



# ANNUAL REPORT 2012

KGSA Foundation

KGSA Foundation

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**Executive Director:** Ryan Sarafolean

**Board of Directors:** Martha Johnson, Chair of Board  
Becky Albright, Vice Chair  
Mike Debois, Treasury  
Claire Bischoff, Secretary  
Matt Musel, Fundraising Advisor



The KGSA Foundation is committed to reducing poverty and gender inequalities in the Kibera slum of Nairobi, Kenya. We promote local leaders by providing education, funding, and partnerships to empower their communities on their terms. We advocate a new model of international development prioritizing gender equity and local leadership via respect, dialogue, and collaboration. Education is our tool for cultivating vibrant, resilient communities. We implement this work through a partnership with the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy, one of the only free, community-run, all-girl secondary schools in Kibera.

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## A Message from the Founder & Executive Director

This year has been an incredible year of growth - filled with new possibilities and initiatives, and it all could not happen without the tremendous support we continue to receive from all of our contributors. Thank you to each and every one of our supporters, whether you made a financial contribution, a donation of time, or connected the KGSA



Foundation to individuals or organizations, we appreciate all that you do for us. Your generosity inspires us and pushes us to new and exciting levels as an organization. We have created a strong, supportive community within the Twin Cities and are now expanding our network into Denver and New York City. It is apparent that we are reaching new levels as an organization within the states and in Kenya. This is the first year that the KGSA Foundation is sending KGSA graduates to universities across Kenya. Our model of free, secondary education is working. Abdul has always stressed the need to “go the full cycle” with our students, meaning that we must be able to produce an institution that students can engage with that provides a quality education lifting them out of poverty and into new economic opportunities. We know that an extra year of secondary school for girls boosts their eventual wages by 15-25 percent, just imagine the impact that a college degree can have on KGSA students.

As we look to the future and imagine the possibilities for growth and ways to increase our impact, we turn to the students. For years now, KGSA students and families have advocated for a dormitory that would provide safe & secure housing, afterschool tutoring & academic support, on-site counseling & referrals, and community programming. This summer we began to explore what this would look like by bringing two architectural students from the states to facilitate a series of dialogues around what this facility would look like, what it would contain, and how it would increase the students’ performance, participation, and engagement. We bought land directly next to the school, our staff and students created the layout & designs, and now we hope that you can join us in this next chapter of our story.



Deepest thanks,

Ryan Sarafolean

KGSA Foundation, Founder & Executive Director



## Our Philosophy

Local problems need local solutions. We encourage local leaders to redefine their role in development and we recognize the expertise of community leaders. Together we cultivate sustainable solutions to gender inequality and poverty.

We believe education goes beyond the four walls of a classroom. It encompasses one's mind, body, and environment. Through education, communities are able to determine and build their own futures. Building and harnessing the unique strength of women to lead their communities out of poverty is the core of our work.

Change cannot wait. We are about action, choice, and self-reliance, not charity. We are committed to excelling, which is why we've decided to intensively develop and nurture one school and facilitate its growth into something remarkable, rather than build as many schools as we have bricks.

# A Year in Review

## KGSA graduates are off to college!

The KGSA model has proven successful! This year alone, 5 graduates have been admitted into colleges across Nairobi and have full funding. In August, Linet (pictured to the right) began attending the University of Eastern Africa-Baraton where she is pursuing a degree in education. When we asked her why she wanted to become a teacher Linet responded, “So I can help others just the way the teachers do at KGSA. I want to teach in a primary school, either Swahili, Math, or Science. I want to teach in Kibera because many children cannot afford quality education. Kibera has helped me, Abdul has helped me, I want to give back to Kibera.”



## Ellie Roscher & the KGSA Story

In the fall of 2010, Ryan returned from Kenya to talk with students from Cretin-Derham Hall (C-DH) concerning his work in Kibera. In one of the classrooms that Ryan spoke in, he met Ellie Roscher, a published author and educator. At the time, Ellie was teaching a honors social justice class and had a passion for international work, women’s rights, and storytelling. Ellie and Ryan stayed in touch, and in the end, Ellie went on to pursue a Master’s degree in creative non-fiction writing from Sarah Lawrence. She decided to dedicate her two year degree to learning more about the story of Abdul Kassim and KGSA and to write her next book on their story. In July of 2012, Ellie traveled to Kibera, working 10-12 hour days interviewing, transcribing, and observing all that took place in Kibera. She worked closely with Asha Jaffar, a KGSA graduate who wants to become a journalist. Ellie is currently working on this story for her thesis and will then transform it from a thesis to a novel.



