



mary's  
meals

a simple solution  
to world hunger

# Mary's Meals International

Q1 Quarterly Update to Mary's Meals Canada  
January – December 2024 Project Kenya



## Quarterly Update to Mary's Meals Canada: April 2024

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### **1. Company information**

#### **MARY'S MEALS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION (MMI) (Incorporated in Scotland, No. SC488380) Charity No. SC045223**

##### **Address of Registered Office**

Craig Lodge, Dalmally, Argyll PA33 1AR  
Tel. 01838 200605

##### **Directors:**

David Clayton (Chair)	Bishop John Keenan
Peter John Higgins	Graham Paterson
Jacob Allen	Marie Da Silva
Dr Christian Stelzer	John Darley
Željka Markić	Ana Diez de Riveria-Laffont
Dr Cornelius Chipoma	Sebastian Bailey
Michael George	Karel Necesal

##### **Officers:**

Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow (Chief Executive Officer)  
Michael Ferguson (Company Secretary)

Mary's Meals International Organisation is the central organisation that co-ordinates, supports and leads the global Mary's Meals movement, under the direction of the Chief Executive Officer and through the work of our global directorates.

#### **MARY'S MEALS KENYA (MMK)**

##### **Address of Registered Office**

Mary's Meals Kenya  
PO Box 397-30500  
Lodwar  
Nawoitong Road  
Nawoi Court  
Turkana  
Kenya

##### **Board Members**

Brian Haworth  
Bishop Dominic Kimengich  
Graeme Little  
Rhian Cooke  
Masitsa Otunga  
Serah Kamau

Mary's Meals Kenya is the organization that implements the Mary's Meals school feeding program in Kenya.



## 2. Introduction

To: Mary's Meals Canada Board of Directors

Date: 22 April 2024

Project: The charitable and educational purpose of this project is to provide one daily meal in a place of education for children in Kenya.

Overview: Mary's Meals Canada and Mary's Meals International Organisation (MMI) entered into a contract on 12 February 2024 under which MMI is to support Mary's Meals Canada's school feeding program in Kenya. The number of children to be fed is based on the funds received, which is recorded as restricted funds for the work of Mary's Meals Canada in Kenya. MMI is delivering the project directly through Mary's Meals Kenya (MMK).

Total grant: The total value of the grant proposal is CAD 361,073.13 and has been applied as follows.

Breakdown of restricted funds			
	Cost Per Child	Number of children*	Restricted Funds
School feeding program Turkana, Kenya	CAD 31.70	11,390*	CAD 361,073.13
		<b>TOTAL</b>	CAD 361,073.13

*\*Please note number of children is based on global cost per child and is indicative only.*

## 3. Quarterly Update

This is the first quarterly report to the Mary's Meals Canada Board of Directors for April 2024 as required under the Project Designation dated 12 February 2024, under which Mary's Meals Canada instructed MMI to provide one meal on each school day for children in pre-schools in Turkana County, Kenya.

MMI gratefully acknowledge receipt of the first quarter instalments of the grant payment by April 2024 to the value of 23,196.82 CAD. In the period since the project began, we have utilized the grant instalments, successfully providing the services detailed in the Project Designation and providing school meals to children on behalf of Mary's Meals Canada in Turkana County, Kenya.

### [An update on your project in Kenya](#)

Food insecurity is very high in Kenya, particularly in the arid and semi-arid regions, like Turkana, where Mary's Meals operates, which make up **80%** of the country's land area. Food insecure families tend to live in rural areas, where they are more vulnerable to climate change and adverse weather conditions that affect the agricultural sector on which they depend for a living, and access to services and resources is severely limited. Currently, the ongoing impact of droughts in Turkana is pushing more families into poverty and children out of school as they struggle to withstand both climactic and economic shocks. Over the past few years, Kenya has seen continuous seasons of drought which are escalating into one of the worst climate-induced emergencies seen in recent history, with five consecutive below-average rainfall harvesting



seasons. As a result, **1.9 million people** are in acute need of food assistance, with approximately **850,000 children** facing acute malnourishment.<sup>1</sup> Such crises have a devastating effect not only on the health of children, but also on their access to education, with many families having to choose between education and survival. Social and economic inequalities are still prevalent throughout Kenya and over 1/3 of the population are facing multidimensional poverty.<sup>2</sup> These inequalities mean that young girls especially tend to miss out on an education and are at a higher risk of gender-based violence and early marriage as families take desperate measures for survival. With the growing risk of children being taken out of education and **29% of children** living in rural areas of Kenya experiencing stunted growth, the work of Mary's Meals Canada is needed in Kenya now more than ever.

Nickson, pictured to the right with Amos, a student, is a volunteer teacher at Nadoto School and notes the impact that Mary's Meals Canada is having through your projects in Kenya: **"From the impact of this program, children have had the energy to continue learning. There would have been hunger and learning could not take place without food at school. Children are now attending their classes without missing them because the meals have given them more energy than before. Our children are now growing stronger and healthier when they eat Mary's Meals."** This testimony is echoed by Amos who told us: **"I have been having Mary's Meals since I joined school. Mary's Meals have given me the energy to study well at school and I hope I will finish my studies and be a teacher in the future. Mary's Meals has enabled me to attend my classes daily without missing any. I hope I will finish my studies, get employed and my life will be better."**



*Nickson and Amos pictured together amid school*

**Mary's Meals have given me the energy to study well at school and I hope I will finish my studies and be a teacher in the future. Mary's Meals has enabled me to attend my classes daily without missing any. I hope I will finish my studies, get employed and my life will be better."** By promoting the importance of education through the provision of a daily school meal, Mary's Meals Canada is ensuring that children like Amos have the opportunity to continue their education with the hopes of one day building themselves a brighter future.



*Irii with his classmates waiting to be served their school meal.*

Mary's Meals Canada's school feeding program in Kenya is tackling both the immediate hunger needs of the children we serve whilst also meeting the long-term needs through consistent and continued education. Nickson noted his hopes for the children and their futures due to the daily meals they receive: **"The program has attracted many children to school. They are now active in class and participate well in their activities. They are also able to read and write. Children have been transitioning to higher grades in this school. For example, this term I am going to transition more than 30 pupils from grade 1 to grade 2. We are expecting our children to continue with their studies in secondary schools and eventually, university."**

Your direction of our work in Kenya is ensuring that children such as Amos have the tools needed to continue their education and fulfil their dreams for the future. Similarly to Amos, Irii, pictured to the left, explained how different life would be for the children we serve in Kenya if Mary's Meals Canada's school feeding program was not at their

<sup>1</sup> World Food Programme, 2024. *Kenya- February 2024*. ([WFP Kenya Country Brief, February 2024 - Kenya | ReliefWeb](#))

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*





school: “I like Mary’s Meals because of the beans, maize and cooking oil that makes it sweet. If Mary’s Meals stopped feeding us today, life at school would not be good because there would be hunger. I will continue coming to school with food because I like education.”

### Thank you

Mary’s Meals Canada’s school feeding program in Turkana, Kenya has had a continued profound impact on the children you serve. The nutritious daily meals that you have provided are encouraging children into the classroom and allowing them to continue their education. This work over the last year has been vital as Turkana continues to face the consequences of climate change impacts and social, gender and economic inequality. On behalf of all the children supported in your program in Turkana, Kenya, **thank you.**

