

UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA

(Project registered in Australia)

# UMOJA CHILDREN'S VILLAGE – UKUNDA

(Project registered in Kenya)

## PROJECT INFORMATION PACKAGE

## 'A TIMELINE OF OUR JOURNEY'



**TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE THE EXTRAORDINARY**



**Proudly sponsored by**  
**Sunrise Rotary Club Bundaberg**



**Proudly supported by  
Australian Government Aid**



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## WHERE THE JOURNEY BEGAN



As a child, I always wanted to work in an orphanage. As time passed, however, I took a different path; I married young and had four beautiful children. For six wonderful years my family and I lived in Papua New Guinea with one of my children being born there. I particularly enjoyed the country, culture and simplicity of living.

I returned to Australia and started working as a Teacher Aide in the library at Walkervale State School. With the encouragement of my friend and mentor Lesley Bath, I worked and studied full-time for approximately 70 hours a week to become a primary school teacher. I loved the daily challenge of helping children reach their full potential, and I continue to work full time with children and books in my current role as the Teacher-Librarian at Walkervale. My passion for working with children has never wavered.

## FURTHER DOWN THE ROAD

My second passion is travel, and I have been fortunate enough to travel extensively around this big, wide world. I first visited Kenya in 2010 to do a safari as part of a three month round-the-world trip, and I instantly fell in love with the land and the people.

My travel companions and I were overwhelmed with the poverty we were faced with in Kenya and Rwanda and the depths of despair the people tackled daily. I had seen poverty in many countries, and been touched by much human suffering, but Kenya affected me deep within my soul. We opened our wallets and hearts. But that was just the beginning.



## THE PATH TO THE PURPOSE



Back in Australia, I vowed to return to volunteer in a local village school in the June 2011 school holidays. Destiny played its part and I decided that I would find an orphanage to work at myself rather than a school. I did some fundraising within my workplace and received donations from family and friends, which the orphanage was very grateful for.



I returned to the East coast of Kenya in June 2011 and volunteered at 2 orphanages near Ukunda and Mombasa. I also did voluntary work in the local school and was overwhelmed at the class sizes, lack of resources, and poverty within the rural villages and schools. Overall, it was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

I had to go back, even if it was just to help one child. I told myself that I could sit here and do nothing, or I could sit here and do something. I kept thinking of an African proverb: *it takes a whole village to raise a child*. I would start my own charity and begin fundraising to build my own orphanage.



I

## REACHING THE DESTINATION

Destiny now has me on a journey where as a child I imagined I would be. On the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2011, I launched my own non-profit organisation – Umoja Orphanage Kenya. *Umoja* is Swahili for unity and togetherness, and I am relying on the support of family, friends and strangers to help me achieve my dream. ***Together we will achieve the extraordinary.***

I have a wonderful leadership team—Lesley, Gaye, Shanyin, and Kerrie-Anne—who work together to achieve the extraordinary. Umoja is also a project of Rotary Australia World Community Services (RAWCS) and the support we have received from Rotary clubs, both in Australia and overseas, has been fantastic. I have made lifelong friendships with some of the most genuine and generous people I have ever met



**Umoja's mission is to provide a real alternative to child abandonment in Kenya.** We will give children a second chance at life where they can reach their full potential in a safe and secure environment. Through a holistic care approach we will help children and communities **break the cycle of poverty.**



