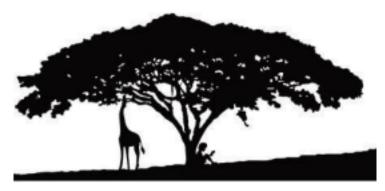
## William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund 2023 Annual Report



Two Budd Scholars at Starehe, a highly regarded school in Nairobi



The National Council of Churches of Kenya administers the scholarship on behalf of the Budd Scholarship Fund

## Introduction

We are pleased to submit the 2023 Annual Report of the William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund. This report includes the perspectives of our administrator, Imelda Namayi, emphasizing the Fund's importance and impact. Attachment 5 contains the biographies of students who became Budd Scholars in 2023. We trust you will find their stories compelling.

#### Scholarship Programme Report to The William and Nancy Budd Scholarship

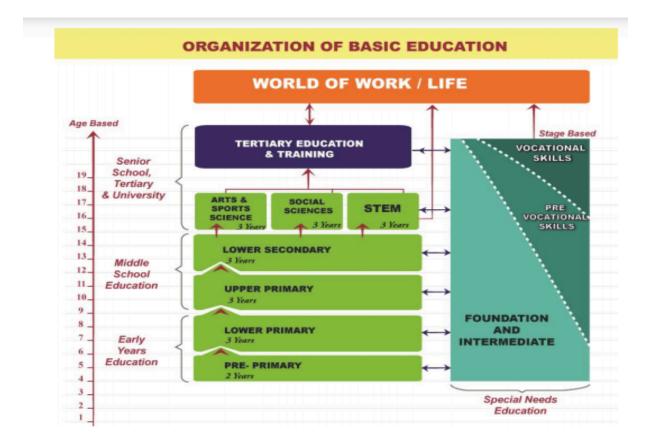
The National Council of Church of Kenya (NCCK) Scholarship Programme provides partial secondary school scholarships to bright and underprivileged students in Kenya. The programme's objective is to increase access to secondary and tertiary education. Since the 1960s, the NCCK has pioneered vocational training and cottage industries to mold responsibility and self-reliance among disadvantaged youth. Since 1999, The William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Programme has transformed the lives of over 250 students. Ninety-eight percent of our students have the grades to enroll in university and other tertiary institutions. In addition to funding the majority of each student's secondary school fees, the scholarship program provides them with psychosocial support and mentorship.

## **Educational Updates in Kenya**

## i) Competency-Based Curriculum Implementation

The Government of Kenya launched the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) in January 2014. The CBC is designed to provide a 2-6-3-3-3 education cycle. There are three major levels of education, illustrated in Figure 1. The learner's progress is monitored within the three-year cycles:

- **Early years' education:** Pre-primary 1 and 2 for two years and lower primary for three years (Grade 1, Grade 2, and Grade 3).
- **Middle school education:** Upper primary school for three years (Grade 4, Grade 5, and Grade 6) followed by Lower Secondary/Junior Secondary School for three years (JSS 1, JSS 2, and JSS 3).
- Senior School and Tertiary Education: Senior Secondary School for three years (SSS 1, SSS 2, and SSS 3) and Tertiary Education and Training for three to five years.



*Figure 1*. A visual representation of the 2-6-3-3-3 education system in Kenya.

The CBC puts learners at the center of the education process, focusing on each student's unique talents rather than their examination scores. The first cohort of students who started their education in the CBC in 2014 are in their second year of Lower Secondary School and will become eligible for an NCCK scholarship in 2025. The scholarship program will continue to benefit students in their final three years of secondary school, described as Senior Secondary School in Figure 1.

#### ii) The Academic Calendar

The academic calendar is back to normal following disruptions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are three terms every year, starting with Term 1 in January and ending with Term 3, concluding in November. There are three major school holidays in April, August, and November/December.

## **Progress of the Scholars** iii) Kenya Certificate Secondary Education Results

In January 2024, the Kenya Certificate Secondary Education (KCSE) National Examination results were released. There were 17 students under the William and Nancy Budd Scholarship who took the KCSE. These students performed well amidst the interrupted learning and experience of the COVID-19 pandemic during secondary school. The examination scores for the Budd Scholars are A- (2), B+ (5), B (4), B- (5), and C+ (1). We are excited that all Budd Scholars attained the university entry mark, C+ and above, implying all are qualified to continue their studies at public universities.

