

Fall 2020

Saving Lives in Nigeria

Thanks to your generous donations, Michael's House continues to provide food and basic medical care to elderly residents living in Enugu State, Nigeria. Although its Constitution states that the elderly will be given assistance through a pension, there has been no functioning program to help older people since the oil boom crash in the 1980's. Having no choice, the elderly (if healthy) must work past the age of 80, rely on support of family members, beg—and if fortunate, receive help from Michael's House.

Nigeria has a large HIV epidemic and few people have access to antiretroviral drugs. Many children have died or are sick and therefore cannot provide support for their parents. The number of elderly in Nigeria who are in need is increasing despite the hardships, widespread poverty, HIV/AIDS epidemic, and the decline of the traditional extended family structure. Many more people there need our help.



Above Left: Aniemezie Aniagolu lives in the Ezeagu area of Enugu. He lives in a room provided by a kind friend. He is 74 and has been disabled since birth. He is unmarried and has no known relatives. He makes brooms from dried palm fronds which generates the equivalent of about 8 dollars a month. Michael's House has been assisting him since 2014.

Above Center: Mrs. Nwakume is a widow and she is over one hundred years old. Her two surviving children are jobless and find it extremely hard to feed her and take care of her health. Your donations make it possible to provide her with food and basic medical care.

Above Right: Longinus Maduako is now living in Imo State after many years of living in the slums known as Ugwugor AbaKPA-Nike in Enugu. He used to be a mason before he turned blind about ten years ago. In He is sustained through food and basic medical care provided by Michael's House.

Locust Swarms Ravage Sub-Saharan Africa

Amid the crisis of food insecurity already dealt by COVID-19, the continuing locust outbreak could leave 5 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa facing starvation. Countries being hardest hit are Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia and South Sudan. A large locust swarm of as many as 80 million adults can in one day consume the amount of food eaten by 35,000 people. In addition to the loss of food, this crisis will raise the cost of food across Africa.



Kenyan Elderly Practice Safety to Fight COVID-19 Outbreak

To date, none of the elderly living in Cheshire Home are known to have Covid-19. Two of the more than 300 impoverished elderly who come twice a week from the slums for food and care have died, but the cause of death is not known. In Kenya there have been less than 1,000 deaths with approximately 50K confirmed COVID cases. Given the crowded conditions in the slums, lack of running water, and need for people to go out for food and water daily, the number of COVID cases is remarkably low. The staff at Cheshire Home are dedicated to teaching good hygiene and monitoring compliance. Helpful residents look out for the elderly at the Home who have difficulty remembering safe practices. Perhaps the fact that most people do not travel out of the area plays a role in the low number of COVID cases.

It's important to not get COVID in Africa, because treatment is very limited. A survey in April found fewer than 2,000 ventilators across 41 reporting countries. Access to some clinics has been closed and food donations are down. But your donations have been critical in feeding the hungry and providing masks, soap, and precious sanitizer.



Above Left: Elderly from the adjacent slums practice social distancing while waiting to enter Cheshire Home. Twice a week they can get a hot meal, food to take home, wash their bodies, and receive very basic medical care. They are grateful to wash hurting feet, apply ointment to sores, and receive pain medication.

Above Center: Food is handed out to needy elderly outside the Cheshire Home gates.

Above Right: An elderly woman fortunate to be a Cheshire resident is given help eating her lunch.

Golf Partners Put Cash in the Cup!



Although the Michael's House Golf Tournament sponsored and managed by Hawkins Electric Service had to be cancelled this year due to the pandemic, these sponsors decided to go ahead and contribute their sponsorship funds to Michael's House. We are so grateful for this kindness on behalf of our elderly people in Africa and Honduras!

- ✓ Evolve Consulting Group, Crofton, MD
- ✓ Tanks Direct, Laurel, MD
- ✓ American Core Drilling & Sawing, Inc. Ellicott City, MD
- ✓ US Electrical Inc. (Maurice), Landover, MD
- ✓ Advanced Access Security, Sterling, VA
- ✓ Fincor Construction, Laurel, MD



Your support makes all that we do for the destitute elderly possible. They have come to depend on the love and generosity from those of us more fortunate on the other side of the world. We cannot let them down!

Donate on the web (www.michaels-house.org) or make checks payable to: Michael's House Inc., Post Office Box 856, Burtonsville, MD 20866. Michael's House is a U.S. based 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Contributions to Michael's House in the United States are tax-deductible to the extent allowable by law.

