

ISSUE 30 · MARCH 2023

# TRANSFORM NEWSLETTER

Kibera and Kisumu

## MESSAGE

FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has become very apparent to me that any leader who survived the COVID-19 pandemic needed at least three very distinct skills to navigate their organizations successfully in, through and out of the pandemic. Nobody told us that this, and many organizations have suffered, we at Spur Afrika took our fair share of hit. What has kept us a float is your unwavering belief in us despite our failures, and your continuous support.

We are now more alert, have built more sustainable shock absorber, and hopeful the next pandemic of any nature will not find us too flat footed. Thank you for having our back. I would like to invite you to read through our newsletter update to keep up with our transformation journey.



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## SPONSORED CHILDREN (Elimisha)

### School Break Activities

The effects of COVID-19 are still being felt worldwide, but even more in the global south. School programs are just starting to return to the pre-pandemic schedules. Other Spur Afrika activities are just starting to reshape again.

Even though we will never go back to exactly how life was pre pandemic, it is amazing to see how far we have recovered since the COVID-19's onset.



One of the areas that was hit hard by COVID-19's effect was children's playing and socializing with each other, this necessitated us organizing several exciting sponsored children's activities before saying our goodbyes as they left for school on the 23rd of January.

These activities included team building exercises and letter writing to their sponsors. The children love keeping in touch with their sponsors as they get to share their live's stories and get to hear how live happen in other places. (For Sponsors, you will be receiving your letter by Easter).

### Academic Progress

In February celebrated another great mile stone, one of our sponsored children graduating from university. In same light five others graduated from high school with good final exam results. The five have already begun their career mentorship journey with our partner organization.

Fourteen others of our sponsored children join junior high school. Junior High is a new education system that is competency-based curriculum. While it is a great idea, we have faced great difficulties as the system has higher financial demands.

### Follow Up

After our sponsored children returned to school, we have followed them up in school to ensure that they settled in well and are having a comfortable education experience. We have also paid all their school fees.







# MENTORSHIP

## One on One Meetings

We have had an incredible kickoff for our mentorship program in January. Our volunteer mentors have been motivated and have set a high mentoring bar for themselves, resulting in 80% one-on-one mentorship meetings between January and February. This has been a fantastic start to the year so far!



## Crossover 001 (High School Transitional Program)

January through mid of February we ran a transition program for our primary sponsored children to help them prepare for high school. This initiative enabled our sponsored children to gain knowledge and understandings that will help them shape their future.

They were taught how to manage high school life and a range of other topics essential for their development. The transitional program culminated in their graduation hike at Mt. Longonot which is 2776 meters above sea level.

## Mentors Training

As it has been our January tradition, this start of year we had a special informative training session for our volunteer mentors.

The training involved helping mentors to break ice especially during their first meetings, to have a better flow of communications and were also taught how a variety of games can help in mentorship.

This training was meant to help them strengthen their mentor-mentee relationships while having a good time. Approximately 43 volunteer mentors and potential mentors attended the training, engaging in interactive activities centered around mentorship.







## ANNUAL MEDICAL CAMPS

Our medical camps are back to the usual hustle and bustle this year! We haven't had these camps for the past two years, so we're really excited to be back. Over 500 people participated in the medical camp and received check-ups, treatments, and dental care.

We are committed to continuing to provide quality, free medical assistance through this program, in the hope of transforming Kibera and Kisumu communities.



## KISUMU PROJECT

Our Kisumu project has been gaining momentum, one of our biggest programs there has to do with teenage mothers. The program is dubbed Kinda Girls.

The main aim for this project is to help teen moms find hope again as they are taught about their value, gifts, rights and potential.

Girls that go through the program are also assisted to find opportunities to continue with their educations at primary, high school or tertiary level.



Watch out for our upcoming events:

- Oral Hygiene
- Bingwa Girls
- Kisumu Progress
- Sponsored Children
- Mentorship

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