

# Motony Community Report

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As of 2003, 56 percent of the Kenyan population lives below the poverty line. Extreme poverty (defined as those living under \$1 per day) includes almost 30 percent of Kenya's current population. In the Narok South District where Free The Children focuses its efforts, one in 10 Kenyan children still die before reaching their fifth birthday. One third of children under five years of age are stunted, reflecting chronic under-nutrition. This proportion is 14 times higher than the level expected in a healthy, well-nourished population.

## updates

### Health Update!



A women's group receives health training

The health care program has continued to meet the needs of Motony's community members. Through the Kenya Nutrition Program, students at Motony Primary School are receiving nutritious lunches every day. School health club members learned about harmful cultural practices, teenage pregnancy, peer pressure and common disease prevention. Following a workshop on how to handle emergencies, the school has also stocked a first aid box.

Meanwhile, Motony women's groups have been attending workshops about the risks associated with female circumcision and curbing the practice of early marriage. They also learned about family planning and how to prevent HIV/ AIDS. The mamas even led a discussion on the need to care for underprivileged orphans in the community by sharing their resources. They all agreed that 'every child belongs to the community.'

In addition, Free The Children is now encouraging households to construct a chimney in their homes in order to decrease the incidence of upper respiratory tract infections in the community.

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**Free The Children** believes in a world where all young people are free to achieve their fullest potential as agents of change.



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