

Now is the time to share some much welcomed good news.

The residents of Shitungu deserve praise for their resilience and optimism. After floods, a public health strike, political unrest, a disrupted supply chain and high inflation, the community meetings continue to take place and plans for a better future are in motion.

With your generosity and the receipt of a grant from B'nai Havurah of Denver, KVEO has been able to provide basic food supplies for 20 Shitungu families twice over the past 8 weeks. The loss of income that resulted from the social chaos caused many families to have enough food for only one meal a day. A KVEO Shitungu Board member shared a local phrase used to describe the situation of having only one meal a day: "saba lulala" which means wash your hands once! (This phrase is in the local dialect/Luhya. The letter "b" in saba is pronounced as sound "v". So you say "S-A-V-A L-U-L-A-L-A").

KVEO is committed to working with community residents to make sure that this phrase and the hunger situation it represents becomes obsolete and is associated with the past.

KVEO has also mailed small medical equipment (blood pressure cuffs thermometers, pulse oximeters) and various first aid supplies that were unavailable, or not available at a reasonable cost in Kenya. The First Aid station is now satisfactorily supplied.



We hope that you are also feeling seeds of optimism as we get closer to our election. When you hear from us again after the U.S. Presidential election, this organization will have a *new look*. As mentioned in our previous letter, we are now a registered non-profit, the **Kenya Village Empowerment Organization, KVEO**. We proudly present our new logo and will soon be able to introduce the Board Members and fully describe our projects and goals on a KVEO website.



Shitungu Rises

Empowering Dreams - Building Futures

Future messages will be from: kveorise@gmail.com

KVEO continues to be guided by the goals of the Shitungu residents who participate in democratically run community meetings that establish their priorities. The foundational community objectives include establishing food stability, meeting the educational needs of the residents and project development to establish economic self-sufficiency.

Making this transition to an official nonprofit comes with start-up costs and organizational restructuring. We count on your support as KVEO makes this difficult transition to broaden our base of support and become an official organization. Please be prepared to share the *next letter* with friends and other organizations who might be interested in learning about and working to empower the Shitungu community.

Thank you,

Joyce Lisbin and the Board of Directors

Contact us at: kveorise@gmail.com

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Write check to KVEO or Kenya Village Empowerment Org.

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