

# MADE IN THE STREETS

## IMPACT REPORT

2024  
EDITION



Dear family and friends,

The story of MITS began 29 years ago, on a warm Sunday in August when two missionaries from California and a few young men in Kenya decided to serve the local street kids and help them know Jesus. It has since grown into a thriving faith-based organization, providing care to thousands of children each year. When I joined the team at MITS in 2016, I knew the mission was to love and serve teenagers from the streets in Kenya, meeting their basic needs and helping them find new life. But over the last 8 years, I have seen that mission have impact I didn't know was possible on countless lives, including my own.

After 29 years, the work of MITS is far from over and the future is promising. The team in Kenya is more energized than ever about what is to come for MITS, and their energy is contagious. 2023 was a year of renewed vision, strategy, and incredible impact through our programs because of the generosity of our MITS community of partners. I am blown away year after year at the way this community shows up to support and invest in the lives of teenagers in East Africa. To date, this was the most funds we have ever raised and the most reach we have ever had in a single year. The lives of boys and girls connected to the streets are truly being changed because of people willing to invest in their future.

For your support and for your continued belief in this work, thank you. Around here, we like to say, 'MITS matters because people matter.' That includes you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Brad Voss*

Brad Voss  
Executive Director  
MADE IN THE STREETS





**WE ARE COMMITTED TO ENDING  
THE CYCLE OF HOMELESSNESS  
FOR TEENAGERS ON THE STREETS.**

The mission of MADE IN THE STREETS is to love and serve children from the streets of Nairobi, Kenya - meeting their physical, emotional & spiritual needs; loving them fully; equipping them to earn a living & sending them out to a new life.

# Life Changing Programs

Since our beginning, MITS has believed in the importance of evaluation and adaptation to operate in ways that best serve teenagers from the streets. While the details of our programs have changed over time, we have always seen the value in relationships, mental health, and education.



## **OUTREACH AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING**

Our Eastleigh Centre provides dedicated, daily programs for boys, girls, mothers and babies living on the streets. In 2023, thousands of teenagers and mothers came to receive love and support through feeding programs, first aid, and caring relationships.



## **COUNSELING AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

After living on the streets, MITS students have faced rejection, trauma and lack of self worth. We have dedicated programs for individual and group counseling. Through Bible classes, and mentoring we focus on helping our students find their identity in Christ and know the love of God.



## **EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING**

MITS provides education and vocational training to homeless youth. After joining our boarding school program, we equip the students with skills that will enable them to secure jobs and become self-sufficient after graduation.

# 2023: The Impact

**\$1.1M raised**

from 443 donors around  
the world.

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**8,500 meals**

were provided to  
teenagers and mothers in  
our Eastleigh centre.

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**130 students**

were enrolled in our  
boarding school in Kamulu.

# A closer look from the streets...

## **2,075 teenagers**

received food and care through our programs at the Eastleigh Centre.

## **28 boys and girls**

left a life on the streets and joined MITS boarding school.



# ...to the classroom.



## **5 students**

excelled at MITS and are furthering their education in high school.

## **2 new dorms**

were built and opened on MITS campus in Kamulu.

## **20 graduates**

completed the MITS program and started jobs in Nairobi.



# Obed Buys a Bike

Obed is 15 years old. He likes to be busy, and he loves spending his free time making crafts. He particularly enjoys building intricate cardboard creations, taking care to get the details just right. Obed is also a student at MITS. Within that creative mind of his is also a brain for business. Before coming to MITS 3 years ago, when he was living on the streets, Obed met a man one day and borrowed 500 shillings from him. Instead of spending that money on an immediate meal, he decided to buy sweets and sell them for a profit. Soon his 500 shillings became 1,500 shillings, which then became 3,000 shillings. He thought about what he wanted to do with his earnings, and after saving up 10,000 shillings, Obed bought a bike. He rode his bike around the city selling sweets until the day he met someone who set him on a new course. This person asked if he would like to leave his life on the streets and go to school. Obed said, "yes." His bike was a nice mode of transportation and brought him to good business, but it also brought him to MITS. He says when he graduates he wants to help other children living on the streets like he was and would ultimately like to open his own school.



