SPUR-AFRIKA

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA LTD



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MEET OUR TEAM | SPUR AFRIKA KENYA



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT **PATRICK ACHOLA** | KENYAN DIRECTOR **MAUREEN ATIENO KOLI** | COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR **SUSAN OJUKI** | DEPUTY DIRECTOR & ADMINISTRATOR **KUIR DENG** | INTERN **NICHOLAS KENG'ORA** | CHILDREN'S PROGRAM MANAGER **SYLVIA AGWONA KENDA** | SPECIAL PROGRAMS COORDINATOR

MEET OUR TEAM | SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT **GRACE WONG** | BOARD MEMBER **KEVIN TAI** | BOARD MEMBER & TREASURER **SUSAN OJUKI** | SPUR KENYA DEPUTY DIRECTOR **ROSALIE LUI** | CHAIRPERSON **LEANNE LEE** | BOARD MEMBER **TIM CHONG** | BOARD MEMBER*

MEET OUR TEAM | SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT

TOP ROW: KEVIN TAI, RACHEL UNG, GUANG CHUA

BOTTOM ROW: GRACE WONG, LEANNE LEE, SUE OJUKI, TIFFANY YU, ROSALIE LUI

NOT PICTURED: CATHERINE TO, CAROYLN LO, STEPHEN YUEN, MARY YUEN

MESSAGES FROM SPUR AFRIKA

MESSAGE FROM ROSALIE LUI MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SPUR AFRIKA AUSTRALIA

2019 was a year of perseverance, endurance and great joy. 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.

This year we have 90 sponsored children, 5 full time workers, 5 core programs and countless lives changed! Like every year, I would like to personally thank the Spur Kenyan team for their dedication, passion and love for their community. Spur is unique as we are locally run and led. We are a partnership in which together with Patrick and Sue, we are able to achieve sustainable change through our innovative and culturally sensitive programs. These programs include, child sponsorship, mentorship, health insurance, mobile health clinics, reading programs and lots more.

One such initiative is the development of our own National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) in which Spur provides health insurance via payment of premiums for 38 families. Every family is provided education regarding the scheme in which we assist them through the registration process. Furthermore, to create sustainability and ownership, the families are required to pay half of the premium, in which our Spur workers collect. This program is changing the way our families view healthcare in which we are hoping they will see the benefits of saving their funds not only to pay for food or education but also for their healthcare needs. We have already seen positive results in which families were able to claim hospital cover. Thus, we are in the progress of evaluating and adapting our program in which we are hoping to continue the program into the future.

However, our sponsored child program is our pride and joy. These children not only have the opportunity to go to school, but they don't have the constant worry whether they can afford to stay in school or not. But, besides schooling, these children have all school supplies paid for, while our workers complete visits to their homes and schools.

Additionally, it has been a joy to witness how our children have transformed into confident young people. We are proud of the growth of our mentorship program in which all our children have a local Kenyan mentor to look up to. This fosters local ownership and engagement in which we hope more locals will volunteer and assist in the vision and mission of Spur Afrika. In Melbourne, we were blessed with a special visit from Sue, our Kenyan deputy director. She was able to show our community firsthand what is involved with running Spur Kenya. It was amazing to record Bigger Questions in which both Sue and I got to share why we love serving at Spur. Sue was also able to spend her birthday in Melbourne in which all the previous mission team members were able to celebrate with her.

Furthermore, it was encouraging for Sue to meet our Spur runners, in which they managed to raise over \$28,000. Furthermore, we want to thank all the people who ran, donated or supported our runners in anyway. It was great to see how our community came together despite running or walking different distances and coming from different walks of life.

