



SPUR AFRIKA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020





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MEET OUR TEAM

SPUR AFRIKA KENYA



TOP ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)

NICHOLAS KENG'ORA
CHILDREN'S PROGRAM MANAGER

PATRICK ACHOLA
KENYAN DIRECTOR

KUIR DENG
INTERN

HARRY KIGANI
CHILDREN'S WORKER

FRONT ROW (LEFT TO RIGHT)

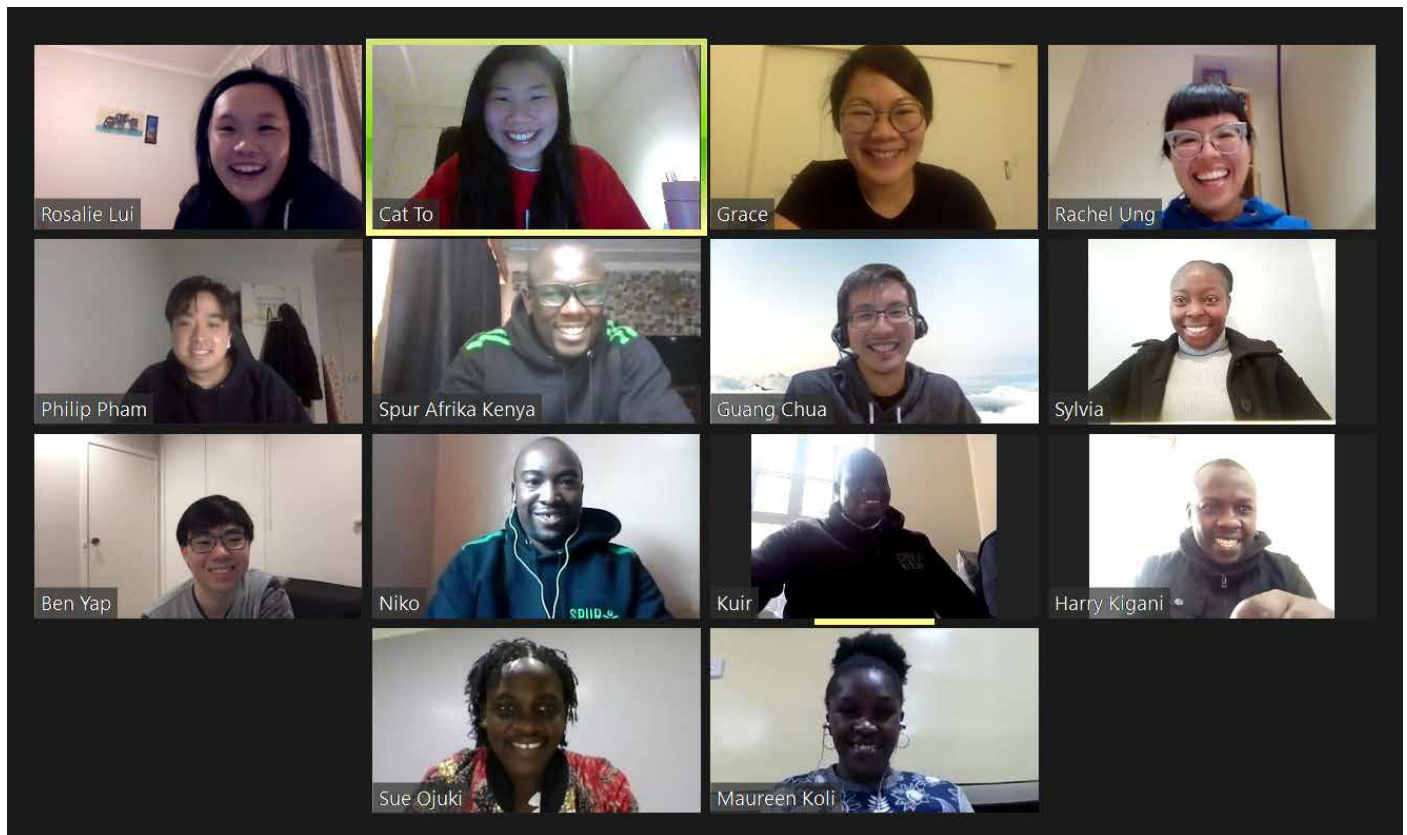
SYLVIA AGWONA KENDA
SPECIAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

