



Gatoto
Community
Primary
School



ANNUAL REPORT TO DONORS

We Strive to Shine

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2015 was generally successful both in laying the foundation of widening our resource base and delivering quality, holistic education to the children in the primary school and post primary institutions. Our alumni continued to show great potential in their areas of study. A number of them got into quality employment and are changing locals' perceptions about the potential the community has. They are transforming themselves into productive Kenyan citizens and this is giving morale to those in the primary school. In 2015 alone two became bankers and another a lawyer. There are also a number of teachers among others.

Seven more alumni qualified to join university during the year. These achievements are a great motivation to a community that was virtually locked out of educational opportunities before Gatoto started two decades ago. This motivation can be seen in the way pupils in the primary school continue to qualify to join Kenya's erstwhile elite schools gaining an opportunity to not only get the best education possible but to also interact with a more diverse community of young adults. In the Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (K.C.P.E) Examinations results for 2015, the mean improved by 3% over the 2014 results with the top candidate scoring among the top in Nairobi.

We continued to expose our children to a range of co-curricular opportunities. We participated in ball games during the term. One boy qualified to represent Nairobi region at the Metropolitan Level competitions held in Eastern Province. On the other hand, the choir and elocution teams triumphed in Nairobi and the Metropolitan Region and qualified to represent the region in the National Music Festivals held in the lake town of Kisumu. There they again did the region, the school and, above all, themselves proud winning first runners up and third place in two categories. We salute them for their efforts.

Broadening our fundraising base was a key focus during the year. In furtherance of this, the Manager undertook a tour of the United States for speaking and donor engagement events in September. The events were a huge success. Several individuals and organizations indicated their support towards our vision. At least \$55,000 was committed by different supporters. This shored our previous budget shortfall for 2015 and gives us a good start for 2016. We thank members of the Board of the American Friends of Gatoto who kindly agreed to facilitate the trip. The US constituency will be a great addition to the support we already get from Ireland, Netherlands and the UK. We will engage proactively with these donors and other prospective ones to ensure sustainability going into the future. We also continued to follow up on local support. We got a donation to buy learning resources from the Karen Country Club, Chase Bank, The Kenya Irish Society and learning resources from the Centre for British Teachers.

The Feeding Programme, a major incentive to the children was restructured in 2015. In the past World Food Programme (WFP) ensured food was delivered directly to disadvantaged schools. From September this process of delivery changed. WFP now transfer cash directly to the targeted schools which in turn purchase the food through local tendering processes. We are happy with the change and pleased once again that our school was included in the WFP Programme. During the final term, working with the School Meals Programme Committee, we delivered on the programme successfully.

Our support for the Community Support Programme saw us serve 100 of the most vulnerable families in the slum. We provided them with food, health interventions and opportunities to meet and discuss challenges in families. Those affected by HIV/Aids who we target (60 families directly and another 40 families in partnership with Childslife International) continue to live positive lives free of stigma. The other benefits the community gained include uninterrupted school attendance of children from the targeted families and improved academic outcomes.

There were some challenges too. A notable one was the departure of 7 teachers some of who got hired by the Government of Kenya (GOK) and were posted to Government schools elsewhere in Kenya. This was a blow to the school but understandable given the gap between what GOK can pay a Primary School teacher and what Gatoto can pay. This meant embarking on unforeseen new teacher recruitment. This came at a critical time in the school calendar considering children were preparing to sit examinations in 3 months time. Our new hires went through a mentorship and orientation programme to align them with the ethos of the school and buy into the culture of the Gatoto. We are confident they are up to the task.

All our work would not have been possible without the kind support of our donors and other stakeholders. Thanks to you all for your financial, material and technical support. This enabled 1,200 children to receive quality, holistic education and nutritional and health support. This is a source of great inspiration and hope to us all here at GDP.



