



NEW VISION FOR KENYA

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Greetings from Kenya!

CRWRC Kenya builds the capacity of its national partners to facilitate transformation of communities across Kenya. Our partners often tell us that they are CRWRC in their communities. It is humbling to hear such statements and it fills me with a great sense of responsibility. I'm reminded of Paul's words to the Corinthians, "You yourselves are our letter, written on your hearts, known and ready by everybody." Pwani Christian Community Services (CCS), Kamatikimo, Mount Kenya CCS, Western Region CCS, and the Care Department of the Reformed Church of East Africa are our letters. The work these partners do in their communities and the way they do that work reflects CRWRC-Kenya. If we have "discipled" our partners well, our success will impact community transformation. If any of our discipleship making has missed the mark that too will have impact.

As the new Country Consultant for Kenya, I made it top priority to complete our Country Evaluation before we proceeded with evaluations of our partners. Last November a team of 5 people including myself evaluated the work of CRWRC Kenya. Staff, partners, and outside experts were interviewed. We reflected on what we heard and wrote a report. The report was filled with appreciation and suggestions of how we can do better. I processed the report with staff to get their feedback and ownership for the way forward.

In April our team completed its strategic plan for the next 3-5 years. Our country evaluation deeply informed our reflection on the future we seek to create as a team in Kenya. We sharpened our mission statement to "Engaging the people of God in organizational and community capacity building for transformation in Kenya". With a refocused mission, a new vision emerged to energize and guide us. "We envision transformed communities living in shalom" is our new vision statement. Our

key strategic priorities will be 1) environmental restoration/sustainable food security, 2) strengthening leadership and governance, 3) building capacity for peace, and 4) decreasing illness and enhancing health. Between the intersections of the priorities we will develop plans that will leverage our team's unique skills, experience, and resources. We will adjust how we do our work so that we increase our potential for impact. We will create our own in-house staff education program to strengthen our skill sets and meet regularly to see how we are doing in relationship to our strategic plan.

The Kenya team has gone through a challenging few years, and in an environment of budget reductions, I was amazed how the entire staff has contributed and taken ownership of our future. We were all able to express our views. The wisdom of the minority was incorporated into decisions. As we were doing strategic planning, we were also learning how to do strategic planning. It will take time to see the impact of the changes in CRWRC Kenya. If we do our work well, the transformation of CRWRC Kenya will impact the transformation of its partners and their communities. I look forward to sharing those stories with all of you.



~ Fred, Georgina & Mariah Witteveen

Give Thanks For...

- Georgina received her long awaited work permit. This is a big relief for us.
- Mariah had the lead role at in her high school production, 'The Fable Factory'. This was a stretching role that required Mariah to sing and dance. She did smashingly well.

Please Pray For...

- Pray for the people of Eastern Kenya who are facing a food crisis due to drought.
- CRWRC Kenya to effectively coordinate its major relief effort in Eastern Kenya. Pray for God to continue to strengthen CRWRC-Kenya as it implements its new strategic plan.



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