



February 2015

JAMBO!

Best Sponsors in the World



Nicholas & Karen

If we haven't mentioned it lately, let us say it now: We have the best sponsors and supporters in the world. YOU are changing the lives of so many students, and we can't thank you enough.

Here's one story to illustrate how your love is changing things for students in Kenya. Nicholas was the top boy in his class until he had to drop out because he could no longer afford the fees. With no parents to insist that he stay, and with siblings who needed him to look after

them, he left school and picked up whatever odd jobs he could find. In the meantime he read every book he could get his hands on so "his mind wouldn't die." Imagine his relief and joy when he learned that Kenya Keys would find a sponsor whose support would allow him to return to school.

Enter Karen Nickerson. Karen has felt a deep connection to Kenya and to the work Kenya Keys does. She jumped at the chance to sponsor Nicholas. While Karen already planned to travel to Kenya as an intern with Kenya Keys, she is now even more eager to go so that she can meet Nicholas and rejoice with him in the bright future he can now achieve.

Better You, Better World



Do you want to improve yourself? Interested in changing the world? What if you could do both at the same time? The 52-Week Be Better Challenge does both. The challenge was created by Aly Simons, a long-time Kenya Keys supporter who has traveled to Kenya as an intern seven times. Aly is passionate about finding ways to improve physical and mental health and empower women. She's also very invested in making the world a better place. You can read more about the 52-Week Be Better challenge [here](#).

Participants receive a weekly challenge, and for each person who meets the challenge, \$1 is donated to a nonprofit organization. Participants can double their donation by posting an update on

In This Issue

[Best Sponsors Ever](#)

[Be Better Challenge](#)

[Graduate Conference](#)

[Did You Know?](#)

Quick Links

[Contact Us](#)

[More About Us](#)

[Sponsor a Student](#)

Congrats Susan!

We want to thank Susan Nyamawi, one of our devoted employees in Kenya, for her excellent service. She has secured a coveted position working as an Information Officer for Kwale County. Congratulations, Susan! And good luck in your new position. We are so grateful that Susan will continue to volunteer with Kenya Keys and are thrilled that the girls will have her as a role model.

Giving Tuesday

We want to thank each of you who contributed and spread the word about our first Giving Tuesday campaign on Tuesday, December 2, 2014. It was a huge success! We raised over \$6,000 and we are

social media. The best news? Kenya Keys is the charity Aly selected to receive all the donations made in February. We've already received over \$200. That will go a long way in Kenya. Thank you, Aly! Improve yourself and support Kenya Keys at the same time-[join the challenge today](#).

thrilled that you helped us raise that amount for a new community library in Kenya. Watch for updates about the building progress.

Transforming Boys & Girls Into Leaders

"I don't remember the last time I shed tears of joy." That's how Susan Nyamawi, Kenya Keys employee, described her feelings about meeting with graduates of Kenya Keys in December. Students who are now pursuing higher education and careers gathered to share their experiences, discuss challenges facing Kenyan students, and plan ways they can mentor and support younger students in the villages.



The transformation of these students is marvelous to behold. In the beginning they are hopeful and determined, but are often shy and sometimes lack confidence. As they move through their educational experiences, they become openly confident leaders and scholars. We are so proud of our graduates and we love seeing their dreams fulfilled.

New Students

We are excited to welcome 34 new students to the Kenya Keys family. We are proud of their academic accomplishments and we look forward to seeing their success.

Want to see how much impact Kenya Keys is having?

[CLICK HERE](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Global Outreach



Granite Elementary School, located in Salt Lake City, Utah, joined the Global Classroom family last year. After learning about the program and the needs of Magale Primary School, their sister school in Kenya, the students at Granite got to work. They raised nearly \$4,000 in simple but meaningful ways: they did chores, dug into their

piggy banks, and invited adults to donate as well. With those funds along with some matching funds from Kenya Keys, Magale was able to build a new classroom and latrines for the students.

These additions to the school were officially opened for use while the US Kenya Keys team was in Taru in June. It was an especially meaningful experience because Kenya Keys' intern, Dorothy Winters, was there to participate. Granite is her children's school and as the Global Classroom Director, she was very touched by the opportunity to see the results of this particular Global Classroom project. Learn more about Global Classroom here, and contact Dorothy (dorothysuewinters@gmail.com) if you know a school that would be interested in participating.

DID YOU KNOW?

Facts about Kenya:

Official name: The Republic of Kenya

Nairobi is the capital

41.8 million people call Kenya home

A high speed railway that will link East and West Africa is being built right through our service area.

The Kenyan education system is separating schools into all-girls and all-boys schools because of research that shows how separating the genders greatly improves learning.

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