



JANUARY NEWSLETTER 2022



Peace ambassadors from the pastoralist community of Ewuaso Kidong- Kajiado West County

Long time ago two nations: the Israelites and the Amalekites would fight against each other. Joshua and the army of Israel went ahead, while Moses, Aaron and Hur went to the top of the hill to pray for victory. As long as Moses held up his hands in prayers, the Israelites would encounter victory, but whenever he lowered his hands, the Amalekites would over-power the Israelites. Aaron and Hur decided to hold Moses' hands up –one on one side, so that his hands remained steady till the Israelites overcame the Amalekites (for further reading Exodus 17:8-15).

Today, we are not fighting against the Amalekites, instead against violent conflicts, natural disasters, poverty, diseases, ignorance just to mention but a few among many vices. We are therefore called upon to be our brothers and sisters' keeper. Just as Aaron and Hur held the hands of Moses so he may not grow weary and tired, we too are called upon to hold each other in prayers, so that we may not grow weary in the hard circumstances that have rocked our families, communities and nations at large.

This year 2022 in Kenya being the presidential election year, PHARP's goal is to reach and disciple approximately 1,450 direct beneficiaries (peace ambassadors) with conflict transformation and discipleship skills; as we aim to see transformed individuals and communities living in holistic harmony with one another, God and the physical environment.

These numbers will be targeted as follows: Kenya (1095), Tanzania (50), Malawi (50), South Sudan (35), and Rwanda (220). We ask you our readers, friends and partners to hold our hands both in prayers and financial support, in order to accomplish this task God has laid before us.

In the month of January, God has so far enabled PHARP to reach out to 188 direct beneficiaries out of the targeted 1,450 in Kenya, Malawi and Rwanda. The following activities were achieved

On 14th to 16th: A pastors empowerment forum was held at PHARP, Jilore Centre. The forum brought together 13 pastors from 9 denominations from Kakoneni, Kakuyuni, Mangarini and Malindi town. In this forum, pastors discussed the challenges that are facing them as ministers and the church at large. They thus resolved to have quarterly meetings that will enable them share and pray together. The next quarterly meeting was scheduled for April. Some of the challenges they face are division amongst churches, confusion amongst church members who are not deeply rooted in the word of God, false prophets coming up with false prophecies especially during the period of presidential elections, political influence in the church and a lot of church migration of members.

These pastors agreed that the churches come together for prayers, have joint evangelism crusades and preach the true gospel of Jesus Christ.



Left: Pastor Chai sharing on challenges faced. Right: Participants of the pastor's forum- PHARP Centre-Jilore, Malindi

Sewing group launched: A new discipleship group of 15 members was started at the PHARP-Jilore Centre. This marks the 10th discipleship group meeting regularly to go through the 'Listening to Jesus' manual and also engaging in an income generating activity. With the one-time support from a local church in USA, the support helped this group acquire 5 sewing machines and all necessary items need that will build on their capital. The group will use it as a tool of evangelism as well income generating to boost their families and support their church leaders. Since God has shown them much love through friends of PHARP, they too will show love to others. Thus, they called their group; 'PHARP UPENDO (love) tailoring group'



Left: The 'Upendo' tailoring 1st discipleship discussion. Right: New disciples of Jilore, Malindi

On 18th: In partnership with World Serve International (Kenya office), a community mobilization was held at Kirigu, Dagoretti- Nairobi County. This mobilization contributed to giving back the affected population (single mothers and girls) a sense of control over their lives. Sanitary package and food donations were distributed amongst 28 women and girls in this

community. Women and girls do not have to sell their bodies for very little amount of money to make ends meet or be able to afford the monthly needs (like pads and lotion). As friends and donors become more involved, these women are likely to become more able to cope and more active in rebuilding their own lives and a sense of hope and possibility for the future to be restored through activities that will give them a continuous income like sewing.



Left: PHARP staff talks of the sanitary package given by World Serve International.

Right: Happy women with food package given by friends of PHARP

21st: On this day PHARP team made a visit to one of the discipleship groups in the pastoralist community in Ewuaso-Kidong, Kajiado County. It was a blessing to see that 27 pastoralist women are making disciples and preaching peace in their families and community. They were also very happy to see the PHARP director whom they have been praying for to have strength and visit their community.



Left: PHARP team with the Ewuaso Disciples. Right: peace ambassadors going through a peace booklet



Left: PHARP staff encouraging the women. Right: Pastoralist praying for the nation of Kenya

29th: the first discipleship class within Nairobi County in 2022 was launched at the Calvary of Hope- Toi Market, Kibera slum. The class attracted 29 participants which has a good mix of women, men and youth leaders from within the church and the neighboring Kisumu ndogo and Ayan community. The pastor of the church (Pastor Sophy) a former PHARP trainee was very much grateful to be considered as one of those to have the members of her church benefit from the four-month course. This is because, the church where she was pastoring in Kitengela was shut down during the onset of COVID-19. With the political tensions of this year, she remembers how in 2007/2008 the whole of Toi market was burnt to ashes; therefore, she would not want the same to be repeated. More so, she would not want any of her youth members to be involved in any community tensions.



Left: Pastor Sophy giving her testimony. Right: PHARP staff introducing 'Listening to Jesus' manual



Discipleship class of Toi Market, Kibera slum 2022.

MALAWI: NEW DISCIPLESHIP GROUP LAUNCHED 2022

We thank God for the discipleship work ongoing in Blantyre, Malawi. This month a new discipleship group was started in Chikwawa district (lower state of Blantyre city). One of the trained pastors who graduated in 2019 was able to rally a group of 12 pastors to interest them on the need of working together as church leaders, instead of each church working independently yet the churches are not growing both spiritually and numerically.

This will be a new thing to do in this district, but we believe it shall bear fruit.



Left: Rev. Nchito introducing discipleship at the pastor's forum. Right: Pastors in attendance

RWANDA FOLLOW-UP ON DISCIPLESHIP 2022

On 27th January 2022, Anastase and Julienne conducted a discipleship workshop held at Gasura-Rwanda. This was a follow up on the training workshop conducted in November 25th 2021.

During the November training, the 32 participants went home with an assignment:

1. Digging into the bible – Matthew chapters 5-7 and writing down in a note book all the Christian values they find therein.
2. Each participant to find at least three people with whom to be sharing the word of God together as they try to apply those values into their daily lives.

On this day, 64 direct beneficiaries and those reached out to met together. Participants went through the tSOAR acronym (time, truth, trust, surrender, obey, Abide and reconcile), and amazingly most of them could tell it without hesitation. New participants were also given time to tell what they have learned from their friends. From their testimonies, it was noted that the trained disciples have done a good job of reaching out to others.

All the participants were given time to sit into groups and share together the values they have written down from Matthew 5-7. This exercise gave them a good opportunity to understand more what Jesus is asking them to do and the kind of life to live.

All the participants have renewed their commitment to being Jesus' disciples and bringing more people to God.



Left: The groups sharing about values learnt. Right: Rev. Anastase encouraging the disciples

Thanksgiving and Prayer requests

- 1.** We are thankful for the year that has started well with January activities.
- 2.** We are thankful for the friends and supporters of the ministry.
- 3.** We pray for Kenya as leaders start campaigns for the presidential elections in August 2022.
- 4.** We also pray for Burkina Faso because of the recent failed coup d'état
- 5.** We pray for families that continue to lose loved ones through sickness, accidents and drought.