Lastly, I would like to thank my team. Carolyn, Catty and Rachel have done an excellent job of keeping us informed via our social media team. While Tiffany and Stephen have been fundamental in providing all our graphics and updates. Likewise, Guang has contributed immensely in which he has been providing assistance with our accounts. We also thank Mary and Theresa for not only providing admin support but for welcoming and assisting with catering for our various events. While I personally thank my board; Grace, Leanne, Tim and Kevin for always believing in the mission and vision of Spur Afrika. Without their guidance and support, I do not know where we would be. A special mention goes to our partnered churches, Balwyn Wesleyan Methodist Church and Melbourne Chinese Baptist Church. Ultimately, we thank God for his providence in which we are in awe of the overwhelming support.



BIGGER QUESTIONS RECORDING



SPUR MARATHON

MESSAGE FROM GRACE WONG BOARD MEMBER

"You can't get to courage without rumbling with vulnerability. Embrace the suck." - Brené Brown.

I am always so excited to share the story of Spur Afrika because it is a story of both courage and vulnerability. To those who have journeyed with us from the beginning, I hope you are always in awe of how the story of Spur has woven throughout the years.

This started as a story of courage where a group of young adults from Kenya and Australia had a passion to share the love of God by meeting the needs of children in the slums of Kibera. Both the Kenyan and Australian team were young and neither had experience in building a charity before. I always laugh fondly had how fresh-faced we were at the beginning as we pushed along with bright eyes and hearts full of hope.

The courage of youth and naivety had led to the small beginnings of Spur where the target was to raise AUD \$10,000 for the programs that we had. Rosalie had asked me to be a part of the Spur team and help build the mobile health clinic program and our health education program. I was only in my second year as a doctor with barely any experience under my belt. Yet, I took up the challenge and sought all the help I could get - from discussing with my previous supervisors during my student elective term in Kenya, learning from my diploma in Child Health to emailing a renowned professor in Infectious Diseases in Melbourne.

If someone were to tell me then that we would go on to bring many teams to Kenya and grow the mobile health clinic to reach at least 800 students every year and conduct oral hygiene programs to at least 2000 children, I would have thought they were joking. After all, it was clear to everyone I had asked then that we had no idea what we were doing or how difficult it was going to be. It seemed at every decision point, there would be a price to pay.

Throughout the years, there had been many moments of vulnerability which had led us down different paths in our journey to be a sustainable charity. First, we struggled to build an organisational structure which reflected who we were and were suited to our needs. This did not only include figuring out our aim, vision and mission, but we also needed to narrow down the focus of Spur Afrika and recognise that we were not able to do everything for everyone and would only be ineffective if we kept spreading ourselves thin. Once we had that, we had to work on building sources of income which could be easily maintained and multiplied as we grew as a charity. This also meant we needed to build our volunteer base in Australia and our staff base in Kenya. We also had to learn how to manoeuvre through cultural differences, the downsides of being a grassroots organisation and the balance between being a family to each other and being professional in our workplace.

In this time, we had to bid farewell to a couple of valued individuals in Spur as they transitioned to different organisations. We also had outgrown our rented office in Kenya and required a new space to accommodate our growth. Rumbling with all of these moments were quite difficult and had tested our integrity as an organisation. Yet, we ploughed through the tough conversations and difficult decisions with as much grace as we could muster.

Here we are. 2019. We have achieved many things since the beginning of Spur. We have a diverse team of volunteers who use their skills and talents to connect Spur with its communities. Our team in Kenya continue to build strong connections with the community of Kibera and strive to create programs which would enrich their lives. The purchase of our Spur Community Centre have opened up more opportunities to reach out and support our sponsored children. The bond within Spur has strengthened as we welcomed Sue, our Kenyan Deputy Director, to Australia for a month and shared our lives with her. We persevered through our training runs and completed Melbourne Marathon 2019 to raise much needed funds. We have sent 6 teams to Kenya and have given out at least 8000 toothbrushes and toothpastes.

There is still much to conquer and the daily stresses about finances, program evaluations and resources never ceases. Yet, when we look back at each year, I hope we continue to be encouraged that by the grace of God, our efforts are bearing fruit and every step we have taken has moved us further along this beautiful journey. Thank you for being a part of our Spur family and may we continue to be full of courage and hope as we look towards 2020.

