

Greetings Strong Harvest Friends,

In January we told you about the extreme drought in the Maasai area where our Field Representative Laata lives and works. The area did not receive any rain since May 2021. The rains that normally come in October or November did not come until mid-February. The grass is now green and the cows and sheep and people are all happy for that, but it does not undo the damage that has been done, which is especially difficult for the poorer families.

When we were in Tanzania last month, we met with one of our Peer Educator groups, the Esinyatisho Savings Group, who thought of a great plan to alleviate some of the struggle for these families. We've partnered with this group by providing the funds to purchase 40 bags of corn, one of the staple food items in this area. Since the beginning of February, members of this group have been going to the village market day held every Saturday to sell this corn at a reduced price to families who have been identified as being the most in need. The proceeds from each market day are then used to purchase more corn to sell the next week. This project is now winding down, but it has provided great relief for these families to be able to purchase corn at the normal price instead of the inflated price caused by the drought. Sometimes, as is the case here, it's that seemingly small thing that can make a huge difference.

A huge thanks to all of our supporters who make it possible for groups like Esinyatisho to reach into their communities with needed help at just the right time.

We are very grateful.

Rick and Jeri

