

ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Transformation

"... But be transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:2



Educate. Empower. Transform.

Dear friend,

Robert H. Schuller said, “I’d rather attempt to do something great and fail than to attempt to do nothing and succeed.” For eduKenya, 2014 began with such an attempt. After carefully considering the situation in the Mathare slums, we found it prudent to move our eldest class to a boarding school outside of the city. It was a decision we had to reverse after one term because the outcomes experienced by the children did not meet our expectations. In spite of our best efforts to work with the boarding school, we brought the children home to Mathare. These same students are now in their final year of primary school.

After much thought and reflection, it became clear that we needed to establish our own boarding school; one that will set a new standard of excellence in education. With this goal in mind, we began the search for land on which to build the school. God provided a 10 acre property at a good price and in a wonderful location 2 ½ hours from Nairobi. We hope to build the school this year in preparation for January 2016 classes.

The boarding school is not the only construction we are undertaking. In 2014 we began construction of a primary school in Mathare which will be the new home of the Mawewa School (formerly Kwa Watoto School). It has been a challenging undertaking, but we hope to have it completed by the start of the third school term in late August, 2015.

It is important to note that new buildings are not an end in themselves. Our vision of a transformed community, with these children at the core, is our focus. This is best illustrated by the story of Class 4, who raised money for one of their classmates to buy a sweater to keep him warm in the winter (July 29, 2014 blog, “The Future of Hope”). This act of kindness shows that our students are being transformed and honoring God by giving back to their community. We pray that the seeds of transformation, sown on the fertile ground of young hearts, will continue to yield fruit manifold.



As we look back on what God has done in and through eduKenya, we realize it is because we attempted great things in His name. Not for our own glory, but for the accomplishment of God’s purpose in our generation so He may be known as a good and great God. Scripture says, “Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit says the Lord Almighty” (Zechariah 4:6). As we reflect on 2014, we are thankful that He continually inspires us to push past our own limitations to tackle God-sized hurdles through His grace and in His power.

An African proverb says, “If you want to walk fast, walk alone. If you want to walk far, walk with others.” To our friends and partners in this adventure of faith, thank you for walking with us. Thank you for sharing the eduKenya vision and allowing Him to lead you on this journey through the years and in the days to come. To God alone be the glory!

With gratitude,

Adam Gould and Bob Kikuyu
eduKenya Executive Directors

A Love Story

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.” - Mother Teresa

When our Vision Trip group walked into Mathare in November 2014, my expectations were unclear. Visiting from a middle class neighborhood in a small U.S. town, I had no reference point for a Kenyan city slum. At first, I walked the narrow streets in a surreal state of mind. In the open air markets, I tried to see without staring at anything. Our group stood out and were the objects of intense scrutiny. I sensed recognition because we were accompanied by executive directors, Adam Gould and Bob Kikuyu, two men admired by this community.



Left to Right: Rose, Sue Lumley, Dennis, Blessing

After a short walk, we entered through a narrow gate into the small, enclosed, dirt-packed play area at Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa). Excited children at recess welcomed us with laughter, shouts of joy and beautiful smiles. We received hugs, high fives, and had children clinging to us. Touch - the universal language of caring.

One little girl, Blessing, stole my heart. Every time I was at the school, she was at my side. Fingernails and skin are a big attraction to these children, and Blessing would turn over my hands, touch my skin and admire my fingernails. I fell in love with this 5 year old girl with large, dark eyes, a beautiful smile, and a hole in her shoe. We smiled at each other endlessly and forged a bond. The students shared their joy through singing. “Jesus Loves Me” and “Go Tell It on the Mountain” were two favorites. I marveled at the

intense emotions elicited by songs I have sung all my life! Another connection - music.

Being a retired teacher, I found one of the most compelling attributes of the teachers and children is their attitude about teaching and learning. The teachers are very passionate, resourceful and dedicated to the students. The children feel privileged to go to school and enjoy their studies. So refreshing to visit Kwa Watoto School - a candle in the darkness!

Joseph Njenga, coordinator of eduKenya’s Community Support Ministry (CSM), accompanied us on home visits in Mathare and provided interpretation for our conversations. Lydia’s home was the first visit, and she welcomed us warmly. We learned that she is raising several grandchildren, and how at 55 years of age, she has also excelled as a student! Lydia has completed three CSM training classes. Lydia’s determination and enterprising attitude are an inspiration to those who know her.

I went to Mathare wanting to help or give from my plenty. I returned to my own basket full of inspiration and love. I will never be the same. So many lessons learned about life from the children, families and eduKenya staff. Their joy, gratitude and faith in God inspires my own.

