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TRANSFORM NEWSLETTER

Spur Afrika in Kibera and Kisumu communities'

A message from the Spur Afrika Director

In this second month of the year, we take this opportunity to thank you for your collaboration in living our mission of empowering, engaging and educating young minds towards greater self-confidence.

We are thrilled with the progress we are making amid the unending COVID19 pandemic and look forward to your continued support.

We share with you our first newsletter of 2022, the new Transform newsletter, and we hope you are as excited as we are as we continue to see the transformation our work brings to the lives of our children, their families and the community, in general.



Asanteni sana!
Patrick Achola
Director-Spur Afrika

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ELIMISHA

This is our flagship venture that started over ten (10) years ago. The venture has persisted to develop with additional children joining the program each year. So far, the venture has grown to 100 and twenty-five (125) in Nairobi and the ten (10). The Elimisha crew in collaboration with other team members started out their school and home visits to make sure that the youngsters are comfortable, and that the application process is as authentic as viable respectively.

Our sponsored children resumed their final school term on 4th of January 2022. This followed the interruption of the school calendar by the COVID-19 pandemic. Given that the pandemic disrupted the usual school calendar, the 2022 school calendar will see an extended school time table with the year having four (4) in place of the usual three (3) terms. This year may also see fourteen (14) of our children sit for their final primary schooling examinations and take this possibility to wish them the very best in their examinations. se who were found with health or dental issues received treatment.



The SPUR AFRIKA Kisumu project

After an extensive needs assessment in Kisumu County (mainly the suburban areas and parts of rural Kisumu) we are pleased to announce that we have expanded our project s to a new region.

Our main aim is to address the community needs with scalable and sustainable solutions through our sponsorship program as our entry program in addition to other programs. Drawing on lessons from our successful Kibera project, our Kisumu project hopes to continue the mission of engaging, empowering, and educating the community towards a sustainable future.

Kisumu Pioneer Programs

Last year (2021) we started piloting Kisumu project through Elimisha Sponsorship program and enrolled ten (10) children.

The 10 pioneer children were selected through a rigorous process, and we're excited to start the journey with them. A big thank you to our young Kisumu team for their steady tough work and enter to ensure the fulfillment of the Kisumu project.

The Kisumu project has also begun a Sunday Outreach program for our sponsored children. The program happens every Sunday afternoons where we take the children through basic life skills towards a holistic growth and development.

The outreach program has picked up quite well with the children tagging their friends along to the Sunday event. As the saying goes, 'All work with no play makes Jack and Jill a dull boy and girl we also engage the children in games that keep them active during the sessions





SPECIAL PROGRAMS

The Annual Kibera Medical Camp

Our Annual Medical camp kicked us off in 2022, a special programme that is extended beyond our sponsored children to our Kibera community. Unlike the previous years, the COVID-19 pandemic did not allow us to open this up beyond the sponsored children and their families. We however look forward to a continued partnership when the pandemic is over.

Our medical camp happened as a crossover between 29th December 2021 to 2nd January 2022 and was extended beyond our 115 children in Nairobi to the new 10 sponsored children through our Kisumu project bringing the total to 125. They were taken through a thorough medical assessment including dental checkups. Those that had medical and dental conditions were attended to and some referred for follow up where necessary. Our team from Spur Afrika, David Fong and Rosalie Lui supported by our other local volunteers from Nairobi took the children through the camp.



Our Maiden Medical checkups for Kisumu Sponsored Children's Family

We held our first ever medical check-ups with our new children and their families. The medical check-ups in Kisumu saw medical volunteers from Australia Rosalie Lui and David Fong undertake the program for the sponsored families through home visits.

We celebrate the success of the first medical check-ups in Kisumu, going on henceforth, we are hoping that the second sessions will see a larger number receive medical check-ups to ensure that their health does not deteriorate.

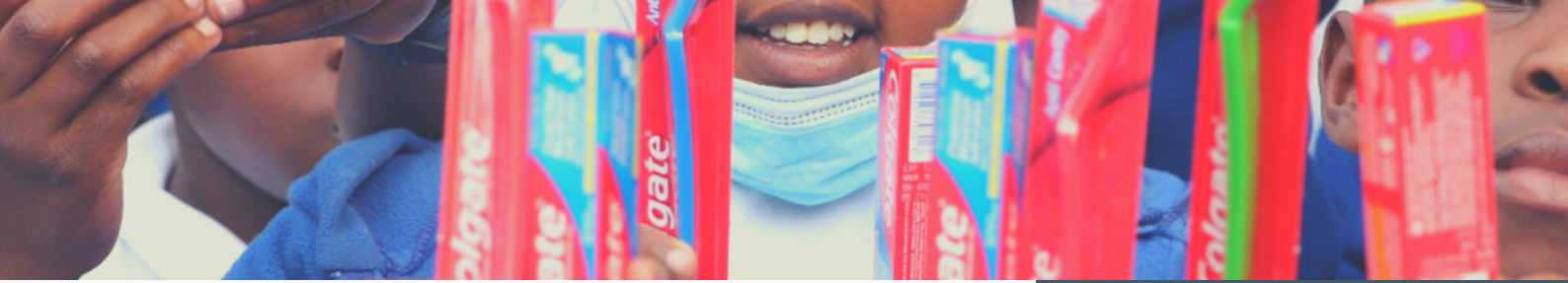
We take this moment to thank you for our continued support and look forward to a continued partnership. Together, we will keep engaging, empowering, and transforming the lives of many young lives and their families towards a sustainable future nation and generations.

