In Kenya, thanks to you, 8 more teen moms have been rescued this year from dangerous situations and have become mothers in safe, maternity homes, making it a total of 40 teen moms to date and 39 miracle babies. You helped open a new transition center that houses 7 mothers (who couldn’t return home yet) and their preschoolers, providing school fees and sponsorship for them, helped us transition 13 girls back home, bought product from 7 of our Kenyan artisan groups, releasing women from poverty…including our newest group, Muijiza (“miracle” in Swahili), which began summer of 2017 and employs 9 mothers at looms and kilns—grandmothers to the babies at Rehema. And because of your support, in 28 other countries—thousands of marginalized women have been given hope through job creation at Fair Trade Friday so they can provide for their children—all of this, in Jesus name. Your commitment and involvement to empower women around the globe is an act of worship to God and we are so thankful for you!

Kristen + Terrell Welch
OUR MISSION

Rescue a girl.
Empower a family.
Redeem a generation.

our vision

Mercy House exists to engage, empower and disciple women around the globe in Jesus’ name. Engage those with resources to say yes to the plight of women in poverty. Empower women and teenage mothers around the world through partnerships and sustainable fair trade product development. Disciple women to be lifelong followers of Jesus Christ.
Mercy House Global is a 501c3 nonprofit organization. Our primary ministry is funding Rehema Rescue Center outside of Nairobi, Kenya, which rescues pregnant teen girls. Rehema, the Swahili word for mercy, is a registered foundation and currently owns two residential compounds and leases a third transition home in undisclosed locations. Every fair trade product we sell at the Mercy House Global Market retail and online stores and through Fair Trade Friday and its five subscription clubs, not only provides dignified jobs in Jesus’ name, the sell of product also helps sustain these homes in Kenya. We currently purchase products from 58 artisan groups in 29 countries, empowering more than 5000 women.
We value the gospel: to make God’s glory known by living out the redemptive story of Christ. It is the power we rely on for transformation (emotional, physical, psychological, spiritual) of the broken lives we seek to rescue.

We value the dignity of all life, from unborn babies to aging widows – we believe every life matters and is precious to God regardless of the circumstances under which that life was created.

We value keeping families together, preventing orphans and supporting the vital role mothers serve in the lives of their children.

We value telling the story of Mercy House with dignity and grace to engage others to say yes to God right where they are in order to make the Great Commission a daily mission.

We value education and equal rights for oppressed girls. We believe every girl deserves the right to an education.

We value integrity and transparency in our role as stewards of the financial and physical resources, so we do not detract from the overall mission.

We value economic empowerment of women as means to better the lives of their families and halt poverty.

We value prayer, servanthood, hard work and sustainability.
your support empowers women around the world

WHERE WE WORK

- Swaziland
- The Philippines
- Peru
- Cambodia
- Kenya
- Haiti
- Bangladesh
- Ukraine
- Malaysia
- Ethiopia
- Nepal
- India
- Zambia
- Uganda
- Ecuador
- Mexico
- Costa Rica
- Honduras
- Malawi
- Azerbaijan
- USA
- Tanzania
- Mozambique
- Guatemala
- Rwanda
- Indonesia
- Ghana
- Sierra Leone
- Jordan
What Mercy House Global Has Done Over The Last 3 Years Through Fair Trade Friday

Artisan Impact

Shipped approximately 144,000 packages from our Magnolia, Texas warehouse.

Purchased approximately two million dollars in fair trade product, providing countless jobs to women around the world.

Created 10 artisan groups in 4 countries that make custom product exclusively for Mercy House Global to sell. In most of these groups, money saving clubs have begun and artisans are being trained to use their proceeds from the product as seed money to begin their own businesses.
When we left Kenya in the Spring of 2017, we left needing miracles. We were burdened but we believed there would be miracles. It became our theme. We were as desperate to provide work as the women were to find jobs. Women like Miriam were doing everything imaginable to provide for her children. You may remember reading about Hadijah’s rescue, her daughter, in last year’s report. We stepped into this family’s tragic story just in time to provide help and a home for a pregnant teen in a unbearable situation.

But it was her mother Miriam’s desperation and plea to be “rescued too” that fueled our resolve to empower this family.

We sat in the homes of six mothers—all of them mothers to the teen moms in our maternity homes and wept at their absolute hopeless situations. Some sold their own girls into slavery, others watched helplessly as their daughters were abused, some even in total desperation prostituted themselves alongside their daughters—all in an effort to provide for their families.

We worked tirelessly. We watched and waited. The moment you’re ready to quit is usually the moment right before the miracle happens. We pressed into an idea and asked God for miracles. Behind every question, a miracle is waiting.

