

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel & Peris Nderitu, Directors

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Poverty and the menace of jiggers



Fighting jiggers among children in Central Province (Samuel and Peris in gloves)- affected child's feet

The GROW BIOINTENSIVE Agriculture Centre of Kenya (G-BIACK) works in very poor communities where families are experiencing extreme poverty levels that result in poor nutrition, poor shelter, lack of clothing and the common occurrence of jiggers infestation to mention but a few. G-BIACK uses a holistic approach towards the alleviation of poverty and its scourges. Sustainable food production is our main activity, but we also tackle many other problems at hand by providing both short term and long term sustainable solutions. The infestation of jiggers has been a menace among impoverished communities in Central Province where many children go without shoes. Jiggers is a six-legged red larva of any of the mites of the family *trombiculidae*, *trombicula* and *eutrombicula*. They attach to their host's skin, especially the toes and between the toe nails, and their bite produces a wheal with severe itching and dermatitis. Some species are vectors of the *rickettsiae* of scrub *typhus*. Affected children are unable to walk properly because of jiggers infesting their feet with the result that many children have stopped going to school and this has accelerated poverty and hardship. Jiggers are controlled by high standards of cleanliness. However if there is infestation, the jiggers must be suffocated while still inside the skin of the victim by washing with antiseptic and soap and applying hydrogen peroxide and oil around the infested areas.

G-BIACK is seeking for donations of any size from well wishers to help our outreach to fight this menace.

**Please visit us! We are located 10km east of Thika town along the Thika – Garissa Rd
(highway A3)**

Donations of any amount help us to reach out to more vulnerable families. Checks payable to Kili Self Help Project and designated for G-BIACK may be mailed to 260 Marion Avenue, Mill Valley CA 94941 USA. Donations are tax deductible and 100% of the donated amount will be sent to G-BIACK for our programmes.

G-BIACK- Empowering the communities ~ Transforming Lives

(G-BIACK is a registered CBO in Kenya. Donations are tax-deductible)