

Update

Giving Young Kenyans a Brighter Future



Susan at her clothing stall with Chief Elijah who heads up the First Fruits Program

First Fruits Program making a difference

I am Susan, I run my own business in selling second hand clothes.

This is the job I had been doing for so many years on a very small scale until Rikki and Rob came along, and introduced me to the first fruits program in early 2019.

I was given Five thousand shillings which I immediately used to add to my stock. After 12 months I paid back the loan..

Before I was given the funds I had 10,500/- (\$124 Aus) worth of stock, now my stock is almost worth 30,000/- (\$365 Aus).

When Rikki and Rob visited us the next time we held a debriefing meeting and we discussed the need for us to learn business principals. They organized for me and others to do some business training, the program was called 5000+.

5000+ helped me a lot. I learnt how to balance my business in terms of record keeping, cash flow, stock management, knowing who my customers were, what they wanted and when they wanted it.

I also learnt to know my competitors, what they were selling and at how much, so that I may either maintain, reduce or increase my prices to suit and increase my customer base. I also came to see the challenges in my business and how to deal with them.

Thank God for Rob and Rikki's lives, their help has made a big difference in my life.

Susan Agumbi

Marceline a First Fruit beneficiary with one of her twin goats



The **First Fruits Program** will be relaunched in July 2022 starting with a 5000+ (business training program). On completing training 1 day a week over 5 weeks, participants will be asked to submit their business plans. The plans are reviewed, participants interviewed and funds distributed to those with sound plans. Those who choose to breed livestock will go on to do a short animal husbandry course. Beneficiaries are given a time frame to pay back the loans which go toward funding future participants in First Fruits.

I am Mary a Kenyan citizen living in Agolomuok. I am a widow with two children. When my husband died I was left with nothing.

In early 2019 Rob and Rikki visited our area with a program called first fruit program. They gave me a female goat, first it gave birth to a male kid and I gave it back to the program. At the second and third births my doe had twins. The first lot of twins I sold to pay for my daughter to go to school. At the moment I remain with the mother and her female twins.

Suppose, I was not having that goat, my daughter wouldn't be able to go to school.

“Suppose I was not having that goat, my daughter wouldn't be able to go to school”

Am very happy with the program and may they continue with it and assist others.

Mary



Mary with the second set of twins born a few months ago.

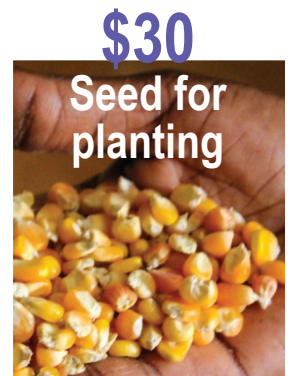


One of Mary's daughter's whose schooling was funded by the FFP



Beneficiary standing with some of the retail items she purchased with funds from the First Fruits Program

Your donation to the First Fruits Program will provide...



Send donations to KKI at Summerland Credit Union BSB: 728728 ACCOUNT: 22314767
Tax deductible receipts available on request. Email treasurer@kenyakidsinternational.org.au

“The answer to poverty starts with what poor people have, not what they don’t have”

I am Kennedy Ojunju, Ojunju is the father and Lewnida is the mother.

My father was born in a very poor family by background. He involved into polygamy with 5 wives and this just increased the level of poverty in the larger family.

I found myself born in this kind of disorganised family, my mother being the third wife. This really affected my life negatively ie, started my education so late, due to lack of school fees and requirements caused me to repeat classes in between. Hence the delay towards the completion of my education. Instead of completing at the age of 16yrs, I finished my form four course at the age of 25yrs old.

My school fees was being facilitated by well wishers.

My father died while I was in Form Two. I came back and just inherited poverty.

Due to lack of employment and corruption in Kenya, that you have to give money in order to get employment, I was unable to get a job.

Although I was deeply in poverty, I was born again by the blood of Jesus Christ before joining high school. After my schooling, I joined a local Bible School sponsored by Kenya Mennonite Church. Then served with Mennonite as pastor of a local church for 5yrs before meeting Rob and Jane founders of the 5000+ Vision in the year 2007.

The vision was talking about poverty and how to empower people to start



within 5 months we had 18,000 seedlings ready for sale.

We now have hundreds of projects, and volunteers across Kenya helping people in their communities, choosing the right project, planning, starting and successfully running the project.

Many lives have been changed and many communities have been transformed in one way or another.

Now I lead the 5000+ program as the testimony of the vision.

Ken

We propagated seeds from one tree within 5 months we had 18,000 seedlings ready for sale.

Ken Ojunju heads up the 5000+ business training program. He has a team of trainers that are sent across Kenya to teach business principles, sharing their knowledge and experience to the poor. They are all volunteers. KKI pays for their travelling and accommodation expenses.

their journey out of poverty. “ The answer to poverty starts with what the poor people have, not what they don’t have”

After attending the seminar, immediately my mindset changed and my eyes opened. I realised that I had one eucalyptus tree which I planted some years back behind my house.

I managed to gather people around me and taught them about the 5000+ vision and the way forward. We propagated seeds from the tree and started a tree nursery and

Some sad news

We regret to say there have been some recent deaths in our Kenyan family.

Just 12 months ago our Newsletter reported student Tomtucker’s mother Monica was responding well to treatment for cervical cancer. Unfortunately since then her condition deteriorated and following hospitalization, Monica has died.

Students Raymond and Nicholus also suffered loss with Raymond’s grandmother dying and also Nicholus’ father.

As you can imagine Tomtucker, Raymond and Nicholus are all gutted by the death of their loved ones. Dealing with their grief in the midst of the challenges and changes brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic has made life even more difficult for our them..



Sharon second from the right at her graduation 2021

From humble beginnings to University graduate

In 2017 Sharon was one of our first sponsored students. After competing secondary school Sharon gained a place at University. Last year Sharon graduated with a Diploma in Business Management. What a terrific achievement!



2018 Rob with Sharon on a visit to her high school



Sharon has now commenced further studies in Accountancy to obtain her Bachelor of Commerce degree.

Sharon is one of 10 children and life has been tough. When she was young her father was disabled by a motorbike accident and could not work. The mother was so overwhelmed by the situation she deserted the family, leaving them to fend for themselves. Somehow the family survived, often needing to beg for food.

Now Sharon is forging a way out of poverty through education. Sharon is immensely grateful for the opportunity she has had to continue her education. Without the generous support of her sponsors she could not have attended secondary school, let alone University.



Bottom right - 2017 When we first visited the home of Sharon and the family. Sharon is 4th from the right.