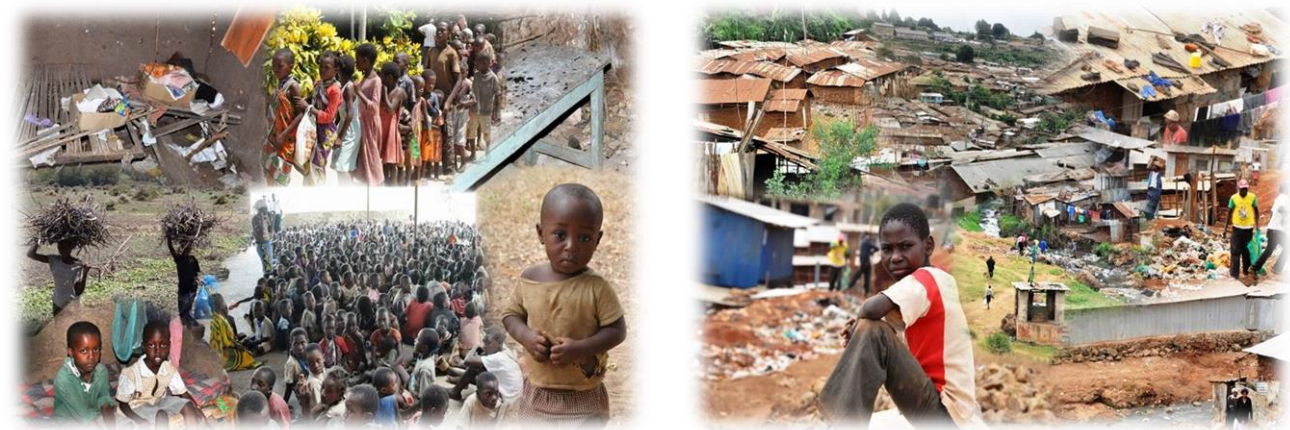
Umoja's goal is to build individual children's homes, where children will be homed in a 'family' environment. We began construction of our first children's home in October 2014 to take in our first little people who will be given a second chance at life. *Umoja Children's Village – Ukunda* will be self-sustainable through a permaculture model by farming crops and animals and selling excess produce to the surrounding villages. A safari side-business will also return profits back into the project to help pay local staff who will work in our orphanage. By employing local Kenyans we can provide invaluable skills for the future.

## WHY KENYA?

Kenya is, by every economic indicator, one of the poorest countries in the world.

The situation of a large proportion of Kenya remains acute due to: socio-economic, cultural, traditional, development circumstances, natural disasters, conflicts, exploitation and hunger. HIV/AIDS has had a large effect on the country and there are now estimated to be more than **2 million Kenyan orphans**, with more than 50% of these due to AIDS.

The Umoja orphanage will be established in Kenya to assist the plight of orphaned children and to provide nutrition, shelter, education and a future in a loving environment.



## UMOJA'S MISSION

The Umoja Orphanage Project will be a real alternative to child abandonment, offering interim and long-term care to orphaned children and preventing vulnerable children from becoming abandoned.

Without the Umoja Children's Village orphaned and abandoned children will continue to face uncertain futures, death and an indeterminate stay in the local government hospital. Every child deserves the basic needs for survival and the chance to reach their full potential.

We will create an environment that provides:

- **food** and nutritional support
- **shelter** where children can feel safe and secure
- **protection** from all forms of abuse
- **care** - acceptable health care services
- **support** - psychosocial and emotional support
- **education** - educational and vocational assistance and training
- **spirituality** - the right to fulfil their spiritual and religious beliefs
- **opportunity** - to realise their physical, mental, and social potential
- **guidance** - to realise their rights and responsibilities and understand shared values
- **belonging** - unconditional love and a sense of belonging
- **hope** for the future.

## WHO WILL THE UMOJA PROJECT HELP?

Umoja Orphanage Kenya aims to help children and communities break the cycle of poverty.

Umoja Orphanage Kenya will assist:

- ✓ **Orphaned and vulnerable children** aged 0 - 16
- ✓ **Local widowed mothers**—employed as house mothers and house aunties
- ✓ **Local tradesmen and community**—through the building of the project buildings and ongoing maintenance
- ✓ **Local businesses**—through purchase of materials, livestock and supply of goods from agricultural gardens on site
- ✓ **The local community** – conducting first aid clinics free to the community 1 – 2 times a year
- ✓ **Disabled local village people**—to help teach skills of the Kenyan culture
- ✓ **Local villagers**—in vocational training and employment
- ✓ **Local taxi drivers**—transporting volunteers to our project and from airport
- ✓ **Local storekeepers**—to provide initial food
- ✓ **Neighbouring villages**—by sharing of our water supply
- ✓ **Training community volunteers** in practical support, material support, emotional support, educational support, recreational support, legal support, cultural & religious support, guidance on water and sanitation & health promotion
- ✓ **Community sharing**—through sporting fixtures, social events, first aid clinics and donations in kind to the local community





