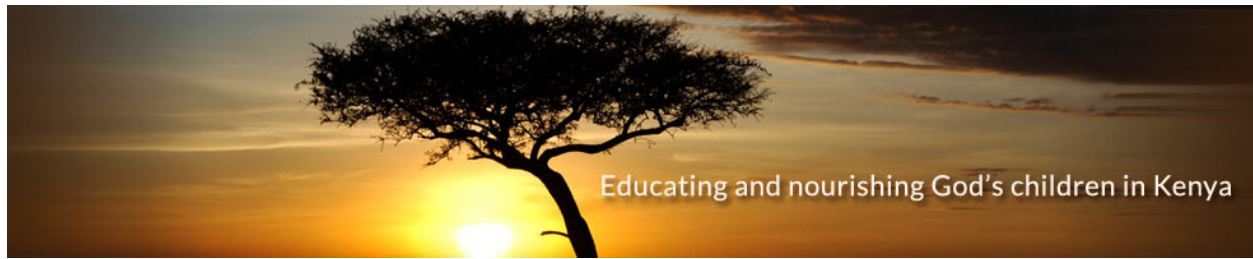


KIJABE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND



November 2019

Dear friends of KCEF,

This December is a special time of celebration for us, for you, and for some very special Kenyan students.

You know that we have partnerships with six primary schools and over 1500 students in preschool through grade 8. This includes daily nutritious meals, scholarship support, new facilities, computer training, continuing teacher education, and a unique “outward bound-like” emphasis. It is making a huge difference for these children and their families. We hear and see the results every year when we visit.

You also know that a few years ago we realized how crucial it was to help as many students as possible go on to complete secondary school, and move into meaningful employment.

Currently we are supporting just over 100 students in secondary schools, an option that would never have been a possibility for any of them. Thirty of these students are in our partnership with Education for all Children (EFAC), and that number will grow to over 40 in 2020.

Our commitment (with EFAC) to these students includes:

- scholarships for four years of secondary school
- annual workshops that prepare them academically, socially and vocationally
- readiness for university preparation
- scholarships for four years of university
- personal computer for university
- “Bridge to Success” programs for transition to vocations or further education

This is an amazing program – one of the best in Africa – and it is available to these students who come from such poor and difficult backgrounds.

This month, the first three of our partnership students have completed secondary school and are now preparing for university studies in mid-2020. They will attend a “Bridge to College” workshop in February, and then do a three-month community service project beginning in March.



Some of the 30 KCEF-sponsored students at the August “Bridge to Success” workshop in Nairobi



L to R: David Mbugua, Victor Mambo, and Maxwell Ochieng

David Mbugua attended Gentle Bells primary school in rural Longonot. His parents are subsistence farmers, barely feeding their family. They could not pay even primary school fees for David. He was the number 1 student in his 8th grade class. Through KCEF he received a scholarship to St. Mary's Boys Secondary School. Such a school – and university – were an “impossible dream” for David and his family.

“My journey with KCEF has not only been the source of school fees, but an amazing source of hope for my family. I have been greatly transformed through this program and look forward to university studies. I pray for my KCEF sponsor every day because she has been so faithful and encouraging to me.”

Maxwell Ochieng grew up in the Kibera slum in Nairobi, one of the worst in Africa. Maxwell has six siblings, and they lost both of their parents some years ago. The children had to move in with neighboring “guardians” in Kibera where their lives were desperate. Kicoshep Primary School saw great potential in Maxwell and invited him to attend. KCEF helped to cover his expenses and he became an outstanding student and leader. He received our scholarship to go on to excel in his studies at Rongai Boys Secondary School.

“I am taking my studies very seriously and working smart to pass university qualifying exams. I plan to go on to study computer science at University of Nairobi.”

Victor Mambo also grew up in Kibera slum and attended Kicoshep Primary School. He was raised by a single mother in the slum, where they had intermittent power and no piped water. During primary school Victor had serious health problems that caused him to drop out for months at a time. His mother sold many of their meager possessions to purchase medications for him. In spite of all of this Victor excelled in his studies and became a class and school leader. Through KCEF, Victor was able to attend St. Mary's Boys Secondary School.

“This scholarship is an opportunity to fulfill my dreams and become a man of substance in society and make a difference in my community....I am working toward my dream of becoming a doctor”

Please join us in celebrating with David, Maxwell, Victor and their families. You have helped us to bring hope and a chance for a better life of productivity and success to them. They are great examples of the “fruit” of the KCEF mission and program.

That is the good news. But there are so many others that need our help—your help. Will you respond today to help us partner with many more students like this in 2020....and beyond?

Thank you for your careful and prayerful consideration.

With deep gratitude,

Craig Hammon and Nancy Mering

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