

# Arise Orphan Project

**Empowering orphans, vulnerable children and their guardians.**



**ARISE**



## **ARISE BLOCK COMPLETE!**

THANK YOU LORD! A couple of years ago, the Arise block was a mere idea. Very soon we realised it was a necessity but had no means to make it a reality. Having shared the vision with many supporters who also saw the need for this building and the impact it would have on so many lives, the funds and the prayer support began to pour in. We give God all the praise for providing this building and want to say a HUGE thank you to everyone who has supported us with finances, prayer and encouragement until the day of completion. We are all very excited to now have the block fully operational ready for the beginning of term 2.



*The Arise supply room ready for storing clothes, shoes, toiletries and stationery ready to give out*



*The Arise office ready for meetings, applications, devotions and administration*



*The Arise teaching room ready for kids club, Saturday study, teaching guardians and meetings*



*A thorough warm up before football training*

## **FOOTBALL IS BACK!**

It was very difficult to train over the past 4 months as we were unsure of the government rules regarding team sports and the intense rain caused the pitch to be water logged. Finally at the end of term 1 we were able to begin football training again much to the boys delight.

They have all been putting in their best effort and hoping to be picked to play in the team's first match after a very long break. Although the team has not won many games, their ball skills have been noticed as well as their confidence. Most of the opposing teams are older than them but they don't let that phase them. All of them want the opportunity to play – even if it is just for 10 minutes on the pitch.



## ARISE YOUTH

Yet again, our older pupils continue to delight us with their enthusiasm for studying. We have decided to encourage them for their efforts beginning this year and hopefully motivate those who have not attended all the study sessions to come more regularly. We decided for the first term, 100% attendance awards would be dictionaries. It was a big surprise to all the young people when the awards were announced and it was clear that everyone wanted to have their own dictionary.



*Receiving dictionary awards for coming to the Saturday Study programme throughout term 1*

Most of these young people have very few possessions of their own and although it is very special to have their name in their dictionary, we know that they will share them with other members of their family.



*Grade 10 -12 pupils were desperate to use the study room at the end of April even though it was still being set up*

Following the pupils requests for more time to study, we will open up the teaching room from term 2 on two afternoons a week as a study space. If the pupils want somewhere quiet to study or do homework, they will now find a safe and conducive space in the Arise block.

## VISITS

It is always a great joy and challenge when we go on visits. We are delighted to see how our families are finding ways to sustain themselves and always looking for ways to improve their situation.



*Miriam amid her beans leaves for both selling and eating*

However we are also challenged by what the best strategy is to support each family. Miriam is a wonderful guardian who needed to move house earlier this year as she was living with her mother and the wider family. Most rents were too high however she found a small house with some land behind and began to plant beans. As a result of her hard work she now has food and some income. At the moment we are encouraging her for her hard work and suggesting other crops that could be planted there.



*Trying to visit the houses before the afternoon downpour*

We continue making visits during the rainy season and try

to make sure we are inside when a downpour is just about to fall. The rain showers are very heavy and last for quite a while. The families are more than glad when we stay with them for an hour listening to them share about their family, reading the Bible and praying with them. Where it is possible we look at their roof and help with roof repairs as many houses are not watertight.

The muddy surroundings and tall grasses not only make houses harder to find but also more dangerous places to live. Please keep praying for the safety of our families.



*Finding our way along very muddy paths to Victor and Joyce's new house which was hidden by thick vegetation*





## FARMING AND DISCIPLESHP

After a good rainy season we now have an abundance of crops in the Arise field. Hallelujah! Our many guardians have been busy each week weeding and replanting during the past 3 months. As well as the tall maize (at the back of the photo) and the cabbage we have often planted, this season we have aubergine, Chinese lettuce, spinach and beans leaves. There is always something ready to take home after a day's work.

This farming time has become a wonderful time of fellowship when both men and women work alongside each other while discussing situations at home and sharing possible solutions. God has blessed this time each week by enabling our members to feel more like a family.



*Green, healthy vegetables – as far as the eye can see!*

### TESTIMONY TIME

Catherine is one of our most hard working guardians who is always smiling and blessing others. Her husband is blind so most of the housework, farming and earning money falls to her. Sadly her eldest daughter struggled a lot with school and decided to stop after failing her exams, she went to visit other family and has not returned home. Catherine has received a lot of help from her 3 young boys with cooking, washing and in their field. They have also recently been helping to build the room behind them in the photo. Their house was just 2 small rooms and not big enough for all the family. After their neighbour saw how hard the family was working on the new room they decided to provide iron sheets for the roof! What a blessing from God and a reminder that God knows our needs and finds ways to provide. Catherine did not know how she would manage to roof the new room but has now shown her children that the important thing is to do your best with what you have and leave the rest in God's hands.



*Catherine outside the 1 room extension to her house with children John, George, Gift and Laban.*

### Prayer Points

1. Praise the Lord for the good harvest many families have this year. Pray that they are able to gather it and use it before it is stolen or eaten by animals and insects.
2. Please pray for our Grade 8 - 12 pupils to have the courage to ask questions to both teachers and friends when they do not understand at school.
3. Thank God for all His provision and faithfulness throughout term 1.
4. Pray for the programmes that have started again now we have the building. Pray that everyone who comes is aware of God's love and His gift of eternal life.

Schools open for term 2 on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and close on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August 2022.

Thank you for reading our update on the work of Arise. If you have any questions or would like to further support us in any way, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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