#### Grades for all the NCCK Scholarship students

А	A-	B+	В	В-	C+
0	2	5	4	5	1

#### iv) Recruitment of 2023 Intake

The NCCK facilitated the recruitment process for the 2023 intake in July 2023. The recruitment was done in the nine regional offices through the NCCK governance structure at the regional and county levels. The William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund supports 18 students (nine boys and nine girls) per intake. 90% of the recruited students attend the top national and extra-county schools in the country. Scholarship opportunities were fairly given to both boys and girls.

#### v) Summary of ongoing beneficiaries

Year/Intake	Total Number
Form 2	18
Form 3	20
Form 4	17

The Scholarship Program allows scholars to continue their education, concentrate on their classes, and excel academically without worrying about paying for it. The William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund currently supports 55 scholars and has transformed the lives of over 260 students.

#### VI. Update on the government funding model in University and Tertiary Level

The Government has given new instructions for university student funding, starting during the 2022/2023 financial year. Before, 80% of university fees were funded through government scholarships, and the remaining 20% were funded through loans from the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), a program by the Kenyan Ministry of Education. In most instances, students could survive with these funds without asking their parents for financial support. The HELB is a loan that students apply for when they enroll in university, and students will pay back the loan with interest once they secure a job after graduating from university.

This has, however, changed in 2023. Going forward, the funding allocation is not uniform; instead, it is student-centered based on an evaluation of the specific needs of individual students, categorized as Vulnerable, Less Vulnerable, and Able. The government has yet to issue guidelines for the categories. Below is a breakdown of each category.

Category of Student	Government Scholarship	Government Loan	Household Contribution
Vulnerable	100%	0%	0%
Less Vulnerable	53%	40%	7%
Able	38%	55%	7%

The NCCK is working with varying institutions under the Ministry of Education to create policies ensuring the transition and retention of all learners across basic education levels. We hope the categorization will see the most deserving cases in the proper categories.

#### **VII) Beneficiaries Retreat**

The NCCK did not organize the students' retreat in 2023. We plan to organize one in 2025 to coincide with the 25th anniversary celebration of the Budd Scholarship.

Complied by: Imelda Namayi

Aller.

Programme Manager - Education, Health, and Nutrition

20th March 2023

## 2023 Highlights

## I. Student Enrollment

The Budd Scholarship Fund is in its twenty-fourth year. Over its lifetime, it has supported 278 students from disadvantaged backgrounds with academic promise and exceptional character—optimistic and caring for others even as they face their challenges.

In 2023, the Budd Scholarship supported 55 secondary students, compared to 49 in 2022 and 46 in 2021. "Number of Active Students Supported" in Section II explains the fluctuation.

#### II. Student Achievement

Despite the interruptions to the school calendar in 2020 and 2021, the students who graduated from secondary school in 2023 performed well, and all are qualified to attend Kenyan public universities as government-sponsored students.



## 2023 Final Secondary School Grades

Student Number	Student Name	Mean Grade
WD01/21B	Manasseh M. G.	B+
WD02/21B	Susan M. W.	В
WD03/21B	Collins K. K.	B+
WD05/21B	David K. M.	B+
WD06/21B	Imelda K.	B-
WD07/21B	Jones M. M.	B-
WD08/21B	Annah K. M.	C+
WD09/21B	Owino A. O.	A-
WD10/21B	Owuor N. A.	В
WD11/21B	Grace A. K.	В
WD12/21B	Julius C. M.	В
WD13/21B	Muntani S. K.	A-
WD14/21B	Mwangi J. W.	B-
WD15/21B	Omukuba O. B.	B+
WD16/21B	Linda A. O.	B+
WD17/21B	Brendah C.	В
WD18/21B	Job M. S.	В

#### III. 2023 Expenditures

	2023	2022	2021
Retreat	0	462,590	0
Secondary	1,547,688	1,914,460	1,562,198
Post-secondary	0	0	36,798*
Administration	7,175	97,282	117,223
Total	1,554,683	2,474,332	1,716,219

#### **Expenditures in Kenyan Shillings (Ksh)**

\*Most post-secondary students receive sufficient funding from other sources (primarily the Kenyan government). Other students obtain loans to cover the full cost of fees because they are high achievers.

#### Number of Active Students Supported

	2023	2022	2021
Secondary	55	49	46
Post-Secondary	0	0	2
Total	55	49	48

The average Budd Scholarship-funded school cost per secondary student in 2023 was \$285 (at an exchange rate of  $1 = Ksh 139^*$ ), compared to \$364 in 2022 and \$380 in 2021. The reduction in the average cost per student in US Dollar terms is likely due to the strength of the US Dollar relative to the Kenyan Shilling in 2023.

