

MARCH-APRIL 2017 PROJECT UPDATE

We had a beehive of activities in the months of March and April. They made us to be very busy.

Among the activities we had are ; Parents meeting, visiting of all vocational training students, completion of class 5 construction, payment of school feeding program among others.

a) Parents Meeting

Parents are integral stakeholder of our project. We involve them in a number of decision making. We invite them at our school on regular basis especially towards the end of the term.

When they come, we take them through a number of projects we are carrying on and update them on the project progress including our future plans.

The last meeting we held was on 1st, April. Parents were informed about children class process and about the visitor who was to come from Global Giving-A US based charity organization.



The head teacher talking to parents about children performance

b) Vocational Training Youths

All students who don't qualify for high school are taken to vocational training institutions. They learn different trades- Most of them study; mechanics, tailoring and hairdressing. Most of them come to volunteer at our school especially those in tailoring school. They help in making school uniforms for our project children

We visit them at their institutions on a regular basis to monitor their progress as shown in the photos below.



Simon Kigo Mwatha at his training school



Faith Awour Kagiri in her tailoring class

c) Class 5 Construction

There was need to have a class for class 5 of next year. We were lucky to find a donor who paid for the construction of this class-. This class was donated by one family from Germany-Tanja and Klaus Grunling and Andres GmbH. It was started in January and by the end of March, it was ready for use. At the moment, it is being used by our top class.



A complete class 5 of 2018

d) School Feeding program

Feeding program is an important department of our project. We feed our children during lunch time throughout the year. Children in public school get

their warm lunch in their respective schools every day. We pay for their lunch on a term basis. We always pay at the beginning of a school term.

After this payment of school lunch program we make a follow up to make sure all our children have lunch at school. During weekends, all children come to our school for a well balanced meal which includes fruits, beans, rice, milk, meat, vegetables etc.



Children enjoying lunch at Freehold primary school

e) School Kitchen Construction

The kitchen we started in February. It is coming up faster and well. It is almost ready for use. The only parts remaining are installing of cooking stoves and inside plastering. We hope it will be ready by end of June this year. This will save us from rain and wind that blow off our temporal kitchen all the time. We appreciate generous donations from donors from German and US who have

reached us this far. After this kitchen, we hope we will get funds to start the construction of a Dining Hall.



Our new modern Kitchen

f) April Holidays activities

During April holiday, we didn't have our normal holiday tuition. This is because the banned holiday tuition in all schools including private like ours. This time children were coming to school for extra-curricular activities and feeding program. We had also remedial lessons for week students.

Children reported to school at 8 am and left at 2pm. Among activities they participated in were music, football, netball tug of war, rope jumping among

others. After these activities, they enjoyed a nutritious meal before going back home. We are hoping to do the same during August and December holidays.



Children enjoying rope jumping at our school



Children enjoying a meal after a day's activities

g) A visit by Michael Rothwell from Global Giving

Global Giving is a US based charity organization which funds projects throughout the world. Through this Global Giving, we have received several thousand Euros through regular donations and sponsorship funds that go through them. These funds have helped in school construction and other project requirements.

Michael from Global Giving visited our school on 3rd, April. He was received by both parents and children. He was impressed with what we are doing for the children and the community.

Below is his short report he wrote after the visit;

Note from the In-the-Field Traveler

Ken was incredible in assisting me during my time in Nakuru; picking me up and dropping

me at the bus terminal, arranging my accommodation and organizing a fantastic site visit at Live and Learn's school. I had a truly amazing time visiting this organization.

Recommendation for how to better use GlobalGiving

Overall your project pages on GlobalGiving are very good - your photos are engaging and the project descriptions are excellent. However I think you can improve your project reports by switching their focus to telling the compelling stories of the students you've helped in your school. By focusing on telling an individual's story you will be able to demonstrate the impact of your work to your donors - stories about the beneficiaries' personal transformations has been shown to be a lot more effective than general updates on the organization as a whole.

Feedback on your programs

It might be worthwhile pursuing some other means of income generation alongside the tailoring workshop you currently have on site e.g. keeping livestock or a small farm etc. Likewise you could have a look at applying for some funding from other organizations such as 'The School Fund' or 'Level Up Village'.

Quote from the In-the-Field Traveler

Leben und Lernen and Live and Learn Kenya are doing an incredible job of giving the poorest children of Nakuru a fantastic education and the opportunity to create a foundation on which to build the rest of their lives.



Mikey enjoying a dance from our children during his visit

h) Farming

Every year we lease farms for growing crops. This year, we leased about 2 acres of land from our school neighbors to plant food for our feeding program. We planted maize and beans on this farm and vegetables on our school farm.

Parents and youth help in planting, weeding and harvesting. This saves us money to hire workers. Last year we harvested about 40 bags of maize and 4 bags of beans for our feeding program. This made us saved some money .

Vegetables from our school farm served us for more than 3 months. We used to get vegetables from our farm. This year, the harvest may not be as last year because of unreliability of rain.



Parents planting maize and beans from our rented farm