The Good Cause



YEAR 2015 RESULTS

Committed	Delivered
<p>1. Access/Quality: Provide a quality, holistic, gender balanced education programme to 950 children of Mukuru Kwa Reuben and its environs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic and livelihoods focused mentorship for both boys and girls. • Support staff to improve results particularly in the languages across the school by providing appropriate resources. This is in addition to the on-going interventions in Maths and Science. • Monitor and put in place appropriate health interventions for all children. • Support students in post primary institutions to ensure they excel in their studies. • Afford all children a chance to participate in co-curricular activities of their choice. 	<p>Quality Primary education delivered to over 1,000 pupils in the primary school and 100 others sponsored to access post primary education during the term.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 113 candidates sit for the 2015 K.C.P.E. Examinations with 3% improvement over the 2014 results. ▪ A regular hot lunch programme for all pupils successfully delivered this year. This had an impact on attention spans, attendance rates and academic and co-curricular outcomes. ▪ The choir and elocution teams triumphed in Nairobi and the Metropolitan Region. They went on to win first runners up and third place in two categories. ▪ One boy managed to represent Nairobi at the Metropolitan Ball Games' competitions. ▪ Ongoing mentorship focusing on academic outcomes, values and life skills for both boys and girls. ▪ 7 alumni qualify to join university. ▪ 3 more alumni graduate from university after 4 year under graduate courses. ▪ The termly alumni meeting brought together about 100 students. They shared experiences, successes and challenges. Their report cards show that most of them will excel and join college after high school. ▪ All pupils in the school were de-wormed.
<p>2. Community Support Programme: 60 families in our community supported with a nutrition & health programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue supporting the psycho-social support programme for people affected or infected by HIV and Aids in Mukuru. • Continue to provide 60 families affected or infected with HIV/Aids from Reuben and its environs with a nutrition and health programme. 	<p>Overall objective in this section achieved and the 60 families (300 people) supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regular group therapy sessions and food supplies targeting 60 families achieved. ▪ In addition, Childslife International supported 40 more families. The families received psycho-social support, a platform for group therapy sessions and food. <p>The group cash savings scheme by willing parents is growing strong. The parents have their own office bearers while we work with</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with appropriate organisations organise regular medical camps. 	<p>Feed the Children to ensure the best possible technical advice and encouragement.</p>
<p>3. Financial Sustainability: A Marketing plan is finalised showing plans for increasing our visibility both locally and overseas and raising at least € 280,000 annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen the American Friends in the US by agreeing formal by-laws for the charity and short to medium term plans on donor engagement. • Continue to implement the communications and marketing plan • Continuously update website and use social media to support relationship management and fundraising. • Marketing and fundraising locally and overseas. 	<p>A plan agreed on a process for potential new donor engagement in the USA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The manager made a highly successful fundraising tour of the US. A sizeable network of potential supporters got engaged to the vision of Gatoto. ▪ A plan mooted to engage new donors in Europe and locally and to re-engage former and continuing donors. ▪ Cutting costs through requesting in kind support saw us receive donations of language texts for two classes and secure a commitment for provision of 10 new computers locally. The computers, though, have not yet been delivered to us.
<p>4. Strategic Planning and Review: Looking at 2015 and beyond.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct quarterly reviews of the Strategic Plan. • Conduct a review of Marketing and Fundraising Plan. 	<p>A review of the 2015 Plan completed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We reviewed our marketing materials to come up with short videos, flyers and brochure. ▪ We restarted our online engagements with our stakeholders. <p>Regular photos and videos by children with a view to sorting out the best and most appropriate for use in our campaigns.</p>

Additional Achievements

Academic (Primary)

- 113 of the 115 candidates registered for this year's K.C.P.E Examinations sat the examinations in November. Analysis of the results shows an improvement of 3% over the 2014 results. Notably, the top candidate was in the top 7% of all candidates nationally¹.
- We once again won first position in Nairobi in the annual Kenya Music Festivals. At the Nationals held in Kisumu we won one second position and another third position.
- We delivered additional language resources to class 3 and 5 to improve their English and Kiswahili.
- The mentorship programme focusing on academic achievement and livelihoods mainly to children in upper primary continued.

¹ 937,467 candidates sat the K.C.P.E Examinations in Kenya in 2015.

- Our pupil attendance rate surpassed 97%. This was due to many factors including regular financial and technical support, the feeding programme and a caring school environment. Thanks to all who supported in any way.
- Our 3 teachers who were trained last year by The Centre for British Teachers Programme (CFBT) continued to receive support from the Organisation on child learning centred approach. 2 of the teachers, though, are among the 7 who left during the year.
- We admitted over 130 children in first term. Due to inadequate spaces we unfortunately had to turn away several applicants.