The NCCK plans to continue selecting students each year from each of its nine administrative units (aligned with the old provinces). The nine administrative units produce two Budd Scholars annually, including one student from the Kinyoro Primary School near Kitale, Western Province, where Daniel Ritchie serves as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

\*exchange rate is the 2023 average found on exchange-rates.org

#### IV. 2023 Contributions and Transfers

Twenty-nine contributors donated \$17,618 in 2023; the individual contributors are acknowledged in Attachment 3. \$18,700 was transferred to the NCCK. More information is provided in Attachment 2. The Balance Sheets and Profit and Loss Statements, as of December 31st, 2023, can be found in Attachments 1 and 2.

#### V. Reserve Funds

The Reserve Fund was created in 2010 and is managed by the Platt Investment Counsel, LLC, through a Charles Schwab account. Its value has increased by \$21,076 (18.9%) in 2023.

#### **Reserve Fund Value**

December 31, 2023	December 31, 2022	December 31, 2021
\$132,482	\$111,406	\$138,025

#### VI. Fund Management

At the 20th Annual Meeting on August 14th, 2023, the Board reaffirmed its commitment to funding school fees for promising Kenyan secondary school students in partnership with the NCCK. The Board also discussed the transition of the Kenyan Education System to a new Competency-Based Curriculum, which is on track to be completed by 2027. Under the new system, government financial support for post-secondary education will become more restricted, so the Board is considering increasing its commitment to fund this phase of the student's education in future years.

In 2023, the Board began meeting directly with the NCCK scholarship program coordinators via periodic Zoom calls to facilitate communication. One of the topics discussed was planning a celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Budd Scholarship in 2025, to be hosted by the NCCK in Kenya. The Board would like to conduct a tracer study of former students before the celebration and has engaged with the former program lead, Grace Muthungu, for assistance.

The Board expressed interest in beginning periodic communications with past and potential donors in addition to their annual fundraising appeal. These communications will be intended to inform the donor base of program updates. They may also include letters of gratitude and other relevant content to help convey the fund's impact on the beneficiaries.

Emily Budd Baillos produced the 2023 Balance Sheet and P&L Statement.

Emily Budd Baillos, Mary Baillos and William Budd III created this Annual Report with support from fellow board members.

#### VII. Nobel Peace Prize Nomination

The National Council of Churches of Kenya was nominated for a 2023 Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of 110 years of work promoting peace, democratic government, public participation, and the creation of a just, resilient, and sustainable society.

In their nomination letter, the American Friends of Service Committee (AFSC) and the Quaker Peace and Social Witness stated that the nomination is "intended to draw attention to global threats to democratic government and highlight activist organizations working to build and support democracy."

In a letter announcing the nominations, the NCCK General Secretary, Rev. Canon Chris Kinyanjui, said, "The NCCK heartily thanks you for being our partner in the work we have done over the years. We look forward to further partnerships to continue to transform Kenyans' lives."

#### William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund Balance Sheet As of December 31st, 2023

			2023	2022	\$ Change
<u>ASSETS</u>					
<u>Current Assets</u>					
	Checking/Savings				
		Charles Schwab/Ameritrade	132,482.37	111,406.17	21,076.20
		Network for Good	0.00	0.00	0.00
		North Shore Bank/Wintrust	13,068.21	11,241.86	1,826.35
	Donations not yet deposited				
		Checks	2,750.00	3,500.00	-750.00
		PayPal	1,076.64	3,327.92	-2,251.28
		<b>Benevity (Morgan Stanley)</b>	56.25	1,063.75	1,007.50
		Cyber Grants (Truist)	970.30	0	970.30
		Total Checking/Savings	150,403.77	130,539.70	19,864.07
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>		150,403.77	130,539.70	19,864.07
TOTAL ASSETS			150,403.77	130,539.70	19,864.07
LIABILITIES &					
<b>EQUITY</b>					
	Equity				
		<b>Board Restricted Fund</b>	55,000.00	55,000.00	0.00
		<b>Opening Bal Equity</b>	1.00	1.00	0.00
		Retained Earnings	75,538.70	109,518.54	-33,979.84
		Net Income	19,864.07	-33,979.84	53,843.91
	<u>Total Equity</u>		150,403.77	130,539.70	19,864.07
TOTAL					
<u>LIABILITIES &amp;</u> EQUITY			150,403.77	130,539.70	19,864.07

