

**A Promise to Protect:** 

Standing with Girls and Women in 2024



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## Letter from Leadership

## Dear Friends,

When I reflect on 2024, one word shines: promise. It is the promise we made 13 years ago to secure a brighter future for girls and women in pastoralist communities. It is the promise whispered by parents yearning for education for their daughters. It is the promise of a better tomorrow that fuels every discussion, every workshop, every step we take together.

This past year, we were reminded that keeping a promise is not always easy. We saw many challenges and setbacks. Families battling drought made heartbreaking sacrifices. Others, bound by tradition, clung to harmful practices and continued to cut their daughters in silence.

Yet amidst these struggles, I witnessed boundless courage that humbled me. Girls stood up, demanding the right to learn. Boys joined efforts to challenge injustices faced by their sisters. Women came together, sewing uniforms, starting businesses, and lifting their communities.

I often think back to my first trip to Kenya in 2012. At the time, I came simply to marvel at the elephants - their majesty, their resilience. Little did I know they were preparing me for this path. Among these communities, I witnessed a different kind of resilience, one born not just of survival, but of hope. That hope has carried us through years of struggle and triumph, and today, it fuels the transformation we see unfolding before our eyes.

The African proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child." Over and over, I have seen this truth come to life in our work. It takes the combined strength of families, traditional leaders, young people, advocates, and generous supporters like you to create the future we all envision.



Together, we achieved remarkable milestones in 2024. We trained over 4,000 people from elders to young warriors, mothers to government leaders - empowering them with knowledge and tools to dismantle harmful practices. We sponsored and celebrated three young women as they graduated university and took their places as role models within their communities. And we saw the growth of economic programs like Naningoi Maasai Fashion and Women's Self-Help Groups, which prove just how powerful financial independence can be.

Change is not possible without you: our supporters, our partners, our extended family, walking this path with us. You are the reason a girl in Samburu County or Maasai Mara can dream of a life free from injustice. You are the reason I can stand here and declare that the promise we made all those years ago remains unbroken.

I want you to feel the weight and the beauty of what we've accomplished together. The work is not finished, but the path forward is filled with hope. Together, in 2025 and beyond, I know we will continue to lift our communities, honor our commitments, and transform lives.



With love and gratitude, Founder & President





## Who We Are

Pastoralist Child Foundation is a nonprofit dedicated to ending female genital mutilation (FGM), child marriage, and gender-based violence in Kenya. Our mission is to empower girls and women through education, mentorship, scholarships, and community-based programs. We strive to build a future where all individuals can thrive free from violence and systemic inequality.

### **Core Values**

- Advocacy for gender equality and human rights.
- Empowerment through education and economic sustainability.
- Community-led transformation and inclusion.

## **Core Programs**

## **Community Dialogues**

Engaging communities in open conversations to challenge harmful practices, promote gender equality, and inspire lasting social change.

## **Economic Empowerment for Women**

Providing women with the tools, skills, and resources to achieve financial independence and strengthen their families and communities.

## **Student Mentorship**

Supporting students with life skills, support, and role models to nurture their confidence and unlock their full potential.

## **Education & Scholarships**

Opening doors to education for underprivileged students and empowering them to build a brighter future through access to secondary and higher learning opportunities.





## **Our Numbers**

Our work in 2024 reached an incredible



## 7,185 people

•

1,062

**Empowered Women** 

**A** 

3,554

**Hopeful Girls** 

**498** 

**Inspired Boys** 

We mobilized **950 elders**, **300 Morans**, and **500 FGM survivors** to drive change, while engaging **50 religious leaders**, **100 boda boda riders**, and **171 service providers** to protect and advocate for girls.



Together, these voices are igniting a powerful movement, building safe communities where girls and women can hope to live empowered lives for generations to come.





## 2,012 Women and Elders

participated in structured dialogues on FGM, child marriage, gender-based violence, and the value of education. They also learned how to advocate against harmful traditions and encourage support for girls' education.

Engaged **300 Morans** (young warriors) to raise awareness and champion anti-FGM efforts within their communities.