## UMOJA CHILDREN'S VILLAGE - UKUNDA

### Umoja Children's Village goals:

- ✓ Caretaker's cottage and storage
- ✓ Secure perimeter fence and internal fencing
- ✓ Individual family style homes – first one completed
- Administration building and manager's quarters
- ✓ Staff and sponsor accommodation
- Small school (including early learning centre)
- School dining hall
- Biogas system
- Solar farm
- ✓ Health clinics
- Transition house for adolescent children 15+
- Visitor's centre
- Teacher training facility
- Vocational training centre
- Sporting/games area



**FIRST CHILDREN'S HOME DESIGN**



## SUSTAINABILITY

Umoja Children's village will achieve sustainability through Permaculture Design principles. Self-sustainable projects include:

- Agricultural sheds and storage
- ✓ Vegetable garden and fruit orchard (selling surplus produce to villages and markets)
- Solar Farm
- ✓ Fresh water borehole and water tower with 50,000+ litres of clean water storage (for drinking and irrigation)
- Bio-digester (to treat waste and provide gas for cooking)
- ✓ Dairy cattle
- ✓ Dairy goats
- ✓ Poultry house & chickens
- ✓ **Sewing**, (mechanical, carpentry training to come)
- Furniture production shed (to use in orphanage and sell to village)
- ✓ Safari side-business (generating profits back into project)





## DUE DILIGENCE

June 2011

- ✓ Cathy volunteers at an orphanage to Understand need and how orphanages are run



January 2012

- ✓ **Cathy and Lesley visit Kenya for 3 months**, volunteer at other orphanages, meet with village chief and find appropriate location for Umoja Orphanage
- ✓ **Cathy and Lesley visit Tanzania** to visit project run by another Australian woman for past 10 years



February 2012

- ✓ **15 acres of land was purchased** near Diani Beach in Ukunda, Kenya and contracts signed
- ✓ **Kenyan project manager employed** to oversee construction



## CONSTRUCTION

August 2012

- ✓ **Construction begins** on caretaker's cottage and storage room



September 2012

- ✓ **Water well** completed



December 2012

- ✓ **Caretaker's cottage and storage room** completed

## OUR PROGRESS 2011 – 2016 to date

### VOLUNTEERS LEND A HAND

January 2013

- ✓ **7 Volunteers work** on Umoja's land
- ✓ Volunteers enjoy **safari in Umoja's van**
- ✓ **Water tank** connected
- ✓ **Guttering installed** on cottage



September 2013

- ✓ **15 Volunteers** continue fencing
- ✓ **Free health clinic** offered to local villagers



April 2014

- ✓ **19 Volunteers** build cowshed
- ✓ **Free health clinic** offered to local villagers
- ✓ **Trained 34** locals in permaculture practices, design & building skills



January 2015

- ✓ **1 volunteer** to project
- ✓ **Trained 38** locals in permaculture design & practices

September 2015

- ✓ **11 volunteers fence** 15 acres & build internal electric fence
- ✓ **Trained 6 locals** in complete fencing techniques
- ✓ **Free health clinic** offered to local villagers
- ✓ **Set up irrigation system** for crops not already irrigated
- ✓ **Trained staff in basic first aid** injection giving to livestock



## PERIMETER FENCE

June 2013

- ✓ Cathy and Lesley travel to Kenya to **survey land for fence**
- ✓ **Fencing materials purchased**

July 2013

- ✓ **9 Kenyan locals casually employed** to assist with fence
- ✓ Boundary of **land cleared for fencing**
- ✓ **Fence progress:** holes dug and fence poles cemented



## SUSTAINABILITY

May 2014

- ✓ **Internal brick fence (compound)** around future children's homes (2.5 acres) partially sponsored by Australian Aid
- ✓ **Greenhouse purchased** for crops
- ✓ **Crop gardens** began inside
- ✓ **2 dairy cows** purchased



April 2014

- ✓ **Permaculture design course** for 34 locals including staff
- ✓ Further crops planted
- ✓ Cow shed built



