

KGSA FOUNDATION



**ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2020**





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KGSA IN NUMBERS



Educate. Inspire. Empower.

Education transforms lives.

The KGSA Foundation partners with the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy (KGSA) to provide access to free secondary school education for girls living in Kibera, Nairobi - one of Africa's largest informal settlements.

Through financial and other resources, we are facilitating the holistic education of 130 girls every year. KGSA's academic and extra-curricular programming, with supporting nutrition, healthcare and mentorship initiatives, unlocks potential, expands opportunities, and enables each student with the ability to shape her future.

Together with KGSA, we are working to break the cycle of poverty for the girls and their families, and empower their local community to help create a stronger, more resilient Kibera.

MISSION

The KGSA Foundation provides financial and technical assistance to support the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy (KGSA), a free secondary school in Kibera, Kenya that offers a holistic education to over 130 girls annually.

HISTORY

In 2002, Kibera resident Abdul Kassim started a soccer program to get girls off the streets and into something productive. Four years later, he met a group of Americans studying abroad and told them about his dream to create a free school for girls. They mobilized and an international partnership was formed.

PHILOSOPHY

We believe local problems need local solutions! We believe in the #girleffect – investing in girls transforms their lives and uplifts their families and communities.

WHERE WE WORK

Kibera is the largest informal settlement in Africa. It is a diverse and vibrant community full of caring and hardworking individuals and families. However, Kibera faces many challenges including high unemployment, poverty, overcrowding, and insecurity. It is underserved by health, education, and sanitation services.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This past year was challenging, but with your generous support, our school staff was able to continue educating and caring for the girls through the pandemic. Being a small, locally led organization allowed us to pivot quickly and address the needs of our students and their families. I'm thrilled to report that the girls returned to school in January and the long anticipated dormitory will open later this year! Asha (update on page 10) and her classmates dreamed of a boarding facility years ago and it's finally becoming a reality.

As I settle into my new role, I've enjoyed learning and connecting with the KGSA community – the girls, alumnae, teachers, Board of Directors and donors. I'm grateful to my predecessor Shannon Murphy for her great work and a smooth transition. KGSA is a special place. I'm delighted to be a part of this extraordinary family and team that is educating, inspiring and empowering girls in Kibera.

We have an exciting year ahead of us including a new logo and website to better share the KGSA story. Follow us on social media or sign-up for our new monthly newsletter to stay connected. Thank you for your partnership – we could not do this important work without you!

KATY TROYER

Executive Director

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

I am absolutely in awe of the faculty, students, and alumnae of KGSA! Obviously 2020 brought unforeseen and unique challenges that literally rocked our world. So, what did KGSA do? Responded! Students returned home to help families and remained studious. Staff checked in on the students and their families regarding physical and emotional needs and provided much needed support of food and sanitary supplies. Alumnae organized community food drives. And KGSA continued to adapt and respond to the ever-changing circumstances.

The ongoing support of you, our donors, and your belief in the importance of KGSA's mission made it possible for this to happen. I feel immense gratitude that you all continued to dig deep, even during our own economic downturn. It can't be understated how much different the pandemic could have been for the school, families, and community without you all.

I am so privileged to be able to work with a Board of Directors so capable, actively engaged, and committed. We got to welcome Katy Troyer, our new Executive Director, who hit the ground running. She didn't miss a beat, quickly grabbing the baton so well carried by Shannon Murphy - who graciously aided in the transition. Katy's energetic leadership, our dedicated Board, and reliable donors bring the Foundation into 2021 with a strong position to realize the promise that 2021 holds. And in spite of the setbacks and angst, we are committed to getting that dormitory up and running!!

With deep respect and gratitude,

BECKY ALBRIGHT

Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ryan Banning, Founder

Director of Community Partnerships
Columbia Slough Watershed Council

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Doctor of Internal Medicine
Grand Junction VA Medical Center

Sean Rush

Retired Senior Executive
PwC, IBM & JA Worldwide

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Director of Global Opportunities
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National Director of Sales
Massimo Zanetti Beverage

OUR WORK AND APPROACH

SECONDARY EDUCATION

KGSA provides a free, holistic secondary education to 130 girls annually. The school emphasizes leadership and character development through extracurricular activities and employs university-trained teachers, setting it apart from other schools in Kibera.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