A Moran is a young warrior in the Maasai community, symbolizing strength, courage, and responsibility. Morans protect their communities, care for livestock, and uphold cultural values. Today they play key roles in advocating for education and social progress while honoring their heritage.

Provided support and platforms for **500 FGM Survivors**, offering safe spaces and empowering them as advocates for change.

Trained **100 Boda Boda Riders** as community ambassadors to advocate against FGM and promote wellness initiatives.



Boda boda riders are motorcycle taxi drivers in East Africa. The term "boda boda" refers to both the vehicle and the driver.





## **2** Women's Groups

Trained and supported in developing sustainable businesses, including tailoring and livestock trading.

Empowered **70 Women** to participate in income-generating activities, improving their financial independence and social status.

Opened the **Kiltamany Hall**, a safe space utilized by over 500 Women and Girls for learning skills such as handcrafting and digital literacy.

Supported 19 Homesteads with 33 bulls and 40 lambs, generating a total income of US \$14,065.00 from livestock initiatives, strengthening livelihoods and community resilience.

### **Our Promise**

In the journey to end harmful practices, Pastoralist Child Foundation leads with hope and action.

## **Livestock and Business Performance Report 2024**

Prepared by: Joyce Nashipai From Sonkoyo Nailepu women Group Aitong Maasai Mara Date: 1/2/2025

Location: Aitong

1. Introduction

This report provides an overview of the livestock performance, earnings, and business highlights for the year 2024. It includes details on the number of animals, sales, income nerated, losses incurred, and a summary of business activities related to sewing. 2.1 Number of Animals • Bulls: 33

• Lambs: 40

2.2 Homesteads Keeping Livestock

• Bulls: 11 homesteads, each keeping 3 bulls.

· Lambs: 8 homesteads, each keeping 5 lambs

3. Financial Performance 3.1 Income from Sales

• Bulls: KES 1,626,000 Lambs: KES 195,000

• Total Income: KES 1,821,000 3.2 Losses Incurred

· Animal Deaths:

2 bulls lost due to diseases.
5 lambs were lost due to diseases.

4. Business and Market Conditions

2024 was a favorable year for livestock due to consistent rainfall, which resulted in an abundance of grass. This contributed to better animal health and increased sales,

leading to good profits.
Despite the success in sales, some challenges were faced, including livestock diseases nat resulted in the loss of a few animals.

5. Maasai Fashion

· Store Name: Naningoi Maasai Fashion

Location: Aitong
 The store continues to operate and serve the local community with Maasai-

inspired fashion products.

0. Highlights
The sewing project is doing well. In the year 2024, we are blessed by moving from a small store to a bigger and a new one. We have one girl who completed the sewing course and is in our shop doing a good job. The project has improved since the time we started compared to now. We have a new style of Maasal decorated dresses, leading to an increase in local customers.

Annual Report - 2024



## 2,000+ Students

Reached over 2,000 Students (66% girls, 34% boys) through mentorship programs focused on personal growth and life skills.

Sports Empowerment Programs engaged **700 Young People**, using activities like soccer and volleyball to address gender equality and harmful practices like FGM.

Conducted sessions for **880 Adolescents** on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), forming SRHR club champions in schools.







## **71** Scholarships

awarded in 2024, providing students with the chance to pursue quality education at both secondary and university levels.

Supported **57 High School Students** and **14 University Students** with full scholarships to ensure uninterrupted studies.

Celebrated the achievements of **3 University Graduates** who earned degrees in Economics and Finance, Entrepreneurship & IT, and Community Health. They join **10 alumni** currently employed in related fields.

Provided **13 New Scholarships for Girls**, furthering their access to education and leadership opportunities.

### **Our Promise**

For every girl with a dream, Pastoralist Child Foundation provides the tools to achieve it.



## **Stories of Impact**

## From Student to Educator, and Beyond:

## Nancy Manuela's Ongoing Mission

Nancy Manuela, born in Narok County as the second of six children, always dreamed of creating a brighter future. Faced with financial struggles that threatened her education, Nancy's life changed when she received a scholarship from Pastoralist Child Foundation during her second year of secondary school. The support not only covered her tuition, but also provided essentials like personal effects and housing, easing the burden on her family.

