

# EMPOWERMENT

## Global Health Connections Quarterly Newsletter



### THIS SUMMER'S HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Financial Literacy Completed**

500 members across 4 villages finished 10-week training in savings, budgeting, and business skills.

#### **Income Projects Next**

Members preparing ventures in poultry, rice farming, bees and more.

#### **Local Leadership in Action**

Governance committees guiding the next phase of growth and sustainability.

#### **Scaling Forward**

Plans set to launch CHECs in 6 new villages in 2026.

#### **VillageRise Expands**

Packaging GHC's model to empower other organizations across Africa.

#### **Partners Fueling Growth**

Rotary Clubs, donors, and foundations investing in community-led change.

#### **Fresh New Look Online**

Explore our redesigned website with updated impact stories and easier ways to see how your support fuels change: [globalhealthconnections.org](https://globalhealthconnections.org).

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## DENVER'S MESSAGE

This has been a season of incredible progress across our villages. With health education complete and governance committees now leading the way, our four newest CHECs have just completed their financial literacy training. Members are walking away with practical skills in saving, budgeting, and business planning — and many have already begun pooling their resources to launch income-generating projects that will sustain their families and strengthen their communities for years to come.

This is what the CHEC model is all about — scalability and sustainability. When training ends, the real work begins: knowledge becomes action, savings grow into businesses, and local leadership takes root. Transformation doesn't stop at the village level — it ripples outward, lighting the way for others.

Looking ahead, we're preparing to scale even further. In 2026, we plan to launch CHECs in six new villages — bringing health, empowerment, and opportunity to hundreds more families. With each new step, we're proving that GHC's model is not only replicable, but resilient.

None of this is possible without you — thank you for believing in this vision and walking alongside us as we grow. Together, we're building brighter futures — one village at a time.

With Gratitude,  
Mimi Gordon

PICTURED ABOVE: A NYAMOKENYE MEMBER IN HER GARDEN.

PICTURED ON FIRST PAGE: A MAUGO MEMBER DURING FINANCIAL LITERACY TRAINING.





## Financial Literacy Completed: Ideas Turning Into Action

Across our four newest CHECs — Mago, Soklo, Nyamokenye, and Kimuka — more than 500 members are now diving into financial literacy training. Over the course of 10 weeks, they're learning how to budget, save, manage debt, and prepare for small business ownership.

The excitement in the villages is contagious. Members are already brainstorming and sharing business ideas, from poultry keeping to tailoring to soap-making. Many have begun pooling their merry-go-round savings with the intention of using these funds to launch new ventures. For the first time, families are seeing a clear path toward financial independence and stability.

This training is about so much more than numbers. It's about unlocking potential, building confidence, and turning knowledge into opportunity.

As one CHEC member from Kimuka shared with a smile:

*"I've always wanted to run a business but didn't know how. Now I understand how to start and how to make it work."*

Financial literacy is a crucial bridge between education and sustainability. By the time members complete this course, they will be equipped not only with practical skills, but also with the confidence to transform their ideas into thriving income-generating projects.





## Building Futures: Income Projects on the Horizon

With financial literacy training now complete, our CHEC members are stepping into the next phase: launching income-generating projects. These ventures are the heartbeat of sustainability — practical businesses that grow out of knowledge, savings, and collaboration.

Already, members are mapping out projects such as:

- Beekeeping to produce honey for food and income.
- Rice farming to strengthen food security and provide a staple for local markets.
- Poultry farming to supply eggs and meat while generating steady income.
- Groundnuts and seed farming to diversify crops and improve household nutrition.

Many groups are combining their merry-go-round savings to invest in these projects collectively, spreading risk and ensuring every member has a stake in success. This kind of shared investment doesn't just build businesses — it strengthens trust, unity, and resilience within the community. These projects are more than economic activities. They represent hope for the future — healthier children, stronger families, and villages that can stand on their own long after GHC steps back.

As one CHEC member in Nyamokenye put it:

*"We're not just learning how to earn. We're learning how to build a future for our children."*

By the end of this year, we expect to see the first harvests, products, and income from these projects — tangible proof of how knowledge is transformed into opportunity.

PICTURED ABOVE: MAUGO MEMBERS WORK THROUGH THE NUMBERS OF VARIOUS INCOME-GENERATING PROJECTS.





## Scaling Ahead: 6 New Villages in 2026

The momentum of our current CHECs is paving the way for an exciting new chapter: in 2026, GHC will launch six new Community Health & Empowerment Clubs. Each new CHEC represents hundreds of families gaining access to health knowledge, financial skills, and leadership opportunities — tools that create lasting change.