Abdul and Ellie having fun at the school

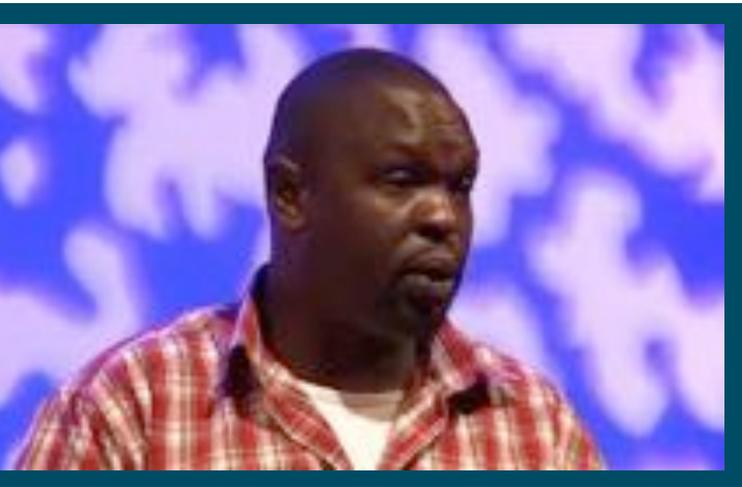
## Global Vantage Partnership

Thanks to a partnership with Pacific Ridge High School and the Global Vantage magazine, KGSA was able to receive the necessary funding to construct a hand-washing station & water tank that will go a long way in addressing issues of sanitation and cleanliness in Kibera. We would like to thank all of the students and families at Pacific Ridge that made this wonderful initiative possible.



# TEDx @ Nairobi

TEDx was created in the spirit of TED's mission, "ideas worth spreading." The program is designed to give communities, organizations and individuals the opportunity to stimulate dialogue through TED-like experiences at the local level. Abdul auditioned and made it all the way to the Nairobi semi-finals. Unfortunately, he did not make it to the final stage but it was a great experience for Abdul and over 2,000 people watched his TED talk and learned about the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy!



## Eli J. Segal Americorps Alums Entrepreneurship Award

The Eli J. Segal award recognizes the achievement and potential of an outstanding alum whose work, after completing his or her service in AmeriCorps, demonstrates entrepreneurial vision and leadership to make this a better world. The award winner gains lifetime membership into the illustrious Eli J. Segal Citizen Leadership Program. Ryan was selected for the award due to his involvement and work with the KGSA Foundation.

## 2nd Annual 5K Race

Denver University (DU) and the School of Social Work are back at it again! After returning from yet another visit to the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy, students and faculty from DU organized the second annual 5K race in Denver to raise funding for the KGSA Foundation.



## Launching the Live-in Center

For years now, KGSA students have advocated for a dormitory to provide safe, secure housing and to help increase their academic performance. In June, the KGSA Foundation purchased land next to the school. We have been working with a team of architects from both the US and Kenya on a design



for the dormitory. We have begun to fundraise and we hope that by 2014 we can begin to break ground on this project. Both the KGSA Foundation and the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy are pursuing potential donors on both sides of the world that can help make this next dream a reality.



## The MN & NYC events were a success!

This was the first year that we expanded our fundraising events into New York City and it was a great success. With over 70 people in attendance, we told the story of the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy, built relationships with new supporters, and laid a foundation for future engagement with a new community. As always, the Twin Cities community came out in great support and this year we welcomed two new speakers, Matthew Tierney (lead architect on the dormitory) and Ellie Roscher to talk about their time in Kibera, and the impact that they saw on the ground.