MESSAGE FROM GUANG CHUA FINANCIAL MANAGER

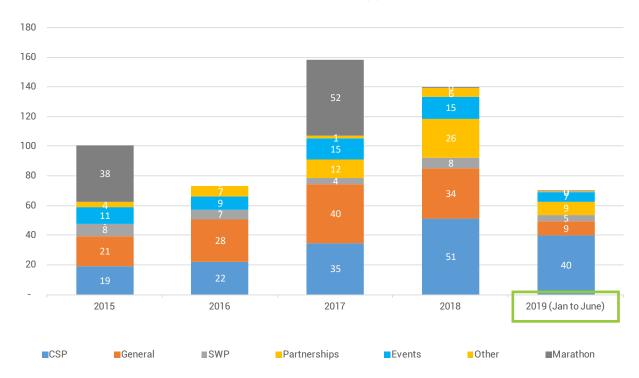
Financial year 2019 has been another successful year of growth and momentum for Spur Afrika. I'm so thankful to God for what we've been able to achieve as a grassroots community across Kenya and Australia, working together to impact the lives of children and young adults in the Kibera slums. However, we continue to look to the future and plan for sustainable growth in the long term.

In Australia our Operations team is made up of around six to eight volunteers, numbers varying a little throughout the year. We meet monthly and drive Spur Afrika Australia's activities in the areas of fundraising, events, communications, graphics and finance/accounting. As you might imagine we have a diverse range of skills! Our team's mission is to grow our supporter community so that we can achieve our fundraising targets for this year and beyond.

I'm pleased to share that in calendar year 2018 we raised \$139,000, exceeding our fundraising target by \$19,000. It was a truly incredible achievement, representing a 30% increase on 2017 (excluding the Melbourne Marathon fundraising event). It enabled us to increase our sponsored children from 65 to 80 as well as cover required increases to program costs and salaries due to our operations growth in Kenya. Just some of the many highlights during the second half of 2018 included receiving a \$5,200 grant from BWMC's Elim Foundation towards our mentoring program, strong year-on-year growth in our Spur Partnership Program, and a successful Christmas campaign, where we raised around \$2,500 through selling Spur-themed Christmas cards at events and via an online store.

Setting our budgets for the following year is a collaborative process between Kevin (board member and treasurer for Spur Afrika Australia), Rosalie, Sue, Patoh and myself. For calendar year 2019, our fundraising target has increased to \$150k, as we have taken on an additional 10 sponsor children, as well as launching our pilot to enrol 40 of our sponsor children's families in the Kenyan government's National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF). As at 30 June 2019, we have raised almost 50% of this fundraising target, which is amazing. However we know there is still a lot of work to be done!

I want to thank everyone who has come on board as a child sponsor, Spur partner, or worker sponsor, as well as those who have made one-off donations or been involved in our journey as a volunteer in any capacity. Your support enables us to fund our team of heroes in Kenya and gives us confidence that we can continue to do so in the future. As a Spur family, together we can create a sustainable future released from poverty for many more children and young adults to come!



Spur Afrika Australia income by year, 000's AUD

CSP. Child Sponsorship Program SWP. Sponsor a Worker Program General: General Donations

MESSAGE FROM PATRICK ACHOLA SPUR AFRIKA DIRECTOR

One main reason I love my work is the fact that it is a locally run organization that is angled to assist in finding solutions for local issues. That coupled with local staff who do not merely come to work for a salary, but to find solution for their own communities' issues make Spur Afrika powerful and inspiring place to serve at. In 2016, In Kenya we set out for a four years journey leading to year 2020.

Amongst Big Hairy Audacious Goals were to: to have a community center where the children would come to study, play and hang out at, find sustainable affordable solution to health needs of children we work with, fully develop our child mentorship program, support 100 children to have improved access to quality education, develop a skilled robust staff team.