# The MITS Community

**The impact of MADE IN THE STREETS would not happen without our amazing community of partners.**

Everything MITS does is possible because of your generosity, enthusiasm, encouragement and prayers. You donate online, mail in checks, attend fundraising events, go on trips to Kenya, and advocate for teenagers in need.

## HOME TEAM

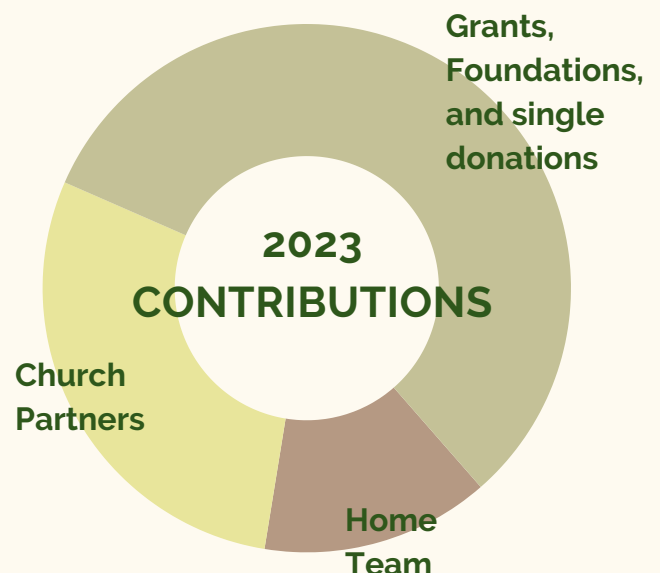
Home Team is the MITS giving club, made up of recurring donors committed to consistently championing the cause. In 2023, Home Team members raised 14% of our total donations.

## CHURCH PARTNERS

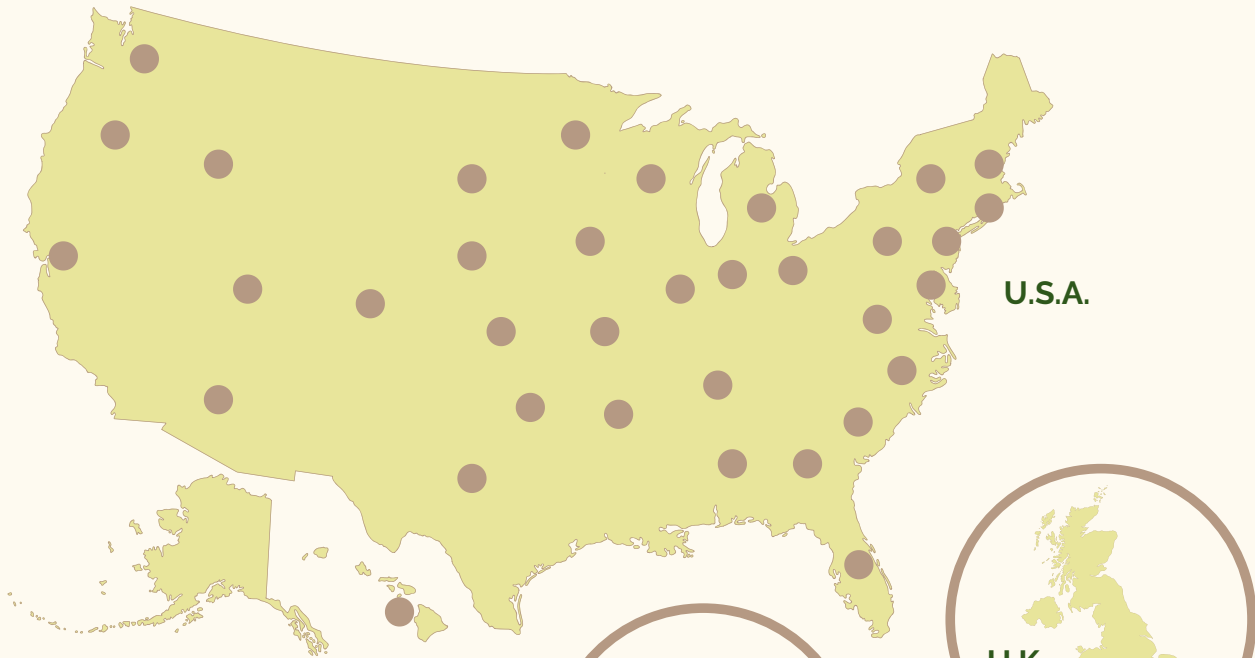
We are grateful at MITS to have 11 incredible church partners, who come alongside us to support through funding, prayer, advocacy, and encouragement. Our church partners raised 29% of our total donations in 2023.

