

## SAM ELIMU FOUNDATION JULY 2021 REPORT

While 2021 has been a year of uncertainty in the world, SAM Elimu has continued to work with the beneficiaries. The Kenyan education system was severely disrupted since March 2020 due to Covid-19. The good news is that schools have resumed amidst a very tight school calendar. Blended learning is the norm with tertiary institutions employing virtual and physical learning while high schools and primary schools are all physical learning. We continue to engage with the students to make learning accessible for all the students.

### PARTNERSHIPS

#### **Jonathan Gloag Academy and Kenya Children's Home**

SAM Elimu, through Dr. Peter Linneman and Dame Ann Gloag, have partnered with the prestigious Jonathan Gloag Academy (<https://www.jonathangloag.ac.ke/>) in Nairobi to have young orphaned and vulnerable children admitted to their program. The children live at the Kenya Children's home (<https://www.kenyachildrenshomes.org.uk/>) while they attend school. Ten children were admitted in May 2021 in various classes. They will come home for the school breaks to visit their guardians and/or parents. We are following their progress and the children are loving the new hospitable home environment as well as the access to high quality education. Their faces below say it all!



*Happy, healthy children at the Jonathon Gloag Academy in Nairobi.*

## Acacia Academy

Acacia Academy is a small community primary school that was started to provide quality education to children from Ngare Ndare village. Due to Covid-19, many parents were not able to keep their children in school as they couldn't pay the small fee required to feed the children in school, provide stationery, and pay the teachers. SAM Elimu has agreed to support the 20 children and meet the above cost until the parents get back on their feet. Sadly, a classroom had been built in very substandard manner, so we covered the cost to renovate the classroom to make it safe. The children now have ten o'clock porridge and a hearty healthy lunch. The teachers are in school helping the children in the classes as they learn. Grade 2 will have a comfortable and conducive learning environment end of July when they start the new year.



*Children enjoying their 10:00 a.m. porridge.*



*Happy, healthy children in school.*

### **HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS**

SAM Elimu is committed to providing opportunities annually for 15 children to join boarding high school for the four years. This is a full scholarship that provides all the tuition fees, annual shopping and pocket money, uniform and the required books. We will teach financial literacy and provide psychosocial support, mentoring and coaching to the children. The admission process was competitive, and we narrowed down the scholarship recipients to 7 boys and 8 girls who we felt were both very needy and had the potential to excel in academics given a conducive learning environment. The children came from Meru, Isiolo, and Laikipia Counties in Kenya.

After selection, they parents/ guardians came to the office where together we read, documented, and the signed the Scholarship Policy.



*Parents/guardians with the beneficiaries re-reading the Scholarship Policy*



*Each child was given a metal box as per the school's requirements with all the necessarily requirements from beddings, stationery, textbooks, and personal effects.*



*There are 15 students joining high school in August.*

## TERTIARY SUPPORT

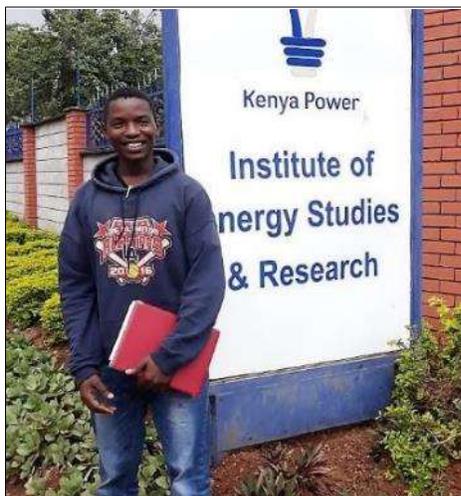
SAM Elimu supports 103 students – 68 in the 27 different universities and 35 in the national polytechnics, nursing schools, and technical institutions. As per the policy, every end of term or semester students have to submit a written report that encompasses their experience throughout the period. The reports are shared with Dr. Linneman who has been kind to go through the reports, make corrections or applaud where well written. This aims at helping the students improve their written communication and progressive change is evident. We are seeing more and more well thought, punctuated, and written reports. Improved written communications will definitely translate to better performance while in institutions of higher learning as well as in the job market when they graduate.



*Mary Nelly, Bachelor of Commerce*



*Anne Alila, Project Management*



*David Kinyua, Electrical Engineering*



*Christine Akwom, Clinical Medicine Kenya Medical College*



*Aaron Leturuka, Plumbing*



*Damaris Maripet, Bachelor of Commerce*



*Patrick Kirimi, BSC Computer Science*



*Brenda Gilisho, BSC Computer Science African Leadership University Rwanda*

## ALUMNI SUPPORT

One of the key pillars of SAM Elimu is empowering the alumni after they have graduated to be independent both socially and financially. We held an entrepreneurship training session for 32 graduates with an emphasis on how to visualize and actualize their ideas. The alumni were taken through the Business Canvas Model, which allowed them to write ideas and pitch amongst themselves as they practice and prepare to look for funding and business opportunities. Dr. Linneman joined via Zoom and emphasized that the option of being an employee or an entrepreneur is acceptable as long as one figures out what works for them. He also reminded the alumni that job hunting is a full-time job and they should apply for as many upcoming opportunities as they can.





## **PARTNERSHIP WITH INSTITUTIONS FOR INTERNSHIPS AND JOB PLACEMENTS**

SAM Elimu has approached various organizations that can provide volunteer, internship, and job placement opportunities within and outside the country in all career fields. We started with hospitality, which has been adversely affected in Kenya by Covid-19 and hope to have many alumni placed in the job market. We endeavor to prepare and equip all of our alumni with the necessary skills to succeed in getting job placements.

Through the Kenya Kids Alumni Forum, numerous jobs are shared, and we encourage the students to apply. We have shared CV formats that they should use, how to write the cover letter and the attitude they should present at the interviews.

## **MONTHLY CONVERSATIONS**

The monthly Zoom meetings have been a great way to engage Sam Elimu alumni, current students, and various speakers. We started with Dr. Linneman advising the students on life and academics, Karin Klein (a senior executive at Bloomberg) discussed how to be prepared for job market opportunities while Andrew Weddle (a real estate entrepreneur) talked about drugs, substance abuse, and navigating recovery. We look forward to many more conversations about life skills.

The monthly conversations alternate between speakers and the book club with Erez Cohen Havivi (a Mexican real estate executive) on *How to Win Friends and Influence People* by Dale Carnegie. This has been a great reader with valuable lessons on how to influence and interact with people of all ages and classes. We look forward to an engaging conversation on the *Milton Friedman Free to Choose* YouTube series. The book club encourages the SAM Elimu alumni and students to read more and improve their communication skills while exposing them to be better humans in the society.

## **IMPACT**

- Primary (Grade 1-8) school supported students – 26 pupils
- High school supported students – 48 students
- Tertiary students (University and mid-level colleges) – 103 students
- Alumni – 103 citizens
- Total number supported through SAM Elimu – 280 children

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

Our new website is up and running! Please visit us as <https://www.samelimucharity.org/> to learn more about the SAM Elimu initiatives as we create and sustain impact for the children.