

Jambo!

Girls Arise



In 2013, the Kenya Keys' team in Kenya hosted a girls conference, the first of its kind in the region. They chose the slogan "Binti Zinduka" (Girl Arise), and were thrilled when 300 girls traveled from area schools to participate in the historic event.

Three years later, the Binti Zinduka conference is growing and improving. This year, the conference drew 600 girls from area schools, with an

additional 100 attendees, including teachers, administrators, mentors, parents, and government representatives.

Girls received sanitary kits and commemorative scarves. More importantly, they were given information and encouragement. Mentors and speakers taught girls to patiently pursue their goals, to stay in school, and to work hard no matter what challenges they face. When girls come together, their power to change their own lives and the world around them is amplified.

[Watch these girls](#) passionately express their determination to get an education, no matter what stands in their way!

We whole-heartedly recommend you go see [Queen of Katwe](#) in your local theater. It's a beautifully-created movie based on the true story of a girl in Uganda who fights her way out of poverty, much like the students we serve in Kenya. You can watch the trailer [here](#). Don't delay, it won't be in theaters much longer!

Run to Mtulu



"This race was about more than just raising money," says Lake Oswego resident and Kenya Keys' volunteer, Missy McConkie, who organized the second annual Run to Mtulu event in October. Kids of all ages ran a 1-mile course, encountering (toy) snakes and elephants (people wearing masks). Attendance at the event more than doubled from last year, and we raised over \$1,500 to support schools in Kenya.

Educational displays were set up throughout the pavilion, giving families insight into the lives of our students in Kenya. Missy says that educating families in the U.S. on global issues is an important part of the race. "It's neat for kids to realize that there are children on the other side of the world who are like them in so many ways, yet who struggle to get some of the things we have so readily available." We're excited to watch this event continue to grow and to see the impact it will have here and in Kenya. Thanks Missy!

Orphaned, But Not Alone

Hassan Mangale lost both his parents to AIDS at a young age. In rural Kenya, it's hard enough to get an education without the added difficulty of being an orphan. Hassan worked hard for three years to earn the money to pay for his first year of high school. Fortunately for Hassan, his educational dreams also had a little help from a group of junior high and high school students from across the world. This group of neighborhood friends in Salt Lake City, Utah hosted a Christmas party each year and used the proceeds to sponsor Hassan through his remaining years of high school.



With their help, Hassan not only finished high school, he qualified to attend university and study marine engineering. He is now being sponsored by the Griffin and Katie Jardine family. Hassan couldn't be happier, or more grateful: "I heartily appreciate the support towards my education. If it were not for my sponsors, I could never make it this far. May God bless them abundantly."

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our sponsorship program, or sign up to be a sponsor [here](#).

Like most people in the U.S., we are looking forward to celebrating Thanksgiving with our families next month. We're also excited for our third #GivingTuesday campaign. Click [here](#) to learn more about #GivingTuesday, and watch for more information about how you can join in our #GivingTuesday campaign.

Award-Winning Adult Education



Our Kenya Keys' team in Kenya earned well-deserved recognition in September for their adult education program. The Director of Education in Kwale County presented the team with a trophy for helping adults obtain a high school diploma. We especially want to acknowledge the role of Stephen Kabani, who was instrumental in creating the program. And we express our gratitude to all of the Kenya Keys' graduates who have volunteered as teachers in the program. In 2015, 13 adult learners took the KCSE-the national secondary school exam. Getting a high school diploma has been their dream for many years, and their achievement raises academic expectations throughout the region. Congratulations to all who are involved in this significant and successful program!

Two young men on opposite sides of the world found a deep and meaningful connection through the Kenya Keys Sponsorship Program. This past summer, they met for the first time. And when they met, Kennedy Baya shared a story that brought everyone to tears. If you haven't read this story already, do yourself a favor: visit our blog to read "[The Story of Kennedy Baya: DO NOT BEND.](#)"

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