



## **2020 YEAR IN REVIEW**

To our dear donors and supporters,

In the year of COVID-19 we are proud to be able to report to you that 2020 was not a total watershed for us!

Thanks to the amazing ongoing support and care of our donors, we have been able to navigate the challenges that 2020 has thrown our way.

The response to our cry for financial help in May allowed us to establish an emergency fund which proved crucial not only to the kids survival but to the HHF as well

The Nairobi lockdown was declared at the beginning April, which meant that the country's economy went into free fall leaving most of the slum population unemployed.

All schools and projects like HHFL were ordered to close down. All children were mandated to go home.

### **COVID-19 APPEAL FUND CAMPAIGN**

Quickly after the lockdown began, it became clear to us that the real danger was desperation, hunger and eviction. In response, we rallied and executed the following with the Appeal funds:

- Daily feeding program- for 50 HHFL families. We fed more or less 350 people!
- Bought medicines
- Rented isolation rooms for one kid who contracted COVID and suspected cases.
- Paid rent to avoid evictions. Police brutality was prevalent in the slum.
- Bought toggles and internet data connections. Essential for accessing the schools digital learning resources

### **HHFL COMPOUND**



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In August, the HHFL kids were allowed to come back to the project in groups of 7. This allowed Isaiah to implement an in-house assistance program to help the children keep pace with the school work and assignments.

Sadly, we it became necessary for us to shrink the size of our physical space. Our new home consists of one room which houses Lucy's desk and seven computer stations (properly distanced). Since we have no outside place, we have been able to secure playing rights at the Amref field (neighboring wealthy NGO).

Even though it was sad to leave our old bigger home, we have learned to love our new smaller one and feel blessed and thankful for this privilege, especially as we know that so many of our NGO brotherhood did not survive Covid19.

### **ACADEMICS**

The academic first term 2020 was completed before the advent of COVID-19. The children still need to do the second and third term in order to finish the 2020 school year.

Prior to Covid19, the government had been playing with the idea of implementing the European American school calendar following September to June.

The pandemic has provided them with the perfect window for this switch, as follows:

- Second term begins on Jan 4<sup>th</sup> to March 2021
- Third term begins on April to June 2021
- July to August 2021 is holiday
- September 2021 begins new calendar school year

The completion of the 2020 school year will be delayed until June 2021. We are expecting 3 grade 8's, 7 high schoolers, and 2 college kids to graduate!



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In spite of this delay, we are proud of them and we will include them into the 2020 achievement roster.

With pride, we offer an update on the current HHFL students and alumni:

### **POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS**

**Lewis Omukota** - Due to complete in May 2021. He's doing his diploma in tourism at the Kenya Wildlife Service Training Institute.

**Daniel Safari** - Government scholarship recipient. Due to complete in May 2021. He's doing a Degree in Economics and Statistics at Masai Mara University.

**Mary Wairimu** - Government scholarship recipient. Due to complete in 2022. She's doing a Degree in Media and Science at Moi University.

**Albanus Mbuvi** – Due to complete in 2023. He's doing a Diploma in Nursing at Kijabe School of Nursing. He pay for part of his tuition fees and upkeep through his job savings over the years.

**Cedric Odendo** – He completed a Diploma in Nursing a few years ago and has recently enrolled at the Amref International University where he is pursuing his Degree in Nursing. HHFL's assistance is minimal. He borrowed a laptop so he could pursue online classes during the lockdown.

### **HHFL ALUMNI**

We are happy to report that most of the alumni who were laid off have regained their jobs. Here are some amongst the hardest hit during the pandemic lockdown:

**Faith Wanja** – Faith got very sick and we treated her COVID-19 symptoms in an isolation room that we rented. After she recovered in June, she landed a job at a gas company as a customer service agent and she's loving it so far.



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**Gabriel Lando** – Gabriel got laid off from his job as a cabin crew at a private airline company but after 4 months, he was hired back.

**Hillary Kiendi** - Hillary was offered a full time job at Tropic Air where he has become a fully fledged airplane mechanic joining his brother Samuel on the Tropic team. Again, he was laid off but regained his job.

**Sharon Akinyi** – After much consideration, Sharon struck out on her own early this year and decided to open a spa with her sister. HHF helped sustain her during the lockdown.

**Nicodemus Ndunda** – Nico graduated in 2017 from Masonry school. We are proud of him because he's come along way and still determined to go further. He is presently working at two hospitals as an HIV counselor

## **DESERVING STUDENTS AWAITING FURTHER EDUCATION**

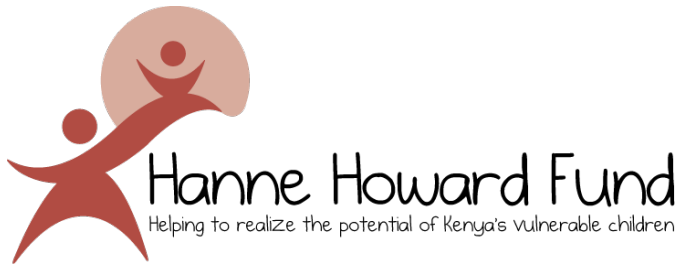
**Patricia Wanjiru** - Patricia hopes to join secretarial school at Don Bosco Training Institute for a 2 year Diploma. She is more introverted but knows how to articulate her opinions. For a while, she has been doing casual catering jobs. She has also been featured in some local films in Nairobi.

**Patrick Omukoholo** - Pat is gifted with his hands. Since his high school days, he has loved working in the art and crafts classes at HHFL. He wants to pursue plumbing and has been getting casual jobs painting & welding.

**Bonny Opiyo** - Bonny is a caring young adult who helps his guardian mother in the slum run a little kiosk for daily needs. Bonny dreams of pursuing a 2 year course in Carpentry .

**Evans Mbogo** - Evans is a go-getter. Whatever comes his way, he takes on. Currently, he's working in public buses as an assistant conductor and when he's not working, he's volunteering at the project.

## **SUMMARY**



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We welcome you to join us in sharing the success we have made through this year 2020.

As a family, we hope and pray that you all remain healthy and stay safe. Our hope is that 2021 brings renewed hope to all of us.

Happy season's greetings and wishes for a prosperous New Year!

Warmest wishes,

Hanne, Ted and Alexandra