SUSAN OJUKI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR & ADMINISTRATOR

MAUREEN ATIENO KOLI
COMMUNICATIONS &
MENTORSHIP COORDINATOR

MEET OUR TEAM

SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA



BOARD MEMBERS

ROSALIE LUI
CHAIRPERSON

GUANG CHUA
TREASURER

GRACE WONG
SECRETARY

LEANNE LEE

KEVIN TAI

TIM CHONG

OPERATIONS TEAM

ROSALIE LUI
MANAGING DIRECTOR

CATHERINE TO
SOCIAL MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS

RACHEL UNG
COMMUNICATIONS

PHILLIP PHAM
FINANCE MANAGER

SUSAN CHONG
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR

MARY YUEN
ADMINISTRATOR

STEPHEN YUEN
GRAPHICS

TIFFANY YU
GRAPHICS

BEN YAP
WEBSITE



MESSAGES FROM SPUR AFRIKA

MESSAGE FROM ROSALIE LUI

MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA

Did you know that the Oxford dictionary chooses a word for the year, a word to describe the year that was? For 2019, it was climate emergency.

What would you choose for 2020? I wouldn't be surprised if it was pandemic or social distancing. But as I reflect on the last year, the words that I would use for Spur Afrika isn't pandemic but rather, it is hope, inspiration or encouragement. More importantly, it is clear that as an organisation, Spur Afrika has remained adaptable, relevant and very much essential.

Firstly, I am thankful for our Kenyan team, Aussie operations and board members. I must admit, when the pandemic started, I was fearful that we wouldn't be able to meet our fundraising targets, however with God's grace we realised our community were still willing to continue their support. Surprisingly, more people were willing to spend their extra time and funds. This gave us new meaning and motivation, as we managed to adapt quickly. Moreover, as we heard stories of unemployment, poverty and children not being able to go to school, we knew Spur Afrika still had a vital role in solving these issues.

With the support from our board and our Kenyan directors were able to redevelop our programs. In response to the Kenyan government suspending schooling, we started our own alternate learning at our Spur centre. At the same time, we started an emergency food fund for our Spur families as many didn't have funds to purchase food, therefore we heard stories of hunger in which the children usually suffered the most.

However, as the director I also felt deep concern for our Spur workers and young adults living in Kibera. I realised that many young people had either lost their jobs or they were supporting not only themselves but their immediate family members and extended family as well. This gave me insight into how we could support our Spur workers and community, therefore extra support was also provided via food packages and other initiatives.

While in Melbourne, both our Aussie operations team and board continued to work hard. I am pleased with our quickly we pivoted our fundraising, administration and meetings online. We held multiple events online, e.g. life transformed Q and A, virtual auction, bigger questions podcast and our emergency food packages initiative was also launched on

our Spur store website. I want to personally acknowledge the Spur operations team as they have dedicated their time in communicating and running our events and operations.

We are especially pleased to welcome Philip Pham to our operations team as our finance manager. While we thank Guang Chua for being our new treasurer and board member, we say a big thank you to Kevin Tai as he steps down from being our treasurer for the last 7 years. However I am thankful that he remains on our Spur board. Besides our operations team, I would like to thank Ian Bunston, Carolyn Bunston and Alex Box for their dedication and creativity regarding our online mentoring sessions with our Spur children. It is amazing to be able to connect with our children despite being so many countries away.

Finally, I continue to be thankful, grateful and completely in awe of the support that everyone has given to Spur Afrika. Despite being a small organization and not having paid staff in Melbourne, we have achieved great things. Thank you to our Kenyan directors for being our champions. A special mention goes to our partnered churches, Balwyn Wesleyan Methodist Church and Melbourne Chinese Baptist Church. Ultimately, we thank God for his providence, without him we are nothing.



Celebrating 10 years of Spur Kenya



2020 January mission team on a home visit

MESSAGE FROM LEANNE LEE

BOARD MEMBER

I don't think that anyone could have predicted their 2020 would look like this...

A lot of people (myself included) were feeling inspired by the prospect of what 2020 could bring – the start of a new year, the beginning of a new decade and a chance to establish new routines and fulfil those New Year's resolutions set in the beginning of the year.