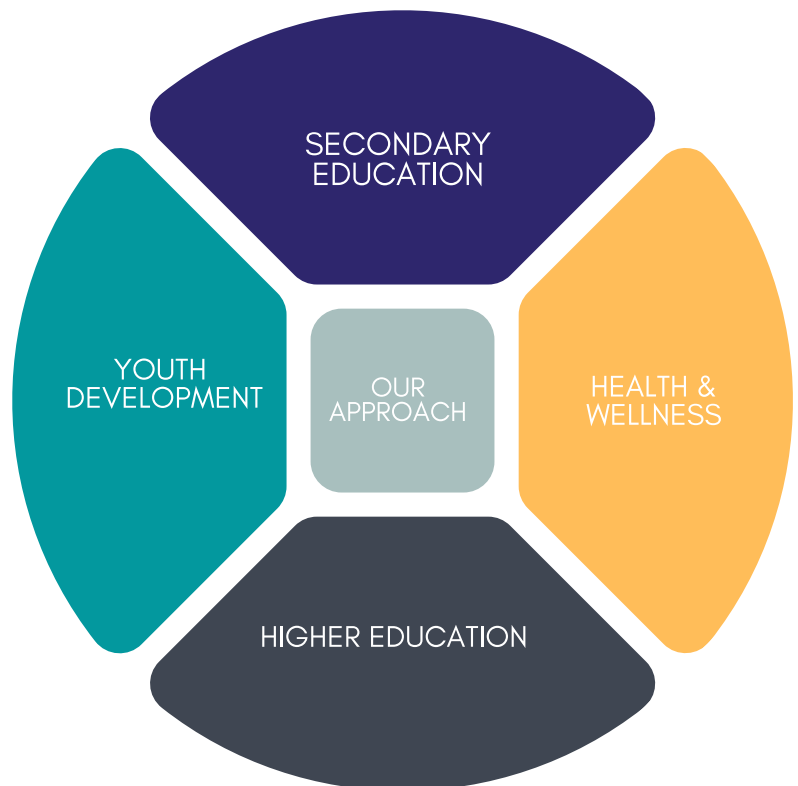
The KGSA experience encourages soccer, after school clubs and life skills training. We partner with other organizations to provide mentors for the girls in their final year of high school and as they pursue higher education.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

KGSA cares for the whole girl providing sanitary pads, school tea and lunch, access to health care, and a social worker to support their mental health. The future dormitory will provide meals and a safe learning environment for our most vulnerable girls.

HIGHER EDUCATION

KGSA and its partners provide scholarships for alumnae to pursue higher education. Depending on their high school final exam results, girls can qualify for a four-year bachelor's program, an associate's degree or vocational training. We plan to add Career Development in the future.



THE PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Caring for the girls and their families through a global health crisis



FOOD DISTRIBUTION

When the unemployment rate skyrocketed in Kibera, many of our families were at risk of going hungry. Thanks to your generosity, we provided food, soap and cooking oil to our high school and university students, soccer players, staff and their families.

LIFE SKILLS TRAINING

In October, the lower classes participated in life skills classes like cooking, tailoring, photography and cosmetology. These two-hour activities in small groups twice a week provided a healthy

meal and a much-needed social lifeline for the girls who missed their teachers and classmates.

AT-HOME LEARNING AND SUPPORT

When schools closed in Kenya in mid-March, our staff quickly pivoted to at-home learning. Teachers prepared weekly academic packets and practice exams for the girls to work on at home. Throughout the year, we continued to pay our teachers and support staff. Our new social worker Madame Jedidah checked in with each girl and addressed her health and physical needs. The school's emergency fund was dispersed to help families hit hardest by the pandemic.



\$35K

Raised for the
Covid-19 Relief
Emergency Fund

175

Families in Kibera received weekly
food distributions from April to
August 2020.

100%

KGSA staff continued to
receive their full salary through
the pandemic period this year.

DAY OF THE GIRL

KGSA mentioned by Michelle Obama and Malala Yousafzai in conversation.

Since 2018, KGSA has participated in the Girls Opportunity Alliance at the Obama Foundation. Our staff benefits from the webinars offered and the almost \$50,000 grant will fund the first year of dormitory living for 40 students.



ELLE OBAMA/ RUBY SISODIA

On Day of the Girl, Michelle Obama highlighted the work of KGSA in a conversation with Malala in *Teen Vogue*.

Identity

Michelle Obama and Malala Yousafzai In Conversation For International Day of the Girl

The pair talked to a 17-year-old student in India about education, and changing the world for the better post-COVID.

"The struggles that many girls already face worsen in times like these, from violence at home to child marriage and unintended pregnancy to economic hardship. And that, of course, includes access to education. That's why I've been so heartened to see the incredible response of grassroots organizations in the Girls Opportunity Alliance community. The Kibera Girls Soccer Academy is delivering food, essential supplies, and learning materials to girls and their families in Kenya." – Michelle Obama

DORMITORY PROGRESS

Opening in mid-July 2021!



