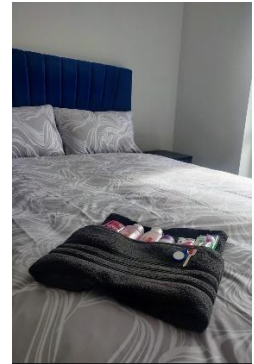


Dear friends,

Here's our latest news from Sid, Tess, and the team...

New Women's Home

We are thrilled to announce that we have opened our very first property for women! After years of working with men, we recognise the critical need to provide safe and secure housing for women in need. We are very excited that we have two women in our first property who, with the support of our Women's Resettlement Manager Em, and a handful of amazing volunteers, are settling in very well. While it hasn't been easy to get to this point, we're extremely grateful for the support of Sigma Capital Group who have generously donated this property to us for two years completely free of charge! Their generosity has allowed us to make the first step in helping women experiencing homelessness find a safe place to call home, whilst continuing our search for the right property.



As our women's work grows, so will the cost to keep it running, if you are able please consider donating at <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/embassy> and if you are interested in volunteering, please let us know.

Residents Mission Trip

Two of our residents and couple of our staff have recently returned from an amazing mission trip to Kenya. The team worked with the locals to help build a school in the Kibera slum. Cyprian has reflected on their time there:

The trip was 11 days long and consisted of a variety of activities including building a school, hanging out with kids, participating in the kids classes, distributing clothes and food, and a day Safari. Cana Junior school has been trying to build after the government asked them to demolish part of their school to allow for a road to go through. They've done well and got onto the first floor but ran out of money.



The team from Embassy and Kanzi-Kibera Friends, provided an extra pair of hands and spent close to £2000 on buying materials and paying local experts and handymen to help finish the second floor. "To be honest some of the time we felt like they might have done a faster job without us there!" However, they understood that we facilitated the continuation of the work.

Language barriers frequently got in the way occasioning both difficulty and humour in equal measure. The work was quite heavy at times as the British struggled with non-mechanized methods of building. One of our residents, S, was always going out of his way sometimes spending his own money to treat the builders, "they work so hard, I'll get them some water."

The toughest time was when three of the team got ill, even so they never wanted to be left out; "I don't want them to think I'm just being lazy."

The second half of each day would be spent downstairs with the children where they continued their learning on the building site. This was always the teams highlight of the day.

When our resident, R, decided to get his hair braided at the hair salon next door to the building site, a little girl held onto his finger throughout the time. Other children stopped to watch “I have never received so much attention in my life.” Kanzi-Kibera Friends provide lunch daily to the school. A little girl wasn’t eating her lunch but was saving it to take back to her family. “It was as I was retelling the story back to the team that it hit me - a seven-year-old takes the time to remember her family and saves her food for them.” The team visited all four Kanzi supported schools having similar responses at all of them.



Sophie, a Kanzi volunteer, did most of the cooking “out of all the food we have eaten these eleven days including food courts, uber-eats and takeaways, Sophie, your cooking was the best of all.” This confession was made during the ‘last supper’ as the Embassy and Kanzi team debriefed holding back tears.



Throughout the time, the children at each of the four schools we visited, entertained us with songs, dances, and poem recitals. The context was always spiritual, which ministered to the team, but also provided plenty of opportunities for pastor Lughton to speak and pray. The last day with the builders was especially special as Lughton shared his testimony and two of the builders responded to the altar call, one of whom later asked for an English bible. Huge thank you to everyone who made this possible with your very generous donations, and special thanks to Harry Johnson OBE for his kind efforts to help raise a significant chunk of the funds for the trip. The team are forever grateful for this life changing opportunity.



Call to Action

We would love the opportunity to visit your church – please speak to your pastor and let us know if you would like some of the team to come and share our vision. Please do get in touch, we would love to make it happen!

Prayer Event Invite

Thursday 15th June - 7pm

After years of you faithfully praying at home, we are delighted to finally meet in person, and even more delighted that we are planning to pray **on the Embassy Village site!**

Kingdom Life Manchester (was Sharon Church) are kindly hosting us:
118 Chorlton Road, Old Trafford, Stretford, Manchester M15 4AN.

We will all meet at the church for a time of prayer and worship and then it’s a short walk over to the village site. Please wear suitable shoes for the building site (no sandals or heels).

Parking is available at the church and on the street, but not at the Embassy Village site.

Invite your friends and RSVP to ruth@embassyvillage.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued support, we couldn’t do this without you!