

# Africa's memories

**KenToledo Social Service Club Newsletter**

**Issue 05 – September 2022**

Greetings from the Kentoledo Social Service Club [KTSSC] community here in Kenya. All the education program beneficiaries and teen mothers say hi and thank you for your sacrifices in putting a smile on their faces through your continued support.

We continue to thank the almighty God this far He has brought us and giving us an opportunity to help the poor in the Mathare slums.

Since our last newsletter issue 4, the KTSSC – Valter Baldaccini Foundation partnership has since made great strides in helping the needy. The partnership has seen increase in its volume of activities through the pilot program of Sustenance of Teenage Mothers in the slums of Mathare. Thus, currently Valter Baldaccini Foundation is running two programs in the Mathare slums with the stewardship of Kentoledo Social Service Club.

These programs include:

- ✓ Education Support Program
- ✓ Teen Mothers Program

## EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

The program has continued to be a ray of hope for all the beneficiaries. Since our last issue, we had 39 beneficiaries in the program at the beginning of year 2021. In April 2021, seven of the beneficiaries completed their high school education and passed their KCSE examinations. Some like Paul Iguru and Brian Macharia have already joined technical colleges for tertiary education. Other beneficiaries that left the program include: Gladys Wairimu, Jane Diana Nyambura, Julie Antonina, Mark Makokha and Patience Bahati Mumo.

Also, By the end of 2021 **Maureen Namono** was dropped from the program when she quit school due to teenage pregnancy leaving 31 beneficiaries in the program.

At the beginning of this year, new entries we made to the program bringing the number of beneficiaries to 35. The new entries are: **Benson Ariwo, Dimitri Silas, Assumpta Wanjiku Musyoka** and **John Kisalu Kioko**.

Two of the beneficiaries namely **James Maina** and **John Mwanzia** sat for their end of high school national examinations [KCSE] in April this year leaving 33 children under KTSSC – Valter Baldaccini Foundation sponsorship program.

## KEN TOLEDO SOCIAL SERVICE CLUB (KTSSC)

### VALTER BALDACCINI SPONSORSHIP LIST 2022

NO	NAME	SCHOOL	CLASS
1	Ann Kwamboka	Dandora Secondary Sch	Fom 1
2	Antonio Mbugua	St. Ann Lifred Academy	Std 7
3	Antony Safari	Heidemarie Mathare 4A Primary	Std 8
4	Assumpta Wanjiku Musyoka	Busara Primary	Std 8
5	Augustine Atondola	Kiboro Primary School	Grade 5
6	Beldina Achieng	St. Clare Meru	Std 8
7	Benard Mulai Mutiku	St. Patrick Kwatombe Primary	Std 8
8	Benson Ariwo	Musedo Secondary	Fom 2
9	Bridgit Wangui	Starehe girls centre	Fom 2
10	Cecilia Wambui Chege	Kambui Girls School	Fom 4
11	Dimitri Silas	St. Francis of Assisi Nquluni	Grade 4
12	Elizabeth Moraa	General Mulinqe Girls High	Fom 4
13	Erick Mutuku Nqui	Uhuru Secondary School	Fom 4
14	Ian Kuria Chege	A.I.P.C.A Glory Academy	Std 7
15	Jane Wambui	St. Clare Meru	Std 8
16	John Kisalu Kioko	St Andrian Kiongwanii boys high sch	Fom 2
17	Joy Wangari	Mathaithi Girls Secondary	Form3
18	Linet Kabira	Loreto High School Limuru	Fom 4
19	Lucky Baraka	Agoro Sare High School	Fom 4
20	Lucy Wandii	AIC Kakuyuni Secondary	Fom 2
21	Margaret Katinda Musau	Kamuthini Secondary	Fom 3
22	Mary Mawea	St. Clare Meru	Std 8
23	Mercy Muhonja	Pumwani Girls Secondary	Fom 4
24	Miriam Mugure	St. Clare Meru	Std 7
25	Monicah Akinyi	Nyaduong` Secondary	Fom 4
26	Moses Angura	Agai Primary	Grade 6
27	Raul Damian	Glory Kejop Academy	Grade 2
28	Simon Kyengo	Mumbuni Secondary	Fom 2
29	Stephen Mukhwana	St. Teresas Boys Secondary	Fom 3
30	Teresia Karemba	St. Martin's Matuu Wendano Sec Sch	Fom 1
31	Valterino Meshack	Makuyu Boys Secondary	Fom 3
32	Valterino Mwangi	St. Ann Lifred Academy	Fom 3
33	Wayne Brooks	Glory Kejop Academy	Grade 4
	Mary Gaturu	Maasai Mara University	Course
	<b>COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL (APRIL 2022)</b>		
	James Maina		
	John Mwanzia Muli		

Despite time – to – time surge in covid – 19 virus, we grateful that none of the beneficiaries have fallen ill of the lethal virus and the academic calendar is progressing well. The calendar will resume its normal timetable schedules next year (2023). This year the school calendar has four semesters mainly:

