



Report on

# Kambove Community, Democratic Republic of Congo

October 2018

HANDS AT WORK IN AFRICA *in partnership with*  
Peppercorn



## Snapshot OF THE COMMUNITY

Children currently supported: **125**

Number of Care Workers: **16**

Distance from Service Center: **27km**

Basic services started in: **2010**

Hands at Work in Africa has always focused on keeping Africa's most vulnerable children alive and reducing their extreme vulnerability by providing access to food, basic health care and education through the local African church. Through Christian volunteers, children and those who support them are being cared for holistically in the poorest communities. As these children are healed from past trauma, they become a catalyst for transformation, spurring their communities towards growth and maturity.

“Continuous transformation has been seen in the community of Kambove this year as the united team of Care Workers from the Maisha Community Based Organisation (CBO) strives to holistically serve the most vulnerable, including children like Geslin\* and Fransnel\* (pictured right). The Care Workers are committed to the vision of care and to their daily roles, evidenced in the way they not only provide services to children but in how they set



aside time to play games with them every day at the Care Point. They meet as a team every week to debrief about their Holy Home Visits, discuss how they can help specific families in challenging situations, and build relationships amongst each other. This year, the Care Workers made bricks to be used for a new kitchen and eating shelter and are planning to do some home repairs in the coming months.

Access to clean water is a challenge in the community of Kambove. Being so far away, the CBO must pay for transport to take water to the Care Point. This water challenge, compounded by polluted soil from the nearby mines, as well as planting and fertilising crops too late in the season, made for a poor crop yield in 2018.

Early childhood marriage is also a challenge in the community. It is very common for young girls to be married off by their families due to financial and cultural pressures. The Hands at Work local office team in Likasi recognises this problem in many communities in the DRC and has connected with government employees serving in the court system, to help fight against early marriage and advocate for the most vulnerable children.

Accessing the community of Kambove must be done through a separate immigration check point where a visa is issued. Again, the Hands at Work local office team in Likasi has built a good relationship with an immigration officer who has supported them in making the visa process for international visitors much easier. This, in turn, has allowed several people to visit Kambove Community this year to strengthen and encourage their work. This same immigration officer is also connected to the CBO and has built a strong relationship, supporting it as a social worker.

“Learn to do good. Seek justice  
Help the oppressed. Defend the  
cause of orphans. Fight for the  
rights of widows.” – Isaiah 1:17 (NLT)

Geslin\* (9) and Fransnel's\* (8) young lives have been a constant battle. Their mother struggled for many years with her mental health and moving around from place to place. After their mother's sudden death, Geslin and Fransnel were taken in by their grandparents who, sadly, could not adequately care for them. But today, the CBO supports the two brothers, providing them with food, education and basic health care, as well as care and love from the Care Workers.

