



Giraffe Project
Children's Charity



*20 years of changing lives
through education*

20 years in numbers

In 2025, **351** students are sponsored:

- **52** are in Universities and **34** in technical colleges
- **101** are in Senior Secondary boarding schools (Grades 10-12)
- **91** are in Junior Secondary Schools (Grades 7-9)
- **73** are in primary schools



Of **832** former students,

- ✓ **197** graduated from University or College with a degree, diploma or certificate
- ✓ **254** others completed secondary school and gained the certificate of secondary education
- ✓ **282** others completed primary school – most financed their secondary education by other means
- ✓ **99** were sponsored for part of their education

Maud's story

Maud visited Kenya in May 2024, and interviewed students and alumni.



Left to right: Leah, Ruth, Maud, Salome, Christine
(see Ruth's and Leah's stories on the next page)

'Visiting the slums feels like a sensory overload. Never ending piles of temporary shacks cloud the horizon. The pungent smell from hundreds of thousands living in the most dire circumstances is overwhelming. The sound of motorbikes speeding through narrow paths, interrupting the conversations of casual labourers lined up doing laundry, floods your ears. Your heart breaks seeing young children collecting rubbish, their lack of school uniform indicating lack of money and education.'

The Giraffe Project has succeeded in creating a family amongst the chaos of the slums. Founded on kindness and transparency, the opportunity the Giraffe Project offers students is life changing. It was overwhelming hearing the gratitude and love alumni students have for the project and all those involved. More than providing financial support to students, the Project looks out for the students in every aspect of their lives. Many I spoke to admitted that they could not imagine where they would be today without this support. They said that their sponsorship not only gave them an education, but an emotional support system, a sense of belonging, a caring community and a sense of hope that there was a bright future for them.'



Some of Maud's interviews

Enna High School 2007-2010
Kenyan Medical Training College
Diploma in Physiotherapy, 2011-2015

Ruth was 14 when she had to drop out of school, and she took a job as a house girl. The sponsorship enabled her to finish school and go on to college to qualify as a Physiotherapist. She then worked and funded herself through a degree. She describes Giraffe Project as *"the most wonderful thing that has ever happened"* and she named her son after her sponsor.

Enna High School 2007-2010
Unity College: 2011-2015
Diploma in Tours and Travel

Leah After qualifying, Leah worked and put herself through a second diploma in catering. Leah is married with one daughter, and founded 'Neurokids Warriors', an organisation to support children with difficulties. To sponsor is to give *'a candle of hope'* to a child, she says. *'Giraffe Project taught me the true meaning of community'*.

Above: Leah at Enna School in 2008

Below: Leah in 2024



The Green Pastures Story



Small beginnings

(left) 2006: The first group of students to be sponsored at Green Pastures School

We met Japheth and Margaret and visited their school in 2005. There were about 250 students, but many could not pay, and many went hungry at lunch. A lunch programme was initially funded by children at St John's International School in Belgium, who also donated a lot of T-shirts...

Giraffe has partnered with Green Pastures for clean water, textbooks, a library, computers, classrooms and a science lab. The latest project is a 4-storey block which houses the new Junior Secondary section. Over 500 students have been at the school on sponsorship. Today there are over 800 students in the school.

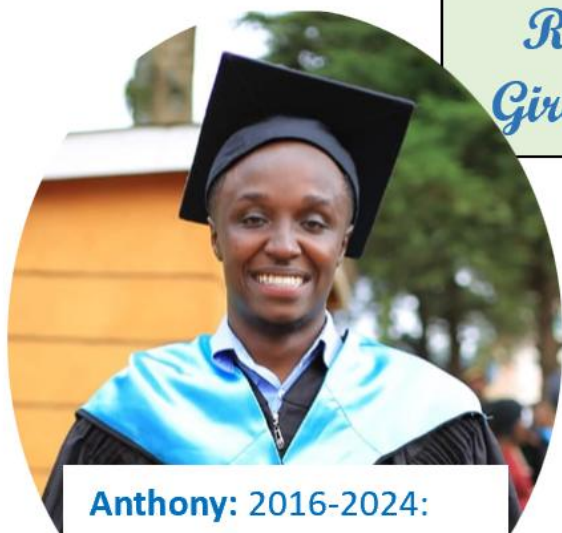


Amon:

Graduated from Green Pastures 2014
Muhuri Muchiri Secondary 2014-2018
Daystar University 2019-2024
BSc Environmental Health



*Recent graduations of students from
Giraffe Education Centre (GEC) High*



Anthony: 2016-2024:
GEC and Kiisi University:
Bachelor of Education



Collins: 2015-2024:
GEC and Dedan Kimathi
University.
BSc Computer Science.



