



Seventeen dedicated local volunteer Care Workers, coordinated by Maria Cancirote, support the most vulnerable children in the community of Matsinho A. The love and care they provide ensure that each child is physically, emotionally and spiritually cared for.



Meet **Jenette**, 1 of 150 children cared for
by MATSINHO A COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATION (CBO)

Fourteen-year-old Jenette* is well-acquainted with grief and loss. Her father passed away seven years ago, and her mother moved away to remarry, leaving behind Jenette and her brother and sister. Jenette's grandmother moved the children to Matsinho where she was living, but being 70 years old, the task of caring for three young children overwhelmed her. After meeting Jenette and her siblings, the Care Workers knew their grandmother needed the kind of support the Life Centre could offer. Jenette was warmly welcomed to the Life Centre, which quickly became a place where not just her physical needs could be met, but a second home where she could receive the Father's love and comfort from the Care Workers. Jenette is being transformed by Christ's powerful love, and she is growing up alongside other youth who are all growing in their own personal relationships with their Heavenly Father.

Community Update

The youth have really taken ownership of their roles within the Life Centre this year! They have their own Relationship Group and meet together on Wednesdays and Saturdays. They have a crochet programme, where they have fun and work together. They jump in with daily tasks, assisting the younger children and giving the Care Workers a hand wherever needed. The Life Centre has stable relationships within the community. Pastors and members of local churches are involved in every area of the Life Centre. The local clinic, community leaders and police also have a good relationship with the Care Workers. This allows the Life Centre to be a place of influence in the community, shining light into the dark and broken corners of Matsinho.



Activities and Projects

Though the Care Workers' relationships with each other are good, they struggle to meet regularly for their Relationship Group. The recent Maranatha Workshop, however, was both encouraging and challenging as it was a reminder of the Godly foundation that is needed to continue as a Life Centre. With the involvement of local pastors, 21 home repairs have happened this year (pictured left). These homes now have plastic sheeting on their roofs, which have reinforced the roofs to be able to withstand the rains and storms. These home repairs were a beautiful, practical picture of the church working together to support the most vulnerable children. Practical items were distributed among the children throughout this year to ensure good health, including blankets, mattresses, jackets and deworming medication, which is given quarterly.