## VOLUNTEERS

Whether at home or abroad, these unsung heroes deserve a shoutout. MITS volunteers serve alongside our team in Kenya, help plan fundraising events, write thank you notes, and believe that giving comes in many packages. 46 people joined our team in Kenya to love and serve in 2023.







## DONORS

In 2023, people from all over the world shared their generosity with MITS. We had donors from 4 countries and 35 states.

## U.S. TEAM

From California, Texas, Tennessee, and North Carolina, our U.S. team is made up of 5 members working to fundraise, advocate, and support the vision in Kenya.

## KENYAN TEAM

Our Kenyan team is comprised of 55 dedicated members. This team is the hands and feet of MITS, working 7 days a week to move the mission forward.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Taylor Brooks, Chair: Fort Worth, TX  
Winn Thomas, Secretary: Nashville, TN  
Amy Surdacki, Treasurer: Franklin, TN  
Michelle Boyd: Montara, CA  
Richard Bradford: Cedar Rapids, IA  
Carrie Brock: Nashville, TN  
Patrick Chappell: Nashville, TN  
Becky Cowart: Nashville, TN  
Chris Gingles: Fort Worth, TX  
Ericka Maple: Nashville, TN  
Cassandra Stephens: Argyle, TX  
Jody Sturgeon: Carlinville, IL

# Financial Investments

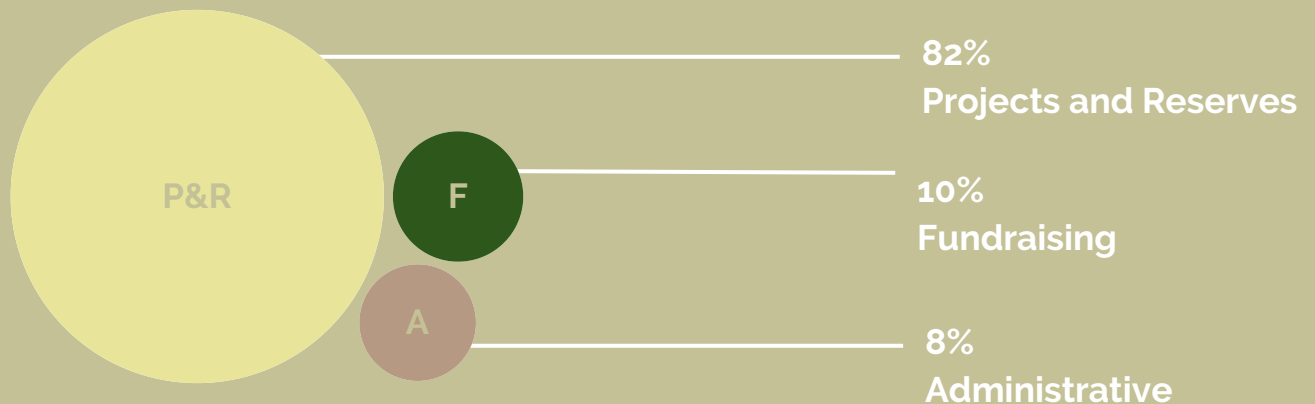
## TOTAL ANNUAL GIVING

In fiscal year 2023, total giving to MITS was \$1,063,000.

During that time \$871,600 was designated to MITS Projects and Reserves; \$85,000 to Administrative costs; and \$106,300 to Fundraising costs.



## ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



# Looking Ahead

As you may have heard us say before, **MITS matters**. **Why? Because people matter.**

As long as there are children in need of a loving home, this work will continue. The future of MITS is bright, and we hope you will keep walking this road with us until every child has a home. Together, we can end the cycle of homelessness for teenagers on the streets.



Will you  
join us?



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Member of The Consortium for Street Children

MADE IN THE STREETS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

**MADE IN THE STREETS**

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