



Report on

Kambove Community, Democratic Republic of Congo

January to March 2019

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA in partnership with Peppercorn

Updates

MAISHA
COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION

Children currently supported: 125

Care Workers strive to ensure that the most vulnerable children have access to basic health care services. Recently 49 children were taken to the clinic where they were treated and received the necessary medication for illnesses such as malaria and typhoid.

Every Monday the Care Workers from Maisha Community Based Organisation gather together to pray before they do Holy Home Visits throughout the week. On Thursdays they meet to share the highlights and challenges from the week and consider how to more effectively care for the most vulnerable.

"Thank you for continuing to faithfully pray and support the most vulnerable children across Africa."

- Local Hands at Work Team in Likasi, Democratic Republic of Congo



When local volunteer Care Workers from Maisha Community Based Organisation (CBO) were out doing Holy Home Visits, they met Gali* and his family. As they learned Gali's story, they quickly realised that his family was amongst the most vulnerable living in Kambove Community.

Gali grew up with both of his parents and nine siblings, but sadly his father passed away several years ago after a long struggle with asthma. After the funeral, the three oldest children were taken to live with their father's relatives; a cultural practice in many communities across Africa. Although there were now less mouths to feed, Gali's mother was left with the responsibility of providing for her remaining six children, without the extra support she had been receiving from the older children previously.

Before Gali's father became seriously ill, he purchased a plot of land and built a house for his family. Although Gali's mother owns the home and does her best to provide for her children by farming, this

is not sufficient to provide for all of their needs.

After hearing their story, the Care Workers invited Gali and his younger brother to the Care Point because of their poor health. Here they receive a hot and nutritious meal daily and support with their education and basic health care. Through the consistency of a daily meal, their health has started to improve.

A continual challenge for Gali and his younger brother is that their mother often leaves home during the day, taking their other siblings to do farming in the field. Unfortunately, this leaves 11-yearold Gali with the responsibility of caring for his younger brother when he isn't in school. However, with Gali attending his grade 3 classes every day, his younger brother is often, in turn, left home alone. After spending time together at the Care Point, the boys return to an empty house where they wait for their mother to return home from the fields. Thankfully, Gali's Care Worker, Mama Magauy, is committed to visiting Gali and his family regularly, bringing much needed physical, emotional and spiritual support.

handsatwork.org *name has been changed