



**A LACK OF
ELECTRICITY IS
CREATING AN
ENDLESS CYCLE OF
POVERTY**

Nearly **1 billion people** around the world are **without electricity** and live in darkness. They **spend up to 30% of their income** on dangerous fuel sources just to have light, and it **keeps them in a cycle of poverty**.
It leaves them **powerless**.



Rotary
District 5495

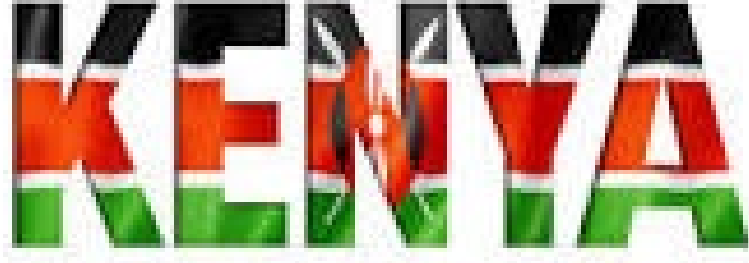


WATTS OF LOVE



- **BUT SOLAR LIGHT BREAKS THAT CYCLE**
- Access to solar lighting **eliminates the need for a costly fuel source and offers immediate savings.**
- Solar lighting also means people can continue daily activities after dark, which directly impacts household income, safety, education, and overall health.
- Solar light **starts people on the pathway to prosperity.**
- Giving light to educate & empower

Mfangano Island-2022



2 Days-500 lights
2 Villages

*South Mfangano Island
Soklo North District*



June 2022

RC of GYPC & the Watts of Love team meet RC of Nairobi-Celebration





R C OF NAIROBI THIKA ROAD R C OF NAIROBI CELEBRATION



MEETS
WATTS OF LOVE
and
R C OF
GOODYEAR
PEBBLECREEK
2023



THE PARTNERSHIP BEGINS



Fourteen Rotarians commenced their initial journey to Mfangano Island in Homabay County. The team met with the area Chief (Alice), Clan Elders, Pastor Omodia, & a Social Worker.



September 8-10, 2023





Mfangano Island-2023 First Assessment

The Rotarians of Nairobi-
Thika Road
listen carefully as they
determine & document
the need for solar lights

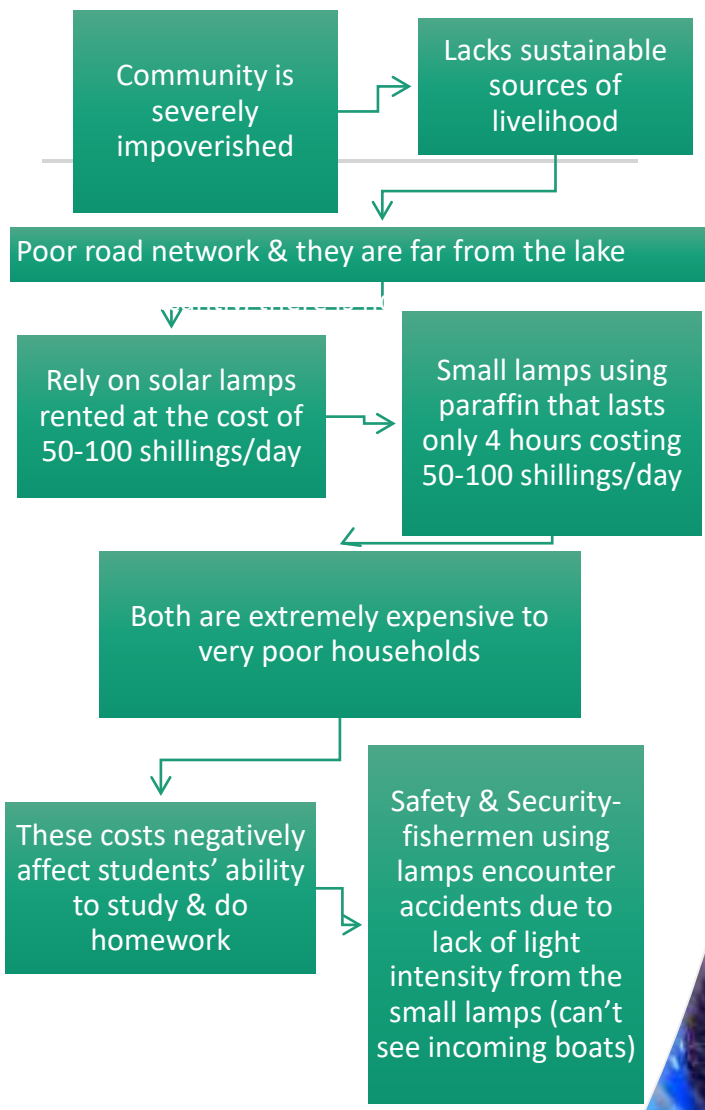


Visiting a School in Desperate Need!



THE NEED

in Nyahera & Gulwe villages Mfangano Island





FLASHLIGHT VS SOLAR LIGHT



Meet Kennedy & Irene & their 6 children. They live in the Kanyadenda area of Homa Bay, Kenya. Kennedy was in a motorcycle accident that left him challenged with his mobility. Kennedy was so proud of his accomplishments in just a year of receiving his light, that he documented everything in a home-made ledger. Before receiving his light, Kennedy's house was filled with smoke from the kerosene they were using. He had made many trips to the hospital because so many family members were sick. Since receiving the light, they have gone only twice in one year. Now he uses that saved money to buy clothes for the family. He uses the strobe setting on the light to scare off animals that prey on his goats. When asked what's next...he responded with "buying a cow". When? "That depends on how many babies the goats have!" What a difference a year makes.

