

SPD: South Pacific Record (eGiving: Record, SPD)

That my Children may Have Something to Eat

DISASTER AND FAMINE RELIEF OFFERING (ADRA, PROGRAM PROVIDED FOR NAD ONLY)

Matthew 25:36 — “I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.”

Nadira's hoe hit the ground. She caught her breath and wiped the sweat from her forehead. She looked around and saw only dry, cracked earth all around. Nadira, 40, has been supporting her six children since her husband left home two years ago. “The most important thing is that my children have something to eat,” she said, as she straightened her hoe and went looking for good soil.

Kenya had been facing severe drought since 2011. With very little rain for such a long time, violence had escalated, businesses had closed and peasants were unable to till the land.

When the little food they had was about to finish, Nadira went around the village begging. “Sometimes I feel the desire to steal so my children can eat,” she confesses. “I’m embarrassed that thoughts like that cross my mind. But I have to keep going, for my children. Otherwise, life is meaningless.”

Just when things were at their worst, Nadira found hope through the intervention of the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) of Kenya. For four months, ADRA delivered nutritious food that saved lives. Nadira received eighty pounds of beans and a gallon of vegetable oil, in addition to salt and other basic foods. With these provisions, her children and grandchildren went from one meal a day — if they were lucky — to three meals a day. The initial four-month emergency response was followed by an efficient relief program that allows Nadira and other families to buy food at local markets.

It was painful for Nadira's village chief to see his people suffer. “To achieve something in this powerless situation, we need stakeholders to help with food, but also to help improve our livelihoods,” he said. “I thank ADRA Kenya for the support it has given my people.”

Appeal: The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is the world humanitarian organisation of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. ADRA is fighting poverty and developing communities in more than 130 countries. It represents the unconditional love of Jesus through a wide spectrum of development and relief programs. For more information about ADRA, or to participate in any way, visit adra.org. Thank you so much for supporting ADRA with your offerings to the world mission!