How do I use this passion for my new Kenyan friends? First, I pray, daily interceding for the school, teachers, students, families and community. Second, I tell anyone who listens about eduKenya and the inspiring people they serve. Third, I want others to have this amazing experience. If God is calling you to Vision Trip to Kenya - go! Finally, I will continue to partner with eduKenya, doing small things with great love for the children and families in the slums of Mathare. I invite you to join me on this incredible journey.

Sue Lumley
2014 Vision Trip Alumna

Who We Are

Our Vision: *That children and their families in Mathare experience fullness of life through economic, social, and spiritual transformation.*

Our Mission: *To offer opportunities that lead to transformation and hope for our students, their families, and their community.*

Our Motivation: *We are motivated by Jesus to love and serve the poor, oppressed and vulnerable.*

Progress is Impossible Without Change!

“Like cold water to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country.” - Proverbs 25:25

Last year, Kwa Watoto School applied to the Kenya Ministry of Education to register as a national Standard 8 exam center. We praise God that they accepted our application! At the end of Grade 8, students can sit for the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) exam. A passing grade will make them qualified to move on to high school after graduation. As an exam center, our students will test

at their own school and not have to travel to a different school to take exams.

Because the name “Kwa Watoto” is a previously registered name with the Ministry of Education, we have changed our name to Mawewa (muh-way-wuh) School. Mawewa is Kiswahili for “clear and pure spring of water.”



New Primary School Construction

Due to your generous partnership, eduKenya was able to purchase property in Mathare for the new primary school. Construction of the new Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa) began in November 2014. The new school will have three stories, eleven classrooms, a large office, a meeting room, and an open play area for students. Restroom facilities will be available on each floor. Staff and students look forward to moving to the new location and stretching out in larger classrooms!

Hope In Masimba

In the 2013 annual report, we announced the possibility of building our own boarding school for children in 6th-12th grades. In the meantime, we decided to send our 7th grade class to board at the Millennium Light School in Chuka, Kenya. By midterm, parents and staff became aware that students from the Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa) were outperforming their peers at the boarding school. Concern that the disparity would affect our students scholastically, we returned Class 7 to our school in Mathare after just one term. Back under the tutelage of their teacher, Mr. Mule, they blossomed throughout the rest of the 2014 school year!

With the return of the Class 7 to Kwa Watoto School, it became clear that we needed to move forward with our plans to build our own boarding school. In November, executive directors, Adam Gould and Bob Kikuyu, stood on a flat, quiet stretch of property, situated 100 miles outside Nairobi, near Masimba, Kenya. As they looked about, they imagined seeing sports fields, dormitories, classrooms, a science lab, a cafeteria and HOPE. We are pleased to announce that eduKenya has purchased this property and our boarding school plans are in development!



Chiku Weta!

Jennifer Wanjiku Guthera is affectionately known as 'Chiku' at Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa), and has worked at Kwa Watoto for seven years. Chiku started as a jack-of-all-trades when the school was a child care center housed at the Believers Centre Mathare Church. She now works solely in the Catering Department of our growing educational center.



*Jennifer – Tailoring
School Graduate and 2014
Employee of the Year*

Chiku has endured much loss, struggle and deprivation in her life. After her mother died and her father remarried, he abandoned his children, making it necessary for Chiku to assume a parental role with her 2 younger siblings. That is when she took a job at the Believers Centre, cooking and cleaning, barely able to pay bills, feed and clothe the children, and send them to school. Chiku sacrificed much to raise her siblings, who are now grown and on their own.

Chiku remembers the early days when the church served as both classroom and dining room. There was one blackboard, shared by all classes and the children's diet comprised only porridge. After eduKenya became involved with the Believers Centre, the school moved and grew, as did the complexity of Chiku's duties.

During these years, eduKenya added a Skill Training Department for adults. Sewing tutor, Roseland, encouraged Chiku to attend the tailoring course. At first, it was difficult for Chiku to balance work, home, and studies. As her work duties focused exclusively within the Catering Department, she gained more time for school. Four years later, in 2014, Chiku earned a Certificate in Tailoring and Dressmaking, providing her with a professional skill and the potential to improve her circumstances.

At the 2014 eduKenya staff retreat in Mombasa, Chiku earned 'Employee of the Year,' receiving recognition for her role at Kwa Watoto School. She is lauded as a godly woman, team player, and steadfast employee who adapts quickly to change. On that evening at the Kenyan Coast, Chiku felt humbled, and she expressed her deep-felt emotion with tears of joy. In addition to recognition by her colleagues, she received a monetary award. Chiku plans to buy a sewing machine with the prize money and start a side business as a tailor. We are blessed that Chiku will continue her career at Kwa Watoto School!

