

Nine dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Sister Moji, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Amokoko. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Twelve-year-old Richard\* is living through the uncertainty of his mother's health. His mother has been the sole provider for her family, but when she fell ill two years ago, things changed. Her health gradually declined and she had to be moved to another village to be closer to the health care she needed. Richard and his three siblings have been living with their grandmother, hoping their mother recovers. Sister Moji could see the strain this put on Richard's grandmother, and knew this family needed more support. Sister Moji invited Richard to come to the Care Point, where every day he could enjoy a meal, attend school, and have access to basic health care. This has reduced the burden on his grandmother, who is also being visited by the Care Workers every week. The relationships being built between this family and the Care Workers are bringing much-needed hope into an uncertain time.

## Community Update

Amokoko is an impoverished community located on the edge of the Ilaje bay. Filled with over-crowded makeshift shacks, the vulnerability here is evident. Being regularly flooded with rubbish and sewage every time it rains or there is high tide, the area is conducive to poor health and dangerous living conditions. The majority of income is through unskilled labour and temporary work. Children fish and peddle in the streets. In the midst of this brokenness is Amokoko CBO – a hub of life, activity and nurture. The CBO operates out of a local church: a beautiful example of the Hands at Work model coming to life. The pastor and his wife support the Care Workers' endeavours, practically and spiritually. A community nurse has begun to bring much-needed medical treatment to the children. The youth have been involved in building projects to learn new skills, and the children get to enjoy the freedom of play with full stomachs and in a safe environment.



## Activities and Projects

A Maranatha Revival (pictured left) was held in April, and members of the Regional Support Team came to support this, as well as be an on-the-ground encouragement to the Hands at Work local office. Despite the Maranatha Revival being just before the rainy season, when people are needing to fish and work, every Care Worker showed up, and transformation happened! The Care Workers found forgiveness, unity and reconciliation amongst themselves, and they re-committed to caring for the most vulnerable. They were able to open up with each other about their struggles and truly begin to care for each other. Many practical needs of the children were met throughout this year. Soap, washing powder, school uniforms and supplies, mats, nets and deworming pills were all distributed amongst the children.