Academic (Post-Primary)

- The alumni held their termly meetings in April, August and December. This was for group reflections, peer mentoring, sharing stories about achievements and future careers.
- By way of one on one interviews, reviewing performance and group sessions we continued to monitor our alumni in post primary schools. We want to ensure that they feel adequately supported in their studies. Those who sat the end of secondary school examinations will have their results in February. We believe they will get good results enabling them to go to university and other colleges next year.
- 3 alumni completed their undergraduate courses from different universities.
- 7 students from the class of 2014 qualify to join university. This will bring alumni in university to over 25.

Management, Fundraising, Planning

- The American Friends of Gatoto agreed final formal by- laws. Further, the organisation invited the manager for speaking and donor engagement events in September. During her visit, up to \$55,000 was committed. We thank the IOBF for supporting the trip. We also thank the American Friends of Gatoto for organising and facilitating the same.
- Another partner in Brazil helped organise a crowd funding platform that raised \$30,000. The funds, though, have not been transferred to our account yet.
- We developed a variety of marketing materials including a short video, power point presentation, brochure and flyers to aid in backing our agenda for engagement and support.
- We also got local support in the form of learning texts.

Partnerships and Networks

- During the year we had the privilege to engage with different partners, some of them new. They include those who made visits to the school including:
 1. The wife of the Irish Ambassador to Kenya, Her Excellency Ms. Brown.
 2. The new Suas CEO Ms. Alison Aldred and her colleague Saoirse.
 3. Holly Bantleman of the UK.
 4. Officials of SBI International, a construction company, who pledged to provide resources for our computer lab. They renovated the computer area and will provide additional computers in June.
 5. Musicians from Ireland who were in Kenya for the annual St. Patrick's Day.
 6. South African Women's Association (SAWA) officials.

- Other important networks started during the manager's tour of the US. They include individuals and organisations.

Community Support Programme

- We supported 60 of our most vulnerable families by giving nutritional and health support. We also continued to facilitate group therapy meetings in addition to individual focused counselling. 40 more families were enlisted and are being supported by Childslife International.
- During the year we facilitated the establishment of a parents' group to start a cash savings programme. The group meets once every 2 weeks in the school to make whatever savings they can. In the long term, the scheme will avail small loans to its members to mainly invest in small businesses.

CHALLENGES

- Our 2015 budget goal was not met for the better part of the year.
- During the year, 7 of our teachers left. This is mainly because of the disparity in teacher emoluments between organisation and the public sector plus the opportunity of relocating to cheaper countryside destinations.
- The rains experienced at different times of the year occasioned flooding that rendered some rooms unusable.
- Prices of goods continued to be unpredictable in Nairobi with basic commodities like supplies and food suffering badly.

SOLUTIONS

- We prioritized the most critical budget items such as salaries, lean budget for the primary school and offered less support to our post primary sponsorship program. The commitments of new donors at critical times helped see us through to the end.
- We conducted a hiring process and secured replacements. The replacements were inducted into the values and ethos of the school.
- We engaged the services of 2 alumni to help out with the duties of the two teachers.
- We leveled part of the grounds to help mitigate surface runoff in the future. Once there are adequate resources in place, we plan to extend the leveling to the rest of the compound.

GOING FORWARDS TO 2016 AND IN LINE WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN WE COMMIT TO:

1. PROVIDE PRIMARY AND POST PRIMARY EDUCATION TO 1200 CHILDREN

In spite of the challenges we face, our overarching goals will remain to foster the good of the children of Mukuru Kwa Reuben and its environs to develop to their fullest potentials and enjoy good physical health. To provide a quality, holistic, gender balanced education programme we will always endeavour to:

- Increase our teaching and learning resources ensuring reach for all the children in the school.

- Improve our computer lab bringing in relevant educational content so that staff and children have access to critical reference materials within a touch of the button.
- Involve students more in the running of affairs affecting them in order to build their confidence, awareness and leadership skills.
- Continue to expose children to a wide range of co-curricular activities to ensure a holistic education.
- Work with health providers to ensure regular health check-ups and health/hygiene education events.
- Ensure continuation of the school feeding programme by working closely with Feed the Children and World Food Programme. The structure of this support changed and so schools now receive cash to buy food for a whole term. This is a situation requiring working with all beneficiaries and stakeholders so we will ensure we are in constant communication to understand the ever changing food market and food quality so that it does not go bad during the term and monitoring.
- Invite resource persons to give regular career guidance sessions so that our alumni can choose appropriate courses in college.

