

2004 was a watershed year for the fund. In May it received its certification as a 501(c)3 charitable organization. A board of directors was formally established and moved quickly to adopt a business plan calling for increased fundraising. The directors and their family members visited the students in Kenya in January of 2005 and were moved by their stories, especially of those who had recently completed form four and did not have the means to continue. As a result, the fund will now provide scholarships for ½ the cost of a university or polytechnic education.

2004 also saw the addition of ten new Budd scholars:



S. was born in 1988 in the Trans Nzoia district. His parents are unemployed, his father is handicapped and the family does not own land. S. has five siblings and they live in a rented house. For survival, the children do casual jobs to help their mother, who assists people in their farms. S. is a former student of Kinyoro Primary school and has joined St. Joseph Boys High School in Kitale for his secondary school education. He had an outstanding fees balance by the time he was admitted to the scholarships, but he has potential to do very well in school and leadership qualities which

need to be exploited.

R. was born in 1986 in Nandi South. She has five siblings and her single mother has been surviving through the support of well wishers. Meeting the basic needs of the children has been very difficult for her. They live with their grandmother, who is also ailing. R. joined Kapsabet Girls' High School for her secondary school education. The school brought her plight to the attention of the regional coordinator, who recommended her for a scholarship. She will complete form four in 2006.

J. was born in 1986 in the Kapenguria district. He is one of the *Kikuyu* children who have been affected by ethnic strife and could not obtain funds because what was available in Kapenguria was for *Pokots*. He gave up and wrote to his teacher indicating that he was leaving school and as a result, he missed two terms. During one of the program follow-ups with schools, his fate was shared with the NCCCK officers, who admitted him into the program. He has been in school since September 2004 and will need a lot of coaching in order to catch up with the others. He will complete form four in 2007.

N. was born in 1989 in the Nyeri District. Her mother is widowed and unemployed, and N's fees have been paid by well-wishers. She was out of school by the time the program took her in September 2004 and her fellow students assisted her with term 1 and term 2 fees by foregoing their lunch. As a result the school administration intervened to seek a sponsor for her. She was admitted to South Tetu Girls High School for her secondary school

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education. She has potential to do very well in form four but needs a lot of encouragement because of the situation at home.

S. was born in 1987 in Chavakali. Her father is mentally ill and chased the family away. S has three siblings and is the hope of the family. She reported to school without any items or fees as required by the school and has been

receiving personal effects from other students, who have a welfare club. She was admitted to Alliance Girls School and was recommended to the program. She has very huge balances as arrears which have not yet been cleared. She has potential to excel but needs personal attention and financial assistance to buy basic items. She will complete form four in 2006.

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J. was born in 1986 in Akuche. He and his four siblings were under the care of his older brother who dropped out of school in standard seven and took them to a tea estate where they worked as casual laborers. That brother died in 2001 and J. has had to operate bicycle taxiing to provide food for his siblings. In spite of all these challenges, he secured a place in Maseno, a national school. He has accumulated arrears in his first two years of school which will need to be cleared. He is quite optimistic and determined to change the status of his family, but needs a lot of encouragement and mentoring. He will complete form four in 2006.

E. was born in 1988 in the Siaya district; and is the first born in a family of three children. Their single mother, who is a primary school teacher, has taken care of the children since their father passed away in 1991. E. was admitted to Alliance High School, a national school, but her performance has been poor. However, she is outgoing and very

determined to achieve her goals. She will complete form four in 2006.

A. was born in 1989 in Nairobi. She was recommended to the program by Pangani Girls School. Her parents live in the Kibera slums and can not afford her fees in secondary school, which has contributed to her poor performance. She scored very well on the KCPE and is now in school full time

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E. was born in 1999 and was recommended to the program by Nairobi Boys School. He is an orphan and is supported by well-wishers. E is bright but quite withdrawn because of the loss of his father. He is ambitious and very optimistic that one day he will make a difference in his family and to society.

He needs a lot of encouragement to cope with the loss.

K. was born in 1987. He is the second born out of four children. His father has been ailing, leaving the responsibility of the children to their mother, who has no job. The family has no land and live in slums in Embakasi. He scored well and joined Dagoretti High school. His parents could not afford to pay school fees for him, so the community organized a mini-fundraising to provide fees for term 1 in form one. These are the only fees that he has ever paid and the school opted to keep him since he is bright and promising. His fate was brought to the attention of the scholarship program by the guidance and counseling department. K has potential to do extremely well if assisted to pursue his education.

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Nancy Budd with a few of the Budd scholars