#### William and Nancy Budd Scholarship Fund Profit and Loss Previous Year Comparison January through December 2023

	Jan - Dec 2023	Jan - Dec 2022
Starting Balance Investment Account	\$111,406.17	\$138,025.15
Ending Balance Investment Account	\$132,482.37	\$111,406.17
Net Change Investment Account (Gains Losses Dividends Fees)	\$21,076.20*	-\$26,618.98†
Donations	\$17,617.87	\$13,294.62
Net Change Investments + Donations	\$38,694.07	-\$13,324.36
Misc. Expenses	\$130.00	\$130.48
Daniel Ritchie (Moses - Budd Classroom)		\$525.00
Transfer to NCCK	\$18,700.00	\$20,000.00
Total Expense	\$18,830.00	\$20,655.48
Net Investment Performance	\$19,864.07	-\$33,979.84
* 2023 Net Performance includes an investment fee of \$616.34		
† 2022 Net Performance includes an investment fee of \$847.52		

Attachment 3

2023 Contributors			
Davye & Michael G.	Washington, DC		
Daniel & Alicia R.	Washington, DC		
Jess & Dee K.	Washington, DC		
Victoria (and Edward) J.	Chevy Chase, MD		
Wint & Tina R.	Wayzata, MN		
Mr. & Mrs. John N.	Cary, NC		
Maggie & Contee S.	Berkeley, CA		
Pete & Emily B.	Winnetka, IL		
James J.	Rocklin, CA		
Mary & Mark L.	Wilton, CT		
Iterate Design	Wilton, CT		
William B Budd III	Fairfield, CT		
David M Budd Photography	Denver, CO		
William & Nancy B.	Groton Long Point, CT		
Roger & Marguerite S.	Washington, DC		
Johnny E.	Fairfield, CT		
Cole/H.	Westport, CT		
Lara & Brad B.	Winnetka, IL		
Kari & Matt W.	Winnetka, IL		
Rachel W.	Winnetka, IL		
Matt & Katy F.	Winnetka, IL		
Katharine B. D.	Mobile, AL		
Mike & Karen D.	Washington, DC		
Roger & Jill W.	New York, NY		

## **2023** Contributors

Laura M.	Seattle, WA
David B.	Wilton, CT
Kay M.	Bloomington, MN
Carrie M. (& Kent C.)	Bow, WA
Eugene and M T M.	Fairfax, VA

# 2023 Secondary School Student Expenditure In Kenyan Shillings (Ksh)

Student ID	Student Name	Amount
WD01/21B	Manasseh M. G.	45,000.00
WD02/21B	Susan U. W.	32,000.00
WD02/22	Beverly G. M.	60,000.00
WD03/21B	Collins K.	35,000.00
WD03/22	Stephanie M. M.	55,000.00
WD04/21B	Eulita C. K.	10,000.00
WD04/22	Brian M.	39,000.00
WD05/23	Lewis B.	30,000.00
WD05/21B	David M. K.	15,000.00
WD05/22	Daniel K.	45,000.00
WD06/21B	Imelda K.	25,000.00
WD06/22	Abigael W. O.	31,000.00
WD07/21B	Jones M. M.	27,000.00
WD07/22	Emanuel N. K.	70,000.00
WD07/23	Ibrahim M. J.	10,000.00
WD08/22	Jessmilly M. G.	55,000.00
WD09/21B	Owino A. O.	13,778.00
WD09/22	Myres A. G.	35,000.00
WD10/21B	Owuor N. A	35,000.00
WD10/22	Happiness M. D.	29,727.00
WD10/23	Ivy K. K.	7,000.00
WD11/21B	Grace Anna K.	40,999.00

WD11/22	Ian O.	30,000.00
WD11/23	Whitney J.	10,000.00
WD12/21B	Julius C. M.	45,000.00
WD12/22	Fridah A.	38,300.00
WD13/21B	Stephen K.	12,277.00
WD13/22	Brian K.	55,000.00
WD14/21B	Joy W.	45,000.00
WD14/22	David K. N.	65,000.00
WD14/23	Debra S. N.	7,000.00
WD15/21B	Omukuba O. B.	55,000.00
WD15/22	Makanga Maurice N.	51,482.00
WD16/21B	Linda A. O.	39,817.00
WD16/22	Florence E.	44,000.00
WD17/21B	Brendah C.	33,107.00
WD17/22	Ruth C.	39,000.00
WD18/21B	Sambaya J. M.	45,711.00
WD18/22	Millicent K.	25,000.00
WD19/21B	Zablon S.	57,000.00
WD19/22	Boru G.	32,000.00
	Administrative Costs	72,490.00
	Bank Charges	7,174.65
	TOTAL	1,554,862.65