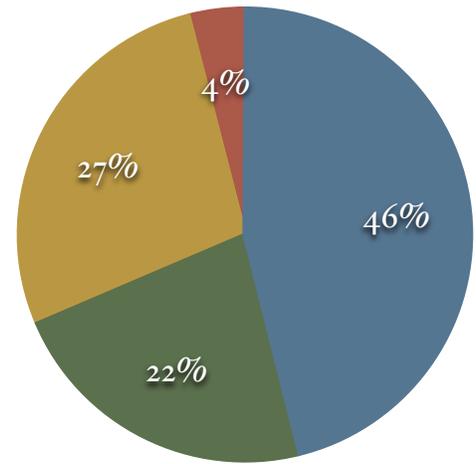
### Let us not forget...

- We continue to provide all 130 of our students with a guaranteed meal 6 days a week.
- Over 130 students are receiving a free secondary education, athletic programming, and artistic opportunities annually.
- Each and every one of our graduates have successfully passed their KCSE final Form 4 exams.
- We provide a livable wage and employ 20 Kiberan residents to operate and run the Academy. This includes the principal, teachers, administration, cooks, soccer coaches, and security guards.
- Our staff and students receive medical financial support through the Foundation.
- Nearly 100 students have graduated from the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy.
- Our graduates have gone on to pursue internships in and outside of Kibera, post secondary studies at vocational schools and universities, and jobs in the community.

# Sources & Uses of Funds

## Earnings Overview

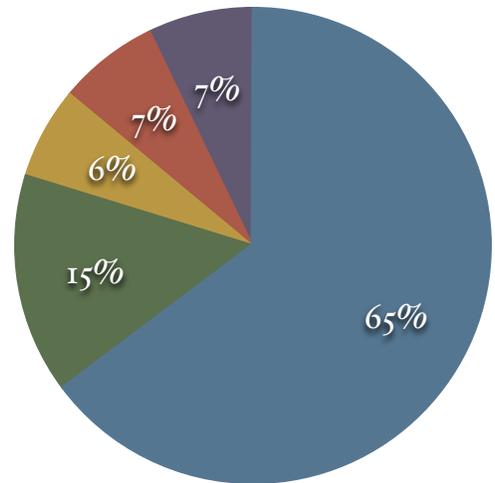
| Description           | Total Cost         |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Fundraising Events    | \$35,000.00        |
| Family Foundations    | \$17,000.00        |
| General Donations     | \$20,800.00        |
| Grants                | \$3,000.00         |
| <b>TOTAL EARNINGS</b> | <b>\$75,800.00</b> |



- Fundraising Events
- Family Foundations
- General Donations
- Grants

## Expenses Overview

| Description                                      | Total Cost         |
|--|--------------------|
| Kibera Girls Soccer Academy Operational Costs ** | \$52,000.00        |
| Development                                      | \$12,000.00        |
| Fundraising                                      | \$5,000.00         |
| Outreach   | \$5,500.00         |
| Marketing & Public Relations                     | \$5,750.00         |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>                            | <b>\$80,250.00</b> |



- Kibera Girls Soccer Academy Operational Costs
- Development
- Fundraising
- Outreach
- Marketing & Public Relations

\*\* Kibera Girls Soccer Academy Operational Costs refer to all money transferred to Kenya and the school. These costs include staff salaries, academic supplies, programming costs, and construction/infrastructure initiatives.



## A Special Thanks To Our Most Generous Donors

Kim Eisenhart

Barbara Rush

Joyce Brown

Kate Miller

Sean Rush

Lee Gray

Michael Sarafolean

Maggie Roscher

ETC Associates

Ralph and Trish Scorpio

The Orion Corporation

Margery & Ian Punnett

Amy & Mike Dickson

Cretin-Derham Hall

Point of Light Institute

Michael and Margie Roscher

The Whaley Family Foundation

Craig & Beverley Miller Foundation

Ekdahl and Hutchinson Foundation

Kenya Schools Libraries Program (KSLP)

Denver University and the School of Social Work

Global Journal Project & Pacific Ridge High School

The University of MN Study Abroad Learning Center

The Christian brothers of Saint Paul & Brother Michael lee

# Staff & Contacts

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## Board of Directors

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Mike Debois, Treasurer  
Claire Bischoff, Secretary  
Matt Musel, Fundraising Advisor