



Friends of Kenya Schools and Wildlife

July 2021



FKSW in Covid Times

I want to begin this newsletter by acknowledging our partner Samuel Muhunyu and all that he's done to continue the activities of our partnership during our long absence from Kenya. In the best of times, Samuel's involvement and guidance are at the heart of our efforts in Kenya and Covid's restrictions have highlighted his indispensable role in all our activities.

The socioeconomic impacts of Covid on Kenya's population have been serious. School closures, restrictions on movement, bans on social gatherings, and limitations on economic activities like livestock and food markets resulted in income losses and increased food insecurity, which was made worse by a locust invasion and widespread flooding. The school year was canceled by the government in March 2020, so children missed most of the year's classes because virtual learning was not accessible to most



Ramadhan Abdullahi Class 6
Kachiuru Primary

students. Thanks to your support, Friends

of Kenya Schools and Wildlife was able to assist 95 of the neediest families in Kirepari and Kachiuru communities from April through November with maize meal, beans, cooking oil, soap, and face masks. A Rotary District grant for \$5,054 from the Eugene Metropolitan Rotary Club continued the support during December and January. The signs the women are holding in these photos say, in English and Swahili "Covid- 19 Intervention - We in the Kachiuru/Kirepari Community are grateful to Eugene Metropolitan Rotary Club for the food aid in January 2021"

Your donations made such a huge difference for families at Kachiuru and Kirepari and the residents were so grateful for your assistance!

Asante sana kwa msada wako!

Thank you so much for your help!!



Kachiuru women with thank you signs for Eugene Metropolitan Rotary Club's support during December and January



Kirepari women and gentlemen



Kidogo Kidogo Hujaza Kibaba / Little by Little We Fill the Can

FKSW's very first project was the construction of a nursery school at Lake Baringo with funds collected in a basket at John's and my wedding in 2003. We're not collecting money in baskets these days, but little by little over the years, FKSWS has addressed the needs of people in Kenya through a variety of projects, with funding from many sources, that have contributed to the improvement of livelihoods, education, health, and general well-being.

Since 2004, as FKSWS has assisted communities in the development of infrastructure, other organizations, including the local and national governments in Kenya joined in the effort. Building on the communities' achievements and often working directly with the leaders, these organizations have constructed toilets and classrooms, provided food, desks, scholarships, educational materials and field trips for students, paid teachers' salaries and supported medical camps in the villages. We'd like to recognize some of these partners and extend to them our gratitude!

◆ Kenya Constituency Development Fund (CDF)

CDF funds are money from the central government given to members of parliament for expenditure in their constituencies, also known as electoral districts. The fund supports grass-root development projects, especially those aiming to combat poverty.

In 2020, funds from the Igembe North District CDF under the leadership of Honorable Maoka Maore, built this classroom at Kachiuru Primary School. This is the 4th stone classroom at Kachiuru and the first built by the government.



Classroom at Kachiuru Primary School built by the CDF

◆ Land and Life Foundation – Nairobi, Kenya

Land and Life's mission is to contribute to the sustainability of East Africa's wildlife and habitats. One of their goals is to benefit people who live near wildlife habitats and for several years, the organization has provided secondary scholarships for students at Kachiuru Primary School and funded other activities.

Last year, in addition to the scholarships, Land and Life constructed a building to house a staff room and an administration office at Kachiuru Primary. They also constructed a toilet for the teachers.



Above, new administration office and staff room at Kachiuru



Other Partners Who Have Contributed to Our Efforts

- ◆ Rotary Club of Nithi, Rotary Club of Meru, Rotary Club of Eugene Metropolitan, Rotary Club of Cupertino, Rotary Club of Newport, Oregon, Rotary Club of Hurlingham
- ◆ Wide Awake.org – Houston, Texas
- ◆ The Port of Seattle – Seattle, Washington
- ◆ Equinox Farm Foundation - Veneta, Oregon
- ◆ Kenya Ministry of Health – Mutuati and Marigat, Kenya
- ◆ Kenya Ministry of Education – Marigat, Mutuati, Kajiado, Kenya
- ◆ Kirepari Church- Kirepari, Kenya
- ◆ Stichting Ruimte – The Netherlands
- ◆ Catholic Dioceses of Mutuati, Meru and Nakuru -Kenya
- ◆ The European Union
- ◆ Indigenous Terra Madre Network (Slow Food) – Kenya
- ◆ The Baringo County Government - Kenya



Teachers' toilet at Kachiuru



Stichting Ruimte – Partnering in Transformation

Development aid in communities often begins with investments in much needed physical infrastructure, like schools, clinics, water systems, toilets and housing. These outcomes are critical in communities and can create significant improvement in the quality of life for residents. What is often missing, though, is training, or capacity building for the management of these investments to ensure their sustainability over time.

FKSW and its partners have been working with the community of Kachiuru in remote Northern Kenya since 2005 but because of cultural issues and ineffective leadership, the community has been struggling to manage their increasing assets. For a time, we’ve realized that more effort is needed to build capacity in several areas.

