

ISSUE 27 • JULY 2022

(MAY-JUNE)

TRANSFORM NEWSLETTER

Spur Afrika in Kibera and Kisumu communities

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to our Transform Newsletter (July Issue). We are excited to update you on our work and activities.

The last two months have been action packed and our successes are due to your never-ending prayers and support for our work.

We pray that you will continue to support us in every way you can because it is in this support that we get strength to keep going.



www.spurafrika.org



SpurAfrika



www.spurafrika.org



www.spurafrika.org

This issue:

Elimisha Sponsored children

Special Programs

GBV Awareness

Mentorship and
Counselling

Bingwa Girls

Kisumu Project



ELIMISHA STUDENTS' SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Students under our sponsorship program are still facing a lot of school pressure due to the ongoing tight school schedule due to COVID-19 gap year of 2020. Therefore, their recess and resting periods have significantly reduced. It is good to acknowledge that the ministry of Education has built in several midterm breaks, the last such breaks was in May.

We took advantage of the break to engage the sponsored children in groups catch-ups where they shared some challenges that they are facing at home and school. Such catch-ups are designed to help the children maintain good mental and emotional health. Whenever needed we deploy professional therapists to assist the children work out various issues.



School and Home visits

We do regular school and home visits as part of our thorough follow ups and making sure that all our sponsored children's families are okay. In the last two months we visited a few families; interacting and praying with them. We also gave out some food bags to some of the families who are facing harsh economic conditions due to effects current world's trends such as COVID-19, and war between Ukraine and Russia.

Our team members also went to visit several sponsored children in school as part of our routine academic support for the children and relationships building with schools that our sponsored children attend.

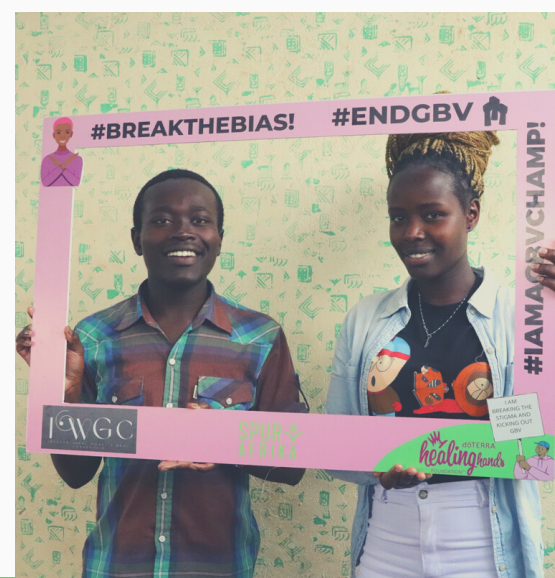
Most sponsored school children are anticipated to be back for another short school break in the beginning of July.

GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AWARENESS PROGRAM

We noticed a concerning trend of Gender Based Violence in years 2020 when families were forced to stay together at home due to effects of COVID-19. We decided to embark on a sessional program that is geared towards creating awareness and addressing issues surrounding gender-based violence. We are thankful for our partnership with International Women's Consortium and Doterra Healing Hands that has made this possible.

The period of this program is May to August 2022. So far, we have reached out to twenty of our sponsored parents, three high schools (St. Juliet in Kibera, Mukuyu and Newdown Secondary schools in Kiambu County) and group of fifty adolescent youth.

We hope to create a safe space for all the people who have experienced GBV through talks, counselling, and support groups especially for our sponsored parents who will then be champions of the same.





SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Oral Hygiene Campaign in Partnership with Colgate Kenya

We had two Oral Hygiene outreaches in the last two months. This special program reached out to a total of 1,400 students in May and 3,700 students. The students learnt how to properly brush their teeth to avoid teeth decays/cavities after which each one of them was gifted a brush and a toothpaste to use at home. This program aims to help save the children from having painful dental procedures that are also expensive.

This termly program has gained momentum over the years courtesy of our partnership with Colgate Kenya who continuously supplies us with oral hygiene products (toothpastes and toothbrushes) and handwashing soaps (Protex).



Business As Mission (B.A.M)

Another one of special programs is our annual business training meant local young entrepreneurs; B.A.M.

We had a get together with former trainees as a way of following up on the progress of their businesses. We also received valuable feedback from them that will help us better this program. This year's training is expected to happen in September.

RIKI (Read It Know It)

This is special program that is aimed at promoting a reading culture among students in various schools. The program incorporates competition in various academic activities such reading, reciting poems, dances, and more.

This school term's RIKI event was graced by creative performances from seven schools. Fairview Academy emerged this term's overall winners.





MENTORSHIP AND COUNSELLING

One on One

We have had about twenty physical and three online mentorship meetings happen in the last two months. These sessions happened either at the Spur Afrika Community Centre, at mentees homes or dates outside Spur Afrika premises.

Our volunteer mentors have shown dedication in walking and positively guiding our sponsored children, something that has saw a huge behavioural change among our sponsored children. We appreciate them so much and continue to pray for abundance in their lives.

We however are still in need of more mentors to fill in the current mentorship gap. If you are interested in volunteering with us as mentor, please reach out on spurafrika6.kenya@gmail.com. We would also like to let you know that we have a mentor's hike/training coming up on the 30th of July 2022.



Counselling Sessions

Counselling and psychoeducation for our sponsored students happens regularly, especially to students who are struggling with issues that could cause stress, depression, anxiety or affect their general growth as per our aspiration.

We had three students go through counselling in the last two months. These sessions are expected to continue during the upcoming school break. Thanks to our volunteer counsellors; Amani Gaceri and Meldon Onyango for always willing to help.

BINGWA GIRLS

Our menstrual and hygiene sessions girls at St. Juliet primary school continued in May and June. Spur Afrika female staff in charge of this empowerment program had about six sessions with the girls and had in-depth discussions on GBV and Identity. The sessions will continue next term where the girls will also be given sanitary packs.





SPUR AFRIKA KISUMU PROJECT

We are glad to bring you some of the updates from our brunch in Kisumu, in Western part of Kenya. Our Director, Patrick Achola, has done excellent job with our current community volunteers during his several visits. So far, the project is progressing well, here are the details:

Kisumu Sponsorship Program

Our ten Spur Afrika Kisumu sponsored children are doing well as far as their academics are concerned. Most of them have expressed their gratitude in recent feedback received from the parents.

The team, led by Patrick, is constantly working round the clock to ensure that there is a smooth running of the activities through thorough follow up. We hope to recruit another bunch of ten students into this program in the coming months.



Spur Afrika Kinda Girls

Kinda is a Luo word that means determined and never giving up. It is an empowerment program meant for teen/ adolescent mothers in Holo community (Kisumu), which is Spur Afrika's second location.

Spur Afrika enrolled about fifteen young mothers who have been going through a vocational training blended with empowerment topics to help them back on their feet. Nine out of fifteen graduated in July with different skills including income generating activities.

Oral Hygiene

Our Kisumu volunteers also conducted oral hygiene activities in different schools to instruct students proper oral and dental care methods.

