KENYA BIG DREAM

Empowering girls to know they’re worthy of more than child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM)
MEET LILLIAN,
a Kenyan girl worthy of fullness of life. As a young teenager, here’s the future she could have faced:
As a family living in poverty...
her parents’ last resort would have been to marry her off around age 12 ...
to a much older man...
ending her chance for an education.
Her preparation for marriage ...
would have been female genital mutilation ...
which yields lifelong health complications, sometimes even causing death.
Lillian believed she was worthy of more. The night before her cutting ceremony, Lillian and a group of girls ran away.
Lillian made it to a World Vision-supported refuge where she found people who told her she was worthy—and got her back in school.
But not all Kenyan girls are as fortunate as Lillian.
If Lillian had gotten pregnant before age 15 ...
One in 180

she'd have had a

1 IN 180

CHANCE OF DYING

IN CHILDBIRTH,

compared to

1 in 4,900 in a
developed country.
What are the roots of child marriage and FGM
As a traditional practice, FGM symbolizes a girl’s readiness for marriage, no matter her age.
According to traditional Pokot culture, no girl will be accepted to get married if they have not gone through female genital mutilation.”

—Moses Chepkonga, World Vision Kenya program manager
“You’re going to be nothing. I would have gotten cows for you.”

—A father to his daughter who escaped child marriage to pursue education
A daughter’s worth is tied to her bride price, money that can be the difference between survival and starvation for families in extreme poverty.
FAMILIES DON’T PRIORITIZE GIRLS’ EDUCATION

Without an education, girls struggle to change their futures and their children’s prospects.
An illiterate mother is less likely to send her children to school, perpetuating cycles of poverty.
WHAT IS KENYA Big Dream
THE KENYA BIG DREAM

This project aims to EMPower girls to know their worth by eliminating the root causes of child marriage and FGM.
THE WHOLE SOCIETY THRIVES BY

Empowering children

Strengthening families

Mobilizing faith leaders
EMPOWERING CHILDREN

Education empowers boys and girls alike to know their potential for changing their societies.
Resilient, financially stable families can prioritize girls’ worthiness as they support community-wide laws and cultural mindset shifts against FGM and child marriage.
MOBILIZING FAITH LEADERS

Trusted faith leaders strengthen communities by *leading child protection efforts*, including Alternative Rites of Passage ceremonies to replace FGM.
HOW DO WE KNOW

THIS WORKS
Because Lillian and others believed in her worth, she graduated college...
OWNS TWO SMALL BUSINESSES of her own ...
married a man of HER CHOICE ...
and SAFELY GAVE BIRTH to a son.
THIS is the life you’d want for your daughter.
HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED
Together, we can EMPOWER MORE GIRLS like Lillian to know their worth.

Their hope-filled tomorrow starts with strong families and transformed communities.
I met a group of 34 young girls at a rescue center in West Pokot, Kenya. God placed a fire in my heart for those girls ... and that trip proved to be the beginning of an incredible transformation ... for the girls, for their community, and for me.

—Margo Day, retired tech executive
Empowering girls to know they’re worthy of more than child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM)
GOAL

$30 MILLON for FIVE REGIONS in western Kenya

OUTCOME

Impacting over 423,000 PEOPLE including 243,000 CHILDREN