## Kijabe Children's Education Fund



June 3, 2021

Dear friends and supporters of KCEF:

We thought it would be good to give you an update on KCEF schools and programs now that we're at the midpoint of a term that began in May.

- Normally, there are three terms a year, with the first beginning in January. Since two 2020 terms were lost to Covid shutdowns, the Kenyan government has decided to try and cram four terms each into 2021 and 2022, in order to bring the yearly schedule back to "normal".
- All of our schools resumed classes a month ago with strong and growing enrollments. As students have returned to their schools, to their friends, and to the teachers who love and serve them, there has been a sense of excitement and hope. Through your support, two nutritious meals are once again being provided to each child each day at all of the schools. I hope the photos we've included from the first week back at Karem School will help illustrate the spirit of a typical school day.
- The Covid situation in Kenya remains unsettled and unpredictable. The numbers of cases and deaths seem to have leveled off for now, though there is concern about the spread of the India variant. Right now, the vaccine supply in the country is quite low, but teachers have been prioritized and about half of our teachers have been vaccinated.



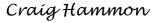


— Graduates of our primary schools (grade 8) will begin secondary school in July. We are pleased that 11 more KCEF students have been added to our partnership with Education for all Children (EFAC), bringing that total to 53, each of whom is guaranteed full support for eight years of secondary school and university. In addition, 90 additional students are being partially supported through four years of secondary education.

— About 120 class eight graduates from our schools have just spent a week together at Camp Malta, an annual ROPES camp (Rites of Passage) we sponsor. Rites of passage to adulthood are very important in Kenyan culture, and this program is essentially an "outward bound" experience that focuses on self worth, sexuality, family, future life plans and personal faith discipleship. Each year, teachers, students and par-

ents say ROPES is a life changing experience.

There will be much more news to come in future updates. In the meantime, we want to say again that we're so pleased to partner with you in this transformative outreach to hundreds of the "poorest of the poor" Kenyan children and their families. Because of you, they have a sense of hope and optimism about their futures. Thank you so much for sharing this mission with us.



Craig Hammon, KCEF Board Chair



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## **OUR VISION**

Kijabe Children's Education Fund is dedicated to providing educational opportunities to children in rural Kenya and the slums of the city of Nairobi. Through feeding programs, school sponsorship, and project support,

KCEF is helping to keep its students fed in body, mind and spirit.

Mailing Address: Kijabe Children's Education Fund

6 Maple Street Essex, MA 01929

Contact Us: www.KCEFund.org