

# COVID-19 AND TARGET PROJECT S.A.F.E. HOW CAN WE HELP?

**WITH RESTRICTIONS EASING IN TANZANIA, THE GIRLS ARE BACK IN SCHOOL AND THE EFFORTS TO STOP FGM CONTINUE**

You can help these efforts by funding specific measures identified by S.A.F.E.

\$5 will pay for an initial health check for a girl who seeks protection from FGM

\$60 will pay for reconciliation between a girl and her family

\$60 will pay for one counseling session per girl

\$125 will pay for 3 days' training of educators who will help create awareness about the dangers of FGM

\$165 will pay for community sensitization per village or school program



**On March 11 a pandemic was declared. Significant preventative measures were put in place to prevent the rapid spread of the COVID-19 virus.**

Included in these measures was the closure of schools globally, which resulted, and will continue to result, in an increased exposure to human rights abuses, including female genital mutilation (FGM).

Per the UN Population Fund (UNFPA):

**“Due to pandemic-related disruptions in prevention programs, 2 million FGM cases could occur over the next decade that would otherwise have been averted.”**

**While schools were closed, COVID-19 directly impacted the girls served by our Project in the following ways:**

- A closure of schools resulted in an extended cutting season, making girls at home more vulnerable to undergoing FGM.
- Overcrowding at the Safe Houses.
- Postponement of community-based activities (education/awareness raising activities), including Alternative Rites of Passage.
- Limited law enforcement.
- Due to closure of businesses and markets and financial difficulties, parents chose to marry off their daughters, leading to more child marriages.
- A reduction in funding generated and received.
- The potential that re-educated cutters returned to cutting.



**HOPE FOR  
GIRLS & WOMEN**  
Tanzania

**Target Project S.A.F.E.**

(Safe Alternatives for Female Genital Mutilation - Total Elimination is our Aim)



The FAWCO Foundation supports this Target Project through the Women Backing Women Campaign

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