August 2014

- ✓ **Birth** of first calf
- ✓ **4 Dairy Goats** purchased
- ✓ **Extension to cow shed** for goat shelter





January 2015

- ✓ **Permaculture design course** for 34 locals including staff
- ✓ **Further** crop harvest and planting
- ✓ **Further water tanks** donated

April 2015

- ✓ **Follow up inspection** of villager's permaculture gardens after January permaculture training

May 2015

- ✓ **Borehole commenced** and completed

September 2015

- ✓ **New crop fields** ploughed
- ✓ **New crops** planted
- ✓ **Further irrigation** of crops completed



## CHILDREN'S HOME

October 2014

- ✓ **First children's house** begins construction
- ✓ **Motor bike** purchased
- ✓ **Crops** being sold



January 2015

- ✓ **House progression** to date
- ✓ **4<sup>th</sup> volunteer tour** helping with agricultural part of project
- ✓ **Trained 34 local Kenyans** in Permaculture Design Course  
Sponsored by **Base Titanium Mining Company**
- ✓ **Selected 5 Kenyans** for further training (train the trainer)



February 2015

- ✓ **Cathy** guest speaking at **5 Rotary International District Conferences in India** over 5 weeks (**Districts 3160, 3202, 3201, 3180 & 3211**), and at universities & schools about the project & service above self





March 2015

- ✓ **Connection of electricity** to project & villagers permission to erect poles on their land
- ✓ **Further sectioning with fencing** of agricultural areas on the project with our trained fencers



April 2015

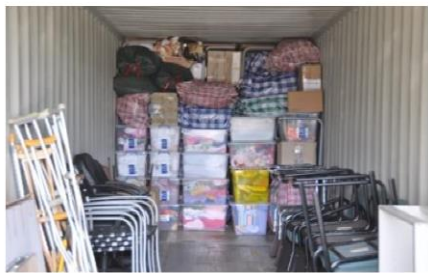
- ✓ **Follow up permaculture training** of locals who participated in January 2015 training and report written for sponsoring company



May 2015

- ✓ **Roof beam erection** begins on our first children's house
- ✓ **Borehole** begins
- ✓ **Packing of donated items** for shipping container to be sent to Kenya
- ✓ **Artificial insemination** of dairy cows





JUNE 2015

- ✓ **40 foot shipping container** transported from Bundaberg, Queensland, Australia departed the Port of Brisbane, Australia on 20<sup>th</sup> June with 7.9 tons of donated items
- ✓ **Construction** of roof trusses for children's house and purlins completed
- ✓ **Electric piping**, socketing boxes and switch boxes completed
- ✓ **Another vegetable** harvest ready
- ✓ **Borehole completed** and tested – clean and fresh water





JULY 2015

- ✓ **Further progress** on first children's home
- ✓ **Roof goes on** children's house



AUGUST 2015

- ✓ **Shipping container arrives** at Umoja



SEPTEMBER 2015

- ✓ **Further work** on first children's home & septic system
- ✓ **5<sup>th</sup> group of volunteers** to work on project (11 volunteers)
- ✓ **Chicken shed** construction begins
- ✓ **15 acres of fencing** completed with galvanised wire
- ✓ **Internal electric fence** completed
- ✓ **Irrigation of most crops** completed
- ✓ **Training of 6 local Kenyans** in fencing skills & setting up of electric fence including energiser, solar panel & battery
- ✓ **Holding 3<sup>rd</sup> first aid clinic** treating 181 local Kenyans







OCTOBER 2015

- ✓ Continuation of construction of chicken shed
- ✓ Continuation of construction of septic system
- ✓ Continuation of house construction



**Australian Aid** 

NOVEMBER 2015

- ✓ Continuation of construction of chicken shed
- ✓ Rendering and installation of window & door frames
- ✓ Beginning of 4 level water tower/bedsitter construction
- ✓ (Funded by Australian Aid)





