regards from the KVEO Board and

Joyce

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