The Oral Hygiene Campaign in Partnership with Colgate Kenya

Our Oral hygiene is a special program aimed at creating dental awareness and ensuring dental health to all our sponsored children and that of our neighboring schools. This educational awareness programme aims at creating lasting oral care change to children as they grow up as it instills the skill on proper dental care. Since the beginning of the year, this campaign has reached one thousand and two hundred (1200) children in six (6) schools) within the larger Kibera community.

The children received awareness on how to brush their teeth at latest twice a day to keep off dental ill health. Further, each of the children received one toothbrush and toothpaste courtesy of our long-term partner Colgate Kenya. We look forward to continuing oral health care campaigns throughout 2022.





The Kisumu Oral Hygiene Campaign

Our Oral hygiene has moved to our Kisumu, with the aim of ensuring proper dental care and hygiene. This initiative is important since most of the schools that we visit within Kisumu County are in poverty-stricken areas, therefore access to toothbrushes or toothpaste is hard.

Nonetheless, our efforts are to ensure that the children living in these areas are not only able to access a toothbrush and a toothpaste but also learn oral hygiene that they can apply in their day to day lives.

Due to the novelty of this initiative, we are hoping to impact as many children as possible, especially the ones in the areas where access to these amenities is hard and increase the scope of the schools that we partner with in our next oral hygiene program



Read It Know It

RIKI is our ongoing promotional program that aims at promoting a reading culture among children in schools that we partner with within the larger Kibera community. This programme is competitive and takes the form of debates, trivia questions and choral verses.

Our first RIKI event in 2022 was held in early February at K.A.G primary school and seven (7) schools took part. Our sponsored children received the best awards in three of the schools that they study in after emerging top in trivia questions and debate

“Education is
the most
powerful
weapon which
you can use to
change the
world””

JANET THOMPSON





MENTORSHIP

One on One Mentorship.

Apart from ensuring that children from the disadvantaged communities get access to quality education, we also aim to raise responsible citizens in a holistic way through transformative mentorship. This year, we resumed our blended mentorship sessions with mentees and mentors having both physical and virtual sessions.



Mentors' Training

Mid-February, our volunteer mentors went through a capacity building session where they were taken through a deep dive towards an effective mentorship journey for lasting results in their lives. A total of forty-three (43) mentors and potential mentors attended this informative session.

They were taken through various sessions that are aimed at strengthening their mentorship skills. Each mentor received a file that will serve as a mentorship guide consisting of different topics aimed at guiding them throughout the mentorship process.



“Mentoring
is: Sharing
Life's
Experiences
and God's
Faithfulness”

JANET THOMPSON





BINGWA GIRLS

The Spur Afrika personal care program resumed in February 2022. It was a refreshing experience seeing the girls we empower put into practice the many lessons and knowledge we impact on them.

The girls were taken through a recap of the topics that they sought clarity on. We in addition distributed a sanitary care pack consisting of sanitary towels and undergarments. This was also an opportunity to bid farewell to the class eight girls sitting their examinations in early March.



A Poem By Bingwa Girls

They are like God senders, always ready to protect our girls.
Feed them and mentor them.
Indeed, you are our heroes.

They risk their lives,
In the hands of the perpetrators,
Day and Night, protecting our community,
Indeed, you are our heroes.

They are forgotten heroes,
Nobody talks about them,
They only talk about Jomo Kenyatta, Wangari Maathai and others.
Indeed, you are our heroes.

You are our heroes,
Our future in your hands,
Protect our girls by protecting Bingwa girls,
Indeed, you are our heroes".

Our Kisumu Teenage Girls' and Adolescent Mothers' project

We partnered with key players who are experts in sexual reproductive health and rights for women and girls to listen to the needs of adolescent girls and adolescent mothers with the intention of addressing the emerging adolescent reproductive health needs and curbing the ever-rising adolescent pregnancies in the region.

We have created a forum to listen to these girls' aspirations and what they wish for their children with an aim of setting up ways of supporting their return to school. Where possible we shall try finding sustainable approaches to ensure that the girls and their children bring an end to the vicious cycle of poverty that is linked to high adolescent motherhood.

