



## JUNE NEWSLETTER 2019



***Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Matthew 5:6***

In the month of June, PHARP team is grateful to God who enabled us to organize, conduct and attend training activities of pastors, women, youth and children in Malindi, Nairobi, and Kajiado. The sole purpose was to reach others with the message of peace and discipleship and also build better relationships among beneficiaries with God and the physical environment.

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**On 27<sup>th</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> June:** One of PHARP staff was invited to attend a child protection ten-day course organized by International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC). The aim of the course was to empower participants to better understand the challenges that children face during and after armed conflict and better understand child rights and the protection of children in principle.

Participants were drawn from 9 countries: South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mongolia, Rwanda, Jordan, Cameroon, Zambia, Uganda and Kenya. As peacemakers, we have an obligation to avoid actions that may place children in danger, always place the interest of the child first before we act and when in doubt, consult with the nearest child protection specialists.



*PHARP staff (third row, second from left) with the empowered and equipped participants*

**On 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June:** PHARP held a two-day training that brought together 22 religious' leaders from 4 different churches within Malindi at the PHARP center. This session is the first among three sessions that the participants will undertake, after which they receive a certificate of participation. During the two-day training, participants gained skills and knowledge on peace building, conflict transformation and discipleship. In the course of learning, it emerged that peacebuilding never ends. It's a process done before conflict, during and after conflict. Within the church and even community, conflict is inevitable. How the church or community handles the emerging conflict, determines the impact of the conflict on the parties involved.

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*Participants sharing during a group discussion*

*“Recently a case was brought to me at home. I had just finished milking one of the goats that supplies us with milk. The case was of a man who was beating his wife. Because it is the wife who came with the complaint, I listened to her and was very sorry. I immediately concluded that the husband was wrong according to the description I was given. I advised the lady to move back to her parents’ home with the children. We have had many cases of women killed or maimed because of quarrels. But what I didn’t do, is to look for the husband and seek to hear his side of the story. As we speak now, nobody knows where the husband is. I have strongly learnt that peacebuilding is a process that requires various actions at each stage of the conflict- Pastor Nyevu.*

In matters of discipleship, due to the hard-economic times of life, both religious and community leaders are caught up in the busyness of life that they are not consistent in their daily devotion time with God.





Participants share on the need of discipleship

*"I have been pastoring for nearly 9 years now. But it seems that with each passing day, life is becoming harder and harder. There is so much worry that is consuming my life and this is slowly affecting my prayer life and even my output to the church. Today, I have been taught and rebuked, that no matter how life becomes busy, I should not trade my personal time with God for anything. Time, truth, trust, surrender, obey, abide and reconcile (tSOAR) can only be achieved through intentional time set apart to commune with God. Thank you for this reminder'- Pastor. Thaura.*



Pelagie helps emphasize on tSOAR

**On 6<sup>th</sup>:** PHARP women and children coordinator visited with a group of Maasai women undergoing a discipleship program with PHARP. These women meet together to learn and study on God's word. In a community that has not fully embraced educating women, these determined women approached PHARP and asked to be taught and guided on how to effectively study God's word. Every Thursday they meet to learn and share with each other. Out of this, a poultry initiative was born, so that it helps them be economically supported.

*"When madam Susan visited us, it was raining heavy. When I saw the rains, I immediately told the other women, I don't think madam will manage to come. Because our roads are so bad; when it rains cars cannot be able to pass, there is a river that swells with water. The alternative route is very rocky. But to our surprise, madam came in the company of a friend. Before we could even sit down to share, we all burst into song and prayer. Such visits are special to us, because we rarely get visitors who are concerned of our spiritual and physical growth. May God bless PHARP- Mama Naserian.*

**On 16<sup>th</sup>:** PHARP on this day was able to celebrate the day of the African Child. 30 children were hosted at the PHARP center in Malindi with a guiding them of 'Niache nisome/ Give me opportunity to study'. In line with the alarming high rates of teenage pregnancies in Kilifi County, the objective of the event was to ensure children rights to quality education are protected, promoted, respected and realized. The children had a time to study God's word, group discussions held to look at the barriers to quality education and the presentations were done. To mark this day, 20 trees were planted around the compound as a constant reminder that we need to continually support the African child to pursue quality education.



*Samuel (yellow shirt-PHARP Malindi field officer) helps youth plant trees*

In line to offering opportunities to education, through partnership with Red cross Malindi, 4 PHARP youths received scholarship to join a polytechnic school. Let us continue to pray for such opportunities for as many youths to be empowered and equipped with sustainable skills and knowledge.

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*"I am a teenage mother of one child and I finished secondary last year. I come from a dysfunctional family. My father is hardly home because of too much drinking and my mum is always busy selling charcoal and paraffin. When she comes home, she is ever tired and we hardly have time to talk about anything. At some point she asked me to go stay with my grandmother and from there look for some small jobs that can help in taking care of my siblings. But three months with no jobs coming my way, a friend introduced me to some old men, and she told me these ones pay well. Not too long after, I got pregnant and I don't know which old man is the father of my baby. I returned back to Jilore to stay with my mother until I gave birth. My local pastor introduced me to the PHARP discipleship group and from there I have learnt so much and I even rededicated my life again to Christ. Am happy to say that am among the youths selected for sponsorship to study hairdressing. Thank you PHARP, thank you Red Cross for transforming my life. Through my life experiences, I will counsel my friends not to follow my path-Tatu.*

**On 27<sup>th</sup>:** PHARP had its monthly discipleship training with Maasai women who have a thirst and hunger to know more of God's word. These women start with God's word, share their experiences and then pray together.



Women present for discipleship at PHARP office

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### THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS

1. We thank God for the good health of the PHARP team that per took in the June activities.
2. We thank God for the provision of resources to carry out the activities.
3. PHARP is grateful to all its partners and beneficiaries who supported the ministry
4. Let us pray for peace in the world: in particular pray for DR Congo that is facing violent conflict and the people fleeing to Uganda.
5. Pray for all countries that are not experiencing peace and stability: South Sudan, Sudan, Iraq, Syria, Yemen among others.
6. Pray for PHARP as we plan for the month of July activities for provision and successes of the ministry.
7. Pray for PHARP Centre- Jilore, Malindi: that God may avail resources to fence the Centre, put up a gate and to purchase fans because of the heat that is in the area.

