

When I wrote our May newsletter, I promised to send updates from Tanzania during our June volunteer Outreach. Unfortunately, internet access in the remote communities we were serving made that impossible.

Now that I'm home, I'd like to share something even better than daily updates:

In Tanzania, we witnessed encouraging evidence that lasting change is taking root—not because of what we accomplish alone, but because ***local communities are embracing and leading that change themselves.***

A Safe House...and a New Future



One of the greatest joys of our Outreach was visiting girls at our Maasai Safe House in Nainokanoka.

We spent time with the girls we introduced to you during our year-end campaign. Most were home for school break from their government boarding schools, filling the safe house with laughter, friendship, and hope.

Today, **21 girls** have escaped the risks of female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage through the safety of their safe home and cherish this opportunity to continue their education.

This June, one more young girl arrived after completing primary school, seeking refuge from a forced marriage. She became our **twenty-first** scholarship student.

Perhaps the most encouraging change has been one we could not have predicted:
Parents who once saw little value in educating their daughters are becoming some of their strongest supporters. As these girls succeed in school, families are increasingly embracing education as a pathway to a brighter future.

An Amazing Celebration of Gratitude



This day became a memory none of us will ever forget.

More than **90 Maasai men and women** gathered to welcome our team and show appreciation for lessons and opportunities provided that are strengthening their families. Through traditional songs, dancing, and celebration, their message was simple and deeply moving: **Thank you.**

They were not celebrating visitors. They were celebrating hope.

Community members expressed gratitude for the health education classes, the Safe House, economic opportunities for women, and the educational opportunities now available to young girls.

Watching the community celebrate these changes reminded us that true progress happens when local people make these goals their own.

Protecting the Next Generation



Among the most inspiring moments was our greeting by a group of Maasai warriors dressed in full traditional clothing.

After participating in our HIV education program, the men came forward together to publicly express their commitment to protecting their future families. They shared their desire to make healthy choices and to encourage young girls to complete their education before marriage.

Their words offered a glimpse of something we all hope to see—a new generation helping create healthier, safer communities.

New Beginnings for Traditional Birth Attendants



Real change often requires providing new opportunities.

Fifteen traditional birth attendants who had participated in our community education program made the courageous decision to stop performing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). For several women, however, this also meant giving up an important source of income.

Through donor support, they have been provided a new beginning.

Fifty goats and sheep were purchased and distributed so these women and others can raise livestock to provide for their families. A local veterinarian will provide ongoing training in animal care and disease prevention, helping these new businesses succeed while also reinforcing the importance of preventive health for their children and loved ones.

These women are not simply changing occupations.

They are becoming protectors of future generations.

Keeping Girls in the Classrooms



Delivery of 650 Menstrual Kits!

Washable menstrual kits lovingly made by volunteers in the Pacific Northwest were delivered to 650 Maasai girls attending local primary and secondary schools, and post-partum kits for 35 new moms. These supplies are uniformly loved by girls and appreciated by teachers and school headmasters.

Looking Ahead

Our Outreach did not unfold exactly as planned. Unexpected customs policy changes prevented many of the medical clinics we had prepared.

Rather than lose valuable time, our team focused on vision care and medical assessments with an added emphasis on disease prevention and health education, providing classes on Safe Water and prevention of Cholera, Malaria, Diabetes, HIV, TB, and others. Local teachers and leaders are sharing these seminars so learning will continue long after our visit.

The greatest success was not measured by the number of clinics or classes. It was seeing communities increasingly lead the change themselves—parents supporting daughters' education, young men choosing healthier futures, and women protecting girls.

That is the kind of change that lasts.

Thank you for making this possible. Your partnership continues to strengthen communities, create opportunity, and bring lasting hope.

With gratitude,

Loree Bolin and the Health & Hope Foundation Team