

# KENYA KIDS INTERNATIONAL

## *Annual Report* 2023/24



### ***Giving Young Kenyans a Brighter Future***

#### **2023/2024 President's Report**

I'm pleased to report on the work of KKI for the year ending 30 June 2024. Our core program of student sponsorship continues to grow as our financial position improves. In 2024 a record number of 14 new students begin secondary school.

#### **University Students**

We are delighted to report KKI will sponsor 11 new students to University in the latter part of 2024. This has been made possible by significant corporate support received from Ability Consultants and the Onetomorrow Foundation for which we are grateful.

We were greatly encouraged by the graduation of our first University student after 3 years of study. Sara was originally sponsored to secondary school in 2017. After obtaining her Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education Sara completed a Bachelor of Education Science (Mathematics and Physics). Since graduating Sara has gained employment as a Physics teacher in secondary school

#### **Feeding Program**

As a result of food shortages experienced by many families, the feeding program at Agolomuok Primary School was reactivated for a term. This ensured all students received

meals of millet porridge and beans 5 days a week. Parents volunteered to prepare, cook and serve meals to some 300+ students. However with the arrival of good rains and an approaching harvest, the program paused until a future need arises.

#### **Kenya Visit**

When Rob and Rikki visited Kenya in April, one of our sponsors, Peter Harding, accompanied us. In Nairobi Peter met Gerald, the student he had sponsored through secondary school. Gerald is now in his 3rd year at University studying to become a surgeon. From Nairobi we traveled to Sori, staying at St. Camillus Mission Hospital as we have done on previous trips.

In Kenya we had a busy schedule meeting with students, families and our Kenyan partners the Karungu Progressive Community. KKI has been assisting a family of 4 orphan children but it was clear the children needed an adult Carer. We successfully recruited 2 female live-in Carers, working on a rostered basis, to support the children.

This was the rainy season in East Africa, made deadly by El Nino bringing floods to many countries, including Kenya. Fortunately the floods did not extend to our area. However on some days rain disrupted our travel plans until the muddy roads dried sufficiently to allow safe travel.







We visited the Agolomuok Community Water Project and met with the committee to discuss a major problem. The pump at the main bore had failed and the community was unable to access water as they normally did.

We asked the Chairman to obtain quotes to replace the pump and upgrade the solar panels. Later in the year we funded a new pump whilst the County Government installed new supply lines linking 2 more water kiosks allowing more people to obtain fresh water.

As usual we held a group meeting with all of our students. This was an opportunity to collect term reports and distribute letters from sponsors. Students then wrote replies to their sponsor's letters. We checked on any challenges students faced including health issues and dealt with them accordingly. Peter held 2 tutorials for students who needed assistance with their written English and students reported this was very helpful to them.

### Macalder Mine Baby Home

There is a high incidence of women dying in childbirth or from disease and many babies need care. Milk formula is essential to feed the babies but it is expensive. KKI has been able to supply sufficient formula to feed 6 babies at a time. This is an ongoing program of support and without it these babies could not be helped.

Whilst visiting Macalder Mine Baby Home Sister Dorcas asked if KKI could fund tests and treatment for a very sick little girl called Henrietta who was about 12 months old.

We spoke with the visiting Paediatrician who confirmed the child needed to go to hospital for treatment and tests. The test results confirmed just how sick Henrietta was. She

was suffering from malaria, severe eczema, septicemia and malnutrition.

After a spell in hospital we were delighted to hear Henrietta had recovered and was free of all disease. Latest reports tell us Henrietta is thriving and growing strong.

### New Student Care Worker

With the resignation of Student Care Worker a high priority was to fill this position with someone suitable. We received a dozen applications but none were appropriate. By chance we were told of someone who was interested in the job and arranged an interview. We were delighted to appoint Judith Wara as our new Student Care Worker. Judith brings 10 years experience working with children to the role and after 3 months in the job has demonstrated her suitability for the work.

### Legislation Changes

Changes to charity legislation meant KKI needed to adopt a new Constitution and

increase our Board from five to seven members. We are actively looking to recruit 2 new members to fulfill our legal requirements. Current Board members reside in Western Australia, Victoria, Queensland and New South Wales. Board meetings are held on-line via Google Meet.

### Treasurer

In June Keith Berry resigned from our Board. As Treasurer Keith transferred our financial records from paper to computer using Xero software. This has hugely improved ready access to financial information. Thanks Keith for all your good work. Jacob O'Sullivan has stepped up to become our new Treasurer and we wish him well in this new role.

Thanks to all our Board and especially to our donors and supporters. KKI continues to deliver programs to break the cycle of poverty by Giving young Kenyans a brighter future.

Rob Fisher  
President