Today we have a beautiful safe place center that children come to after school to do their homework assignment at and to hang out over the weekends. It's also a conducive place for staff to do their work at. This has resulted to a big number of our children improving in their school performance this year (2019). Our children's numbers have grown from 60, to 91 between 2016-19. Two are in University, 17 in high school and 72 in primary schools. We have also found a way to assist not only the children but their entire families to have access to health care. We discovered affordable government insurance fund (Aus \$7 per month) that we co-pay with the parents. This year we have been able to enroll 38 families in the program. We are happy also because about 60% of our sponsored children now have individual mentors that meet with them one on one at least ones every 2 months.

We also have had a fair share of challenges over the last one year; a few of the children have skipped school days without proper reasons, some care givers/parents have been sickly thus affecting concentration of their children in school, and one of our skilled staff members transitioned out.

Despite the challenges we are charged towards the year 2020 with a lot of passion and hope. We pray that we can increase the numbers of the sponsored children to 100, have at least 40 more families added to the health insurance program, and find more mentors so that no child is missing a mentoring buddy. Thank you for your prayers and continued financial, and strategic support.

SPUR KENYA PROGRAMS REPORT

SPUR KENYA PROGRAMS REPORT SUSAN OJUKI | DEPUTY DIRECTOR & ADMINISTRATOR

SPONSORSHIP (ELIMISHA)

The Sponsorship Program has been going on very well with 90 children successfully put through school. Three students are sitting for their Kenya Certificate of Education and 12 pupils did their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education. The Program has been very successful; we are grateful for the support the Sponsors and Parents give to the children. Most of the children are well behaved, and there has been no major cases of indiscipline.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE FUND PROGRAM

The National Hospital Insurance fund, started two years ago with just ten children is now at 38 and the appreciation for the same is increasing among the beneficiaries. Two of the parents who needed urgent medical attention were able to access medical care and the fund took care of approximately Ksh. 360,000 (USD 3,600) in medical bills. The forecast is to grow the reach of the Program to all of the families under the Sponsorship Program.

MENTORSHIP

The Mentorship Program has had remarkable growth with 52 active Mentors consistently making time to meet their mentees. The Mentors have had three meetings through the year that involved training and organized Mentor-Mentee meets. There has been an increase in the number of male mentors and good opportunities for the boys in the Sponsorship Program to have someone to walk and talk with. Group mentorship sessions headed by the Staff Team members have helped hold the space for the children who do not yet have Mentors.

RI-KI

The Read It – Know It Program reached 10 schools in 2019. Three events were held, with more than 400 children participating. There has been very good reception for the Program and Spur Afrika plans to grow the reach of Ri-Ki to other schools in 2020.

MEDICAL CAMP & ORAL HYGIENE

Medical Clinic attended to more than 800 pupils. The outreach includes general, Eye and Dental check –ups. The oral Hygiene Program through partnership with Colgate Kenya helped supply 4000 pupils in with toothbrushes and paste.

GIRLS PROGRAM

The Girls Program has reached 130 girls in Primary School. The teaching for the year was maintaining Purity and Self Hygiene. The topics covered with the girls covered different aspects of purity of Mind, Body and Soul. The end year conference had an attendance of 150 girls and the participants shared their talents in music/ dance and drama. The girls' received sanitary supplies through the year.

TEAM PROGRESS

The health of the team has improved thanks to the consistent Leadership and support we receive from Kenya and Australia. The Team has had two trainings about different aspects of leadership. There is good motivation and enthusiasm as we keep working in transforming our communities. We are looking forward to a greater year in 2020 and are grateful for the support we continue to receive from our larger community and supporters.





CAMP



GIVING OUT CHRISTMAS GIFTS



GIRLS MENTORSHIP



HOME VISITS



NIKO DOING HOME VISITS



GIRLS PROGRAM



SKYPE PROGRAM WITH KNOX GARDENS



MENTOR MAGGIE WITH TALIA AT SCHOOL



MENTORSHIP PROGRAM



PHOTOS OF SPONSORED CHILDREN AT 2019 CAMP

