CHERISH WATOTO KENYA



From poverty to possibility—together, we are changing the story.



From the Slums of Nairobi to a Future Filled with Hope

In 1999, *Cheryl's Children's Home* was born from a deep desire to rescue and care for abandoned and orphaned children living in the most impoverished slums of Nairobi. In 2004, *Good Shepherd Church* joined the mission, and together, we began walking alongside these precious children—offering not just shelter, but love, dignity, and a renewed sense of purpose.

The journey has been anything but easy. In 2019, Cheryl's was forced to leave its original site when the railway reclaimed the land. With only three months to relocate, we moved to a temporary facility—knowing in our hearts that our children deserved so much more.

That challenge sparked a dream. We began searching for a permanent home where children could not only survive, but truly thrive. And in 2022, that dream became reality with the opening of **Cherish Watoto Kenya**—a safe haven and vibrant school where healing begins and futures are rewritten.

The children we serve have faced unthinkable hardship. Many have been orphaned or abandoned. Others come from families surviving on less than \$2 a day. But in this place of refuge, they find more than just food and education—they discover hope, belonging, and the transformative love of Jesus.

At Cherish Watoto Kenya -- we're building futures. Through access to education, daily nutrition, and spiritual nurturing, we're breaking generational cycles of poverty and empowering a new generation to lead with compassion and courage.

From poverty to possibility—together, we are changing the story.



Break the Cycle.

Imagine waking up each day...

Knowing there's not enough food for your children. That school is out of reach because you can't afford a uniform or basic supplies. That your only goal is simply surviving another day.

This is the harsh reality for millions of families in Kenya.

As of 2022, nearly **40% of Kenyans—over 20 million people—live in extreme poverty**, unable to meet even their most basic needs. In Nairobi, Kenya's capital, **over half the population lives in slums** like Kibera—one of the largest and most densely populated informal settlements in Africa.

Here, families are packed into 12x12 homes made of tin and mud. There's no running water, no electricity, no heat. Children sleep on floors, sharing a tiny space with multiple family members. One latrine may serve dozens of families.

For many of these children, school is just a dream.

Although Kenya introduced free primary education in 2003, the reality tells a different story. The cost of uniforms, meals, transportation, and supplies still makes education **inaccessible for thousands of children**, especially in the slums. And without education, the cycle of poverty continues—generation after generation.

Many of these children have also lost parents to HIV, malaria, or food insecurity. They face life without protection, without support, without the love and care every child deserves.

But there is hope—and it starts with you.

Build a Future.

Thanks to your support, **Good Shepherd** helped build a school and orphanage in one of these underserved communities. And now, you have the chance to be part of a child's transformation.

By **sponsoring a child**, you're not just donating money. You're giving the gift of:

- Education the key to a better future
- Daily nutrition a basic need, finally met
- Safety and care in a loving, supportive environment
- Hope the kind that inspires dreams and ignites change



Will you help us give a child the future they deserve?

Change a Child's Tomorrow - Today



Your monthly sponsorship provides more than just education—it offers **hope, opportunity, and a future**. By sponsoring a child, you're helping them rise above poverty and thrive.

What Your Sponsorship Provides

\$40/month – Supports Primary & Jr. Secondary Students (Preschool to Grade 9)

\$150/year – Covers Two School Uniforms, Shoes & Tracksuit Uniforms include a shirt, shorts or a dress, socks, and a sweater—worn daily, which is why two are needed.

Your monthly gift helps provide:

- Nutritious daily meals
- Clean drinking water
- Quality education
- School supplies and uniforms
- A safe, nurturing environment
- Caring, committed staff

For many children, this is the only meal and care they receive all day.

Give with Confidence

- 100% of your sponsorship goes directly to Cherish Watoto Kenya—no admin fees or overhead.
- All funds are processed through **Good Shepherd Church** for **full tax deductibility** and transparency.
- We make regular visits to Kenya to ensure your support is truly changing lives.

Make an Eternal Impact

Over **100 children are waiting** for someone to believe in them. Together, we can give them **hope**, **stability**, **and a future filled with promise**.



How to Give

Sponsoring a child (Preschool–9th Grade) costs \$40/month or \$480/year. You can choose from the following easy payment options:

🖵 Online (via Realm)

If you have an existing Realm account, you can set up a **monthly or one-time payment** online:

- Visit https://onrealm.org/GoodShepherdNaperville/-/form/give/CWK
- Choose "Sponsorship" in the memo dropdown.
- Select "Give once" (for annual payment) or "Give multiple times" (for monthly gifts).

Don't have a Realm account?

It's quick and easy to set up. Reach out to Jeannine Allen, our Missional Engagement Executive Minister for help establishing an account.

Text to Give

Text "GSHEP CWK" to 73256

- Follow the link sent to your phone
- Choose **"Sponsorship"** in the memo line
- Set up a one-time or recurring gift

Note: You won't receive spam texts. Text "STOP" to unsubscribe or "HELP" for support. Standard rates may apply.

🖾 By Check

Make checks payable to: Good Shepherd Church Memo line: "CWK Sponsorship"

Mail to: Jeannine Allen c/o Good Shepherd Church 1310 Shepherd Drive Naperville, IL 60565

TUniform & Clothing Donations

\$150/year – Covers Two School Uniforms, Shoes & Tracksuit Uniforms include a shirt, shorts or a dress, socks, and a sweater—worn daily, which is why two are needed.

To contribute to the uniform fund, use the **same online link** and select **"Uniform"** in the memo. Let us know your gift amount so we can coordinate with local staff.

You'll receive a photo of the student in their new uniform!







Make a One-Time Gift

Not everyone is called to sponsor a specific child—but you can still make a meaningful impact. Your one-time donation to **Cherish Watoto** helps cover the needs of **unsponsored children** and supports **essential operational costs**, ensuring every child receives the care and resources they deserve.

NEXT STEPS

Email: jallen@goodshepherd-naperville.org
Jeannine Allen, Missional Engagement Executive Minister
Website: <u>https://gshepchurch.org/cherish</u>
Phone: 630-961-9220
Address: 1310 Shepherd Drive

Be a beacon of hope in a child's life.

A simple email, a kind word, or a shared picture can help build a relationship that transforms both of you.







HOW TO CONNECT

- Email: students.cherishwkenya@gmail.com
- Put your student's name in the subject line to ensure your message reaches them.
- Send photos, video messages, birthday and holiday wishes!

All correspondence goes through our Social Workers as required for the safety and protection of both you and the children. Your messages and encouragement mean the world to them. Many children at Cherish Watoto Kenya do not have parental support, and your connection will uplift their spirits, reminding them that they are valued and loved.











Together we are changing the story!