

AKIBA NI MALI

EDUCATION IS A TREASURE

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER FOR KENYA SCHOLARSHIP FUND INTERNATIONAL

December 2024, Issue Number 14

Beatrice's Travels

When I pursued the food and beverage course, I never thought that it could take me to different parts of the world. The furthest that I thought I could go was to work in State House as a president server.

Little did I know that God had greater plans for me. I have had a great journey in my career, working in several five stars hotels in Kenya and received many awards for my excellent performance.

In November 2023, I joined a cruise ship. Travelling the world as I get paid has been life changing. So far, I have been to Antarctica, Chile, Norway, Copenhagen, South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles and still on the move. I get to meet guests and colleagues from all parts of the world. This international exposure and knowledge is beyond belief.

I thank God daily for my high school sponsorship by KSF International. This organization truly changes lives for the better. Long live KSF International!



Inside the Issue

Beatrice's Travels
Appreciation for the Support to Our Athletes
Kenyan Dominance
iPads for Kenya
Karatina University
Garden of Hope Updates
Board Members News



Appreciation for the Support to Our Athletes

Dear June,

On behalf of the board of management, staff and students, I am registering our gratitude for the support we have received from your foundation in terms of scholarship to needy talented students in athletics.

Your sponsorship has had a profound impact on the lives of our students, particularly the six athletes whose school fees you generously covered. Your commitment to the education has not only eased their financial burdens but also inspired them to strive for excellence both in the classroom and on the track. The provision of training kits, including high-quality training shoes, has been instrumental in enhancing the performance and morale of our Athletics Club. These resources have enabled our young athletes to train effectively, equipping them with the tools they need to compete at higher levels with determination.

Your partnership with us underscores the values of selfless missionary work and development that are at the heart of our mission at St. Patrick's High School.

Thanks for your support, our students have been able to chase their dreams, develop their talents, and represent our school and country with pride. We look forward to continuing this meaningful partnership in the coming years, offering opportunities to needy talented children. God bless the work of your hands.

Thank you. Kind regards.

Yours sincerely,
Peter K Rotich
Chief Principal/BOM Secretary
St. Patrick's High School, Iten

Kenyan Dominance

St. Patrick's High School Iten athletes are proud beneficiaries of KSF scholarships. We celebrate several successful athletes sponsored by KSF International.

Edmund Serem - World Under 20 2024 championship in Lima, Peru is a testimony.

God bless KSF!





WORLD ACADEMY
FOR THE FUTURE OF WOMEN

Dear Alice,

I wish to acknowledge you for your excellent partnership with the World Academy for the Future of Women during our recent trip in August to Kenya to initiate a new World Academy for 100 women at Karatina University.

Your thorough and insightful housing arrangements for team members Julie Frentz, Tao Mengdi and myself, enabled us to have sufficient time to be introduced to the culture, complete our site visit at Karatina University, interview the 100 plus female applicants, select the first year WAFW members, generate the team leaders and, receive and acclimate our first Facilitator who will deliver the four-week curriculum of the first Module.

Beyond the success of getting Karatina University on board, your insightful introduction to another university holds promise for expansion and the possibility for more young women to have access to global leadership as we accelerate women's leadership worldwide.

Your time showing us the community and the special sights in Karen was thoughtful and generous, ensuring that we are eager to return and do more in Kenya that will promote the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Having Special Consultative Status with the United Nations heightens the value of our relationship with you and assures we will be calling on you again when we are ready to move forward in Kenya.

In Gratitude,
Jerrie Ueberle CEO-Founder Global Interactions
World Academy for the Future of Women



iPads for Kenya

In June 2024, Duchesne Academy of the Sacred Heart generously donated fifteen gently used iPads. The equipment now enhances Batian Christian School's computer lab.

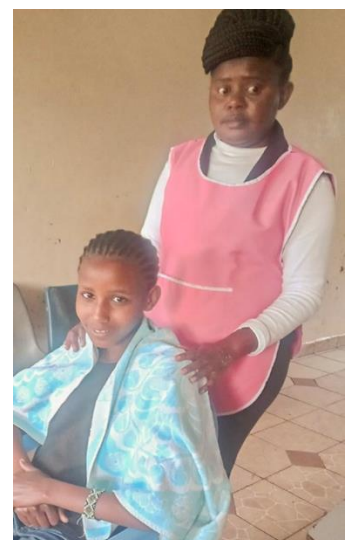


Garden of Hope Updates

Thanks to the Smith family of Houston, Texas, USA, for their generous warm clothing donations. They were timely for Kenya's coldest months: July and August.