\*Note there are 41 students listed though 55 students were supported in 2023.. The difference is not all the 2023 school fees were paid for in calendar year 2023

## **Background Stories for High School Students Selected for 2023**

#### WD01/23 Christopher O.

Christopher hails from Njoro Nakuru County. He was born in 2006. He is the 7th born in a

family of 7 children, but unfortunately, four of his siblings died during the 2007/2008 Post-Election Violence. He is an orphan as he lost his parents at the tender age of 4. He lives with his guardians.

Christopher did his KCPE in 2021 at Lekos Primary School and scored 363 marks. Through donations and contributions from well-wishers, Christopher was admitted to a national boy's high school in Kitale.

His school progress reports demonstrate that Christopher is progressing well in his school performance. His guardians rely on church fundraising to pay for his school fees. Christopher is an active youth member of his RCEA Sururu Church.



#### WD02/23 Joan N.



WD03/23 Evans M.

Joan N. was born in 2008 in Baringo County. She is the third born in a family of five children - four girls and one boy, all in primary school. Joan did her final primary national examinations in 2021 and did exemplary to score 385 marks. Her parents struggled through their financial issues and managed Joan's admission to a Kenyan National Girl's High School in Kapsowar.

Joan is an active youth member in Maranatha Faith Assemblies. The family has no financial ability to educate all five children, leaving Joan in danger of dropping out and early marriage. They rely on well-wishers and hard-to-get bursaries to raise school fees.

Joan's teachers describe her as humble, brilliant, and hard-working. The scholarship award will sustain her in school, helping her transition to the next level of education. She dreams of becoming a doctor. Evans M. was born in 2007 in Laikipia County. He is the second child in a family of two siblings and a single mother. He is an active member of the PCEA Neema Brigade. His mother works as

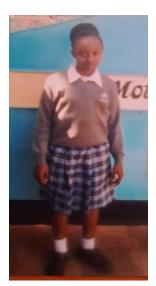
a casual laborer at Evans' Primary School. The little money she earns is mainly spent on food, which is hardly enough to pay for Evan's school fees and his brother, Osborn, who is in high school.

Evans sat for his KCPE in 2021, scoring 408 marks out of 500. His exemplary performance secured him admission to secondary school in 2022. To help Evans attend high school, well-wishers, church members, and his uncle contributed to his school fees. For his sustenance in school, Evans' mother has been borrowing loans from the bank, which have weighed her down, given her low income, thus threatening the continuity of her son's education.

Evans is described as a diligent, disciplined, and hard-working student. Therefore, if awarded the scholarship, he will work towards his pilot dream. He hopes to be awarded the opportunity to help his family and the less privileged in his vicinity.



#### WD04/23 Abigael N.K



Abigael N. K. was born in 2007 in Nyeri County. She is the third child and a single mother in a family of four. She is a devoted member of PCEA Kiamwangi Parish. Her mother is the sole breadwinner after her father's demise. Through her mother's and her grandparents' relentless efforts and struggles, Abigael finalized her education and sat for her KCSE examinations in 2021, scoring 373 out of 500. Her exemplary performance secured her admission to a girl's secondary school.

Her studies have been greatly affected because she was sent home to collect her school fees. She is described as a bright, intelligent, and hard-working student. If Abigael is awarded this scholarship, she will study peacefully without the anxiety of being sent home and hence concentrate on her studies. She dreams of becoming a lawyer, an opportunity she will leverage to give back to her family and society.

#### WD05/23 Lewis B.

Lewis B. was born in 2008. He is the youngest sibling in a family of three siblings. He lives in Nairobi City County with his family. His two brothers are in university.

Lewis did his KCPE and topped his class, scoring 415 out of 500 marks. He secured a place in a high school where he is currently in form two.

His father is a pastor at a local church, while his mother suffered a stroke in 2021, rendering her unable to work. His father, the sole breadwinner in the family, earns a minimum wage that is not enough to cover the family's expenses, including his mother's treatment.

