

Daraja - Shared Services Platform



The Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation:

A Beacon of Hope for Orphaned and Vulnerable Children in Kenya

In the heart of Kisumu, Kenya, the **Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation** has been quietly transforming the lives of orphaned and vulnerable children for over two decades. Founded in 1997 by retired primary school teacher Mama Dolfine Oliech, the Foundation was born out of personal tragedy. After losing three of her five children, including both of her sons, Mama Dolfine channeled her grief into creating an organization that would provide hope, care, and education to children in need.

From its humble beginnings, when Mama Dolfine invited three destitute children into her home, the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation has grown into a remarkable institution that has positively impacted the lives of more than 1,000 children. Today, the Foundation educates and nurtures over 300 children in its primary school, 160 in secondary school, and supports another 25 in universities and tertiary institutions.

The Foundation's reach extends far beyond the classroom, serving children from the greater Nyanza region, including Kisumu, Siaya, Migori,



Homa Bay, Kisii, Western Kenya, the Kikuyu highlands, and the Ukambani lowlands. Its mission is to uplift local communities by providing a comprehensive support system for orphaned and vulnerable children, offering education, vocational training, spiritual mentorship, healthcare, food, and shelter. By empowering these children to become responsible and socially and economically independent individuals, the Foundation is creating lasting change in their lives and the lives of their communities.

However, the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation faces significant financial challenges. As an Alternative Provider of Basic Education and Training (APBET), it does not receive government funding and cannot charge tuition or boarding fees due to the vulnerable status of its students. The Foundation relies heavily on the generosity of well-wishers and the support of organizations like the Daraja Shares Services Programme to continue its crucial work.

The Daraja Shares Services Programme, a partnership between Global Development Incubators and local organizations, plays a vital role in supporting the Foundation. Recognizing that real impact is achieved by involving local communities, Daraja has been instrumental in connecting the Foundation with potential donors and providing capacity-building opportunities to strengthen its management and administrative structures. This support is essential for the sustainability and growth of the Foundation, enabling it to continue its life-changing work.

Despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 crisis and a shifting donor regime, the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation remains unwavering in its commitment to the children it serves. In an effort to become more self-sufficient, the Foundation has established a farm on the shores of Lake Victoria to supplement its food and financial needs. Fresh produce from the farm is used to feed the children and generate income through market sales. However, the struggle to provide adequate nutrition for all students persists, with day scholars often hanging around after class, hoping for a bite to eat.

The impact of the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation extends far beyond the immediate needs of the children it serves. Former students who have benefited from the Foundation's care and nurturing now serve as teaching and support staff, a testament to the lasting impact of the organization's work. These individuals embody the Foundation's values and serve as role models for the next generation of students, inspiring them to dream big and work towards a brighter future.

As the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation continues to grow and evolve, its unwavering commitment to empowering orphaned and vulnerable children remains at the heart of its mission. With the support of organizations like Daraja and the generosity of well-wishers, the Foundation is poised to create even greater impact in the years to come. By investing in the lives of these children, the Foundation is not only transforming individual lives but also building stronger, more resilient communities.

The story of the Dolfine Korando Faith Foundation is one of hope, resilience, and the power of compassion. It is a reminder that even in the face of unimaginable tragedy, one person's vision and dedication can create ripples of change that touch countless lives. As we look to the future, it is clear that the work of the Foundation is more important than ever, and that together, we can build a world where every child has the opportunity to thrive.



*In case of any questions or feedback, please reach out to **Kim Matu - Associate Director, Global Development Incubator** - on kim.matu@globaldevincubator.org and we will get back to as soon as possible.*

Thank you for your partnership and collaboration.

Sanlam Tower, 4th Floor Waiyaki Way, Nairobi, Kenya
www.globaldevincubator.org