It started off as a big year for Spur Afrika. In January 2020, the Mission Team from Australia together with some local volunteer doctors ran a camp for our sponsored children, mobile medical clinics for about 1000 children in the slums and a training session for the mentors. The number of children in our child sponsorship program increased from 91 to 100. We also had hopes to provide 100 families with the opportunity to take up health care insurance which would provide families with access to medical care.

Then came the outbreak of the...Coronavirus.

Our Kenyan Team faced a number of imminent challenges including partial lockdowns, the indefinite closure of schools, rampant job losses amongst the parents of our sponsored children due to the strict social distancing measures implemented by the Kenyan

Government, resulting in a number of financial difficulties including purchasing food and paying rent. Despite all these challenges, I am extremely proud of Patoh and Sue for their outstanding leadership and the resilience and adaptability of our Kenyan Team. They took on the challenges with a great attitude and were able to implement a number of new short term initiatives promptly to meet the immediate needs of the sponsored children and their families.

These short term initiatives included the establishment of the Emergency Food Bank which provided food packs to the families of the sponsored children, the creation of alternative learning platforms which enabled the children within our programs to continue their education, the provision of skills training to our sponsored children and the provision of rental assistance to those parents of our sponsored children who were struggling to pay rent.

Personally, it has been so encouraging to hear the 'good news' stories that have transpired from these short term initiatives and I am incredibly thankful for the privilege of being able to partner in a small way with our Kenyan Team to make a difference to the lives of those living in the Kibera Slums.

I have also been blown away by the generosity of all our supporters. It has been a challenging time for so many, but your willingness to continue to give to Spur Afrika has enabled us keep running our programs, albeit differently. I am sure that life post the Coronavirus will look very different, but I am so excited to see what God has in store for us as an organisation in the year ahead, so my encouragement to us all is to keep setting goals and to keep dreaming, because as CS Lewis put very aptly, 'You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream.'

MESSAGE FROM GUANG CHUA

FINANCIAL MANAGER AND TREASURER

Financial year 2020 for Spur has been a very encouraging year, and has given us enormous confidence that Spur is in a strong position to continue growing and supporting the life-changing work of our Kenyan team for many more years to come.

Starting with where we were in July 2019: as a team we were actually a little worried because we were falling behind our fundraising target for the year. However, due to some amazing efforts from our Melbourne Marathon team, and some generous contributions from our two main church partners Melbourne Chinese Baptist Church (MCBC) and Balwyn Wesleyan Methodist Church (BWMC), as well as the generous donations (big and small) from our supporter base through the latter part of the year, we were able to achieve our goal of \$150,000 by the end of December and for that we are so grateful.

Then at the start of 2020, we set our fundraising target at \$158,000 (an increase of 5% on 2019's target in order to cover ten additional sponsor children), obviously not knowing that COVID-19 was about to hit. With schools closed in Kenya from March 2020 until 2021 due to the crisis, the need in Kenya is as great as ever. So, after some re-planning discussions, we have confirmed

that in 2020 our fundraising target remains unchanged: funds that will be saved on school fees this year will be diverted towards targeted COVID-19 relief, including our Food Bank that has helped feed over 100 families, as well as providing substitute learning programs for our sponsored children.

We've seen Spur's supporter base give so generously during the challenging times of COVID-19. As at June 2020, we've had \$10,000 raised via our Food Bank drive, and 50% higher General Donations than average. Because of these donations we are so far on track to meet our 2020 target despite these uncertain times. Thank you so much to everyone who has supported us in any way this year - whether it's through attending one of our events, liking one of our social media posts, or faithfully being a regular donor month in, month out - every single contribution encourages us to keep going on this incredible journey.

Finally, and very importantly, this year we've had two new faces join the Spur Finance team - Susan Chong and Philip Pham. Susan came on board in October 2019 as Finance Administrator, and Philip has moved into my Finance Manager role as of August 2020. This has enabled me to transition into Kevin's role as Treasurer (Kevin is stepping down,

but keeping his position as Board Member).
I want to thank Kevin for his many years of leadership as Treasurer, guiding Spur with great diligence, integrity and excellence! I'm also very grateful to Susan and Philip for their highly valued contributions so far and look forward to working with them both going forward.

