



"advancing gender knowledge; **empowering communities**"

Simple Beliefs and Actions that Inspire and Impact our Communities



Dear friends & partners,

When I started this organization in 2013, I was inspired by a handful of truth and simple beliefs that I didn't know would impact my life and communities living in East Africa, simple truth that:

- *Both men and women are equally made in God's image and likeness.*
- *The Bible from Genesis to Revelation talks about equality for men and women.*
- *Patriarchy breeds social norms and practices harmful to women and girls existence.*
- *Everyone has a role to play and that we can do better when we work together.*

All these years later, I still believe in those simple truths. And I am very proud that you have supported us every step of the way as we've worked to put those beliefs into action.

Now we can see community gatekeepers including faith leaders, local chiefs, and elders coming together to speak out against gender based violence and to recognize social structures oppressing women and girls based on gender. We are seeing churches allowing women ordination/leadership, and laws of the land/constitutional making process taking into consideration women's issues and giving equal opportunity in education, politics, family issues, and in decision making.

We partner with local cultures and religion to bring true change and transformation.

Two ways and approaches we are turning our core beliefs into measurable results are:

a) Gender Reconciliation Leadership Program

Through this initiative, we plan and host international faith leaders events; hold Public lectures; and organize training workshops with pastors, clergy and community leaders on equality for men and women.

Here we focus on the themes:

- The Bible & Gender Based Violence (GBV); where we explore misinterpretations that justifies patriarchy as God's ideal. We talk more about gender theology, the history of the church on gender equality, and biblical basis for shared humanity and correct interpretations for the same.
- Masculinity & GBV; we explore power relations, social norms, gender roles, cultural beliefs and practices including female genital mutilation, polygamous marriages, early and forced marriages, dowry payment, teenage pregnancies, among others.

b) Women and Girls Empowerment Program

This initiative supports women and girls who mostly are survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) on a number of issues;

- We provide support to survivors to access justice through working with local administrative structures including chiefs, community health workers, and local clergy on **Case Management Referral of GBV Cases**. Due to increasing cases of teenage pregnancy, early marriages, rape/sexual violence during COVID-19 pandemic, we

developed a form to help track, trace and refer cases of SGBV to the police and other relevant authorities

- We support limited number of young women mostly survivors of sexual violence by providing school fees and opportunity for education in Kenya. Most families would prefer to educate their boys than girls.
- Economic empowerment. We support livelihoods and income generating activities among low income women in the rural villages in Kenya for sustainability.
- We also promote conversation on family planning and reproductive health for women among families and provide limited sanitary pads for girls in primary and secondary schools in Kenya.

We do all these because of your continued prayers and support and we can do better when we work together. You can share our work with your church and friends. You can also connect us with like-minded organizations, and other funding organizations for partnership. We need you to bring sustainable change in our local communities.

Please take a minute, right now, to give to our **2021 Annual Fund**. Your support will help local women to fight effects and impact of COVID-19 pandemic and to save lives of more women and girls.

[Donate](#)

Thank you for your Support!

Sincerely,

Rev. Dominic Misolo

Executive Director

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