Happy to be Healthy Grace





Your gift supports a **Health Worker** to care for children with a disability ... so they can fulfill their God-given potential!

Your gift delivered in:

Kismayo, Jubaland State. Somalia





What you give	You help provide a Health Worker at the Education Assessment Resource Centre (EARC) run by LWF Kenya-Somalia
Why your help is needed	 Years of conflict and drought means millions have had to flee their homes More than 4 million Somalis now live in IDP Camps (IDP = Internally Displaced Person - like a refugee, but in your home country) 70% of people live on less than \$2 a day Only one in four children are enrolled in school, and children with disabilities are even more likely to miss out
How your gift changes lives	 Your Health Worker cares for children with disability They support these children to attend school, just like their peers because education gives children the best chance for their future PLUS school also provides so many other benefits: like friends, structure, protection from abuse and exploitation - and fun!



"It's very nice seeing a mum crying because she is so happy her child is being treated.

Seeing a mum come into the office in the hope of getting better services, of having somebody to talk to, somebody to share her problems with ...

Nothing else comes close to that. It means so much to me."

> Yurub Dakane, Physiotherapist, takes your care to children with disabilities in Kismayo, Somalia



When you meet 18-month-old Jawaahir, and see her beautiful smile, it's impossible not to smile too.

"That's how she is, that's her nature. I love being with my daughter so much. She is kind, peaceful, and cheerful.

She is not even shy when she meets new people," shares her mum, Nimco.

Yet as you can imagine, when Nimco gave birth to Jawaahir and found out she had Down Syndrome, it was a very stressful time.

"After my daughter was diagnosed with this condition, I felt so low. Things were very difficult. We didn't know how to deal with the situation..."

In a country like Somalia, having a disability comes with extra challenges.

Not only because of the lack of support available, but also due to stigma. You see, people with Down Syndrome may be kept hidden from the community or even sent away.

Yet Nimco wanted more for her daughter.

She met other parents who also have children with Down Syndrome ... and found out about your care.

Nimco went to the LWF Centre in Kismayo, and Jawaahir began physiotherapy straightaway:

"I am extremely pleased with the therapy and services we've had here since Jawaahir was just 10- months old.

She has improved so much.

Jawaahir is capable of doing so much with her life when she grows up to be a good person in the community."

Nimco also receives mental health support, as well as education through a literacy program offered at the Centre, thanks to your support.

"I am very thankful to LWF and ALWS for taking care of my daughter and giving me hope that all will be well, even in times of despair.

My daughter is now doing well and I am happy she will overcome everything. I have also had the opportunity to learn. I am so grateful to everyone who played a part."

All photos: LWF Somalia