We returned to Kenya a few months later and stepped into miracle territory. It had happened. We visited them at their new jobs in our very own loom and kiln center in a slum in Kenya...Looms that make gorgeous rugs and kilns that bake ceramics.

Our Executive Director in Kenya, Maureen Owino tried to prepare us for what we would witness: “The rugs made me cry. Miujiza, miujiza, miujiza. Miracles, miracles, miracles. I cried today when I saw what God is doing through these women. You can’t believe that a few months ago these women thought they were nothing, nothing, nothing at all but now they walk with their heads high and have a talent.”

In the last few months of 2017, many of these women moved from deplorable housing conditions into much nicer accommodations. Miriam is now a follower of Christ, has moved her family into a nicer area and will welcome Hadijah and her grandson back home in early 2018.
Patricia, has been a part of Street Hope since May 2017 and was added to the artisan group, along with five other new moms for a total of 18. Patricia proudly pointed to her new couch and coffee table and began to pull out worn and wrinkled pictures of her children who were in school.

We asked Patricia what her life was like before Street Hope. “You mean two months ago? I was homeless. My kids were either in Children’s homes or sleeping on the street next to me. I was surviving.” The heavy horror of her words hung in the air.

In America, her home, with its dirty, used contents and insecure walls and roof, rat infestation, would have been condemned. But we all could see that this beautiful place was a huge step up for this survivor. And it was impossible to feel sorry for her because she was so proud of what she had accomplished in just two short months. I had to ask.

“You mean you’ve moved off the streets into this nice home, furnished it, put your kids in school with two months of money — from just making little felt hearts?”

She pulled the hearts from the Mercy House Global bag hanging on the end of her bed and snapped her head around and said these words like a prophetic warning, “Don’t doubt for a second that we are using the money from our jobs to change our lives.”

Oh, God, give us perspective.

It was a huge statement for a young woman who had survived by making unthinkable choices. She could have used the money for any number of things, the smallest to continue sniffing glue to numb the suffering that had become normal.

“We are so proud of you,” I said as her words settled in my heart and tears filled my eyes.

I don’t doubt for a second that God has a good plan for these 16 street moms who now make 1000 little felt hearts with shaky sober hands every month (and they are learning to make new things). Don’t doubt for a second that Mercy House Global is using every cent, every dollar to change lives.
we love teen moms in kenya

And oh, their babies...yes, they make the job sweet. It’s hard not to fall in love with these miracles. And the most beautiful part is Mercy House works to keep families together. We believe in preserving the family and if the moms are too poor to care for their kids, we help them find work or create a job for them. These babies don’t end up aborted and they won’t end up in orphanages.

When you walk into a maternity home that holds abused and traumatized teen moms, you might think it would be hard to see the good. The collaborative pain their eyes have seen is unfathomable.

They are the product of a world that oppresses girls, yet they are the result of a God who heals and transforms lives.

They are jewelry-makers. They are worship leaders. They are mothers. They are cooks and creators, sisters and seamstresses. They reflect who they are, not what they’ve been through. They magnify who He is instead of who she was.

They remind us that Jesus is in control of our lives.

We cannot get stuck in the suffering of our lives. “Suffering is unbearable if you aren’t certain God is for you and with you,” Tim Keller

It is such a simple truth that has the power to change the world—and us: It’s so easy to focus on why God would allow so much suffering in innocent girls and hardships in our own lives instead of asking how He can be glorified through it.

It’s the first question on our lips when pain knocks at our door. But the why’s never change the Who.

Because God always, always redeems what the world takes from us. We may not know how or when, but we can trust the Who.
Rehema House opens a 7-bed Transition Home in Kenya

Mercy House Global opens second retail store at Church Project in The Woodlands, Texas

Miujiza Textiles and Ceramics begins training mothers of rescued girls at looms and kilns

Created our first exclusive wholesale product line with our Kenyan artisans (launching Spring 2018)

Fair Trade Friday celebrates its third anniversary

Received first rug and ceramic beads from Miujiza Textiles and Ceramics

First resident from Rehema House to graduate from high school (She was rescued in 2012)

Hosted our second annual Holiday Market with over 600 in attendance

Launched The Grace Case with Ann Voskamp to help fund transition home

She Is Priceless – a Global Giving Day sponsored by Mercy House Global and working with eight other non-profits, raised $82,870.00

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### PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE

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### EXPENSES

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### Change in Net Assets

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*all financial data taken from Form 990 and CPA prepared compilation for 1/1/16 – 12/31/16, 2017 Financial statements are not available until filed with the IRS five months after the end of the calendar year.

2016 Form 990 is available upon request at info@mercyhouseglobal.org