Last year we met the founders of Stichting Ruimte, a Dutch NGO focused on agricultural development, and the organization gave FKSU funding for a two-year project to build capacity in the Kachiuru community. At a community wide meeting convened after receipt of the grant, the participants agreed that formation of a Community Based Organization (CBO) was necessary. A CBO is a structure registered under the laws of Kenya formed for the betterment of communities. In the US a similar organization would be a Community Development Corporation (CDC).

Existing committees in the community such as the Cattle Dip Management Committee, the Dispensary Committee, and the Bore Hole Committee have become sub-committees of the new CBO and FKSU/NECOFA and Stichting Ruimte now share the cost of a full-time community organizer and management coach to guide the CBO’s efforts.

Samuel tells us that in just a short time, the Kachiuru community is becoming bolder in its approach to issues. The CBO is overseeing the income from the borehole water sales and making sure that the funds are deposited in their bank account. It also works with the Board of Management for the primary school to coordinate the purchase of food for the school’s feeding program and other supplies for the school. CBO members have made several long trips to the county government offices to request assistance and services for the community. We’re grateful for Stichting Ruimte’s help and so excited to see the growth in confidence and leadership at Kachiuru.



Meeting at Kachiuru informing residents about the CBO



Felix Lekiluai and Sofia Adan

Felix Lekiluai and Sofia Adan have been friends since 2004 when they were students at Waso Nursery School in Archer’s Post. They’ve been in FKSU’s scholarship program since 2006 and now both are hoping to become health care providers in their communities. Sofia is in her second year at King’s Medical College and will complete the Community Health Nursing program after her third year. At graduation, she’ll be eligible for formal employment



Sofia and Felix in nursery school in 2006

in the county government as a Community Health Assistant. The main purpose of these assistants is to help communities with preventive medicine. If Sofia wants to pursue further education, she can take a course at Kenyatta Hospital Medical training college for a Diploma in Community Health.

Felix has just graduated from high school at Good Shepherd Minor Seminary in Maralal and will apply for a 3-year diploma program in nursing. This diploma course is offered in several government Kenya Medical Training Colleges (KMTC). After graduation he could apply for admission to a university course that would give him a degree in nursing, but he would also have the potential for engaging in private practice.

Both young people have had difficult times over the years, but they haven’t let circumstances divert them from their dreams!




June 22, 2021

Hi Gwen,

I take this opportunity to pass my greetings to you mum. Hope you are doing well there. I am also fine here and am happy to inform you that my second semester results are out and I will share with Mr. Mahanyu and you if you won't mind mum. Best wishes, Diana




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OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR - ACADEMICS
RESULT SLIP

STUDENT NAME: TOM SINTOGJA DIANA REG. NO. 169-15-0236000
PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS ACADEMIC YEAR: 2020/2021
DEPARTMENT: EDUCATION ARTS & SOCIAL SCIENCES YEAR OF STUDY: YEAR 1 SEMESTER 2
SCHOOL/FACULTY: SCHOOL OF EDUCATION, ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNIT CODE	UNIT TITLE	HOURS	GRADE
EBB 121	GENERAL ECONOMICS	45	C
EBB 122	FOUNDATION ACCOUNTING I	45	B
EMA 121	PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS I	45	A
EMA 122	CALCULUS I	45	B
PEP 122	HUMAN GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT	45	A
PEP 123	PSYCHOLOGY OF LEARNING AND TEACHING	45	A
HEU 122	HEALTH AND WELLNESS MANAGEMENT	45	B

RESULT: PASS

June 2021

Greetings mum,

I have started my third semester on 10th May and am happy and grateful for your support. I am still having 7 units like the previous semesters. What I enjoy most is research that we contact in the library, and I am also happy to inform you that I am class representative and a Speaker in Zetech University Parliament. I am happy that I am getting education exposure and at the same time am getting a platform where I can exercise my leadership skills.

I wish to see you soon mum ❤️❤️❤️

Best regards
Diana Sintogja

Diana's sponsor has been providing annual scholarships for her since she was 5 years old and in Class 1.

The Bore Hole Sub-Committee Manages the Cattle Trough



The cattle trough at Kachiuru is a source of income for the community. Water from the borehole is held in the tank (on the right above the trees) and livestock owners from the area bring their animals to drink at the trough, paying a small amount for each animal. The Kachiuru CBO will be setting up a para-veterinary committee that will be able to treat livestock who arrive with health problems. The committee will charge a fee for that service as well.

Hayo ni yote kwa sasa!
That's all for now!

Children have returned to school, and we've received more requests than ever for assistance with the costs of education. Please help us to address the following needs:

* Scholarships for one year:

- \$50 for primary school (uniforms, shoes, books)
- \$125 for boarding (room and board at school)
- \$500 for secondary (room, board, tuition, and supplies)

* Teacher support and training

* Skill training and education for income generation

* Services for women and children

Or make an unrestricted donation in any amount to help with the greatest need...

Thank you!!



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