

## Port Orchard Rotary World Community Service Article

### **Supporting the Vulnerable Community of East Pokot, Kenya Since 2014**

In partnership with the *Africa Concern Organization*, a Non-Governmental Organization based in Kenya, **Port Orchard Rotary Club** implemented a \$9,000 District 5020 Community Grant during the 2024-25 year to improve water and food security, health and literacy in East Pokot, Kenya, Baringo County.

The Chesakam Primary School water supply borehole project was implemented and equipped with solar powered pump by the Port Orchard Rotary club over a decade ago. The project has so far impacted 480 learners, 14 teachers, 87 households and an estimated 4800 goats, sheep, and camels positively through provision of reliable portable water year round.

Although, noticeable water wastage has been realized in the past for community members lacked proper knowledge on how to manage this scarce resource. Subsequently, to improve on the water conservation and sanitation measure, the following funded project activities were successfully implemented.

The 2024-25 District Community Grant enabled the community to



Chesakam Water Project

improve water security through borehole repair and installation of separate Chesakam Primary School and community distribution water



points. The community water point was constructed 70 meters away from the borehole. The construction of a cattle trough enabled the community members to improve food production through healthy livestock maintenance.

The grant also raised the living standards of community members through increased availability of quality water supply all year round. The school distribution pipeline was connected to a 10,000 liters' storage





water tank.

In addition, the training of the water user committee on water conservation and catchment area protection occurred. A total of 11 committee members were present during the training. 5 members were elected to spearhead water utilization for both school and community. These members comprise of 2 males and 3 females.

Last year, mattresses and linens were supplied to the Cheptunoyo school dormitories. With this DCG, the installation and connection of electric power supply in the girls' dormitory was successfully done within four working days. The installation was done both inside the dormitory and outside for security purpose around the dormitory environs. The completed electricity installation ensures that the boarding girls are assured of their security. This may motivate more girls to board in the school, thus providing more time to concentrate on their studies.

When Chris Cairns visited Cheptunoyo School in the summer of 2022, she found that the library lacked much needed shelving.



Improved water access.

With a private donation, Port Orchard Rotary and the African Concern Organization were able to improve book accessibility and community learning in the Bob and Chris Cairns Library by installing additional book shelves.

Community appreciation:

*We are greatly happy for we can now access water even during*





*cloudy times, early morning before sunrise and later evening .*

*“Your commitment to give lasting safe water solutions to marginalized communities in arid regions of East Pokot Kenya means hope, and bright futures through safe water and sanitation to all. God bless you big!”.*

Chesakam Primary School Head Teacher: *“On behalf of the school, I am very grateful for the service you offered to the school and community on water pump renovation and piping water to the school kitchen and water trough. Thank you, thank you!”*



Bob and Chris Cairns Library before additional shelving was Installed





Perusing the books