



Recently, I heard it said that this is undiscovered territory for many of us, and I cannot help but agree. In these times, we thank God for each other and His sovereign love. I want to encourage you to follow the CDC, WHO, and local guidelines to keep yourself, your loved ones, and your communities as safe as possible. To those of you who are involved in the essential services and healthcare sectors, we cannot sufficiently express our gratitude for the long hours, dedication, and sacrifices you are making to serve us all.

When I consider that next week ELI turns 25 years old, I am amazed that for more than two decades, friends like you have equipped and empowered multitudes of men, women, and children to change their world. Through raising orphans and training people with practical and sustainable life-skills, countless small business ventures have grown into successful enterprises that put food on the table, pay school fees for children, and uplift local communities.

More than that, these incredible people have encountered the living God and have nurtured relationships with Him. They are beacons in their communities and testify to the power of the cross and their new strength to crush poverty. **Together we are igniting World Changers.** Right now, more than 45 communities across eight countries (when you include our international extension program) are hungry for training, for lasting change, and for us to journey with them in advancing the Kingdom of God where they live.

In light of social distancing protocols, **ELI's dedicated team is reworking how life-changing content and materials are shared.** Through conference calls, video meetings, and video seminars, we are making ourselves as available as ever to these villages. In the mighty name of Jesus, this movement to empower the poor and oppressed will not be stopped.

I celebrate the creativity and commitment of our Kenyan national team, who are developing a virtual liquid soap-making tutorial that will be shared with thousands of Women of Change (the reformed brewers), pastors, farmers, and families to help them keep their loved ones safer through hand washing. This crucial training will also be shared with the ELI Academy in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the water drilling team in Tanzania, and the international extension team.

The children and parents at the Kipkaren and Ilula Children's Homes will also be involved in making and distributing the soap within their local communities. Together COVID-19 will be defeated. Our combined efforts with you to contain and limit the spread in the USA and Africa will not be in vain.

Our American staff has been working remotely since late last year when we transitioned to a digital workspace to be even more efficient with the resources that you invest in the ministry. Through regular video and teleconferences, we have been able to remain deeply connected to each other and this inspiring work. We are fully committed to this movement of God, the people in East Africa, and you.

We really care about you and want to pray with you, listen to you, and be as much of a resource for you as possible. Please let us know how to support you.

I want to personally thank you for your continued care, prayer, and partnership. So many of you have reached out in recent days, which is a blessing. It's unique and sensitive times like these that remind us that we are always stronger together and that the greatest impact comes from our collective sacrifices and efforts.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and may God bless you.

Jim Caya

Chief Operations Officer & Director of International Implementation

[Stay up to date regarding COVID-19 and ELI's empowering response.](#)





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