



## MARCH NEWSLETTER 2020



*'For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them' - Matthew 18:20*

### **A Prayer for Healing over our Land**

Our God, your word says that you answer people when they call on Your name and that you deliver them. Right now, we ask that You would heal those who are sick or who are carrying the COVID-19 virus without knowing it. Heal them and protect those around them.

Provide a cure for the corona virus and heal our economy. Bring a quick and miraculous end to the darkness in our world today. Whether Your healing comes today, next week or next month, we believe that you will heal our world. And we will continue to praise you, even as we wait for answers.

March has been a hard month for all of us globally. The COVID-19 is affecting 192 countries and territories around the world. Coronavirus cases are so far 339,712, those who have died stand at 14,704 while those who have recovered stand at 99,016. This shows that there is hope, however, we are all called upon to take seriously the precautions given.

Some of the activities planned for March were carried out, while other activities had to be cancelled at the heightened coronavirus pandemic.

**On March 3<sup>rd</sup>:** PHARP team made a visit to the Kona Baridi women's peace and discipleship project. These pastoralist women every week meet to study God's word and then jointly care for the poultry project that brings them together. It is at this time that they share about what God has been doing in their lives during the week, the challenges and successes faced.

*Maria who has given her homestead compound for the poultry project to be carried out is grateful for this gathering. Before this discipleship group was formed, I really was facing so many challenges in my life, and these were greatly affecting my church ministry and family. But today am happy to say that my family is living in peace and harmony. As you can see, am happy with my mother in-law and also at church, am actively involved and God has been good to us.*



*Group members feeding the poultry.*

**On March 6<sup>th</sup>:** PHARP was on this day privileged to welcome Karen the new Africa Area director working with International Ministries. She was visiting with partners from Africa, and PHARP was privileged to be among those visited. On this day, she met with PHARP team and some of the women beneficiaries that PHARP works with in the area of Kajiado County. Karen was most touched on how the women can afford to smile and dance for the Lord regardless of the enormous challenges that they face on a daily basis. She also enjoyed the Maasai traditional way of being welcomed with love. In line to this, she commended the great ministry that PHARP does to bring healing to the hurting in various communities.





*Top left: Karen being served special milk. Right: Karen being welcomed by Rev. Felicien-PHARP Director*

*Below left: PHARP staff gives overview of PHARP ministry. Left: Karen, Maasai women leaders and PHARP team*

**On March 7<sup>th</sup>:** On this day, a total of 13 pastors who have been doing a three-month discipleship course (Part one) were winding up this first part of a three-part intensive training as they received certificates of participation. The next second session which will focus on Forgiveness and Trauma healing is to begin on 18<sup>th</sup> April, but with the current challenge of COVID 19 (coronavirus), we are not sure if this training will be held. Let us continue to pray for these pastors that they stand firm, especially when churches, schools and big social gatherings have been shut down for the time of the pandemic. However, PHARP is doing follow-up via phone calls, so as to know the well-being of these participants.



*Top left: PHARP staff (Susan in green) sharing and encouraging with the women leaders. Right: Testimony by Rosemary*

*Below left: Pastors sharing during training. Right: participants with their certificates.*

**On March 21<sup>st</sup>:** This day, the pastors from Kibera slum visited with PHARP team with the main focus of prayer for the ministry and for all staff. *Rev. Anyango who was leading the team, first came in contact with PHARP in 2007 when there was the heightened post-election violence in Kenya. He was undergoing some trauma counseling as he had been displaced. It is through this long period of friendship with the PHARP director and the ministry, that he saw it fit to rally pastors and come pray with the PHARP team.*

Pastors gave testimonies of how God has seen them through hard times. Hard times of health, family and even ministry. *One pastor shared how he had been sick for 8 years, but through faith, he declared his healing. Now its over 40 years since he has been sick. The foods that he was not able to eat because of his health, he now eats comfortably. As we speak now am above 65 years. God has renewed his strength and youth.*