On graduation day, as the cries of "Chiku Weta!" (Our Chiku) filled the air, it was a communal victory for the eduKenya family. It serves as a reminder that we do indeed transform lives through education, one life at a time.

Opportunity For Transformation

In 2014, Home Based Care (HBC) merged and expanded into the Community Support Ministry (CSM). Like HBC, CSM supports the needs of those with chronic illness. In addition, CSM now addresses the needs of parents and community members with unstable employment. CSM supports all other departments and has become an integral part of eduKenya's operation in Mathare.

Since the change, CSM coordinator, Joseph Njenga, interacts with a greater number of Kwa Watoto School parents, microenterprise traders and other community members. His interaction with school parents includes home visits to follow-up on students. During home visits, Njenga gains a better understanding of the challenges families face and how to best support the students in and out of the classroom.

Njenga provides counseling to community members. He shares the love of Jesus with those devastated by poverty, life-threatening disease, and issues such as addiction and domestic violence. Njenga is faithful to pray with and for his clients.



Soap Making Class

CSM collaborates with Kiva Loans, a non-profit organization with a mission to connect people through lending to alleviate poverty. Mathare community members have received loans to start a business or bolster a struggling enterprise. eduKenya Executive Director, Bob Kikuyu, and eduKenya partner, Bishop Isaiah Kamau, have registered as trustees with Kiva, allowing us to endorse 45 borrowers.

CSM offers training in skills such as soap making and baking. In addition, they provide a platform from which the eduKenya Skill Training program (Hairdressing/Beauty and Tailoring Schools) can reach members of the community.

CSM provides opportunity to underserved families and individuals in the local community. Participating community members are providing their families with food, clothing, shelter, safe drinking water, and health care. Joseph Njenga says that eduKenya's Community Support Ministry works for the glory of God, who provides the motivation to keep working toward transformation in Mathare.

Casting A Vision To Create Opportunity

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” - Jeremiah 29:11

In 2014, work started on the eduKenya Development Plan to cast a vision and prepare for the future of our primary school, Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa), and a boarding school. The eduKenya Development Plan creates an opportunity for children in the Mathare slum to get a high quality, Christian based education from pre-school through high school. When the plan is complete, the schools will be financially self-sustaining.

There are two major components to achieving financial self-sustainability. The first involves purchasing apartment buildings in and around Mathare, which will generate rental income to support the needs of both schools. The second part will come from students outside of Mathare who will pay full tuition and fees to attend the boarding school.

Providing Opportunity Through Skill Training

A common story in Mathare is that of a people unable or unwilling to take advantage of opportunities to lift themselves above the heavy barrier of extreme poverty. Those who succeed often do so because their circumstances serve as a catalyst, not a hindrance, to their success. Mary Akeyo is in this category.



Mary Akeyo

Mary, 25, farmed for many years in South Nyanza in Western Kenya. After her husband moved to Nairobi, and for the sake of the children, she gave up farming to join him, reuniting their family of five. She has three children; one daughter is a student at Kwa Watoto School. Mary has been a homemaker for the past four years and with her youngest nearing primary school age, she wants to return to work. Because farming is her occupation of choice, and not available in Mathare, Mary joined the Tailoring program at eduKenya's Skill Training department. Her tutors say she is an excellent student, attends class regularly, grasps the lessons quickly, and is dedicated to her studies.

Each man should give as he has decided in his heart. He should not give, wishing he could keep it. Or he should not give if he feels he has to give. God loves a man who gives because he wants to give. - 2 Corinthians 9:7

Mary is soft-spoken and prefers to keep her eyes lowered as she communicates. Mary says she wants to provide a better life for her children and support her aging parents. With those goals in mind, she hopes to open her own business someday. However, her aspirations extend beyond supporting her family. Mary wishes to use her newfound skill to help those less fortunate than herself.

We at eduKenya continue to feel humbled by those, who living in one of the most difficult places on earth, recognize the deeper needs of others and wish to share their blessings with them. eduKenya is grateful for godly hearts that want to bless others as they have been blessed! May God give us all such eyes to see and ears to hear.