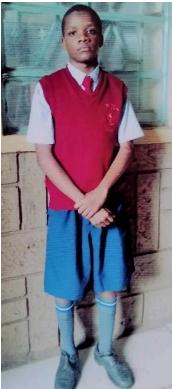
While at primary school, Lewis faced challenges covering his school fees, frequently keeping him out of class. Additionally, his left hand is disabled due to a deformity. This prevents him from fully participating in sporting events. Despite his challenges, he manages to score exemplary well.

Lewis is a committed member of his church, Maranatha Faith Assemblies. He is also an active member of the teen class in his congregation. His pastor knows him well and vouches for him.

Lewis aspired to be a lawyer, advocate for those who cannot defend themselves, and fight for justice for the oppressed.

His hobbies include playing and watching football. He regards the sport as exercise and a stress reliever, helping him release his negative emotions and stress.

Considering his excellent performance since primary school and his family's dire financial need, the selection panel shortlisted him for the scholarship.



#### WD06/23 Tabitha W. G.



Tabitha was born in 2007 in Kiambu County. She is the only child in a single-parent family. Tabitha completed her KCPE exam and scored 396 out of 500 marks. She was later admitted to a national girls' secondary school and is currently in Form Two.

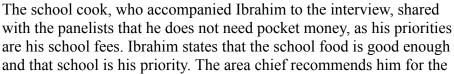
Her mother got a disability when she was in class seven, forcing her to stop working and go back to her parent's place where she is being cared for. Since then, Tabitha has been sent home from school several times due to school fee arrears. Tabitha received money as a gift for her excellent performance in KCPE, which enabled her admission to Form One.

Tabitha is a devoted member of her church's youth ministry. Her pastor describes her as a determined girl. In the future, she aspires to do charity work for underprivileged students through education scholarships. The selection panel recommended her for the scholarship, considering her good academic record since Form One and her determination to perform better despite the financial challenges obstructing her smooth stay in school.

#### WD07/23 Ibrahim J. M.

Ibrahim was born in 2007 in Tana River County. He is the firstborn of five siblings and is 16 years old. Ibrahim was raised by a single mother who has very little income. His other siblings are still in primary school. Ibrahim completed his primary education in 2021 and sat for his KCPE, scoring 372 out of 500 marks. He was enrolled in high school but was immediately sent home since he could not cover his school fees.

Ibrahim's mother was able to fund his school fees after months of hard work and made arrangements for him to stay near the school during school breaks. Ibrahim travels home during the December holidays, where he lives with his grandmother. He is a devoted member of the Methodist Church. Despite his challenges, Ibrahim has a mean grade of B. His mother has committed to his school fees by occasionally sending money to reduce the balance.



scholarship due to his poor family background. The school principal describes him as above average, obedient, and hardworking, with lots of discipline and good character.



#### WD08/23 Florence N.



Florence N. was born in 2006 in Kilifi County. She is the fifth child out of seven siblings. Her parents are alive, but they separated six years ago, and now the children stay with their father. He used to keep dairy cows and currently farms on his two-acre piece of land. The land has become bare, and its proceeds have collapsed due to the drought consistently affecting it.

Florence started primary school in 2014 and completed her primary education in 2022. She scored 363 out of 500 and was called to join a girls' secondary school.

Florence joined the school one month after her father raised cash by selling his cows. In term two, Florence could not attend on time with others as her father had insufficient money to cover the school fees. She utilized her classmates to catch up, scored a mean B+, and topped her class. Her family did not have enough funds to send Florence back to school in term three, but Florence is a top performer when she attends school.

The chief confesses to knowing the family as they come from his village with an impoverished background. Florence's father has consistently requested money to support his children's education. The school director also confirms that Florence is a high-performing student and that she is disciplined and hardworking. Florence's father has officially appealed to the NCCK to help support her school fees. The regional committee recommended Florence to be one of the beneficiaries of an NCCK scholarship for 2023.

#### WD09/23 Boru W. K.

Boru was born in 2008 in Isiolo County and is an active congregation member. He is the third born in a family of four kids and their single mother. The first child is in college, the second is in a local secondary school, and the youngest is in class eight. His father abandoned the family when he was in standard three.

Boru's mother works as a firewood fetcher for other people's homes to provide for the family. To date, the mother is struggling because selling firewood and burning charcoal is insufficient to support her family. The family faces a tough economic time because his mother is the household's sole breadwinner. His family's struggles have motivated Boru to work hard and not let his family down.

