

Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme

£5231.09

An outreach programme, supporting orphans, vulnerable children and their guardians in Tanzania, where 20% of the population have HIV.

The Mango Tree Orphan Support Programme has gone from strength to strength. At the time of The Funding Network's first donation (Nov 2002), the project was only four months old, and they were providing some basic health-related support to about 400 orphans in a few villages in southern Tanzania. By TFN's third donation (Mar 2006), Mango Tree was supporting just over 5,000 orphans and vulnerable children with a multitude of health, welfare, educational and training services, giving them a real chance of a self-reliant future again despite the deaths of their parents. They are very happy to be able to report, 15 months later, that the project has extended those services with a new base in a desperately poor area of Kenya (after an opportunistic hire of a wonderful Kenyan programme director there), and are now reaching nearly 10,000 orphans in the two countries! They still maintain their zero cost policy in the UK (relying instead on the goodwill of UK trustees to fundraise and direct for free). The project still has very low overheads in Africa (approximately 12% of total income). So the vast majority of their gradually growing income continues to be spent on giving the children the health, education and training support they need to re-build their lives.