

Dear friends and supporters:

We are extremely proud to present the 2017 achievement report to you, but before we continue, we want to take this opportunity to express our most sincere appreciation for your continued support and believe in our kids and the HHFL organization. We hope that this year's achievement report allows you to join us in our pride!

The past 4 years have been very successful mainly because the HHFL kids continue to prove that they can succeed against all odds if given the right care, love and tools to help them fulfill their full potential.

Our post-secondary program, started slowly in 2013 but today it is the strongest and most expensive part of our program as more and more HHFL kids finish high school, reach young adulthood and dream about joining colleges and universities.

Below are some statistics and facts that demonstrate how far HHFL come in the last 10 years:

HHFL ALUMNI

Presently 47 kids have successfully gone through our entire program – primary, high school & post-secondary. Thirty-seven are gainfully employed and remain in the HHFL family circle. They volunteer their limited free time to help mentor their HHFL siblings and try to sponsor and contribute financially to the wellbeing of the project whenever possible.

Their salaries allow them to not only take care of themselves but to help their own families and it also has enabled them to join the emerging middle class by moving out of the slum. In some cases (frequent occurrence) they continue pursuing their dreams and goals by enrolling in night classes to further their careers, which they pay themselves.

Over the past few years, two of our young adults, Ngugi and Ngina died of health -related cases. Ngugi was a welder who became a much respected elder in his church and community. Ngina graduated as a CPA from Strathmore university and died of childbirth related complications. Eight kids, most of them boys with vocational training in welding, car mechanics and computer studies, left the nest and disappeared from our landscape.

2017 POST-SECONDARY GRADUATES: 5 Graduates

- MOSES CHEGE – Amboseli College – Diploma in Food Production. He is already gainfully employed.
- SHARON JEROTICH – Wildlife Clubs of Kenya – Diploma in tour guiding. Finished end November.
- PHILOMENA WAITHERA – Don Bosco – ICT certificate & AkiraChicks (scholarship) – diploma in ICT(Mobile App Development). She graduated end of November and is hoping to secure a job with Akirachix. This is a girl going places!
- HILARY KIENDI – Aviation College – Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering. He has to volunteer at least for a year in an accredited aeroplane workshop before being able to apply for his licence and hopefully then become employable. Therefore, will remain on HHFL's payroll for at least another year.
- CEDRIC ODENDO – Presbyterian University – diploma in Nursing. Graduated end of November. A very serious and applied student. This young adult is going places!

2017 HIGH SCHOOL: 24 kids in total

Grade 9 = 7 kids

Grade 10 = 8 kids

Grade 11 = 5kids

Grade 12 = 4 kids (*still waiting for their grades which are will be released early February 2018.)

Of these four Grade 12 graduates, only 2 are suited to higher education. Mary Wairimu has been an A student throughout her entire scholastic career, which will make her automatically eligible for a government scholarship and HHFL funding to pursue a 4 year degree program in Actuarial Science. Rashid Owino at best will be a C or C- student, which will make him eligible for HHFL funding only after he has worked for at least one year in any industry. He needs to learn more about himself and formalize his dreams and goals.

2017 PRIMARY KIDS @ ST. NICHOLAS SCHOOL = 37 kids in total (8 girls & 7 boys graduated this November)

The results of the final and determining examination grades of grade 8's were just released by the government and we are proud to be able to report that 2 of our graduates scored above 300 points, 4 above 270 and the rest above 250, which makes them eligible to better than average high schools.

The three that scored below 250 belong to our "slow" learners and here again, I am proud to say that they excelled and managed to exceed expectations. We are exploring avenues to ensure they continue getting an adequate education going forward.

The rest of the primary kids did improve considerably throughout the year, mainly due to teacher Isaiah's remedial classes but also due to the improved communication between HHFL's staff members and St. Nick's school. The tracking program developed by both groups is working wonders. We all feel encouraged and look forward to a stellar 2018!

VOCATIONAL TRAINING

- Nicodemus Ndunda – Don Bosco Vocational School: 1 year certificate in electrical wiring.

COLLEGE EDUCATION:

- Beatrice Waithera – Amboseli College: 1 year pastry chef certificate, finishes July 2018
- Elsy Anyango – Amboseli College: 2 year program, diploma in food production, finishes July 2019

UNIVERSITY:

- Bernadette Nafula – Pwani University – 4-year degree program in horticultural science. Finishes July 2018. She is a government scholarship recipient, which pay for half her tuition. She is excelling and hopes to get into the insecticide/pest control side of horticulture.
- Daniel Safari – Masai Mara University – 4-year degree program in Economics and Statistics. Finishes in July 2019. He is also on a government scholarship. Same terms as above. He is excelling. Being the

pro-active kid he always has been, he decided he had a lot of free time on his hands and signed himself up for a CPA course, which his family is funding.

- Vincent Peter – Chuka University – 4-year degree program in Procurement and Institution Management. Also on government scholarship. Will finish July 2020. He didn't qualify for an automatic government scholarship as his last exam/F4 yielded a B. Since he was a B+ student through primary and high school he decided to take matters into his own hands and plead his case, which proved to all that perseverance and determination are worthwhile attributes and voila! He is enjoying university life!
- FOOTNOTE: HHFL WAS ABLE TO FUND 3 NEW POST-SECONDARY KIDS IN JULY 2017 – Elsy, Beatrice and Vincent.