MESSAGE FROM PATRICK ACHOLA

SPUR KENYA DIRECTOR

I have never doubted that one of my spiritual gifts is leadership, as usually I am good at solving problems. One way or another I often find my way around even tough issues. However, that was until the year 2020 where everyone in the world has been faced with the same issues resulting from COVID-19. There was no point of reference because no one has ever faced such a pandemic before. Hence, no mentors, no books, no experts, as we scramble at dealing with COVID-19 all at the same time.

This has made 2020 a very unpredictable year full of surprises. I have found myself doing things I thought we would never do as a charity, one of which is giving out food donations. I have always been for teaching people to fish rather than giving them the fish but the year 2020 has humbled me. I was born in the slum and growing up I faced poverty especially as an orphaned kid and sometimes I have gone without meals.

As a leader at Spur Afrika I have always been against attempts for Spur to do feeding programs simply because I never see the program as sustainable. However, this year I without persuasion, found myself championing the feeding program that I have been against, and constantly running several emergency food drives for our sponsored kids because most of

their care givers lost their jobs due to effects of COVID-19. Emergency food program has feed 100 families (about 600 people) each month from March, and for many of them the food packs has been their only source of meaningful food. My heart is filled with joy every time I see the families come to collect their food packages and they have wide smiles on their faces. Even though its been a tough period, I feel that I have found more meaning in what we do for our Spur community.

The Goals

Before the onset of COVID-19 we had set 2020 goals, however staying the course has been difficult because the year has been 'frozen' with the Kenyan government restricting our activity. Our initial goals for year 2020 included:

1. Recruit 10 more sponsored children to reach a total of 100.
2. Recruit 10 more mentors to have a total of 60.
3. Recruit 60 more families on National Insurance Health Fund (NIHF).
4. Increase partnerships with local and international institutions/ organization i.e schools, charities, churches and other benefactors.
5. Scope for expansion of our project in a new town.

We have tried our best to reach our 2020 goals despite the tough situations. Therefore, we are pleased to have achieved the following.

As of June 2020, these goals have been achieved:

1. Recruited 10 extra kids to bring our total number to 100.
2. Recruited 5 more mentors bringing our total number to 55.
3. Recruited 49 families to NHIF.
4. Formed 3 new partnerships.
5. Postponed scoping project to next year 2021.

Above our FY2020 year's targets we have implemented the following temporary interventions to administer to our Spur community with their immediate needs:

1. **Food Packs:** Providing family food packs on a monthly basis to all our sponsored children's families, since most parents lost their jobs due to effects of COVID-19. These food packs have also been extended to mentors who have lost their jobs.
2. **Alternative Learning and Skills Development:** Schools were suspended indefinitely after COVID-19 was

discovered in Kenya. We have had to come up with alternative learning where our sponsored children attended classes in small numbers at the Spur center. They had academic exercise to attempt at home and would attend weekly lessons and they also had past exam papers to revise with. Children were also divided into groups according to their interests eg computers, art, catering, and professionals contracted to teach them.

3. **Emergency Rent:** We have had to assist a few families with emergency rent payments, as some families were at the point of being thrown as they couldn't find the funds. We have also had to help some families find new homes.
4. **Counselling:** Some children have gotten stressed so much that we have had to engage professional counseling to help them.
5. **Online Mentoring:** There is always a great need for our sponsored children to be in touch to their Kenyan mentors regularly. We completely stopped mentorship at first, but later reinstated them via online.

Note: The interventions above are short term and will be terminated at the end of the year, December 2020. We shall review the interventions and determine which ones qualify to be considered as potential long-term projects.

Hopefully, as COVID 19 restrictions are lifted, some things will go back to the normal so we make preparations for the next year. At this time, we are in desperate need of your prayers, coaching and resources to continue doing our work in Kibera slums. Meanwhile we are pleased to celebrate 10 years of Spur Afrika in Kenya. We have had some celebrations with our children, spur team and stakeholders. Thank you for partnering with us over the last 10 years! We are praying and hoping for more many years to come!