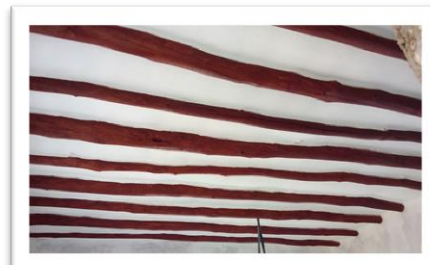
DECEMBER 2015

- ✓ **Continuation** of children's home
- ✓ **Continuation** of water tower construction



JANUARY 2016

- ✓ **Continuation** of children's home
- ✓ **Continuation** of water tower construction



FEBRUARY 2016

- ✓ **Purchase** of a bull to increase our dairy herd
- ✓ **Completion** of chicken shed

MARCH 2016

- ✓ **Galana stone** floor began being laid in children's house
- ✓ **Further construction** on water tower





## APRIL 2016

- ✓ **Galana stone** flooring grouted
- ✓ **Crops** doing well
- ✓ **Water tower/bedsitters** continue construction



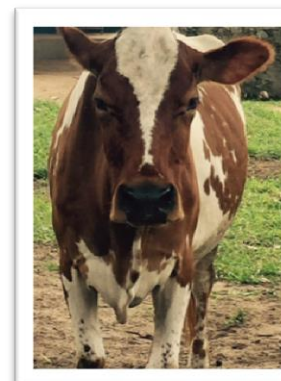
## MAY 2016

- ✓ **5000 litre** water tank arrives for house
- ✓ **Internal doors** fitted in house
- ✓ **30,000 litre** water tanks for water tower



## JUNE 2016

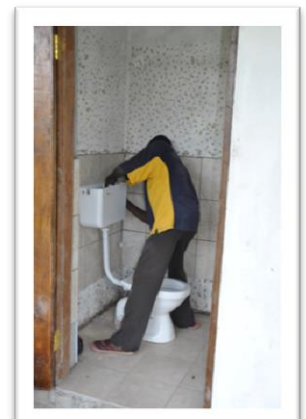
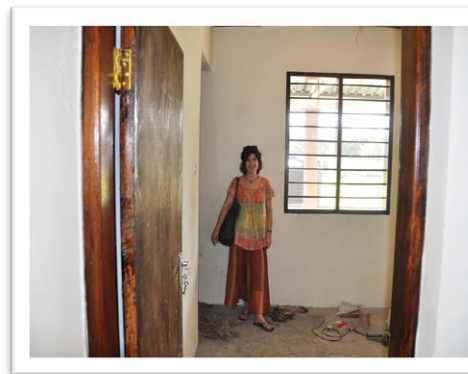
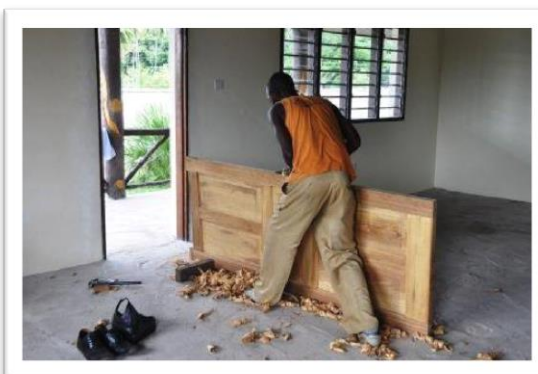
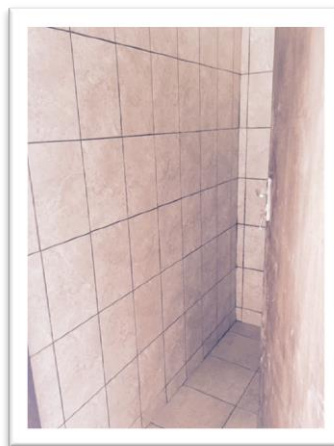
- ✓ **House continues** construction
- ✓ **Farm animals** doing well