Jacintah Mueni, a freelance hairdresser, has joined KSF International as a faithful volunteer. She happily provides hairdressing to Garden of Hope Children's Center every other month.

Jacintah says it makes her very happy to see the girls smiling after washing and braiding their hair. Thanks to an anonymous USA donor who is supporting this health care initiative.



Board Members News

Spreading the Joy of Reading

By: Rhoda Matiru

Ever since I was a child, I have loved to read. Next to traveling, reading is one of the greatest pleasures. It allows us to dream of visiting places we would otherwise have never known existed. We learn from each other's experiences by the stories we share. The idea of collecting gently used books and shipping them to Kenya came about when my sister Violet told me of a lady by the name of Sahara Abdi, who used to go around Kenyan rural areas, gather school children under a tree and read to them. She had very few extra copies of books to leave behind for these children to continue reading. I mentioned to my sister that gently used books were readily available in Houston, Texas.

In 2019, I asked parents at my daughter's school to donate any books their children no longer needed. Two parents who worked at schools told me that there were many textbooks available as well since old editions were replaced with new editions. I excitedly collected books, halfway filled my garage, and eventually rented a storage unit.

I found a reasonably priced shipper, purchased shipping barrels, and at the end of 2019, I shipped the first batch. These books arrived in Nairobi, Kenya, at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. With everything shut down, the books remained undistributed at my sister's house for many months. The pandemic put a stop to my plan to ship more books. After two years, I resumed shipping a few barrels as funds became available.

Recently, my good friend Solomon Musyimi linked me up with an ex-classmate who has some funds available to cover the shipping cost for six barrels. I package the books along with pencils, colored pencils, crayons and puzzles in a drawstring backpack. The logo on the backpack is designed by my brother-in-law, who is a Nairobi-based artist named Anthony Mwangi. The donations from the schools included textbooks that have proven to be very useful to teachers, students, and anyone interested in a particular academic area.

Last month my friend Jacqueline Magare and I organized the first ladies' dance: Spreading the Joy of Dancing. Proceeds from the fundraising event will go towards shipping more books and supporting the very high demand for books in Kenya. Our book donations support schools, youth centers, children's homes, and other organizations that host youth events.



In Memoriam



Board member Irene Mwangi-Harvin lost her cancer battle in Cocoa, Florida, USA on April 8, 2024.

She visited Kenya in summer 2008 to recruit KSF's first partner: Uthiru Girls Secondary School. Irene's creativity during fund raisers were fun and joyful like her.

May she rest in eternal peace.

Hakeem's Space

Hakeem's Space is June Kikumu-Aquil's non-profit to honor her son's legacy. Hakeem's Space promotes mental health awareness through workshops, peer support groups, teacher training, community engagement and victim advocacy.

Hakeem's Space took part in an event with Beyond the Vision Initiative on World Mental Health Day to create mental health awareness in schools in Nairobi's Kawangware and Tassia slums. A total of 11 schools and almost 3,000 participants took part in the event.



About Kenya Scholarship Fund



KSF International

www.kenyascholarshipfund.org

MISSION

To provide scholarships to needy students.

ABOUT US

Kenya Scholarship Fund (KSF) International was formed by several professional Kenyans living in the United States and wishing to give back to their communities. KSF International is a volunteer-run organization, which relies on funding and support from family, friends, well-wishers and private fundraising events. The board comprises eleven volunteers who lovingly dedicate many unpaid hours to manage the affairs of the organization.

This non-profit organization is an Equal Opportunity Organization that does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, tribal affiliation, gender or religion.

EIN #: 80-0778998

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

From the Kenya Scholarship Fund International Board Members & Team

Alice Hastings-James
Audrey Ayers
Calvin Mwanza
Emmanuel (Remmy) Cheruiyot
Jacqueline Oburu
June Kikumu-Aquil
Kenneth Gakuya
Peter Kariuki
Rhoda Matiru
Susan Oloo-Oruya
Wilma D'Souza

Valued Volunteers:

Ann Karanja
Dorothy Wambua
Fiona Ndinda
Jacintah Mueni
Kevin Odhiambo
Moses Wambua
Timothy Chege

Houston, Texas
Houston, Texas
Nairobi, Kenya
Nairobi, Kenya
Richmond, Virginia
Tampa, Florida
Houston, Texas
Richmond, Virginia
Houston, Texas
Nairobi, Kenya
Ontario, Canada

Nairobi, Kenya
Houston, Texas
Nairobi, Kenya
Nairobi, Kenya
Nairobi, Kenya
Houston, Texas
Nairobi, Kenya