Patch wearing our special 10 years of Spur tee



Sylvia, Niko and Sue



SPUR KENYA REPORT

PROGRAMS REPORT FY2020

WRITTEN BY SUE OJUKI (DEPUTY DIRECTOR & ADMINISTRATOR)

Despite the difficult and challenging times, we are grateful that we can continue with some of the programs. Spur Afrika continues to engage with its immediate stakeholders (Spur children, parents and mentors).

Medical Clinic Outreach

In January in partnership with Kibera Human Needs Development Clinic we held a medical outreach for five days in Kibera. The team comprised of 5 medical doctors, 1 dentist, 2 volunteers and 6 Spur Kenya team members. We administered to over 900 children and adults that were treated for a range of health and or dental issues.

Elimisha (Child Sponsorship Program)

Spur Afrika enrolled 14 more children to the sponsorship program, bringing the total number of Spur children to 100. 25 children are in high school and 75 in primary school. The children are doing well despite the challenging situations they are facing. Since schools closed in March due to Covid-19, Spur Afrika has set different activities for the children to keep them going in this season. Among the interventions are:

1. Tuition classes
2. Mentorship sessions in smaller groups

3. Art classes for children between grade 3 and 5
4. Counselling sessions for children facing extremely hard situations

Some of the activities under Elimisha such as home visits, picnics, end year camp have been cancelled completely for the rest of the year due to government restrictions. We shall not hold any picnics or end of year camp as in the norm.

The Spur Centre remains open for the children to conduct activities in small numbers with the supervision of a Spur worker.

Mentorship

Spur Afrika has 58 mentors who have continued to be supportive of the children throughout the year. Although physical meetings are currently not encouraged, some of the Mentors have continued to hold mentorship sessions with their mentees virtually.

Mentorship training and other activities with mentors are on hold in the short term until the government lifts the ban on public gatherings. Spur Afrika continues to keep mentors engaged through regular phone calls and holding prayer sessions over zoom every two weeks for one hour.

A monthly video conferencing session with Spur Afrika students, Spur workers and teachers from Melbourne has achieved the following:

1. Continued development of relationships and social programs established through visits of the 2019 and 2020 Australian Team.
2. Development of self-esteem, confidence and emotional awareness
3. Opportunity to express personal developments in social interactions such as games and activities. Problem solving strategies developed by mathematical activities that can be transferred into life skills

Feedback from all involved has been extremely positive. This program has continued during 2019/20. Please view the video below to hear the responses of all involved:

<http://bit.ly/spurmentoring>

Special Programs

A. Ri-Ki (Read it – Know it):

RI-KI was held in March. 8 schools participated in the event and the 3 schools were awarded with trophies and books for their school. The next Ri-Ki event was scheduled for June 2020 but didn't happen due to the indefinite closure

of schools. Instead, the Spur high school students shall be participating in the Ri-Ki event, every six weeks, in the period that the schools remain closed

B. Oral Hygiene

In January, about 800 children received brushes and paste in the medical clinic week. The program has been stopped in the short term for the larger schools but continues in small scale with the Spur children. All the 100 Spur children have received three toothbrushes and toothpaste from January to September 2020.

C. NHIF & Parents Support

76 parents are enrolled onto the medical insurance scheme. 20 are either self or government and we are constantly working on increasing our enrollment for the medical insurance scheme. Workshops and meetings are held with our parents to inform and educate them on the importance of health access and coverage.

Impact Girls Program

There are 150 girls in the program. 120 girls from St. Juliet's Academy and 30 girls in Spur's Elimisha program.

We held two meetings in St. Juliet's before closure of schools and issued three sanitary packs and one undergarment. The Spur girls continue to meet at the Spur centre once every three weeks to continue with the sessions. The meetings at St. Juliet's are set to resume in September through December once every two weeks in smaller numbers.

Emergency Food Bank & Capacity Building for Parents

Some of the parents and caregivers of the children work as casual laborers or work in people's houses. From the time the first case of Covid was reported in Kenya in mid- March, unfortunately many of the parents lost their source of livelihood and faced other economic challenges.

Spur Afrika set up an emergency food bank that consists of 25 Kgs worth of foodstuff that is distributed to the families every four weeks to help them in these challenging times. Spur Afrika has so far given out five cycles of food to 100 families and shall continue to do so till December 2020.