*Pastor Simon shared a concern of how the world is full of darkness. Looking at the wars, the pandemics, corruption and innocent deaths happening all over. This state of not knowing the*



*things of God is out of ignorance by those in the church. He was grateful that through PHARP, community members are being empowered and enlightened.*

*Many pastors' forums are splitting and this is attributed to leadership greed and ignorance; but we are grateful to PHARP that seeks to bring together community and religious leaders to work together for the good of the community. We should therefore stand firm and courageous; we shall be victorious.*

*In line to the above testimony, Pastor Maurice added that in the past years within Kibera slum, pastors have been working individually. So, this has contributed to so many tired church workers. Something that we learnt in discipleship and which opened my eyes on how to work with a team.*

*Since working together in a pastors' forum, we are finding relief and being empowered for effective ministry. We have to be prepared all the time for we do not know when Christ shall come.*

Pastor Alois finished by giving an illustration of a chicken. *Back in our village during planting time, chickens are usually tied on a tree by a rope so that they don't roam in the maize and beans cereals to scatter and eat them. After the three-month period of harvesting and drying, the chickens tied are let loose. But you find that, because the chicken has been accustomed to being tied and moving within the radius the rope reaches, it forgets that it has been set free. As Christians and pastors ministering in the slum, may our thinking be like these chickens. PHARP and tSOAR- USA are investing in our ministries with knowledge and skills; let us not stick to the old ways of doing ministry that are not yielding results.*





*Top left and right: Pastors sharing and in prayers for the nation and God's work  
Below: Pastors with madam Susan*

## **PEACEBUILDING, HEALING AND RECONCILIATION PROGRAM- PHARP JILORE, MALINDI**

### **PEACE BIULDING**

**PHARP women Field trip:** the PHARP field officer mobilized 40 PHARP women members and the community in general to go for a field trip in Mvera Education center, Mangarini children's home and organic farming demonstration center. The participants received the motivation to see to it that they implement what they have learnt to improve their group joint farming project. It is sad news to report that COVID 19 has halted our activities due to the recent government directives of social distancing and self-quarantine for everyone's own safety.

A senior citizen from the community and a beneficiary of the field trip had this to say, “ *I want to thank PHARP for giving me the opportunity to learn and discover the right way of farming without paying a single coin, I am 65 yrs. now, I have made many mistakes but it's not too late, am on track and I have already started doing what I learnt.*”

**International Women's day:** PHARP- Malindi was not left behind in celebrating this day. Women made presentations on why they are the key pillars to peace and this translates to healthy families and society. The women were also reminded to be happy and advocate for peace for their key roles in community matters.



*Celebration of International Women's day*

**DISCIPLESHIP:** When we meet in groups to discuss matters of being an effective disciple, we are encouraged by God's word to be mindful of other's needs. In this month, our youth discipleship group was met with an urgent matter.

*Jeferidah a resident of Kakuyuni and a form two student at Jilore high school was willing to prepare for the future by going back to school after dropping out in Form two term one. She had missed a whole term in form2 and she was not sure if she would ever go back to school or just get married early in order to secure a future for herself. In the discipleship meeting, she was encouraged that our God is all knowing, all powerful and miraculous in his doing and that her hope should be in God. With the help of the area Chief, her parents and the field officer, Jeridah is back to school. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, all students are home, but when schools resume, we are certain that she will be back to school. Jeridah was able to get financial support from the local CDF fund.*





*PHARP field officer ministering to Highschool students during a peace club meeting.*

### **THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER REQUESTS**

1. We thank God for protecting and providing for the ministry thus far.
2. We thank God for our nation and the leaders we have. We pray for wisdom and protection over all leaders: religious and community leaders.
3. Let us continue to pray for the COVID 19 pandemic that is troubling the whole world. We pray that vaccines already found by America, shall be able to respond to the virus.
4. We pray that people will turn back to God and seek Him fervently.
5. We pray that God shall forgive us our sins and turn His ear to our cries.