1. **January – March 2022 [ Term III of 2021 school calendar]**
2. **April – July 2022 [ Term I of 2022 school calendar]**
3. **July – September 2022 [ Term II of 2022 school calendar]**
4. **October – December 2022 [ Term III of 2022 school calendar]**

<b>2022 TERM DATES FOR ALL LEARNERS</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Opening Dates</b>	<b>Closing Dates</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Term 1	25/04/2022	01/07/2022	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	26/05/2022	29/05/2022	3 Days
Holiday	02/07/2022	10/07/2022	1 week
Term 2	11/07/2022	16/09/2022	10 weeks
Halfterm Break	11/08/2022	14/08/2022	3 Days
Holiday	17/09/2022	25/09/2022	1 week
Term 3	26/09/2022	25/11/2022	9 weeks
KCPE	28/11/2022	01/12/2022	4 Days
KCSE	01/12/2022	23/12/2022	3 Weeks, 1 Day
KCSE MARKING	02/01/2023	20/01/2023	3 Weeks
<b>2023 TERM DATES FOR ALL LEARNERS</b>			
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Opening Dates</b>	<b>Closing Dates</b>	<b>Duration</b>
Term 1	23/01/2023	21/04/2023	13 weeks
Halfterm Break	23/03/2023	26/03/2023	3 days
Holiday	22/04/2023	07/05/2023	2 weeks
Term 2	08/05/2023	11/08/2023	13 weeks
Halfterm Break	29/06/2023	02/07/2023	3 days
Holiday	12/08/2023	27/08/2023	2 weeks
Term 3	28/08/2023	03/11/2023	10 weeks
KCPE	06/11/2023	09/11/2023	4 days
KCSE	10/11/2023	01/12/2023	3 weeks 1 day
KCSE MARKING	04/12/2023	22/12/2023	3 weeks



## TEEN MOTHERS PROGRAM



Teen mothers face a myriad of challenges. They not only suffer from income poverty but also human poverty. Human poverty means that opportunities and choices most basic to human development are denied. Human poverty is more than income poverty. It involves the denial of choices and opportunities most basic to human development to lead a long, healthy, creative life, acquire knowledge, and enjoy a decent standard of living, freedom, dignity, self-esteem and the respect of others.

Most women in Mathare survive on casual labour. More often than not they spend days sitting on the pavements or stones along Eastleigh streets waiting for someone who can hire them for laundry or domestic chores. Some are lucky to find something to do while

the rest remain idle and go home empty handed. Some tell of sexual harassment from the would-be employers who ask them for sexual favours to guarantee them a chance to earn an equivalent of USD 2.00 for a big heap of laundry.

These and many other stories of indignity against women informs KTSSC to empower the slum teen mothers on their human rights and potential as persons, women and contributors to the Kenyan economy through the Ssustenance of Teenage Mothers in Mathare Slums (STMMS) Program.

According to the planning and implementation of the STMMS Program, the project activities commenced early May last year by the identification and selection of the needy teen mothers living in subject poverty in the Mathare slums, Nairobi Kenya.

The project targeted empowerment of fifteen poor and destitute teenage mothers from the slums of Mathare for a period of One year. These needy teen mothers were trained in handcraft jobs that lead to self – empowerment and self – reliance. The teen mothers had 1 day of training in handcraft skills and one day of counselling/motivational speaking every week.

Under the welfare of the mothers and their children; during the break they were given a cup of porridge for the young ones and two bananas for their mothers courtesy of the Mathare Sisters. The sisters saw a need to feed the mothers and the children during the lessons to improve their concentration. The porridge program is doing well and the beneficiaries are grateful to the sisters for their kind gesture.



The first cohort of teen mothers were taught various handcraft skills. They started with simple necklaces followed by bracelets and earrings. By the end of February 2022, they had fully learnt to weave kiondos and handbags made from beads. They seemed to enjoy every bid of the classes. Every Thursdays the teen mothers were counselled by a professional counsellor and sometimes motivational speakers were called once in a while to talk to the young mothers. We saw a change each and every day as the beneficiaries learnt new ideas. Their self – esteem greatly developed compared to the time we selected them for the program. Most the teen mothers were dull and had seemed to have lost

hope but after few weeks of training and counselling, the mothers became jovial and vibrant.

Every Friday, the teen moms received a shopping package that included; 4kgs of maize flour, 2kgs of rice, 2kgs of sugar, tea leaves, 1kg of beans and a cash of Kshs 200.



The pilot program ended successful at the end of February as we believe the beneficiaries had received enough skills to run small business start-ups.





On the conclusion of the program, all the teenage mothers together with their children were taken out to an animal orphanage. They really enjoyed the trip. See the photos.



In April this year, a 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort of 15 teen moms were selected for the sustenance program. They are continuing with the counselling and trainings in beadworks while they receive a food ration every Friday.









We are always thankful and grateful to our Donor who have helped us reach these milestones

THANK YOU



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