



# SHELTER WORKS



61,619

Nights of Shelter



1,114,636

Plates of Food



38,400

Counseling Hours



424

Children Reintegrated

## SHIRLEEN

Omari, at just 17 years of age, has

already faced challenges far beyond her years. While in Form Two, she became pregnant, a discovery that filled her with fear and guilt. Her mother was already struggling to support the family, and Shirleen worried she had added an unbearable burden.

After returning to Nairobi to give birth, Shirleen left school to care for her baby. The child's father disappeared, leaving Shirleen and her mother to shoulder the emotional and financial strain alone. Hunger and stress became daily realities.

Hope returned when Kenya Works' Shelter Works prevention program stepped in. Through community-based support, Shirleen's family began receiving regular, nutritious meals – easing pressure at home and restoring stability. With food security came renewed health, emotional balance, and the peace of mind Shirleen needed to care for her daughter. She now attends parenting classes through Shelter Works, where she feels seen, supported, and valued. She's learning child care, nutrition, and positive parenting – and rebuilding her confidence.

**“I used to feel so alone,” she says. “But now I feel people care. Being a mother doesn't mean my dreams have to end.”**

With early, compassionate support, Shirleen's family has remained together, avoiding the trauma of separation or crisis shelter care.

Community-based prevention has restored stability without breaking family bonds. It has protected their dignity and preserved their sense of belonging – proof that when families are supported early and compassionately, they can overcome crisis together.

Although Shirleen's education was interrupted, her dreams have not been lost. She still hopes to return to school and one day become a lawyer. With her mother's ongoing love and the continued support of Kenya Works, that dream feels within reach again.

Because of Kenya Works' Shelter Works prevention focus, girls like Shirleen are being seen, supported, and strengthened – building resilient families and restoring hope, one story at a time.