After graduating from Maseno University in 2023, Nancy secured a teaching position in computer studies at Mara Christian School, a private institution in Narok. While teaching wasn't part of her original plan, her resilience and adaptability turned it into an opportunity to inspire others. Her ultimate dream, however, is to pursue a Master's degree in Business Entrepreneurship and IT, a goal she's determined to achieve.



I believe my life would have been so tough and hard without Pastoralist Child Foundation's support.

Inspired by Samuel Leadismo, the co-founder of Pastoralist Child Foundation, she aspires to give back to her community, just as he has. Nancy's story, marked by a heartfelt homecoming celebration upon her graduation, is a testament to the power of perseverance, opportunity, and a dream to uplift others.



## **Asha's Story:**

## **Breaking Barriers and Building Futures for Girls**

Asha was born in Samburu County, where opportunities for girls were scarce, and her siblings never had the chance to pursue education. Raised by a single mother, Asha lost two siblings and saw the struggles of the rest, which fueled her desire to create a better future for the next generation. Her turning point came in 8th grade when Pastoralist Child Foundation offered her support after recognizing her potential. They funded her education through high school and college, but it wasn't just financial aid that shaped her path.

During school holidays, Pastoralist Child Foundation provided psychosocial support and mentorship workshops that equipped Asha with confidence and critical skills. These sessions taught her how to persevere, dream bigger, and address the unique challenges faced by girls in her community, from advocating against FGM to tackling menstrual health stigma.

Now 25, Asha works as the gender officer and community health advocate at Pastoralist Child Foundation, mentoring young girls to build self-worth and plan for their futures.



If I can give a young girl confidence and dignity, I will go for it.

Her resilience and drive have created a ripple effect of change, ensuring others are empowered to break barriers, just as she has.

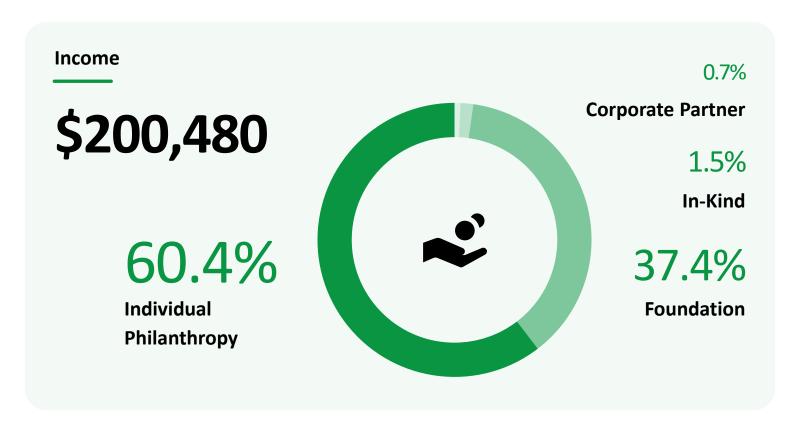
### **Our Promise**

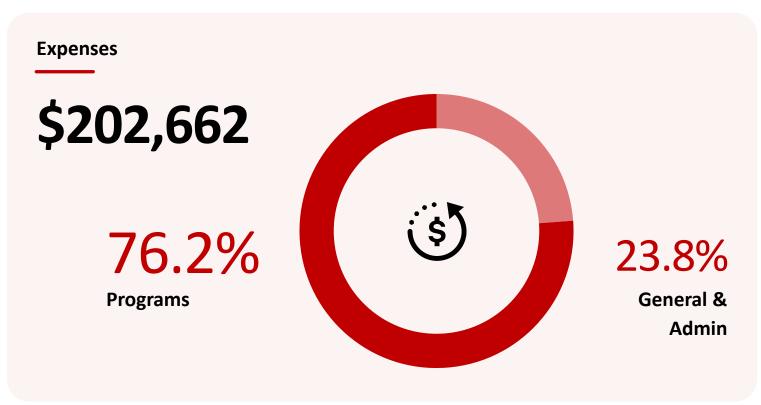
For every girl denied a voice, PCF amplifies her story.