2. EXPAND PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

We highly value partnerships with institutional donors. This will be among the most important part of our work. We are confident that cooperating with such partners will contribute to the diversification of our funding portfolio. However, in an ever changing world, we see our cooperation as transcending financial support and so we will need to further build long term relationships and learn new standards.

To achieve a sound positioning of Gatoto in Society

- In three years, ensure official government recognition of Gatoto and seek support in the area of teacher salaries.
- Engage proactively with the American Friends of Gatoto and potential supporters in the US.
- Continue to implement the communications and marketing plan
- Update our marketing and communications materials.
- Continuously update website and use social media to support relationship management and fundraising
- Marketing and fundraising locally and overseas

3. RAISE FUNDS FOR THE 2016 BUDGET

Although the 2016 budget is a big concern, we have set our eyes into the future targeting a broad funding base for all of our programmes. We are engaging with both old and potential new donors communicating our strategy. In an environment where key donors have either withdrawn or scaled their support down, we aim to reach out to a large pool of donors.

- Primary objectives:
 - Review strategies on engaging local businesses, Embassies and companies to raise funds and in-kind support.

- Engage international NGOs and Foundations to raise funds for 2016-16.
- Research online fundraising platforms and pitch for support.
- Individual supporters (Friends of Gatoto Standing Orders. Sponsor a Child/Teacher)
- Deliver Sponsor a Child/Teacher funding kitty.

4. PROVIDE FAMILIES FROM KWA REUBEN AND ITS ENVIRONS WITH A NUTRITION AND HEALTH PROGRAMME

- Continue with psycho-social support programme for people affected or infected by HIV and Aids in Mukuru.
- Link beneficiaries to appropriate referral centres/organisations.
- Continue to provide families from Reuben and its environs with a nutrition and health programme
- In partnership with appropriate organisations organise regular medical camps.

SUMMARY OF FINANCIALS FOR THE YEAR (IN KENYA SHILLINGS)²

INCOME	
Iris O'Brien Foundation	8,733,150.00
American Friends of Gatoto	7,820,000.00
Chase Bank	100,000.00
The Good Cause	1,293,440.00
Suas Educational Development Fund	1,317,140.00
Parent Contribution	1,580,945.00
Direct Debit	160,000.00
Catholic International Community	300,000.00
RAJT Trust- Pro Seed Dabyn Brooks	499,364.75
General fundraising Overseas	915,899.25
General fundraising locally	40,000.00
Gatoto Suas Alumni	250,000.00
Private Individual donors	1,300,000.00
Walter Hollas	575,000.00
Kenya Irish Society	97,500.00
Irish Embassy	540,000.00
Karen Country Club	100,000.00
Ministry of education	250,042.00
Childlife International	172,000.00
Kenton College	31,750.00
Joseph Gabriel Vaughan	393,000.00
Paola, Beanie/ Team Trade Mania	50,710.00
World Food Program	462,000.00

² A separate income and expenditure detail is filed alongside this narrative report. The Auditors' Report will be presented at the end of the quarter.

OTHERS	
Good Cause – Mama Joy	220,000.00
	27,201,941.00
EXPENDITURE	
Salary	8,863,138.30
Post- primary	7,342,554.00
Administration cost	1,864,862.86
Student cost	2,376,349.00
Sports/ Cultural activities	1,008,230.00
Food Aid/ Family Support	557,710.00
Repair/ Maintenance	698,634.80
Motor vehicle	321,138.00
Fundraising	515,100.00
Contingency	529,176.30
Gratuity	330,553.00
Training	120,000.00
OTHER COSTS	
Text books	397,500.00
Food (WFP)	460,000.00
Mama Joy	220,000.00
	25,604,946.26



From Top:

1. Standard 8 pupils revising for their Kenya Certificate of Primary Education Examination- from Left- Antony Barasa, Christopher Onyango and Yusuf Arunda Standard 3 boys pose for a photo during break time.
2. Post primary students pose for a photo with Gatoto mentors after their meeting at the school
3. Volunteer parents help in the packaging of the food and a section of the parents after they received their ratio



From Top:

1. Nicola Burns and her friend Lorna Lawrence and Giuseppe and Beth Bufalino and Mark and Geraldine Kinsella when they visited Gatoto in September 2015
2. Betty and Professor Jennifer Brass take questions from Indiana University students at Indiana and a section of Nueve students and staff listen to Betty present to them on education in Africa, at their school.