AMARA CHARITABLE TRUST

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NEWSLETTER

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KYANGOMA SPECIAL NEEDS

BOARDING SCHOOL IN KIKIMA

The school of special people who have a special place in our hearts.







Amara is proud of the five special students who have successfully completed the vocational training at The Agape Hope School, and have already begun to use the newly learned skills in improving the environment of the school. They were trained in cooking, kitchen care, farming, bead-work and carpentry.

Kasyoki Wayua has subsequently taken over the kitchen duties at Kyangoma School and may be employed by the school in 2018. Mutisya King'ola has been employed by the school to look after the vegetable garden and the school cow.

Following the success of the vocational training, and the recommendation from the headteacher, the Amara team decided to try sending six students to join the Primary Curriculum Education. Unfortunately, five of the six could not continue into the program due to health and integration issues, However, one girl, Musenya, completed two terms in class seven and looks forward to going to class eight in 2018 at Agape Hope Primary School. It is Amara's wish to see her complete her secondary education.





Amara has seen a steady and holistic improvement in the differently abled children since 2012 when we first started working with this school. We have been able to comprehensively channelize the generous donations received in providing improved:

- **Medical care** through The Assumption Sisters nurse, physiotherapy and nutritional supplements
- **Wheelchair accessibility** by constructing a pathway from the dormitory to classrooms and kitchen area
- **Posture comfort** for eight of the Cerebral Palsy children who received customized wheelchairs.
- **Running water** was one of the major challenges at this school and Amara's Engineer friend, Mr Antony Wandu, kindly donated towards the digging of a functional well and installation of a water pump and piping to the school.

This has greatly improved the hygiene, health and cleanliness at the school.

CONSTRUCTION

The most indispensable pre-requisite to Educate, Empower and Enhance the lives of children is a beautiful and happy place to learn in. To ease the challenges faced by the rural students, we pay a lot of attention to infrastructure.
On 25th June 2017, Amara handed over three newly constructed classrooms and a multipurpose hall to Mountain View Primary School in Lukenya.

A Home Science block was constructed at Kanaani Secondary School for which Amara started the full school construction in 2013. This is currently a mixed day school and is expected to become a girls' school in 2018. The Home Science block will be used for cookery and tailoring classes in 2018. A 12 door ablution block was added at Kanaani Primary School. The student strength at this school since Amara's intervention in 2013 has increased from 650 students to 820 students in 2017.







WORKSHOPS

We at Amara, continue to work with our schools by facilitating workshops that Empower the students, few workshops were organized this year:

• **Fun and interactive story telling workshops** were carried out by Kiran Shah from Australia and Sheila Wee from Singapore who enthralled the students at Kwa Mboo Primary, Kwa Kalusya Primary and Kanaani Primary Schools.

• **Agricultural workshops** were conducted by Plant Raisers in Isinya where students and gardeners from Kanaani Primary and Kanaani Secondary Schools participated. The business students learned how to account for the produce and keep ledgers.

• **Karate workshop** at Kanaani Primary School entered its 5th year. Amara donated 25 sets of uniforms to the students who are taught and practice the Joju Ryu style and are under the Kenya Goju Ryu Association. The first grading will be done for thirteen of the twenty five students in February 2018. Following this training, the teachers and parents have unanimously reported better discipline, mannerisms, patience and humility towards their peers and elders. An improvement in academic performance was noted in some students.

Amara aims to start this workshop in other schools in 2018.







LIBRARIES , TEXT AND REFERENCE

BOOK DONATIONS

The qualitative and quantitative threshold of reading in the youth is an important decisive factor that shapes the future of a Nation. In partnering with Story Moja (RAAW Trust), Amara, acknowledged the need for creating and facilitating a reading culture amongst the students by starting a library at five schools. The role of Story Moja is to set up libraries, train the teachers and students on library management, books repair, record keeping, resource mobilization and regular follow-ups. Amara's role is to fundraise and scale up the projects, identify beneficiary schools, co-ordinate library launch events and support continuous monitoring and evaluation of the libraries. Six libraries were launched in 2017 at:

Ngalalya Primary School
Kanaani Primary School
Empakasi Secondary School
Mountain View Primary School
Kwa Mboo Primary School
Kwa Kalusya Primary School









Due to the elections and re-elections this year, the school calendars were thrown off routine, yet we noticed that with the access to storybooks and reference books, attendance of weekly library lessons and reinforcement of the habits of reading for pleasure had improved. Better outcomes of comprehension and literacy levels have ultimately contributed to the academic achievement of the students. Reading books by local authors helps the students connect better with their own life and has inspired them to read, write and expand their imagination.

The Desai Memorial Foundation partnered with Amara to provide text and reference books to Mt View Primary School in 2017. DMF has been a consistent supporter in providing books to Amara's schools.

Shishikunj Kenya provided several text and reference books which were given to Kanaani Primary, Kanaani Secondary, Matathani Secondary and Empakasi Secondary Schools.

FEEDING PROGRAMME
& VEGETABLE GARDENS

Amara feeds 3,500 students during school days. Greens from the schools' vegetable gardens are added to the maize and beans for a more nutritious lunch.











"Poverty is a very complicated issue, but feeding a child isn't ".
Jeff Bridges







PARTICIPATION IN THE ASIAN
FOUNDATION EXHIBITION

Amara participated in the Asian Foundation - Stawisha Maisha Exhibition held in Nairobi at the Oshwal Center between the 12th and the 14th of May 2017. The team interacted with many other philanthropic organizations and showcased Amara's unfailing dedication towards its Mission since 2008. It was an opportunity to exchange ideas with organizations sharing a common vision and to work with them in the future.



SMALL STEPS WITH
GREAT JOY

- 41 two sitter desks were donated to Mt View Primary School, Ngwata Primary School and Kasuitu Primary School.
- Cabinets, tables, playground equipment and book shelves were donated to Kanaani Secondary School, Kanaani Primary School, Ngwata Primary, Kwa Mboo Primary and Kwa Kalusya Primary Schools.
- 3,415 stationery packs with 3 exercise books, 3 pencil, eraser and sharpener were given to students of Kwa Kalusya Primary, Kanaani Primary, Mt View Primary, Ngwata Primary, Kwa Mboo Primary and Matathani Primary Schools.









