

BCT Striving Against Starvation

June 2019

Food relief



Sponsor:



Beta Charitable Trust

BACKGROUND

According to the World Food Program, Close to 800 million people worldwide lack access to food. Furthermore, Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest prevalence of hunger occurring in 1 in 4 people! In Kenya, it is estimated that 40% of the population lacks sufficient food.



Furthermore, at least 1 billion people all over the world lack safe drinking water, more than 80% of them live in rural areas. In Kenya, 17 million out of the 40 million people living in the country lack access to the valuable commodity. Most Kenyans rely on agriculture directly or indirectly, and lack of access to water leads to hunger in addition to thirst.

DROUGHT IN KENYA

Kenya faces drought seasons every so often. This year, it threatened the lives of over 1 million people, in 12 Counties. Having lost their source of food and water with the drying of their crops, and water sources, they suffer extreme thirst and hunger, due to the protracted drought.



Children and women were seen on the roadside begging for food and water hand-outs from commuters. Victims were forced to share the little available contaminated water with animals, leading to water-borne diseases. The elderly and weak were left behind at the mercy of well-wishers and occasional government relief food. Scattered animal carcasses and malnourished people were a common scene.



FOOD RELIEF DISTRIBUTION IN CHAKAMA – JUNE 2019

Chakama is a remote location within Kenya's Kilifi County, comprising of 32 villages. The communities living there are extremely needy, living under very harsh conditions, and lacking essential needs including food, healthcare, water, electricity, and sanitation. The area was badly hit by this year's drought and the communities have been living at risk of starvation. With failure of the rains, even those who attempted to plant did not harvest any food.

In order to avert potential loss of lives CHEPs, through support from Beta Charitable Trust, in June 2019, set out to distribute a total of 4826 Kg of food to some of the most affected villages in Chakama targeting mostly women, and elderly people. A total of 370 households living in Bakaye, Mchakenzi , Pembe, Ruruma, Kwa Mwanza, Benzaro, and Roka villages benefitted from the distribution. Benzaro and Roka schools also received food for their school feeding programs.



The road to the villages



Offloading the truck



CHEPs volunteer addressing the villagers to agree on mode of distribution



Food distribution



BCT sponsored school in Benzaro village



Bahati ECD school in Roka village



We even crossed the crocodile infested river Galana, to make sure that we got to the most marginalized and needy



For the elderly and sick who could not make it to the distribution sites, we took the food to their homes.





Acknowledgment:

We wish to thank Beta Charitable Trust for sponsoring this food distribution. The needy communities in Chakama convey their heartfelt gratitude for the support. They have been dependent on CHEPs for not-only food but also education, health, water, sanitation, and youth empowerment support. Through BCT's generous support we have been able to support them whenever they call upon us. May the Almighty bless Beta Charitable Trust!