7/11/22 – received his Watts of Love light

Started saving money every day using the box that the light came in

Owened 2 chickens before receiving his light

8/22/22 – opened his box and bought a hen

9/22/22 – eggs hatched yielding 10 chicks

9/30/22 – paid transport for his children to attend school by selling the chickens

12/22/22 – bought a goat

12/28/22 – sent the rest of his children to school

6/20/23 – goat had a baby



Michael Oriango and his mom, Seraphim.



They live in Homa Bay, Kenya. Michael is a victim of Polio and walking is extremely challenging. His mom told us that he falls quite a bit. Seraphim is a hardworking woman who uses her crippled donkey to fetch water for others. They received their light in June 2022. With his savings, Michael has bought a goat who had twins! His current dream is to buy his own cow..... *“Give light and they will find their own way”*

THE LIGHT



- **Cost: \$50** - *Manufacture to Household Fabrication; Shipping; Customs; In-country transportation to village*
- **Water Resistant**
- **Minimum 10 year life span**
- **One piece-solar panel & light source**
- **4 Settings**
 - *Low-120 hours Medium-10 hours*
 - *High-2.5 hours Strobe-5 hours*
- **Charging:** *solar panel 10-12 hours*
USB port 2.5 hours
- **In each Box:** *Solar light; Lanyard; USB charger; Instructions*
- **Box: IT'S A BANK!**
- **GOAL – 1000 lights over 1-2 years of Distribution**
- **Budget for Lights = \$50,000**



- ✓ One light can mean up to 10 years of cost savings for a family in poverty. These savings compounded over time can mean even more. (Old Money-New Money).
 - ✓ To end the cycle of poverty, the need to equip people with solar lights & teach them how to turn their savings into a sustainable source of income is paramount.
 - ✓ This proven model empowers people to raise themselves out of poverty for generations to come.
1. **EQUIP**
Each household gets a solar light to eliminate costly light alternatives so people can reinvest their savings
 2. **TRAIN**
Using a unique financial literacy program, we will train people how to save, invest, & build for a future
 3. **EMPOWER**
We will help people identify their dreams, set goals, take ownership of where to direct their savings.

Let Your Light Shine in the Darkness

Helping to prepare vulnerable communities by
equipping them with a solar light



By using an existing program, we are able to make a more immediate & wide-ranging impact in the targeted areas of Kenya. The impact of the distribution is **EDUCATIONAL** (more light to study by for the student) (more light for teachers to grade papers & prepare lessons).

ECONOMICAL (saves money each day by pretending to buy kerosene or batteries each day)

SUSTAINABLE (more time/light to carry out their trade/jobs). These lights will empower each family in so many ways which translates into empowering an entire community. The empowerment sheet that each light recipient fills out, enables them to dream & gives them hope that they will realize their set goals by saving.



This Little Light of Mine!



Training locals on instructions for caring and using the solar lights so they are available to help their villages/areas when we leave.

Volunteers will be training, teaching, equipping, & mentoring the locals so they can sustain the use of their lights. These volunteers can be made up of Rotarians, Rotaractors, and more.

Training

- *Send a total of 8 trainers to train locals in operation & care of the light plus the financial literacy curriculum*
- *Which is instrumental in capturing SUSTAINABILITY*

Budget

Airfare: \$2,000/pp

On ground: \$1850/pp

*accommodations/transportation/fuel/
domestic airfare/food/water/incidentals*

Total Training: \$30,800



Give Light to Educate & Empower

Budget: 1-2 year project

1000 lights	\$50,000	(\$50 each)
8 Trainers-airfare	\$16,000	(\$2,000 each)
8 Trainers-in country	<u>\$14,800</u>	(\$1,850 each)
TOTAL	\$80,800	

Collaborative Opportunities:

CorpAfrica

LEWA Conservancy

NRT *Northern Rangeland Trust*

Kenyan Rotary Clubs

Nairobi-Thika Road

Nairobi-Celebration

Kisumu

Osiolo

Generating Funds:

RCGYPC \$2,500 x 2 \$5,000

RCNThika Rd

RCNCelebration

RC of Budapest

DDF

Individual Donations

Corporate/Other Agencies

Rotary Clubs

Mitigating Milestones for a Successful Action Plan

- Local people in Kenya will be trained on instructions for caring and using the solar lights so they are available to help their villages when we leave.
- Volunteers will be training, teaching, equipping, & mentoring the locals so they can sustain the use of their lights
- The economical teaching part of the distribution exponentially raises the productivity & sustainability for each family. Teaching them to “pretend” to buy kerosene, candles, or batteries each day-putting that amount of money into their “bank”, showing them how much money they will have at the end of 3 months, 6 months, 12 months, then showing them what they can buy with that money (chickens, pigs, cows, tin roofs, fishing nets), is eye-opening to them & resonates the impact of providing for their families in ways they never imagined. It gives them hope and makes them dream bigger.
- Returning the day after a distribution to monitor the use & understanding of the light, substantiating the impact just 24 hours after receiving their light.
- Unique personal empowerment & financial literacy models teach families to leverage their savings & invest in livestock or start a microbusiness.
- The light is just the beginning. In addition to investing in livestock, buying materials to improve their livelihood, and providing an environment conducive for advancement of their children’s education, they may even save money to buy another light!
- Over time, financial futures can be transformed by basic financial literacy teachings.
- In partnership with local communities, we train local leaders to provide transformational teach to families
- It’s a WIN-WIN!

