

**Safe Haven – the Year in Review**



- **February 2016: Year Round Feeding Program Began**

The feeding program began with just 12 children from the local Nyamuga Special School, whom we had served during the Safe Haven school break program, which began in April, 2015. There are now 25 children being served daily with porridge and lunch. (Above we see most of the children during holidays.)

- **New Classroom Built as Gift from J. J. Crowder Masonic Lodge In NC -- thank you, friends!**



The new classroom was built in the summer so the children will always have a place to meet and work on educational activities during their school breaks, the longest of which is from late October until early January. Children come to this Safe Haven program 5 days a week during breaks to enjoy porridge and lunch, indoor and outdoor learning activities, and medical care as needed. Here our very first volunteers **Sajeena and Neal** enjoy another day working with these precious children.

- **Our First Volunteers -- Sajeena (past Kenyan Peace Corps volunteer) and husband Neal**

We were fortunate to have Sajeena and Neal visit and work with the children during the Christmas and New Year holidays, contributing books, which Sajeena carried for months to bring to Kenya, spending lots of time with learning activities, and they even created a tremendous mural with beautiful animals such as elephants and giraffes which the children can enjoy for years to come.

- **Christmas Celebration**



Although Christmas is not as widely celebrated here, the children enjoyed singing, having good food, and receiving a backpack. Sajeena enjoys the celebration with them.

## **Safe Haven – Quitting is Never an Option!**

### **Kenyan Election Violence Expected in 2017 → Moving Back to the US**

The US Peace Corps pulled their hundreds of volunteers out of Kenya in 2014 due to the increased violence. Then we moved here in January, 2015. Even more violence is expected in 2017, with the controversies over this year's election.

David and I had already planned to move out of Kenya in May, along with most people we know from other countries. Due to recent circumstances, we will now be moving back to NC in late February, with plans to come to Kenya again for a long visit during the school break in Nov/Dec, when the children will be out of school and at the Safe Haven program again. We invite volunteers, visitors and friends to join us! Assisting vulnerable children with food, education and medical care is our top priority, wherever we are!

*Thank you for your prayers and everything you do for these beautiful children. Blessings for you and yours in the new year!*



*Rebecca and Dave*

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