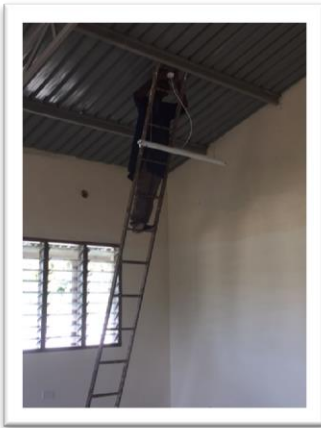


## JULY 2016 –FIRST CHILDREN’S HOUSE COMPLETION

- ✓ **Kitchen** completed
- ✓ **Bathroom** tiling completed
- ✓ **Washbasins** completed
- ✓ **Lighting** completed
- ✓ **Outside doors** completed
- ✓ **Inside painting** completed
- ✓ **Curtains** chosen
- ✓ **Furniture** delivered made by
- ✓ **Security alarms** fitted in house
- ✓ **Curtain rods** hung
- ✓ **Security** of project begins
- ✓ **Water** connected
- ✓ **8 new staff** hired taking total staff to 12
- ✓ **Our first 5 children (first two are twins!)** enter their new home  
30<sup>th</sup> July 2016 exactly **5 years to the day that the project was began**







## WE DID IT!!!! Our first 5 beautiful children

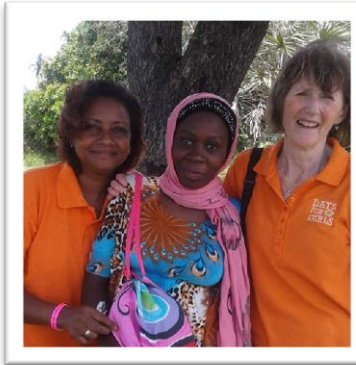
- Twins Alare (male) and Alexis (female) 5 months old
- Edna and Duncan (brother and sister) approx. 18 months and 3 years
- Kaingu – approximately 1 year and 10 months.





## SEPTEMBER 2016 – 6 Days for Girls volunteers including 1 Kenyan volunteer

- ✓ **Assisted** at the project
- ✓ **Visited 4 schools in our community** distributed washable menstrual kits & personal hygiene talks
- ✓ **Held personal hygiene clinic at the project** and distributed washable menstrual kits



## OCTOBER 2016

- ✓ **11 volunteers** mostly Rotarians visit the project to work
- ✓ **Official Opening of Children's Home** by representative of Australian High Commission
- ✓ **Farm expansion** by 2.5 acres
- ✓ **Repainting of cowshed, caretaker's cottage** and clearing of further land for increased fruit forest and tree nursery
- ✓ **Construction of culvert and road** into main entrance of project
- ✓ **Further construction of bedsitter** in water tower complex







## NOVEMBER 2016

- ✓ Farm workers receive new work clothes
- ✓ Children's settling in very well
- ✓ Purchase and laying of 2.5 acres of irrigation system
- ✓ Beginning construction of 2<sup>nd</sup> level of water tower bedsitters
- ✓ Purchase of shade net for farm for seedlings
- ✓ Planting of vegetable crops on new farming section
- ✓ Okra and spinach harvesting

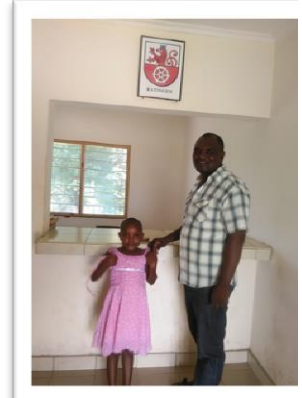






## DECEMBER 2016

- ✓ **First Xmas** at our children's home
- ✓ **Chickens begin** laying eggs
- ✓ **First level bedsitter** complete
- ✓ **Edna prepares** for school in January
- ✓ **Another calf born** 30/12/16



