



Milton is attending Strathmore University, with combined courses of a Bachelor of Commerce and Certified Public Accountant

Student Highlight **Milton Saitabau**

"I would like someday to be a member of Parliament so that I can represent the Maasai people"



AMBOSELE
Children's Fund

Warm greetings friends and family!

I'm hoping all of you are well and looking forward to the upcoming Holiday season.



As you may remember, at the beginning of the year we added several children to our program that were seeking sponsors. They were bright and eager to learn, but lacking funds to continue schooling. I am thrilled to announce that all of these kids now have sponsors!

Please welcome Shelley and Dana Pruett, Sheila Walker and Denise Hansen to our ACF family. They are sponsoring Luyiana, Peninah and Benson respectively (see pics below). In addition, Bernie Walsler requested another student - Miriam, bringing her to a total of three sponsored children!

Special recognition should also go to Jean Gerstner who has made several sizable donations to ACF over the past few years. We are truly grateful for her generosity and support of our efforts.

Even though Kenya still struggles with the virus and lack of vaccines, school life has somewhat returned to normal for our students. Of note is the new requirement that all must have an adequate supply of masks and hand sanitizers each term. Our kids remain healthy and for that we are very thankful.

We have reached a milestone this year, with three students attending University; Milton (Strathmore), Cynthia (Joma Kenyatta) and Nelly (Nairobi University). It was quite a journey with Miss Nelly - I asked her to share her experience with us as it's such a different process than what we deal with here in the U.S. (see article at bottom).

Milton has also written of his life at Strathmore University - it amazes me how far he has come from the shy boy I first met over 10 years ago!

As the Holidays approach and in the spirit of giving, we are putting together a program to



Milton joined our program when he was 12 years old. He was in danger of having to drop completely out of school because his parents couldn't raise the funds for him to attend.

Richard Walser, one of our very first sponsors, felt an affinity for Milton as they both share a love for mathematics. He has helped to encourage Milton over the years and looks forward to his graduation day.

Dear ACF family;

Shari has asked me to speak of my life and education in Kenya. I'm glad to write about Strathmore University which is considered one of the top institutions in Kenya.

My courses are Accounting, Business Studies, Communication Skills, Business Information Systems, Business Mathematics and Intro to Microeconomics.

Strathmore is a university that blends all activities for life time, they are not only about basic education. The school allocates each student to different sports activities according to talents. I have already been recruited to play football on the school team.

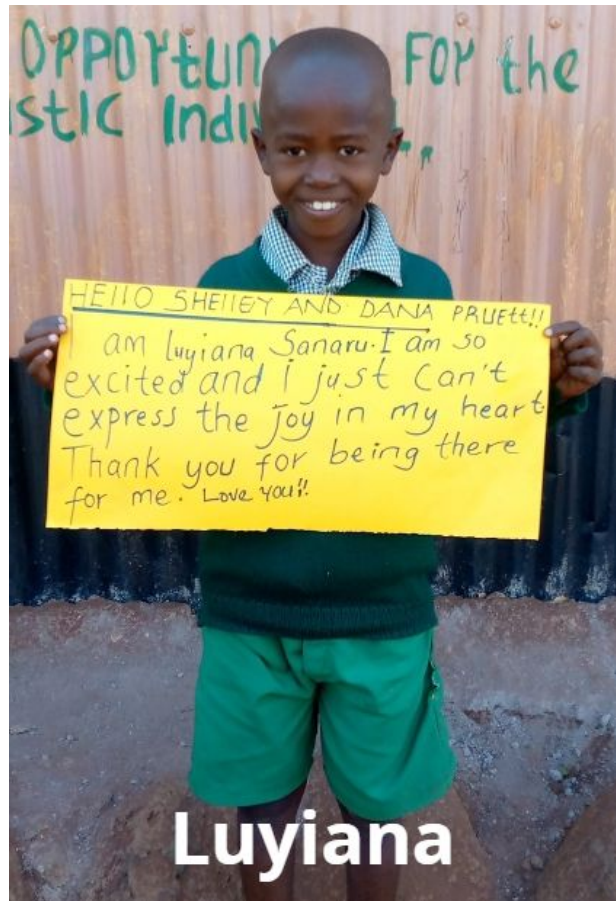
We also undergo community service attachments for our long holidays whose purpose is to give back to the society. These may include work in children's homes, school, hospitals...etc. The attachment which I'm to start in a few weeks is voluntary and prolongs for four months. Marks are awarded according to our participation and

