Meet the Human Rights Defenders

Always valiant, often in danger, meet the heroes that fight to protect humanity with your help, page 2.

Human Rights Defender Sr Agge, Kenya
Photo: Alan Whelan/Trócaire
The work of human rights defenders is always valiant, often life-threatening, and in dire need of your conviction and support to keep the spotlight of the world on their quest to protect human rights from those that exploit, oppress, and exterminate it. Thank you for fighting at the most grassroots levels beside heroes like these...
Life in Kenya’s Kangemi slum was hard enough. So when Nancy Wanjiku was made redundant in her job, she feared her family might not survive. Then a women’s empowerment programme that you help to fund changed her future forever...

Nancy Wanjiku is a single mother. But she knew she and her two daughters had it better than most. Reminders were everywhere of the hardscrabble existence that is life in the Kangemi slums of Kenya. Here more than 100,000 of the poorest people in Nairobi fight to hold onto hope in the face of rampant unemployment and lack of access to basics like running water. Violence against women and children is rife and tragic. But Nancy had a good job in charge of housekeeping, where she’d been for ten years. Her family was safe. Until it all came crashing down.

New management took over at Nancy’s workplace. In the blink of an eye, her job was gone. She and her two daughters were forced to move into a single room. She took on any odd jobs she could find. She feared they wouldn’t survive.

A gateway called Uzima
One day Nancy heard about the Uzima Women and Girls Empowerment Programme at her local St. Joseph’s parish, funded through your support for Trócaire. The programme’s aim is to eliminate discrimination against women and empower them to take on equal roles in the community – and it’s working.

Through the Uzima programme Nancy studied computers, fashion, and design, three areas that captured her passion and talents. Then you helped again, funding a sewing machine for Nancy for her exemplary work in class.

That’s when things took off for Nancy Wanjiku’s small tailoring business. It was baby steps to start, but soon Nancy incorporated the computer skills she’d learned and took her business online. Today Nancy can pay the fees to keep her girls in school without having to sacrifice food or basic commodities: her business means she can afford both. It’s how the cycle of poverty begins to shift. One donation, one determined woman, one sewing machine, at a time. Thank you.

The cycle of poverty is beginning to shift for people like Nancy Wanjiku in Kenya, thanks to the skills training and sewing machine that your kind support helped to provide so she could start her own business. Thank you! Photos: Trócaire.

LAST YEAR 89,000 PEOPLE LIKE NANCY were directly helped by your steadfast support of Trócaire women’s empowerment programmes! To learn more visit www.trocaire.org/whatwedo/womens-empowerment
COUNT YOUR LOVE FOR ALL THE DAYS: YOUR 2020 TRÓCAIRE BOX COMING SOON!

This Lent, will you count your love for all 40 days to help Angela and Madris protect their families?

Hunger. Exploitation. Oppression. Injustice. Around the world, brave women like Angela and Madris are risking their lives to protect their families from terrible threats. In the face of daunting enemies like climate change and corrupt corporations, they are doing all they can. But for love to conquer fear, they need you. Please watch for your 2020 Trócaire Box and Lenten Giving Kit coming soon, and give what you can to help.

Thank you in advance for caring! ❤

CHRISTMAS 2019: YOUR GIFTS OF LOVE (AND GLORY!)

Whether you visited a Trócaire centre to buy cards or made a Gift of Love donation for the special people in your life this Christmas, please know your generosity is directly reaching families like little Glory’s in eastern Kenya. The gift of five chickens they received provides eggs and income that help keep Glory’s family fed – and help keep 8-year-old Glory going to school. Photo: Gary Moore/Trócaire

From your Trócaire family around the world, may you have peace and prosperity in the new year for standing strong against injustice.

Thank you.

“We cannot do what we do without your support and we really appreciate this warmth and friendship. It means a lot to us.” — Sister Agge, Trócaire partner in Kenya (story page 2)