



Bringing hope to Africa's largest slum

Women For Women In Africa works with the women and children of Kibera, Africa's largest slum, by providing education and resources to enable them to live a life of dignity, happiness and hope for the future.

And the rains came!



After months of suffocating heat, dust, lack of water, it started to rain in Nairobi – and since it has, it has rained, and rained, nonstop.

Kibera Slum is in a valley, at the bottom is a river that is traversed every day by tens of thousands of people, men, women and children as they make their way to find work or to go to school. The homes are built on the side of the valley – homes made of mud, sticks and bits of tin. Dirt floors and certainly no foundations.

With the incessant rain, the houses are moving down the hills – breaking up and many falling into the now very fast flowing river. Homes and businesses at the base of the valley have been

swallowed up. Children, crossing to go to school, have drowned. There are no bridges so they have to try and make it over the river.

The dirt floors of the homes are liquid mud, so they cannot put their mattress on the floor and so they have to sleep on a bench or, if they are lucky, a table. The roofs of old broken tin leak... nothing is dry.

The boys and girls who attend the Chappell Informal School at the Wanawake Kwa Wanawake Centre still come to school each day, despite the difficulties of walking there. Here are two of the children's stories. There are many more, all with the same story.



ANGELINE AKINYI

Every time I see the rains, I feel like crying. Since it started raining life has been so unbearable. The dirty water from the nearby trench has been flowing into our house, the tin roof has also been leaking and this has led to my younger brother who is just one month old getting sick. I have also developed chest problems because of the bad stench. Yesterday as I was coming to school I wished it never rained. I covered myself with a broken umbrella which could only cover a quarter of my body. My old shoes could not sustain the heavy rains that caused the sticky mud therefore, they got torn allowing water on to my feet. In a real sense I was just walking bare foot with a shell of a shoe on my feet. Just as I stood at our door step, I witnessed a house crumbling with all its belongings. Luckily enough, the owner was able to escape otherwise he would have died. Though the rains are a blessing, but to us who are in the slum, life has just been too difficult. My mother has just had a baby and she cannot go out to look for food since the rains. I wish the rains will stop soon.



ISHMAEL OKECH OGADA

Rainfall in Kibera is always a cause for alarm. Our house is in Kibera in a place called Raila. Here we border the Kibera Valley which is a big trench that floods always whenever rain comes. The valley has always taken most houses away and the soil erosion is still taking place. I live with my mother and my five siblings. Our house always floods whenever it rains hence we have to keep pouring the water out of the house. Similarly we have to keep basins and other containers on the bed and other spots that are leaking. Sometimes we have to spend the night shifting the one bed from one spot to the other because the iron sheeting is old and when it rains it drips water so much that you can't tell the difference with one who is outside. The outside is worse; the walking paths are so thin and soaked with watery mud. No shoes can survive; water borne diseases are just the song of the day. The pipes that carry clean water get broken and you can imagine the kind of water we drink. But we can hardly shift from this situation since our economic status is just too poor for a change. Yet we struggle and hope that the situation shall change one day one time.

Despite all the hardship and the difficulties, the children still go to school. They have a longing for education and nothing is going to stop them.

Good news for Women for Women in Africa Foundation Ltd

For many years, WFWIA has been tax-deductible but not able to send the money overseas in its own right. We have had to use a conduit, and whilst that has been very satisfactory, it's not unique to us and it has meant that we have not been able to approach all funding entities such as Private Ancillary Funds. In May 2016, Women for Women in Africa Foundation Ltd, has achieved an Endorsed Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. The Directors of WFWIA are very excited as we see this as a new beginning.

What of the Future?

At a recent Dinner held at the Brighton International, we raised \$100,000 – an amazing effort and a wonderful recognition of the hard work of so many to make this Dinner a success. We had very generous patrons, donors and guests. We had terrific entertainment and a wonderful MC. It was a successful evening financially but it was also a fun night and very enjoyable.

Our function would not have been possible without the support of our sponsors. The Brighton International; Lexus of Brighton, Brighton Toyota and Mentone Toyota; African Travel Specialists; Kirkhope Aviation; Brands RMJ; Dillon Creative; The Editors; Nova Press and Mail; Action Presentations; Profile Talent Management; Art Series Hotels; Emma Whiting Travel; Channel Nine; Moonee Valley Racing Club; Australian Football League; and Notebooks Galore.

Also, we had as our MC and Weather adviser, Jane Bunn; the auctioneer was Mark Klemens; The Australian Girls' Choir introduced the evening with some delightful songs and the Wendy Stapleton Trio had everyone want to get up and dance – they were amazing.

We thank all the guests who attended the function or supported it in any way.

As a result of the evening 18 students have been sponsored to go to school and the students have received the news with wonder and a multitude of thanks.

We still have our 'dream' of a school – we have the land, it is fenced and we have water. We have a promise of considerable financial support but we need to know that we will have more funding so that the school can be finished. The Board is working hard on the options. A school would mean that we can bring many of the children, now in 90 schools scattered throughout Kenya, into one complex and to ensure that we can give these children the very best education.

So now with this Endorsed DGR status, we hope that this dream will become a reality.



Three years ago, an Australian volunteer nurse working at the Wanawake kwa Wanawake Centre, visited with a WkW staff member, the home of Abigail....a very sick, malnourished and handicapped child. The family of five had no food and the mother was ill. They still live in a shack 8 ft. by 8ft with no facilities, but they have been looked after by WkW and both Abigail and her mother have received medical care now Abigail can walk a little bit and she talks and talks and smiles and is happy.

WFWIA and WkW – not only supports education of boys and girls but also recognises the need for medical care and has been instrumental in giving life and hope to many sick adults and children. By helping a mother to live, it gives the family hope to survive.

Women For Women In Africa Foundation

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Donate to Help the Families of Kibera.

Supporting the families in Kibera can be done many ways.

- **Education sponsorship for Primary and Secondary Students.** Boys and girls living in the Kibera Slum are very vulnerable, many are orphans or children 'at risk';
- **Education sponsorship for Post-Secondary student** to continue their education;
- **Family support** for those in need of medical and 'disaster' care;
- **Skills Training** to the women so that they can support their families; and
- **Helping us build a school.** This school will bring the ultimate education to hundreds of the Kibera children in a secure school.

All donations are fully tax-deductible and all donated money goes 100% to Nairobi to provide the relevant assistance.

If you would like to support WFWIA please tick any of the following boxes –

- EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP FOR A STUDENT**
\$1,250 per year with the hope that this will be a yearly payment for 4 years or until their Secondary education is completed
- POST-SECONDARY**
Cost varies – from \$1,750 for Vocational Training and Diplomas, up to \$5,000 per year for University. This can be for the general post-secondary education fund rather than individual sponsoring.
- FAMILY ASSISTANCE**
\$1,000 provides medical care, food and accommodation for a family for a year.
- KITENGELA SCHOOL PROJECT**
Helps towards building our school at Kitengela. Every dollar counts!
- DONATION**
For where the need is greatest.

PAYMENT DETAILS

Name _____

Address _____

Post Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Amount of Donation \$ _____

Cheque

Electronic Deposit to: **Westpac BSB 033-059 A/C 660872**

Debit my: Visa MasterCard

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____

CVC _____

Signature _____

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