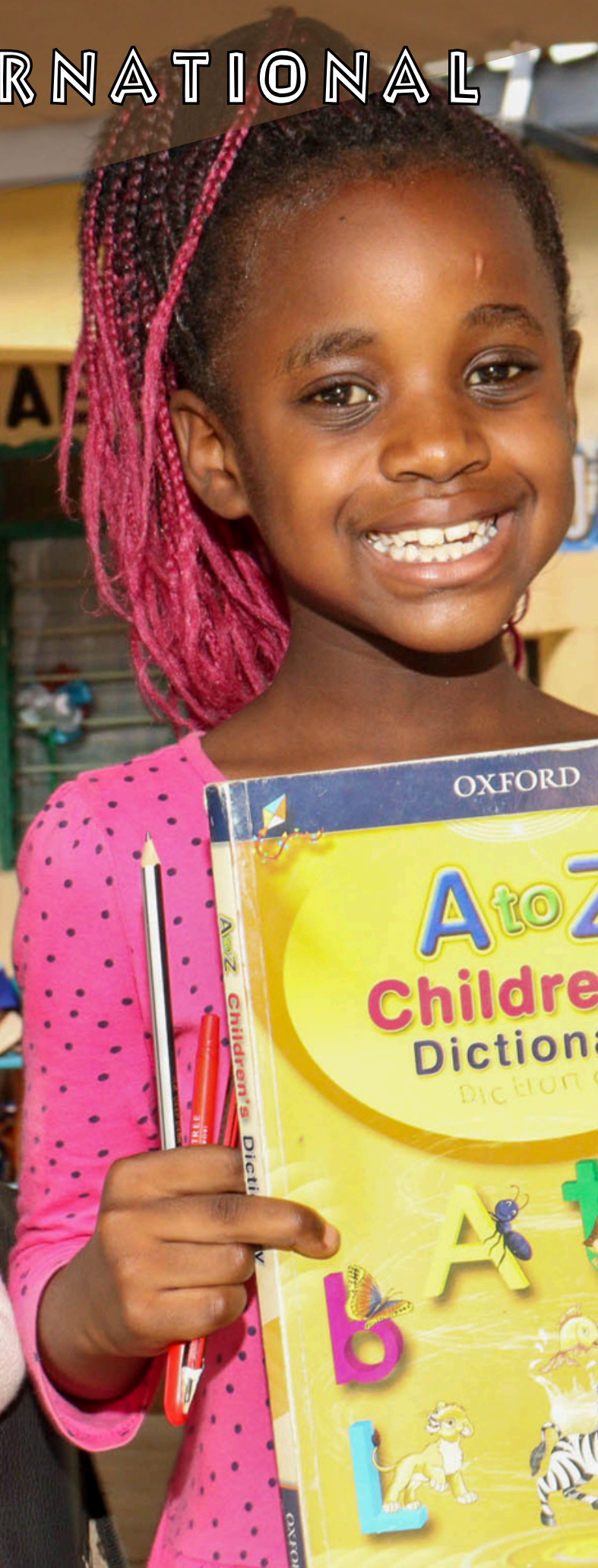


# KIWIMBI INTERNATIONAL 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



*“It is not about pouring into the water, but of the waves moving together, spreading to impact a wider and wider area.”*



## Partnerships Create Opportunity

Kiwimbi might be seen as just another charity, one of so many that caring people help fund. While that would not be inaccurate, there is more to our story. “Kiwimbi” means “ripple” in Swahili. The visual of a ripple moving across the water is not so much an image of giving, but of movement, of spreading. It is not about pouring into the water, but of the waves moving together, spreading to impact a wider and wider area.

In this year’s Report, we are focusing on partnerships because, like ripples, they create a widening impact – they are not simply financial contributions, but people working together to keep the wave spreading long after a donation has been received. Various organizations are mentioned specifically in the Report, and they have created waves of excitement (chess anyone?). Those are just highlights, though. People and organizations in the USA and Kenya regularly partner formally and informally with Kiwimbi to help spread the wealth of education. These include Pro-Bono Partnership and its pool of volunteer attorneys, Prestige Invitational (Golfing for Greater Good), Chatham Day School, a growing pool of volunteers and interns, Kenya’s Dorothy Nyong’o (first lady of Kisumu County), local village Elders, teachers, friends and more.