Through the struggles, he always prayed to God and worked hard. In 2021, he sat for his KCPE exam and passed with 394 out of 500 marks, the highest marks ever recorded in his village. He was admitted into a national high school. He earned an A- grade in his first year, showcasing his dedication to his studies.



Joining high school was a miracle, and Boru shared that it was made possible with help and contributions from the community. One of

Boru's aunts helped with shopping and pocket money. After one year of support, the community could not help Boru due to drought and famine in the area. His aunt's business is also struggling, making it difficult for her to continue supporting Boru's school fees. Boru dreams of becoming a surgeon and supporting his family and community. He requested the office to consider his plea and support for his education.

After a thorough investigation and interviews, the Regional Committee of NCCK Upper Eastern recommended Boru for an NCCK scholarship, as he comes from a humble background.

#### WD10/23 Ivy K. K.



Ivy was born in 2006 in Meru County. She is the third born in a family of four siblings. She is an active member of AIPCA church and volunteers as a Sunday School Teacher. Additionally, she contributes to her community as a valued worship team member.

Ivy was raised by a single mother who struggled to educate her children while working to provide her family with food and other basic needs. Ivy attended a public primary school until grade four before transferring to a boarding school with the help of her uncle, who supported her until she finished primary school. She sat for her KCPE, where she earned 385 out of 500 marks. Ivy was admitted into a girls' high school where she studies amidst many financial challenges.

When Ivy joined high school, her uncle changed his mind about providing financial assistance because his children started primary school, and he could not manage the financial burden. Ivy's mother often asks the church for donations for Ivy's school fees and other basic needs. When Ivy saw her mother struggle daily to make ends meet, Ivy was prompted to seek financial assistance from the NCCK.

Ivy is seeking sponsorship from the NCCK as she is worried her financial situation will lead to her dropping out of high school and shattering all her dreams.

Ivy is driven by hard work to emerge successful and make her mother proud. She hopes the NCCK will provide financial assistance to continue her education and have a bright future.

Ivy was recommended by her pastor, Rev. of AIPCA Muromutua, the Senior Chief, and her school principal as an underprivileged child who needs financial assistance.

After a thorough investigation and interviews, Ivy was recommended for the NCCK Scholarship awarded by the Regional Committee in the Upper Eastern Region. The principal recommends Ivy for sponsorship, citing her disciplined studies, average grades, and potential to do better.

#### WD11/23 Whitney J.

Whitney's parents, who live with limited financial means, earn less than 5,000 Kenyan shillings (less than \$40) monthly. Yet, their financial challenges did not deter Whiney from pursuing her dreams. Her story took a significant turn when she completed her KCPE examination, earning 382 out of 500 marks. Her exam scores opened her doors to a brighter future as she earned a spot in a girl's high school.

Consistent efforts and dedication have marked Whitney's journey through high school. Despite her challenges, Whitney has displayed an unyielding commitment to her studies. In her first year of high school, Whitney's academic journey has been reflected by her determination to excel. During term one, she completed the semester with a B grade, showing her ability to adapt to a new academic environment and set the stage for the future. Whitney built upon her achievements and momentum during term two by maintaining a B- grade. In term three, Whitney persevered and achieved a C grade. These outcomes testify to her determination to overcome obstacles and strive for excellence.



Whitney's story is not just about grades; it's about her unwavering spirit,

unbreakable will, and burning desire to uplift herself and her family through education. Her journey represents a beacon of hope for those who may find themselves in similar circumstances. Her perseverance proves that circumstances do not define one's potential, and with the proper support, dreams can be realized.

#### WD12/23 Samwel B. M.



A beacon of hope and resilience emerges in the form of Samwel B. M. – a dedicated Form Two student whose unwavering determination is rewriting the script of his family's future. As the firstborn of a family of five, Samwel's journey encapsulates the transformative power of education amidst financial constraints.

Amidst the quiet expanse of their 0.2-acre piece of land, Samwel's parents strive tirelessly to make ends meet. Their toil yields just enough to fill their bellies, leaving little room for luxuries. Against this backdrop of financial limitation, Samwel's devotion to education emerges. While his family struggles to secure their basic needs, Samwel's thirst for knowledge remains unquenched.

In the face of adversity, Samwel has not surrendered his dreams. The road ahead might be challenging, but Samwel envisions a future where his aspirations stand triumphant. His journey is a reminder that dreams, no matter how grand, can be achieved when met with his unwavering dedication. As he forges ahead, he carries with him the collective hope that through his success, the trajectory of his family's life can be forever changed.

