

## KARIMJEE JIVANJEE FOUNDATION PARTNERS WITH WOTESAWA NGO TO EMPOWER CHILD DOMESTIC WORKERS AND COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023– Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation (KJF) is pleased to announce its strategic partnership with WoteSawa, a renowned Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) dedicated to empowering child domestic workers and combating human trafficking. This collaboration aims to safeguard the rights and welfare of vulnerable children in Tanzania, with a particular focus on child domestic labor.

Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Karimjee Group, committed to creating a bright future for young Tanzanians through education and empowerment. The foundation's vision is to develop the next generation of leaders; the change makers and innovators that have the potential to change Tanzania and the world. And investing in education has been one of their means to do so. Sharing these same values, is their new partner; WoteSawa.

Founded in 2012 by Angela Benedicto, a survivor of child domestic labor, WoteSawa strives to create a righteous and responsible society where domestic workers enjoy decent work, free from human trafficking and child labor. The organization's comprehensive mission encompasses empowering domestic workers and individuals affected by human trafficking and child labor through social, legal, and economic means.

WoteSawa operates shelters in Mwanza and Kasulu, providing a safe haven for rescued girls, where they receive essential support including accommodation, food, healthcare, and psychological assistance. Beyond immediate aid, the organization offers vocational training in skills such as sewing, equipping the girls with practical abilities and income opportunities for their future.

The partnership between Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation and WoteSawa signifies a collective commitment to addressing the plight of child domestic workers in Tanzania. The collaboration aims to amplify the impact of both organizations in their shared mission to protect vulnerable children and empower them to reclaim their rights and futures.

Through its philanthropic initiatives, Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation has long championed educational development and empowerment in Tanzania. By partnering with WoteSawa, the foundation expands its scope to address the urgent issue of child domestic labor and human trafficking, extending its reach to those most in need of protection and support.

"WoteSawa's unwavering dedication and remarkable achievements in protecting the rights of vulnerable children align closely with our foundation's core values," said Mr. Yusuf Karimjee, Chairman of Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation. "We are honored to partner with WoteSawa in their vital mission to empower child domestic workers and combat human trafficking. Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of these children and create a brighter future for them."

"WoteSawa is excited about this partnership with the Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation," said Angela Benedicto, Founder of WoteSawa. "This collaboration will significantly enhance our efforts to uplift child domestic workers, provide them with necessary support, and fight against the scourge of human

trafficking. Together, we can create lasting change and build a society where every child is free from exploitation and has the opportunity to thrive."

WoteSawa's remarkable achievements speak volumes about its dedication and impact in the field. The organization actively participated in the adoption of the Domestic Workers Convention, No. 189, in Geneva in 2011. Furthermore, Angela Benedicto, the Executive Director of WoteSawa, was honored with the Queen's Young Leaders Award in 2015 for her tireless efforts in promoting the rights of child domestic workers in Tanzania. WoteSawa's contributions to combating human trafficking were recognized by the Government of Tanzania in 2020, with a certificate of recognition for their significant efforts in this area. The organization was also featured in a documentary on the CNN Freedom Project in 2023, highlighting their exemplary work. Moreover, WoteSawa has actively lobbied for the implementation of the Child Act of 2009 and the ratification of ILO Convention 189 (C189).

For further information contact: Caren Rowland, KJF, <u>crowland@karimjeetz.com</u> <u>www.kjfoundation.or.tz</u>