This brings me to our financial supporters. We are all partners, sharing ideas, enthusiasm, volunteer hours and yes, money, in an effort to support the dreams and endeavors of students in Africa. All of us help create opportunities for students facing tremendous challenges – boulders in that pool of water. These waves we start here create a way over and around those obstacles for so many families.

Thank you for joining with us!

*Lynne*

Lynne Rathgeber  
Board Chair

# OUR PARTNERSHIPS

*"It is not beyond our power to create a world in which all children have access to a good education." -Nelson Mandela*



## IN 2023, KIWIMBI...

Enhanced our **gardening techniques** for our crops used by Kiwimbi's cooks

**Introduced chess** to the students and staff who participate in regular in-house competitions

Partnered with the Weiss Scholarship Foundation to fund **secondary education scholarships** for four highly qualified students who would not otherwise attend secondary school

Joined TechLit Africa to install a **full computer lab** and dedicated computer teacher at Amagoro Primary, one of our focus schools, lead by CNN Hero of the Year Nellie Cheboi

**Started a preschool** for vulnerable children and children of Kiwimbi vocational students and staff that runs during the long breaks when school is closed

Translated several books into Swahili in partnership with Language Lizard, a publishing company for bilingual storybooks

Created a **video exchange project** with a first-grade class at Chatham Day School in New Jersey

Facilitated the relationship between the SO BOTZ robotics team at South Orangetown High School in New York, and the **newly created STAGSS robotics team** at St. Thomas Amagoro Girls Secondary School

**Elevated Humphrey**, a former carpentry student, to the well-deserved role of head instructor

Added two **new satellite libraries**, bringing the total number of satellite libraries to seven

Doubled our tailoring program thanks to the generous grant from Ibu Movement

...**AND MORE!**

## WHY WE SUPPORT KIWIMBI



Pamela and Brian Hegarty

*"Pam and I have supported Kiwimibi for over ten years, with ever increasing enthusiasm as we see the demonstrable success of the programs, the growing enrollment and offerings, and the Kiwimbi ripple effect on the surrounding communities."*

# Partnerships- Making an Impact

Kiwimbi's ever-expanding partnerships have created opportunity through education

## Ibu Foundation

In 2023, Kiwimbi was the grateful recipient of a second major grant from the Ibu Foundation that allowed us to double the enrollment in our tailoring program.

Nancy was a 24-year-old mother of two daughters whose husband worked as a subsistence farmer. She did not attend high school and tried to make ends meet by working as a house maid. She had long wanted to enroll in Kiwimbi's Tailoring program, but there hadn't been room for her.

Thanks to the Ibu Foundation, Nancy was able to begin the training course which provided her with free instruction, use of machines, materials, and a nutritious daily lunch. She was also able to bring her children, avoiding childcare costs.

During her second year of training, Nancy began earning an income to help support her family by mending clothes, using the skills she gained in the Kiwimbi tailoring program. In 2023 Nancy graduated from the program and is now employed full-time as a tailor! All of this is made possible through the funds provided by the Ibu Foundation.

The Ibu Foundation changed the trajectory of Nancy's life and so many others like her.



## TechLit Africa

Kiwimbi connected with TechLit Africa, an organization providing computer labs and dedicated computer teachers exclusively to schools in Kenya. Through this partnership, a brand new computer lab with 20 laptops was installed at Amagoro Primary School, giving the students in one of our three Focus Schools an educational opportunity that is rare for rural students like the ones with whom we work. All of the students at Amagoro Primary have access to the computer lab in their school.