#### WD13/23 Alex K.M.

Alex was born in 2005 in Kitui County. He is the third child of seven. He is currently in Form Two at Secondary School. Alex's father works as a casual laborer, while his mother is a housewife. He has a brother studying at Kenyatta University and a sister attending Masinga College. His younger sisters are in grades 7 and 3; he has another sister in PP1, and one is a baby.

Alex faced numerous challenges throughout his primary education, including financial difficulties due to his father's job. There were nights when his family went without any food, and Alex was sent home from school due to his inability to pay his school fees. Despite the hardships, Alex recognizes the importance of hard work and perseverance. Even when sent home, he borrowed books from his classmates to study. His efforts paid off when he scored 380 out of 500 marks on his high school entrance exam.

When he entered high school, Alex's hard work paid off. He completed his first term with an A, placing sixth out of 376 students. He continued with high marks of A- and grades for the following terms. Currently, in Form 2, Alex

continues to face difficulties due to outstanding fee balances. His goals include providing for his family and helping to make a difference in the lives of orphans.



#### WD14/23 Debra S. N.



Debra was born in 2006, the second child in her family of six. Her elder sister is a candidate, while the other siblings are in primary school. Her parents are farmers in Kajiado County, an area ravaged by drought that devastated their livestock and farming efforts. Her father is also a clergy of the Anglican Church.

At primary school, Debra developed the dream of becoming a doctor. Whenever Debra's school fees were paid off, her other siblings missed school due to insufficient funds. The parents cannot afford to pay all the school fees at once. Her passion and determination made her score 375 marks in KCPE despite her challenges, earning her a position at an extra county girl's secondary school.

Debra's commitment to the school is reflected in her term reports, for which she obtained good grades. However, her studies have been marred with challenges, and she feels discouraged from being sent home from school several times due to her inability to pay her school fees.

#### WD15/23 Elisha M. O.

Elisha is a well-behaved and disciplined student who performs satisfactorily in school. At elementary school, he scored 403 marks on the KCPE exam of 2022. He is a member of the KAG Youth Ministry. He is the firstborn of three siblings who are in primary and preschool. His parents are both alive and work on a farm to sustain themselves. However, due to their small piece of land, they struggle to provide for and pay for the school fees.

The church, relatives, and friends helped to support the primary school fees and provided some funds for Elisha to join high school. The lack of school fees is a constant burden since Elisha is often sent home to find funding. Elisha desires to become a lawyer.



#### WD16/23 Domty O.

Domty was born in 2010 in Migori County. She is the second child in a family of four. Her parents are both still alive. Thanks to a sponsorship, she was able to attend a private school starting in sixth grade. She received 380 points on her KCPE. She attends the Maranatha Faith Assemblies Migori. Her academic credentials are impressive. Domty has been unable to continue her studies due to a lack of funds aside from daily maintenance. Her ambition is to become a nurse in the future.

#### WD17/23 Miriam S. M.



Miriam was born in 2007 in Vihiga County. She is the firstborn of five siblings. She completed her KCPE in 2021 and scored 408 out of 500 marks. She was admitted into a girls' high school. She is a devoted member of the African Interior Church, where she is also a youth leader.

Her father is a retired primary school teacher, and her mother is a housewife with very little income. The financial instability in their home prompted Miriam to depend on well-wishers to support her school fees.

Despite the challenges, Miriam continues earning good grades as she works towards her dream of becoming a lawyer. She looks forward to being considered for the NCCK scholarship, which would help her achieve her dreams.

#### WD18/23 Jarmin J. W.

Jarmin was born in 2007 and is the sixth child in a family of eight in Busia County. He is a devoted member of the Free Pentecostal Fellowship in Kenya. He sat for his KCSE in 2021 and scored 409 out of 500 marks. This earned him a place at a high school, where he continues to earn good grades.

Jarmin's parents are peasant farmers who, in his words, operate from hand to mouth. Farming is difficult due to the periodic flooding of the Nzoia River. His mother runs a small-scale greengrocer whose income cannot fully meet the family's needs.

This has made Jarmin's pursuit of education challenging, as he lacks basic needs and school fees. Often, he and his siblings, who are in college and university, depend on well-wishers to rescue them to continue their education.

Despite these challenges, Jarmin has continued to perform exceptionally well. He is seeking this scholarship to enable him to continue his education without interruption and move one step closer to the future.