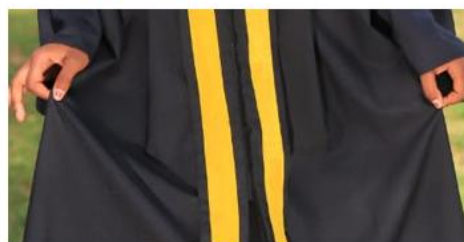
Patrick:
2016-2024:
GEC and
Turkana
University
Bachelor of
Education



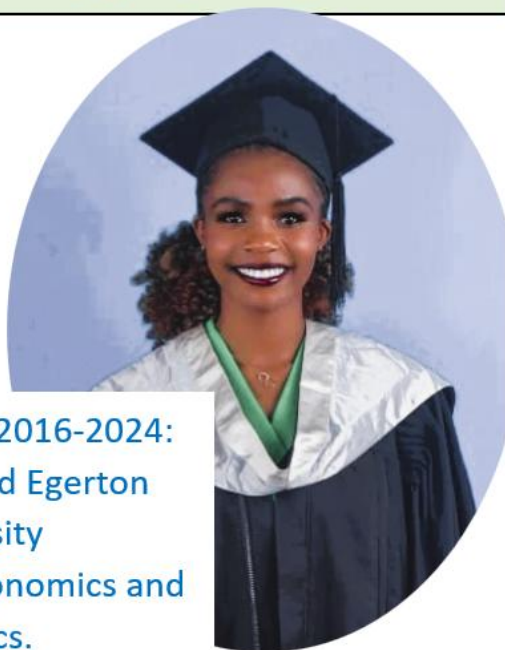
Faith: 2019-2024: GEC and Kenya
Institute of Special Education
Certificate in sign language – now
pursuing a diploma



Jane: 2016-2024
GEC and Kenyatta University;
BSc Biology



Recent graduations of students from Giraffe Education Centre (GEC) High School



Stella: 2016-2024:
GEC and Egerton
University
BSc Economics and
Statistics.

Giraffe Project owned and managed the Giraffe Education Centre from 2012 to 2020. We then merged with ByGrace High School. By 2023, improvements and subsidies in the government secondary schools and rising costs in the private sector lead us to the decision to place our students in government schools. So far this has been successful, but we continue to monitor it.



Deborah: 2016-2024:
GEC and Kiambu Institute of Science
and Technology
Diploma in Guidance and Counselling

Damacline:
2016-2024: GEC
and Kenya Medical
Training College;
Community Nursing



Emmanuel: 2014-2023:
GEC and Kenya Institute of Science and
Technology' Diploma in Agriculture.

The Tumaini Story

When we first visited Tumaini Primary School in 2005 there were 45 students and 3 volunteer teachers meeting in a temporary structure with no books and no lunches.



Between 2009 and 2012 the 4-storey Giraffe-funded building pictured below was built and equipped with classrooms, offices, computers and a library. Since 2005, over 400 Tumaini students have benefitted from sponsorship. Today there are over 400 students in the school.



The original 7 girls sponsored at Enna High School in 2006.



Here's what happened to them after High School....

Margaret studied Business Administration at college.

Caroline took a diploma in Cabin Crew at Unity College. Her dream was to fly, and she now runs her own travel company.

Irene studied Hair and Beauty at Unity College, works and looks after her children.

Idabel studied Law and Journalism and worked first as a court clerk and then for Safaricom. She is married with 4 children and now works as a freelance writer.

Rita studied Tourism at Unity College, and then went to work for a microfinance company.

Esther studied Tourism at Interworld College, and worked for Safaricom. She had to give up work when her daughter was born with cerebral palsy. She has 3 children, and the older two are supported in school by Giraffe Project.

Liz studied Banking, and now works as Sponsorship Manager at The Giraffe Project.

More of Maud's interviews

Abihud:

Giraffe Education Centre 2015-18

Kisii University 2019-2023

BSc Maths and Statistics

Now working in finance

'It was life changing for me ... knowing that someone somewhere was giving part of their earnings to sponsor me... that was an encouragement. I always wanted to tell them that they are not doing this in vain...'



Tumaini Primary School 2007-2011

Ng'araria High School 2012-2015

**Kenya Medical Training College,
Community Nursing 2016-2019**

Prudence is now married with a son, works part time and is studying for a further nursing diploma.

Giraffe Project to her meant care and kindness, *'like there was always somebody holding your hand'*.

Raphael :

Green Pastures Primary School to 2015

Giraffe Education Centre 2016-2019

**Nairobi Technical College, Food and
Beverage Management 2020-2023**

'Sponsorship did not only support us financially, but also emotionally'.



And the next 20 years?



Around the huge city rubbish dump lies the vast slum of Dandora, toxic and dangerous, especially for young girls. When Ashley finished primary school, she had no hope of continuing her education, so she joined her mother collecting plastic waste to sell. Now Ashley is one of the girls pictured below, sponsored at boarding school and working hard to fulfil her dreams.

Please spread the word! We are looking for a new generation of Giraffe sponsors and supporters who will rescue more of these young people and give them a chance to build their future.



Students currently sponsored at Enaiposha Girls High School.
Most of these girls come from Dandora slum.

*The Founders and Directors of the Giraffe Project
wish to thank all who have made this work
possible, including:*

Former Directors

School Heads

Partners in Kenya

Corporate donors

Femmes d'Europe, Belgium

The British Women's Club, Brussels

The American Protestant Church of Bonn

'MySchool Management'

*and at least 400 individual sponsors and donors
across the world*

For Ruth and 1000 others like her you made it

"the most wonderful thing that has ever happened."

www.giraffeproject.org