# HOW CAN YOU HELP?

## URGENT NEEDS → 2017

- ❖ FUNDS FOR GENERATOR
- ❖ HELP COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF 4 LEVEL WATER TOWER SELF CONTAINED BEDSITTERS FOR STAFF **\$8500 USD per level : 3 LEVELS REMAINING (1 level financed and nearing construction)**
- ❖ SPONSORSHIP TO PAY MONTHLY CURRENT WAGES **\$3640 AUD** per month taking our staff to 12 staff
- ❖ FRUIT ORCHARD FENCING - **USD \$1200**
- ❖ PURCHASE OF VEHICLE (4 WHEEL DRIVE) COLLECTING ORPHANED AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN, COURT VISITS, GENERAL SUPPLIES TRANSPORT, TRANSPORT TO SCHOOL NEEDED AT PROJECT **\$40,000 (\$15,000 USD financed)**
- ❖ CONSTRUCTION OF WATER HARVESTING/TRAINING BUILDING **(Global Grant opportunity) approximately \$40,000 USD** to be used for hygiene training, health and medical clinics, carpentry skills, permaculture training, first aid training, staff training, and any other community training required.
- ❖ SOLAR FOR PROJECT **(Global Grant opportunity)** CURRENTLY BEING QUOTED
- ❖ TALAPIA FISH FARM **(Global Grant opportunity)** NOT QUOTED AS YET
- ❖ BIOGAS SYSTEM FOR RE-USEABLE ENERGY – **APPROX \$4000 USD (Global Grant Opportunity)**
- ❖ MORE SPONSORSHIP FOR CHILDREN ENTERING THE HOME (AUD \$1200 PER YEAR) to provide clothing, medical, school fees, uniforms, school items, excursions and food if needed)
  - SMALL OFFICE AND ACCOMMODATION FOR MANAGER - NOT QUOTED AS YET
  - PURCHASE OF 2 BEEF CATTLE – **USD \$1000 approximately**
  - PURCHASE OF 4 SHEEP – **APPROX USD\$1000 approximately**
  - PURCHASE OF SECOND SHIPPING CONTAINER IN KENYA FOR CONVERSION OF THE 2 X 40 FOOT CONTAINERS INTO ACCOMMODATION FOR STAFF OR OFFICE DELIVERED TO SITE - **\$3500 USD (CONVERSION COSTS NOT QUOTED AS YET)**



## WHAT WE HAVE PLANNED FOR 2017

- 3 VOLUNTEER TOUR GROUPS – DEPARTING MARCH, LATE SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER
- IMPLEMENTING EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM WITH YOUNG CHILDREN WITHIN THE CHILDREN'S HOME
- UMOJA TOURS AND SAFARI COMPANY WEBSITE LIVE & PROMOTION OF SAFARIS AND TOURS – **ALL** PROFIT TO UMOJA ORPHANAGE KENYA
- FURTHER HIRING & TRAINING OF MORE STAFF FROM LOCAL COMMUNITY
- FURTHER EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL FARM TO INCREASE SUSTAINABILITY TO PAY WAGES, AND MAINTENANCE AT PROJECT
- FUNDRAISING FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> CHILDREN'S HOME
- CONTINUED TRAINING OF LOCAL COMMUNITY (1<sup>st</sup> aid, health, agriculture, sewing skills, speaking in schools to girls aged 10 – 18 on hygiene during menstruation and implementing 'Days for Girls' within selected schools, permaculture etc.)

## MORE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

- Applying for a global/district grant on our behalf for one of the above items
- Making a monetary donation to one of the goals above
- Holding a fundraiser on Umoja's behalf OR joining one of ours
- Sponsoring an annual event (Golf Day, Charity Gala Dinner)
- Volunteering in Kenya on an organised tour
- Pledging to sponsor a child for the first two years of their care
- Sponsoring a staff member monthly
- Sponsoring one of our children monthly
- Inviting an Umoja member to speak at your district conference
- Spreading the word of Umoja to your family and friends
- Enjoy a personalised safari with us with profits going directly back into the project

## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

WEBSITE: <http://www.umojahome.com>

FACEBOOK <http://www.facebook.com/umojakenya>

E-MAIL: [cathy@umojahome.com](mailto:cathy@umojahome.com) or [info@umojahome.com](mailto:info@umojahome.com)

PHONE: 0409 476 444 (Cathy Booth – Director)

**Umoja Orphanage Kenya** offers a real alternative to child abandonment. Through a holistic care approach, we give children a second chance at life and help break the cycle of poverty. On 15 acres of fertile land in Ukunda, we are building a children's village to accommodate individual family style homes and a small school. We are on the road to self-sustainable by sourcing our own food from fruit and vegetable gardens, chicken and dairy farms. Donate to Umoja today and help orphaned and vulnerable children reach their full potential.

