



## Kevin Kinoti: Lighting the Path of Hope and Protection for Vulnerable Children

By Jonathan Wamanji

In the serene landscapes of Meru, Kenya, a beacon of hope emerged in the form of Kevin Kinoti, the new Family Strengthening Programme Coordinator at SOS Children's Villages in Kenya.

With a passion for serving children and an unyielding dedication to their welfare, Kevin's journey with the

organization began in March 2021, but his impact would soon resonate far beyond.

Armed with a bachelor's degree in project planning and management from Karatina University and a wealth of knowledge in programme management, Kevin was well-prepared to take on the crucial role he now embraced.

Before joining SOS Children's Villages in Kenya, he had been an integral part of the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Technical Working Groups, where his organization partnered with SOS Children's Villages in Kenya.

This experience provided him with invaluable insights into the programs and values that SOS Children's Villages upheld.

When he first learned about SOS Children's Villages' mission and witnessed the tangible brand visibility they achieved, Kevin was captivated.

He knew deep within his heart that this was where he belonged. When the opportunity to work with SOS Children's Villages in Kenya Meru's location arose, he didn't hesitate to apply, and his dedication and passion for child welfare shone through, landing him the position he now holds.

For Kevin, working with children went beyond a career choice; it was an intrinsic calling to ensure their survival and provide them with a brighter future.

He believes that to truly serve children one had to be there for them unconditionally, day and night.

The willingness to be a constant source of support for these vulnerable young souls was what fueled his determination.

In a moment of contemplation, Kevin often wondered about the visionary founder, Herman Gmeiner. If granted the opportunity to converse with him, Kevin's burning question would revolve around the preservation of SOS Children's Villages' original vision, especially in child protection. He envisioned an organization that sheltered and cared for children and extended its protective embrace to the broader community. A vision of organized focus at the community level, working collaboratively with various partners to ensure the well-being of vulnerable children and youth, fuelled his aspirations.

With each passing day, Kevin's presence illuminated the lives of countless children in Meru. His dedication to their welfare and the community's well-being resonated profoundly. The path he trod was a testament to his unwavering commitment to creating a haven for those in need.

As the sun sets over the Kenyan horizon, casting a warm glow upon the SOS Children's Villages in Meru, Kevin Kinoti's journey continues, leaving a trail of hope and protection for vulnerable children and youth. In his presence, the vision of Herman Gmeiner lived on, transformed and strengthened to meet the challenges of the 21st century, just as he had envisioned it decades ago.

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