



January 2020

It's All About the KIDZ

IT'S BEEN A BANNER YEAR!

2019 IN REVIEW

Wow! It has been an amazing year for Kenya's Kidz and specifically at Namayiana Children's Home. You have responded in so many ways and the children have been blessed beyond measure. ***Asante sana, thank you so much!***

- Jackline and Jackson started their first year of high school. See "Namayiana Goes to High School".
- Brothers Jackson and Isaac received surgery to repair their birth defects. See "Immediate Need - MET!!"
- Teresia, Isaiah, and Joseph (all siblings) were transferred to a special needs school that will more adequately address their unique needs.
- Four amazing teams hit the ground running this summer, which included 3 families and a group of teachers. See "From the Field" for more information.
- We welcomed Favour, Mercy, Elijah, Jackline (a second one), and Stella into the Namayiana family, bringing us to a total of 30 children under our wing. See "Child Sponsorship" if you are interested in supporting one of these children in a more personal way.
- An additional housemom was hired to provide more love and support for the increasing number of children and relieve the workload of the existing staff.
- Electricity has made it to the village! With that said, it will take some expense and effort to get the buildings prepared to accept it on the compound. However, we were able to bring electricity to the pump on the well as a backup to the solar power. This has been a huge improvement, since our water supply is often at risk during the cold season when the skies can be cloudy for days and weeks at a time. We were also able to add outside electrical lights to the outlying buildings. Progress is coming to our remote village!
- The environment is hard on everything, and our pump gave out this fall. As you know, water is essential and our staff had to deal with minimal water supply as it was being replaced. Not a quick and easy fix!

As you can see, it's been a banner year. All of the children are healthy, doing well in school, and thriving in every way. You are such an integral part to making all of this happen. All of us, including the staff and children, ***are more grateful for your generous support than we can express.***



IN THIS ISSUE

- 2019 in Review
- Namayiana Goes to High School
- Immediate Need - MET!!
- From the Field
- Join a Team
- Child Sponsorship
- Calendar
- Amazon Smile

Kenya's Kidz

7946 South Vance Court

Littleton, CO 80128

303.972.7702

KenyasKidz.org

NAMAYIANA GOES TO HIGH SCHOOL

Jackline and Jackson started their first year of high school this January. Less than 50% of Kenyan children attend secondary school, due to both the prohibitive expense to the family and the testing requirements, so we are beyond excited for our super stars! Both kids are now at different boarding schools, but will come back to stay at Namayiana during school breaks.

- Jackline worked hard and earned the number one position in her primary school, which enabled her to qualify for a top Kenyan high school, which is several hours away. We are so proud of her!
- Jackson had gaps in his educational experience and has worked with a tutor for the past few years to fill them. With his great efforts and persistence, he was able to qualify for high school. No small feat! He is an amazing boy!

Now with 30 growing children, we are facing what every Kenyan parent fears - how to pay for a high school education for those we love. And of course, we want our children to attend college and/or vocational training when they graduate from high school. Would you consider donating to our scholarship fund to assure that each child receives the education they need to reach their potential?

To donate or get more information, go to KenyasKidz.org and select "scholarship" or contact us at Gloria@KenyasKidz.org.

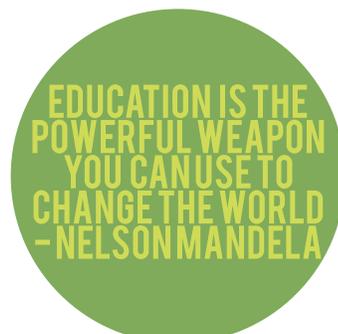


IMMEDIATE NEED - MET!!

After the plea went out last year to help with Jackson's surgery, so many of you responded... and so generously. It looked like we might have actually collected more than we needed, but God knew our needs. His brother, Isaac, was diagnosed with the same birth defect and needed the same surgery. Surgery was scheduled during our visit in July, and then the doctor was called away suddenly and it had to be rescheduled. And so on January 17th, the boys finally received the needed surgery. Everything went well; Jackson and Isaac were so brave! We are forever grateful to the many of you who made this possible for these precious boys.