supply a gift for our students. Leonard has arranged for a local goat herder to sell us goats for just \$50 each. This may not sound like the perfect gift to most of us, but I can assure you that our Maasai children and their families will feel truly blessed. If you would like to participate, please just click on the link below - any amount is appreciated!

Leonard and I want to again extend our heartfelt appreciation for your support. Please know that your contributions are CHANGING LIVES halfway around the world! From myself, Leonard and all the kids of ACF....THANK YOU!

With sincere gratitude and wishes of good health and well-being,

Shari Young
Co-Director

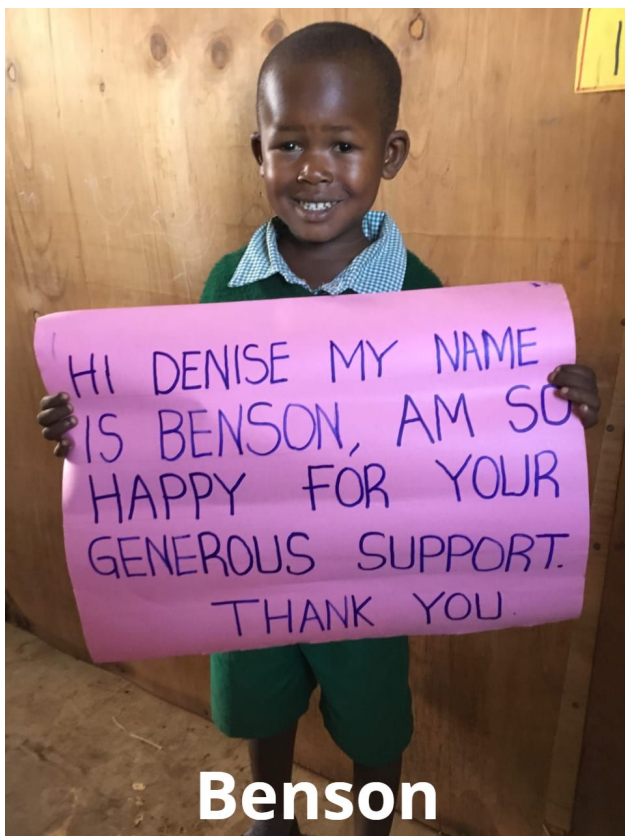


involvement to work.

Furthermore we also have clubs and society which meet as a team every Friday. I'm in the Entrepreneurship club and it really nurtures the interest I have in business. We are able to learn how to start lots of different types of business and even the scale of operation.

My target is to graduate with both degree and all CPA Certificates. By the time I'm done I will be certified with Accounting and Finance. Combined, these skills should enable me to find employment quickly - which is usually very difficult in Kenya.

I want to close with my sincere thanks to Richard for sponsoring me all these years and giving me this opportunity.



ACF Has Students Placed In 9 Schools & 3 Universities



In Kenya, government run schools for primary and secondary education are less than adequate; classrooms are crowded, drinking water is unsanitary and teachers often are not paid and therefore do not even show up for class!

This is why we place our younger children in private academies; ensuring they are well fed, well clothed

and given the tools and instruction they need to learn and succeed.

Because placement in these schools is highly competitive and difficult to come by, our students are scattered across the region. Leonard juggles transport, admissions, fees, books, uniforms and personal effects; a huge undertaking for one person and we all appreciate his efforts!

Below are the 9 schools we use and the students we sponsor:

Emmanuel Springs Academy - Samuel

Winners Academy - Nancy, Joseph and Diana Seleina

Naivasha Girls School - Rose and Charity

Rombo Girls Academy - Laseko, Dorey, Faith

Chogonia Boys School - Isaac

Kilgoris Boys High School - Katoo

Enkli Boys High School - Elvis and Seremon

Topmark Academy - Caleb, Susan, Peninah, Benson, Sision and Luyiana

Lemongo'o Primary - Mirriam



Consider giving a goat this
Holiday Season!