Meet The Kenyan Staff



Front row from left to right:

Christine Mumbie Musyoka (PP2 Teacher); Patricia Ndinda (Kitchen); Anne Wanjiru (Skills Tailoring Tutor); Petronila Mutile (Head cook); Edita Orinda (Preschool Teaching Assistant); Esther Mwangi (PP1 Teacher); Irene Macharia (Deputy Head Teacher/Class 6 Teacher); Moureen Njeru (Class 4 Teacher); Robert Were (School Caretaker)

Middle row, left to right:

Pamela Odhiambo (Apartment Caretaker); Jennifer Wanjiku "Chiku" (Kitchen); Mercy Murugi (Kitchen); Lydia Wandera (Class 1 Teacher); Phoebe Hadia (Cosmetology Tutor); Roseland Elaya (Tailoring Tutor); Pauline Ng'ang'a (Communications Officer); Christine Mbithe (Cosmetology Tutor); Caroline Angatia (Class 5 Teacher); Ajema Ngumba (Kenya Administrative Director)

Back row, left to right:

Pastor Bob Kikuyu (Kenya Executive Director); Lewin Obwora (Unassigned teacher); Dominic Nzoka (Class 3 Teacher); Elijah Muli (Class 7 teacher); Bishop Isaiah Kamau (eduKenya partner - Believers Centre); Esther Ng'ang'a (PP3 Class Teacher); Purity Mtalii (Class 2 Teacher); Michael Maingi (Head Teacher); Joseph Njenga (CSM Coordinator).

Transforming Lives, One Student At A Time

The lyrics from the popular song “Azonto” crashed through the eduKenya office window from the Kwa Watoto School (now Mawewa) playground. The source was Isaac, a boisterous and swaggering 7 year old, nicknamed “Azonto” for the song. Azonto joined the Kwa Watoto School in January 2014 and ruled the strip of playground within a week. He quickly became known for entertaining the children with his antics, unfairly meting out punishment to those smaller, and just being so present he could not be ignored.

Azonto’s teacher, Esther Mwangi, had a challenge controlling him in and out of class, but worked diligently to transform him without crushing his sanguine spirit. Mrs. Mwangi encouraged the other children to interact with Azonto, be kind, and model good behavior. She tutored Azonto with his studies, showing patience and love.

Incorrigible as he seemed, Azonto was zealous for God. Seeing this, Mrs. Mwangi fostered his love for God and singing to help him with a slow speech development. She urged Azonto to sing songs of praise during daily devotion. His behavior, speech, and grades improved rapidly and Azonto soon became a treasured presence within the Kwa Watoto School walls.

Azonto lives in a one-room shack in Jangwani with his mother, Mama Isaac, and his grandmother and aunt live nearby. The



*“I want to do my azonto
azonto azonto.
Now watch me do my azonto
azonto azonto”*

grandmother and aunts abuse alcohol, and because he spent much of his early life in their presence, their drunken antics manifested in Azonto’s unruly, bullying behavior. Mama Isaac stands out in this family because she is sober, hard working and responsible. She operates a roadside vegetable kiosk, using the earnings to feed, clothe and educate Isaac. So, the staff was perplexed when, without explanation, Azonto did not return for the third school term of 2014.

Mama Isaac owns goats, which are like savings in the bank in Kenya. When her upcountry relative tired of caring for the goats, Mama Isaac had no choice but to leave Mathare promptly and look after her investment. Her mother and sisters could not be trusted with the care of Azonto, so she took him with her. While upcountry,

Mama Isaac did not want Azonto’s education to suffer, so with great sacrifice to herself, she enrolled him in a local school. After three months, a grateful and more mature Azonto returned to Kwa Watoto School and renewed his place as beloved king of the playground.

The Kwa Watoto School is a center of hope and transformation for Azonto and other children like him. We are committed to providing multiple opportunities and resources for the students. Our goal is that one day they might break the chronic cycle of poverty, live a full life in God, and enrich their community.

Financial Highlights

REVENUE

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| <i>Individual/Private</i> | \$286,228 |
| <i>Business/Corporate</i> | \$75,078 |
| <i>Churches</i> | \$46,387 |
| <i>Rental Income</i> | \$13,697 |
| <i>Nonprofits</i> | \$18,812 |
| <i>Skills Training</i> | \$1,525 |
| <i>School Fees</i> | \$1,403 |

TOTAL \$ 443,130

eduKenya is dedicated to the highest standards of financial stewardship and accountability to both our donors and the people we serve. We are committed to efficiently and transparently utilizing the resources entrusted to us.

We regularly monitor program budgets and costs to ensure that resources are maximized and used for their intended purposes. Annual audits are conducted by Certified Public Accountants.

Here are the unaudited financial highlights for the year ended December 31, 2014

EXPENSES

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| \$18,784 | <i>Kenya Administrative</i> |
| \$76,023 | <i>US Administrative</i> |
| \$45,660 | <i>Fundraising</i> |
| \$9,724 | <i>Home Based Care</i> |
| \$122,369 | <i>Kwa Watoto School</i> |
| \$19,330 | <i>Skills Training</i> |
| \$21,579 | <i>Construction/Land</i> |

\$313,469 TOTAL



eduKenya Leadership Team

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Adam Gould
Steve Gould
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