## **Financial Overview**







## **Our Partners**

## **Girls Opportunity Alliance**



The Girls Opportunity Alliance (Obama Foundation) supports a project focused on education, mentorship, and leadership development. Pastoralist Child Foundation teaches girls advocacy strategies and empowers them with the tools they need to speak against harmful practices such as FGM and child marriage. Girls learn from local Samburu facilitators who also serve as role models and trusted advisors to support the girls as they navigate adolescence.

Additionally, girls also learn critical life skills and have access to sexual and reproductive health education, attend holiday mentorship workshops, and participate in sports tournaments.

## Kenya Anti-FGM Board



The Anti-FGM Board provides necessary technical backstopping, quality programming monitoring, oversight and guides the domestication and utilization of national guidelines, FGM resource handbook and the national policy on the elimination of FGM.

### **UNICEF-Kenya**



Pastoralist Child Foundation collaborates with UNICEF-Kenya to advocate for the integration of FGM issues within other existing and allied sectors, including Education, Health, Legal, Safety and Security, Livelihood and Resilient programmes. We work with change agents, teachers, Nyumba Kumi (community policing), elders, community health volunteers and child protection advocates to strengthen their capacities to carry out effective and efficient prevention and response to harmful practices and continue working to with communities.

## **Samburu County Government**



Pastoralist Child Foundation has a close working relationship with the Samburu County Government to access communities in Samburu County and undertake interventions related to FGM, child marriage, and education. The Department of Gender and Social Services leads the coordination of all anti-FGM activities in Samburu County by bringing on allied sectors such as health, mental health and psychosocial support, safety and security, education, and legal.

### **Our Promise**

When communities unite for progress,
Pastoralist Child Foundation promises to be the bridge.



## **Future Goals**

Pastoralist Child Foundation is gearing up for bold strides in 2025 and beyond.



## **Boosting Women's Economic Empowerment**

\$15,000 for 10 women's self-help groups in Samburu to fuel financial independence.



## **Building Our Samburu Office**

A \$45,000 goal to construct an office, creating a permanent base for community impact.



## **Securing Vital Funding**

Applying for the support of foundations to sustain operations and invest in growth.



## **Expanding Advocacy**

PCF plans to continue empowering communities in the Samburu East Sub-county areas where it is currently working:

- Wamba East Ward
- 2 Waso Ward
- **3** Wamba North Ward
- Wamba West Ward





## **Deepening Engagement**

We will deepen and strengthen our partnerships and community connections in 2025. Inviting and including additional stakeholders will continue to empower the pastoralist communities throughout Samburu and Maasai Mara.



## **Get Involved**

Your support fuels real, lasting change. At Pastoralist Child Foundation, we're creating a brighter, more equitable future for communities and we can't do it without you.

## Here's how you can make an impact:

### Donate

Every contribution, big or small, helps empower women, support families, and drive sustainable change.

### **Donate today:**



pastoralistchildfoundation.org/donate

## Volunteer

Join us on the ground or lend your skills to amplify our efforts. Together, we can achieve more.

### Join us:



pastoralistchildfoundation.org/contact-us

### **Share**

Spread the word about Pastoralist Child Foundation's mission. Your voice can inspire others to stand with us.

### Follow us on:



/pastoralistchildfoundation



**X** @KenyaChildFund



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@pastoralist.child

### **Advocate**

Use your voice to champion the fight against harmful practices and support gender equality.

When you get involved with Pastoralist Child Foundation, you're not just supporting a mission - you're transforming lives. Be the change today.



**(973) 980-7860** 

info@pastoralistchildfoundation.org



Thank you for standing with the Pastoralist Child Foundation in the fight to end female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage. Your support empowers girls with education, strengthens women's independence, and builds resilient communities.

Together, we're making lasting change possible.

pastoralistchildfoundation.org

Designed by

