



LITTLE Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi USA-Mission

April 30, 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My name is Sr. Nancy, a member of the Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi (LSOSF) and a missionary from Kenya. Allow me first to take this opportunity to thank the Mission Director and the staff who have graciously invited us to share our mission story with you. I am grateful to your Pastor and you all my brothers and sisters in Christ for taking the time to listen to our story. Mindful that the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted us all globally, and that you too may have had so many challenges, we LSOSF are truly humbled and most grateful for your prayers and support.

I am here to request for your prayers and financial support for our programs, especially for the children we take care of: the orphans, the homeless street children, children with diverse disabilities, young teenage-child mothers, refugees, and for our feeding programs for the poor, especially the children and single mothers who lack basic necessities.

The Little Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi (LSOSF) were founded in 1923 in Uganda by Mother Mary Kevin Kearney (Servant of God), a Franciscan Missionary Sister from Ireland. Since our founding, the LSOSF Institute has grown and now the sisters witness and do ministry in Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania and a few sisters in the US-Mission. There are about 800 members in the LSOSF Institute.

Our Story

The COVID-19 pandemic that has impacted the world globally has significantly affected our ministries for the poor and marginalized. Unfortunately, many people are pushed into poverty due to lockdown, and the most affected are children. Currently, Africa is experiencing new waves of the pandemic [in] the countries of Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya where the sisters serve. During the lockdown restrictions enforced to limit the spread of COVID-19, we were all asked to stay home. The homeless street children had no home to return to and had to find refuge in the woods and under the tunnels. Also, during the lockdown restrictions a surge in child abuse and teenage pregnancies increased in many parts of Africa, including Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. With so many children of school age now becoming child mothers, our sisters have been reaching out to these vulnerable populations and are *advocating* for these young teenage-mothers and children who need a lot of support.

The **mission** of the LSOSF is to reach out with compassion to the poor and marginalized of our society, following in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi and Mother Kevin our Foundress. The LSOSF serve as educators, in healthcare, [and in] social and pastoral services. Also, the sisters also serve among the most marginalized populations, especially the homeless street children, the orphans, children with disabilities, the youth, single mothers, children with HIV-Aids, malnourished children, the elderly, and presently, the sisters are reaching out and supporting the poor families affected by COVID-19 pandemic. Our sisters have been reaching out to families and children and providing education on safety and protection measures. Also, they are working in the front lines, helping the sick people in villages get *medical support*, distributing *masks* and *hand soap* to families in need, providing food and water and counseling support. Though we have lost two sisters in the frontlines, our sisters continue to serve the most vulnerable of our society.

I kindly request your prayers and financial support, so that we can continue to support the people entrusted to our care, especially the children that we take care of. The challenges of these times are enormous, but we live in HOPE, and as St. Paul constantly encourages us in his letters, **“We Christians have set our hope in the living God”** (1Timothy 4:10) **and if we hope for what we do not see, we wait with endurance”** (Rom 8:25).

Your donation will enable us to fulfill our mission of reaching out with compassion to the poor and marginalized of our societies. We rely on the people of good will to continue our services. You are our Hope, and no donation is too small to make a difference. Thank you very much for listening to me. On our part, we LSOSF remember you in prayer. We pray for you and all your loved ones, for safety and protection and good health. We also pray for the healing of the world and for all humanity. May God bless you and reward your generosity and kindness to us.

Sr. Nancy Kamau, LSOSF (Coordinator – USA Mission)



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LSOSF Ministries – Pictures