## Robotics Team at St. Thomas Amagoro Girls Secondary School (STAGSS)

Kiwimbi facilitated the creation of a brand-new robotics team (the STAGSS) at St. Thomas Amagoro Girls Secondary School, an all-girls school located across the road from the Kiwimbi Library. Computer literacy and robotics were completely unknown to these girls. Through a partnership with the robotics team at South Orangetown School District in NY (the SOBOTZ) and the Kiwimbi staff, the STAGSS Team learned how to code and control their robot.

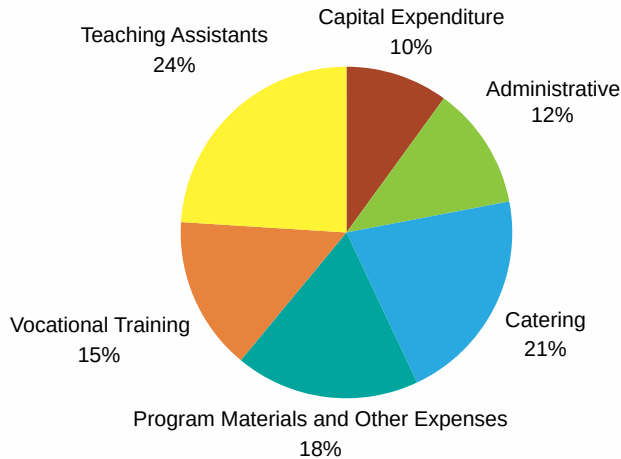
The teams and staff met on Zoom regularly throughout the winter and communicated via online documents where the STAGSS Team could ask questions and the SOBOTZ Team could respond. STAGSS went on to win several robotics competitions including a Kenyan National Robotics Competition!



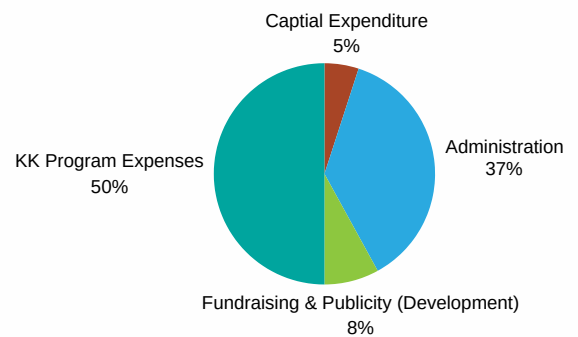
# 2023 Financials

Kiwimbi International raises most of the funds to support Kiwimbi Kenya. Below are the financials for both Kiwimbi International and Kiwimbi Kenya.

## KIWIMBI KENYA



## KIWIMBI INTERNATIONAL



*Kiwimbi International continues to invest in personnel to strategically transition our team from board volunteers to staff members, increasing our revenue in support of Kiwimbi Kenya.*

## Your Support has Proven Impact

*The graph compares student achievement at a Kiwimbi Focus School with students attending a similar school that doesn't receive Kiwimbi's support. These comparison schools have similar demographics and parental education levels.*

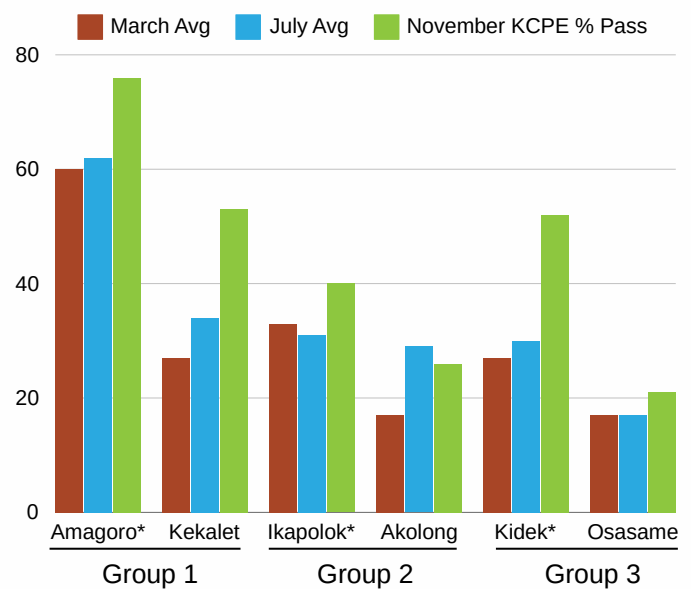
**Group 1** schools have the most resources. These parents tend to be more educated and guide their children, providing them a vision of what to work for. The Amagoro Primary students receive Library access and a daily lunch from Kiwimbi. Amagoro Primary is right next door to the Library making these resources a part of the students' daily lives from a young age giving them a distinct advantage.