This expansion reflects the true strength of the CHEC model: it is scalable, sustainable, and community-driven. What begins with handwashing lessons and nutrition training grows into thriving small businesses, confident leaders, and self-sustaining governance. The same transformation that has taken root in Maugo, Soklo, Nyamokenye, and Kimuka will soon ripple outward into new communities.

Our vision is bold but achievable: to see the CHEC model reach villages across Kenya and, in time, across Africa. Each new village means healthier children, stronger families, and more resilient communities. And each expansion proves what we already know — when local people are equipped with the right knowledge and tools, the impact multiplies far beyond one community.

As we prepare for this next phase, we're reminded that GHC's growth is not just about numbers. It's about futures — the futures of thousands of families who, with your support, will gain the opportunity to rise.



## VillageRise in Motion: Sharing the Model Beyond GHC

While our CHECs continue to thrive within GHC villages, we're also preparing to take the model far beyond our own work. Through VillageRise, we've packaged our proven curriculum, training tools, and mentorship into a scalable framework that other mission-driven organizations can use to launch CHECs in their own communities.

VillageRise turns GHC's success into a blueprint for impact — equipping local leaders with everything they need to deliver measurable change in health, income, and leadership. For \$10,000, partners receive training, facilitation guides, data tools, and two years of mentorship to ensure results are sustained.

Momentum is building. We've begun conversations with potential partners who see the power of VillageRise and are eager to bring the model into their own regions. One of these is a community-based organization near Amboseli National Park, where local leaders are exploring how VillageRise can strengthen both health education and economic opportunity in their surrounding villages. While it's still early days, this growing interest is a powerful signal that our approach resonates — and that GHC's mission can multiply through collaboration.

As VillageRise gains traction, we're not just scaling a program. We're building a movement rooted in local leadership, data-driven results, and a vision for communities across Africa to rise.



PICTURED ABOVE: A MERRY-GO-ROUND GROUP IN MAUGO POOLING KENYAN SHILLINGS TO DISTRIBUTE AMONG ITS MEMBERS.



## Partner Spotlight: Fueling Growth Together

Every milestone we celebrate is made possible by the generosity and commitment of our partners. From supporting financial literacy training to backing new village adoptions, Rotary Clubs, foundations, and individual donors are walking alongside GHC communities as they rise.

This summer, Rotary Clubs continued to show powerful leadership by uniting behind the Adopt-a-Village program — pooling resources to help bring the CHEC model to villages that might otherwise wait years for the opportunity. A special shout-out goes to the Menlo Park Rotary Club, who adopted Soklo Village this quarter. They were drawn to Soklo because of its unique potential — perched high on Mfangano Island, the community represents both a challenge and an opportunity to demonstrate how even the most remote villages can thrive. Thanks to their commitment, 125 households can now move beyond training into economic opportunity — launching projects, strengthening leadership, and building a more self-sustaining future.

Foundations and family trusts provided catalytic funding that allowed new trainings and business ventures to begin on time. And individual donors reminded us that every gift, no matter the size, fuels transformation at the household level.

As one partner recently shared:

*“When we support a village, we’re not just giving money — we’re investing in people who are ready to change their own future.”*

We are deeply grateful for this shared vision. Together, our partners aren’t just funding programs — they’re building healthier families, stronger communities, and a brighter future across Kenya.



## In Closing

Your support is the reason villages across Kenya are moving from survival to sustainability. Because of you, 500 members have gained health and financial literacy, new businesses are on the horizon, and six more villages are preparing to begin their journey next year. This is the ripple effect of empowerment: when one village rises, it lights the way for many more to follow.

As we look toward the year's end, we invite you to stay with us on this journey. In December, we'll share opportunities to help launch six new CHECs in 2026 and to support additional Adopt-a-Village partnerships. If you or your organization would like to be part of this expansion, we'd love to connect.

Thank you for believing in GHC's mission — and for helping us build healthier, stronger, more resilient communities, one village at a time.

Stay connected: [www.globalhealthconnections.org](http://www.globalhealthconnections.org)

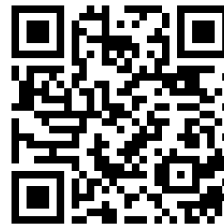
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PICTURED ABOVE: MAUGO MEMBERS DISCUSS THE ECONOMICS OF RICE FARMING.