On a side note, it was so much fun watching the boys experience the city for the first time. Coming from the bush, it was quite overwhelming, and yet fascinating. We spent about a week in Nairobi for the surgery and a few days afterward for rest and recuperation before returning to the village. Elevators, hot showers, TV, movie theater, traffic, mass of people, you name it - it all held their curiosity. They had lots of stories to share with their Namayiana family when they returned!



FROM THE FIELD

REFLECTIONS OF A TEAMMEMBER

To say my visit to Kenya was eye-opening and inspiring is an understatement. I had the time of my life exploring Kenya's culture and meeting the beautiful children of Namayiana. My experience in Kenya instilled hope and beliefs that I didn't know existed, and each of the individuals that I met on my visit has a special place in my heart. The day my colleagues and I arrived at Namayiana, I couldn't hold back my tears. Tears of happiness illustrated a reflection of love that these children embrace despite their daily struggles and challenges. The children and staff members welcomed us with open arms and were grateful for our presence just as we were theirs. I absolutely loved celebrating Namayiana's

"TO SAY MY VISIT TO KENYA WAS EYE-OPENING AND INSPIRING IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT."

birthday. The children were so excited and showed appreciation for everything they experienced. The look on their faces when they received their gifts was unforgettable. We enjoyed a lot of fun with tie-dye, face painting, games, and exercise. In addition, my colleagues and I were able to start the project of

painting the children's home. The work was tedious, but it looks great! I am blessed to say that my colleagues and I were also able to experience the schooling in Kenya, offering an inservice day to the staff and a lesson to all of the children.

My entire experience in Kenya was unforgettable, and to see what Scott and Gloria Scharton have established there is truly unforgettable, inspirational, and an absolute blessing! I am honored to have been a part of it, and I cannot wait to return one day. And I am happy to have crossed "seeing a lion in the wild" off of my bucket list as well!

Brooke Basner



NOTES FROM GLORIA

Our amazing summer teams accomplished so much. Two families had the thrill of meeting their sponsored child and some decided to sponsor a child while there - such a wonderful experience for the sponsors and children alike. The following is just a sampling of what the teams did:

- Painted the inside of the home
- Provided an inservice for the teachers on growth mindset and taught a lesson to the students
- Organized crafts for the Namayiana children and for the school
- Planned the annual birthday party – carnival style
- Took the kids on a swim outing
- Set up a new library with a reading program at Namayiana
- Played hours of futbol (soccer)
- Read bedtime stories by flashlight
- Roasted marshmallows at night
- Visited the elderly of the community with gifts of food, shoes, and chairs

JOIN A TEAM

We are in the process of forming our summer teams to Kenya. Are you interested in a life-changing adventure? Would you like to meet your sponsored child? We would love to share our journey with you. Most trips are for two weeks, although longer trips visits can be arranged. A variety of opportunities are available depending on your interests and skills. Of course, loving and having fun with the children is a must!

The children and people we serve are always blessed by our time and efforts, but our experience has proved time and again, that we are the ones who are the more richly blessed, going away with fuller hearts, open minds, and new passions. To step out of your comfort zone for a life changing experience, contact us at

Gloria@KenyaKidz.org .

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

Our sponsors make a significant difference in the life of a child. Not only do they provide for each child's needs for good nutrition, clothing, education, medical care, and a loving environment, they make a personal connection that someone a world away cares specifically for them. And for those children who have had the privilege of meeting their sponsor, that connection can be life changing.

In the past few months, Namayiana has taken in five new children. They all have difficult stories and challenging circumstances. Would you consider making a difference by sponsoring a child? For \$40 a month, a sponsor ensures that a child's needs are met. Sponsors will receive letters and pictures from their child about twice a year.

Please know that 100% of your support goes directly to care for your child. **For more information, go to KenyasKidz.org or contact us at Gloria@KenyasKidz.org.**

LOOK FOR OUR AFRICAN BAZAAR:

JUNE 13

Downtown Littleton Main Street Block Party, 6-11 pm

AUGUST 15

Western Welcome Week Parade and Craft Fair, 8-5

NOVEMBER 7 & 8

Evergreen Alternative Gift Fair, 9-4

TBD

Poker Tournament, Platte River Bar & Grill



AMAZON SMILE

Do you shop online at Amazon.com? Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchases to Kenya's Kidz. Simply go to the following link so we get credit.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-5574450>

For more information, go to smile.amazon.com/about.