**Group 2** schools have limited resources and fewer teachers in the school. However, Kiwimbi's teaching assistants at Ikapolok Primary bring the teacher student ration to 1:10. Daily group tutoring and a daily lunch is provided to the students.

**Group 3** schools have few (if any) resources and the student to teacher ratio is very high. There is a low level of literacy and it is not uncommon for students beginning grade 8 to be unable to read or do basic math computations. This results in low levels of self-esteem, high absenteeism, poor academic achievement and parents who have given up on their children, all creating a cycle of generational poverty throughout a village. Kiwimbi's programs offer the most support at Kidek, with daily one-on-one mentoring, small group tutoring and the daily lunch giving these students, who start with the least amount of support, the best chance at success.

**And it works!** *The results show that the interventions of the **Kiwimbi Prep For Success Program** continue to raise test scores. At the beginning of the school year, 30% of the grade 8 students at Kidek were struggling to read. By the time they took the national KCPE exam, 100% of them could read. The number of students who passed the test exceeded 52%, **doubling the results** of a practice exam at the beginning of the year.*

### 2022 Kiwimbi Internal Assessment & KCPE Results



*\* indicates a Kiwimbi Focus School*

# DONORS

Many individuals, foundations, corporate sponsors, and local businesses provided opportunity through education with their gifts in 2023. We gratefully acknowledge their support.

## \$5,000 and Above

David Arthur and Nancy Hoffart  
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Thank you to the 175 donors who gave up to \$250.  
We truly appreciate your support!!

# Corporate Donors, Grants, Volunteers

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We appreciate all our donors who took advantage of the match opportunities with these companies

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Assured Guaranty Ltd  
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.  
Global Giving  
Google  
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We are so grateful for your enduring support!

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Lucy Mwangi  
Lynne and John Rathgeber  
Emily and Lowell Wenger

## Foundation Grants

DKG International Educators Foundation  
Ibu Foundation  
One by One 4Imprint  
The Good Works Institute  
The John and Susan Dewan Foundation

## In-Kind Gifts

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Bruce Beyer	Josh Layden
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Tracy Formisano	Imani Ouko
Deborah Herman and Jeff Steinhorn	Lois Roszko
Michele Hill	Marty Rothfelder
Beth Katzman	Mary Russo
Leah Kramer	Austin Shackelton

Thank you for sharing your time and talents!

Pro Bono Partnership provides Kiwimbi with access to quality legal advice free of charge, saving our funds for supporting the programs that make a difference.

Thank you, Pro Bono Partnership!



The Prestige Invitational golf event donated a major portion of the October 2023 event proceeds to Kiwimbi. Thank you to Prestige and to everyone who participated!



# THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS!

On behalf of the families we serve, we enthusiastically thank you for your support. We work to make sure the information presented is accurate. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know. We can be reached at: 440-549-4624 or [info@kiwimbi.org](mailto:info@kiwimbi.org).

## NEHEMA SHARES HOW YOUR SUPPORT HAS IMPACTED HER



“Kiwimbi’s teachers have helped me improve my vocabulary and grammar skills, and provide the materials we need for in-class practicals. Without these materials, nothing can be accomplished in school under the new CBC (Competency Based Curriculum). I am provided a daily lunch and fresh water which keeps me healthy. The Kiwimbi staff mentors us on how to live well and peacefully with others. They have taught me the importance of having a good career and a future.

When I grow up I would like to be a surgeon and join hands with the Kiwimbi supporters to nurture the upcoming generation.”

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