AMBOSELI
Children's Fund

TRANSFORMING

The Maasai people depend on goats and cows for a living. To a Maasai, having a goat is like having money or a bank account for an American.

A goat is an asset as well as an operating budget. This is the wisest economic incentive a Maasai family can ever receive, as goats and cows hold the greatest value, more than anything else in the Maasai pastoral society.

Just \$50 will help ensure that your sponsored child and his family receive this special gift by Christmas. Help us spread the joy of the Holiday Season!

GIVE TODAY

LIVES THROUGH EDUCATION

Giving hope and a world of possibilities to Maasai children in extreme need.

[Sponsor a Child](#)

AmboseliChildrensFund.com

PLEASE HELP US SPREAD THE WORD ABOUT ACF;
Post and share this newsletter with your friends and family!



Persistence pays off for student Nelly Lasoi

"It has always been my dream to be in the medical field. Now I wear a lab coat and am so proud to be one of the lucky few in the Pharmacy program!"

Dear ACF Sponsors,

I am one of the senior students supported by Amboseli Children's Fund Organization. I am currently in The University of Nairobi (the best university in Kenya). I reported on 27th September this year with the aim of changing my degree to Bachelor of Pharmacy as the course assigned to

me by the Government was Biology.

Pharmacy has always been my dream course and I thought I would easily take an interfaculty transfer on arrival to school. However I was shocked when I was informed that this wouldn't be possible because my cluster weights, which were calculated at 38, were lower than the new cut off points of 43. Cluster points are our computed performance (based on the national exam we took earlier this year) in four subjects required for admission to a given degree program.

In 2020 the cut off was 38, which is why I thought I could easily transfer Biology to Pharmacy. But for 2021 they changed the requirement to 43 which effectively shut me out of the program.

The only other way that I could take it was as a self sponsored student which is very expensive. I got confused considering the fact that I had no other course in mind. And the course that I was assigned (Biology) is a very common degree in Kenya with little opportunity for employment after graduation.

Luckily Shari and my sponsors Keith and Brenda, decided to pay for my fees...what a huge joy!! I informed the great news to my family and they really had no way to express their gratitude. They are helping too by paying for my room and board while attending school.

Just as I was going to apply for the self sponsored category, sadly again I was told "no"...that the number of pharmacy students had reached maximum for this academic year which was 120 students.

The only other way was just to pray that God may open the closed doors. A week later I went back to their offices with a letter explaining why I failed to apply earlier. And gladly it happened that a few people had withdrawn from the course and they could now consider new applications. So I immediately applied.

After a week I got the results that I was denied the chance again, claiming that I had lower points than those required for a self sponsored students. This wasn't true since they required 38 and I had 38 according to this sponsorship category!

We didn't give up and I rushed to their offices once more to set the issue clearly. They corrected it saying that it must have been an error and I became shortlisted.

I now started waiting anxiously for my admission letter....I waited till the due date that I was given. I got nothing...all they kept telling me was to be patient. More weeks passed and I began to lose hope.

Then on 1st November, Leonard called Admission. He sent payment so the individual we had been speaking to would be able to treat himself to a nice dinner. THAT IS HOW I FINALLY RECEIVED MY ADMISSION LETTER! Yes, Kenya is a challenging place to live and study....but I can now proudly say that I am a Pharmacy student.

I really love University life. I have made new friends who have been helping me catch-up in a quicker pace. I live in a hostel of two each. My roommate does Analytical Chemistry and she really likes it. All of our lessons are online except for practicals which would be one in a week. At first it was a challenge that all the lessons where online but I am now used to it. Mathematics, Biochemistry and Anatomy are my favorite.

My parents are so grateful and are really proud of me. Keith and Brenda, please know I am studying so hard to ensure I come out the best. I can't wait to graduate and be a pharmacist!

OUR STUDENTS ARE ALL SMILES!

From left: Elvis and his Mum, Dorey and Faith, Rose