SPECIAL MENTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS in 2017 FOR PRIMARY KIDS

- Snorine – Was voted “School President & Overall Student Administrator” by the student body.
- Muli. - Was voted “Assistant School President”.
- Anthony Githinji – Voted “Dining Hall Captain”.
- Janet and Bernard – Class Prefects
- Mackline – Shines in the sport and running arena. She brought home the 1st Prize for short races and most valuable player in girls' soccer.

HHFL EXTRA CURRICULAR

This program has become the backbone of HHFL's existence as it continues to prove that it is essential for the success of the children, academically speaking. The holiday program keeps on growing and improving, but much remains to be done. This year we added the music program thanks to teacher Nina, a volunteer from the Kenya Conservatoire of Music.

Our art program got rekindled due to the return of Duncan, who is doing a wonderful job. Aside from being an excellent artist he is also a great counsellor and sounding board for the kids. Our math and English remedial classes are flying high thanks to volunteers from Strathmore University who come daily to help.

Sport activities are a daily afternoon affair loved and enjoyed by all. They play volleyball, badminton and soccer. Lucy remains focused on finding affordable and educational field trips in Nairobi in order to expose the kids to the outside world which is not easily achieved as moving so many kids is very expensive and fast exceeds our budget making it impossible to do.

Therefore, we implemented the “On Merit Program”, which though very new is already paying dividends as kids truly pay attention to it and try very hard to earn the privilege of participation.

COMPUTER LAB

Isaiah, HHFL's computer lab manager assisted by the “TUX-MATH” software has come up with a program for grade 3 to 8, which has helped to simplify the kids perception of numbers and change their attitude towards this subject. Big improvements are being noticed. For Language, Isaiah has come up with an interesting platform called “Taleswithmorals.com”, which features short stories that the kids love and can relate to.

Presently we are focusing on English only. Recently, Isaiah started a creative writing class, which is growing in popularity.

AKIRACHIX & IBM PARTNERSHIP

This partnership keeps on growing and growing. The benefits for the kids and the organizations are multi-fold. This year HHFL was lucky enough to have been chosen by Akirachix to implement their pilot program for coding with Massachusetts Institute of Technology(MIT) Scratch. The Akirachix teachers come once a week for two hours, which the kids keenly look forward to. All the primary kids are enrolled in this program and excelling.

Akirachix has been funding 10 kids per term every year for the past 3 years to attend their IT boot camp. These boot camps are all about high tech and about incentivizing girls to join this field. They learn coding, graphic design and web-design. This year 26 of our kids (half boys/half girls) enjoyed this one-weeklong privilege of partaking in this amazing program.

MUSIC PROGRAM

The music program has finally arrived at HHFL! We are overjoyed to be able to introduce to you the newest addition to the HHFL staff. Nina first joined us as a volunteer but has now become a part-time staff member. Under her tutelage the kids are learning to read music, play the recorder and the keyboard (which she and Isaiah borrow from their church). Recently, she started a choir that we are all looking forward to hear on the 21st during our closing ceremony. To top it all, teacher Nina has turned out to be an excellent remedial math and English tutor. The kids love her and all the music she is exposing them to and teaching them to express.

ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS TO THE HHFL COMPOUND

This year we counted the blessing of being able to enlarge our dining hall to accommodate an art space and a library. This blessing was made possible by the continued support of the Swedish Embassy here in Nairobi.

Our dear friends and supporters – Tim and Cheryl, who last year refurbished our computer room with brand new laptops, further enhanced our project this year by donating materials and plants, which led to the beautification of the entire compound. Kids and staff alike worked arduously to create our new look. We are proud of our green grass, colourful flowers and sprouting trees. The kids take pride in tending to it all.

RELATIONSHIP WITH ST. NICHOLAS PRIMARY SCHOOL

The first priority for 2017 was to improve our relationship and communication method with our chosen primary school. After the visit of Mama Hanne, Baba Ted and Mr. Ted Friesen, his wife and the HHFL staff to the school, it became apparent that communication between the school and the fund was lacking big time, making immediate action imperative.

Isaiah and Lucy spent much time with Teacher Maina (head teacher) developing a new and extensive communication network between their teachers and us. They have created a strategy that is helping gauge the progress of the kids. This allows the HHFL teachers to be on top of things and be proactive rather than re-active.

The benefits of this approach are already yielding benefits. A comparison chart was developed to track the exam results from term to term throughout the year. This chart is posted on the projects bulletin board for all to see as it clearly maps the progress or decline of each child, which has become the basis for our "On Merit Program". This self-policing approach is working miracles and the improvement in the grades of the kids and their attitude is palpable.

LEASE RENEWAL

2017 marked the end of our two-year lease agreement for our premises. We are happy to be able to report that Lucy was able to negotiate a favourable renewal for another 2 years with an increase of 12.7%, bring the new monthly rent to shillings 62.000 US\$620. They were demanding an 18% increase. Lucy also negotiated the repair of the compound's fence, which was in danger of collapse.

As we celebrate all these good news and happenings, we want to acknowledge the fact that none of it could have happened without your trust in us, our kids or our ability to deliver on the HHF mandates, rules and regulations. We all, kids and staff alike want to again extend our gratitude to you and your families for standing by and with us! We love you and we pray that God gives us the grace to continue making you proud by leading our children to success and fulfillment in years to come.

We also wish to take the opportunity to wish you and your families Happy Holidays filled with joy, laughter and good health – let's not forget "adventure" and for that we invite you to come and join us once again here in Kenya. All the very, very best for the New Year, with big hugs, many salaams and karibus.

From all of the HHFL kids and Staff.

Be blessed!