We broke ground on the three-story dormitory in February, but construction was soon halted due to the pandemic. Thankfully, at the end of the year the work resumed and the students enjoyed watching their dream come to life.

The dormitory will provide three meals a day and a safe and stable environment for our most vulnerable girls improving their well-being and academic performance. The building will have a school cafeteria and library on the bottom floor with dormitories and study spaces on the top two floors. The rooftop will be a functional recreational area to play soccer, volleyball or basketball.

Thank-you to everyone who supported this important project through the years, especially the group that climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro in 2015. We couldn't have done it without you!

SENIOR CLASS OF 2020

The seniors have worked hard all year to prepare for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) exams that were postponed from November 2020 to March 2021. We are proud of their determination and grit during this unprecedented time. We wish them all success and are confident they will continue to thrive.



Asha Jaffar

ALUMNAE SPOTLIGHT

Many of you met Asha Jaffar, KGSA Class of 2011, when she toured the US with School Director Teka and author Ellie Roscher for the *Play Like a Girl* book tour back in 2017. Asha is an accomplished freelance journalist and communications professional. She was recently awarded the Africans Rising Activist of the Year Award for her organization of the Kibra Food Drive during the pandemic that was featured in *The New York Times* and *National Geographic*.

Josephine Mbinya, Class of 2018, is pursuing a Bachelor's Degree in Education from the University of Nairobi. She is majoring in Math and Business. Josephine volunteers as a mentor and tutor at KGSA and hopes to to teach with us one day.

Asha and Josephine's stories show the #girleffect coming full circle. Our graduates are giving back to their community and are role models for the girls.

IN NUMBERS

\$388,143

TOTAL 2020 REVENUE

From 198 donors across the world - family foundations, organizations and individuals.

OVER 340

TOTAL GRADUATES

Since 2006, we have grown from educating 13 girls in a single classroom to 130 girls annually. All girls receive a holistic, free secondary education inclusive of youth development and health and wellness programming.

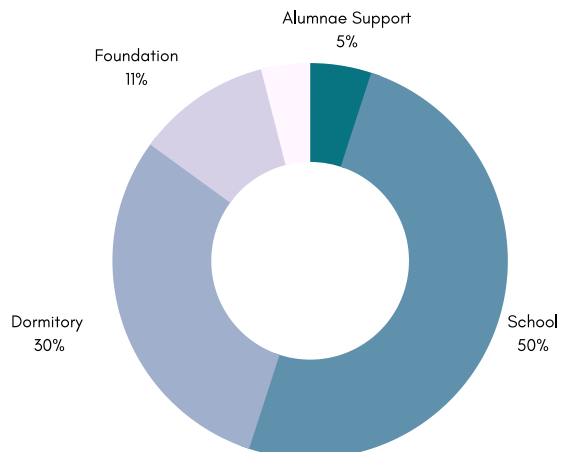
60

ALUMNAE HAVE PURSUED HIGHER EDUCATION

Many received scholarships through the KGSA Foundation or one of our partners.

\$338,298

TOTAL 2020 EXPENSES



THANK YOU 2020 DONORS!

\$100,000+

Sean Rush and Carol E. McMullen

\$25,000 - \$50,000

Girls Opportunity Alliance - Obama Foundation
Sobecki Family Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Arthur B. Schultz Foundation
Brutten Family Foundation
Craig and Beverley Miller Family Fund
Star Soltan Lerach
Whaley Family Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Paul and Lisa Smith
Umbrella Tree Trust

\$2,000 - \$4,999

Steve and Elena Arthur
Michael Sarafolean
Anne Baldwin
Katie and Cory Rutledge
First Unitarian Church of Providence
Patrick Metz and Steph Dawes
Jean-Philippe and Anne Feve
Bethany Lutheran Church
Barbara Rush

Thank-you for donating throughout the year to educate, inspire and empower girls in Kibera!

\$750 - \$1,999

Rebekah Murphy
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Morgan Family Fund of the Jewish
Community Foundation
Margaret Roscher
Christian Cramer
Bruce Catania and Celia Baldwin
Becky Albright and Phil Tedeschi
Jean Jarvis
Brother Michael Lee Anderson F.S.C.
Oliver Hunt
Julie Klaus

\$750 - \$1,999 continued

Jenni and Ed Ryan
Schmitz Family Charitable Fund
Dan Wiegand
Sanderson Family Donor Advised Fund
Dorothy Renstrom
Martha Manna and Philip Grupposo
Morgan Burns
Ralph and Trish Scorpio
Cathy and Chad Huber
Andy and Janet Ruth
John Gabrieli
Gordie and Jo Bailey



Dormitory under construction

Educate. Inspire. Empower.



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