Spur Afrika shall be running a capacity building training for the parents who are in business to help them steer their business despite the hardship they are facing. The main objective

is to have parents support each other in their various businesses and hopefully grow each other.

Conclusion

There has been a lot of change, especially adapting our Spur programs in line with health regulations. We continue to be grateful for the opportunity to be of service to our community.

We are grateful to our supporters for the generosity and helping us reach Spur's vision of transforming lives

Thank you for your prayers. May God continue to bless and keep you safe.



PHOTOS



Niko purchasing food packs with our families



Food bank distribution with Spur families



Parents meeting at the Spur centre



Spur children at January camp 2020



Art classes at Spur Centre



Art classes



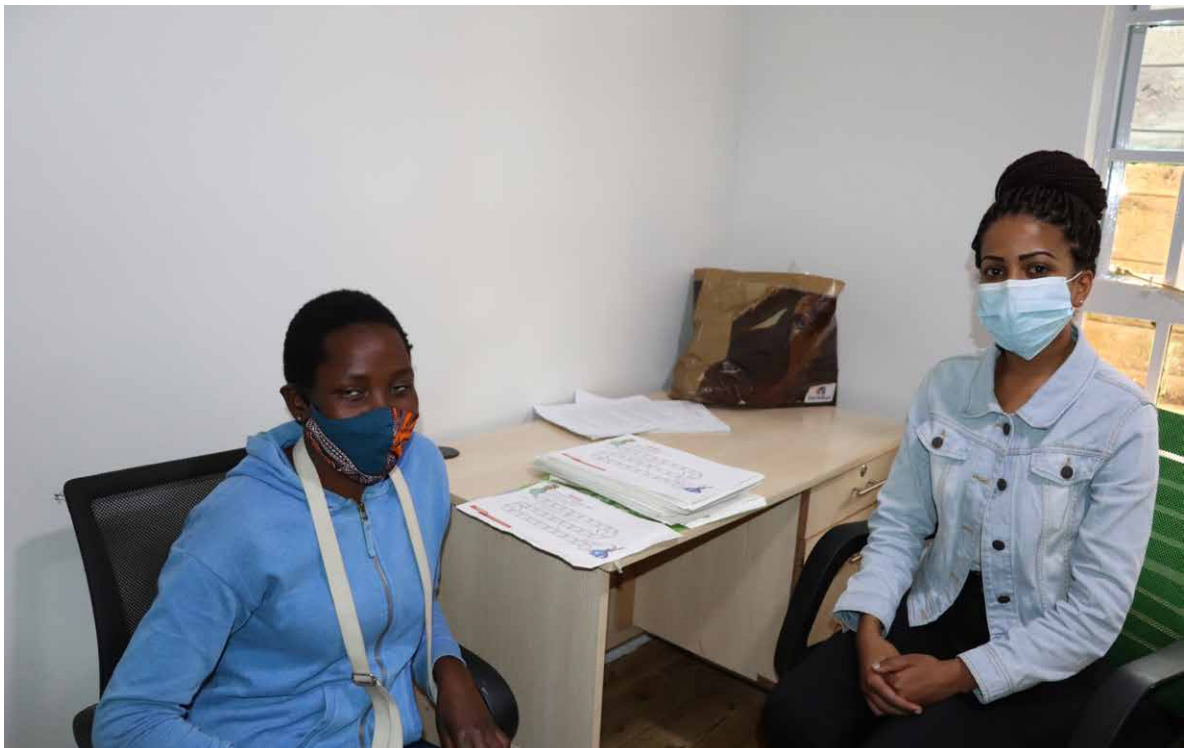
Learning at the Spur centre



Social skills classes at the Spur centre



Online mentorship



1-to-1 mentorship at the Spur Centre



Phone calls to mentors



Alex and Jing at school Medical Clinics in January



Dr Grace at health clinics January 2020



Oral Hygiene campaign 2020



Spur workers and Mission team 2020 at Spur Camp



Mentorship Day January 2020



Maths activities at Mentorship Day



Alex giving out certificates at Mentorship Day



INATIMBEZEA SIMU
FLASHING PROGRAME
UNLOCKING P-METRA
PA TINAZBA MATANI
(SM) TANK

SPUR 
AFRIKA