

# KGSA FOUNDATION



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**ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR 2022**





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THANK YOU PARTNERS



# MISSION & VISION

Education transforms lives.

The KGSA Foundation partners with the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy (KGSA) to provide a free, holistic high school education to 130+ girls every year in Kibera, Kenya – one of Africa’s largest informal settlements.

Through financial and technical resources, the Foundation supports KGSA’s academic programming in addition to nutrition, health care, extra-curricular and leadership initiatives along with higher education scholarships for graduates to unlock potential, expand opportunities, and enable each girl 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, empowering them to become stronger, more independent and resilient women.



## HISTORY

In 2002, Kibera resident Abdul Kassim started a soccer program to get girls off the streets and into something productive. His dream was to create a free high school for girls as a way to promote self-awareness, empowerment, and equality. He felt that through active participation in education, the arts, and athletics, the girls would have the opportunity to develop confidence and strong minds, bodies, and spirits; empowering them to become inspiring leaders in their own communities and country, advocating for a brighter future for Kibera and Kenya.

## PHILOSOPHY

We believe local problems need local solutions. We believe in the power of the #girlseffect. We believe that all girls have the right to a quality education in which their rights are respected and they feel safe and protected. We value transparency and accountability.

## 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.

## WHY GIRLS?

44% of girls in Kenya don't finish high school. Research shows that girls who earn a high school degree are more likely to earn more, marry later in life, practice family planning and raise healthier children.

# MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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When you support the Kibera Girls Soccer Academy, you're a part of the #girlseffect movement. Educating girls in Kibera unlocks their power to make different choices. These young ladies start a ripple effect that impacts their families, their communities, Kenya, and the world.

These past two years leading the KGSA Foundation, I have witnessed the #girlseffect time and time again. Girls who enrolled at KGSA unsure of their voice or value and graduated with confidence and knowledge, encouraging their classmates to follow their passions and make their mark in society.

If you've visited KGSA, talked to Asha or Dalifa on past US Tours or read *Play Like a Girl*, you too know that the girl effect is in full effect at KGSA. Our important work wouldn't be possible without you. Thank you for continuing to partner with us year after year. Together we are inspiring, educating and empowering girls in Kibera to become stronger, more independent and resilient women.



**KATY TROYER**

Executive Director

# MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

It's been an immense privilege and honor to serve as the KGSA Foundation Chair for over 7 years. I have had the opportunity to be a part of the significant growth of a small, grassroots organization into a solid international partnership with remarkable, tangible impact on individual lives and local community. During our February 2023 trip, I reflected on the legacy of founders Abdul Kassim and Ryan Sarafolean Banning as the school and Foundation move into a third generation of leadership. Abdul was simply beaming with pride and gratitude during our celebration. To the Foundation's three generations of Executive Directors - Ryan, Shannon Murphy and Katy - congratulations and thank you! To the new Chair of the KGSA Foundation's Board of Directors, Diane Gorder - welcome! I look forward to serving under your wise and expert leadership.

KGSA's director Richard Teka has been championing excellent education for girls at KGSA for over 12 years and worked tirelessly to oversee the completion and opening of the boarding facility. Now another leadership transition is in the works. As we support Teka in pursuing further career goals, one of KGSA's own former soccer players and current principal, Claris Akinyi prepares to become the new Director. What an amazing legacy. A truly unique aspect of this organization is that as leaders turn over responsibility to the next leadership, they remain involved and committed to the mission. We thank all of you for your commitment and partnership and look forward to continuing the remarkable and tangible impact we are having together.

Asante Sana,

**BECKY ALBRIGHT, BOARD CHAIR FROM 2014-2022**



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Ryan Banning, Founder**

Donor Engagement Officer  
Habitat for Humanity Portland Region

**Cathy Huber, Secretary**

Director of Global Opportunities  
University of Minnesota

**Nadia Martyn**

Senior Legal Counsel  
Delta Dental of Minnesota

**Rebecca Albright, Chair**

Licensed Clinical Social Worker  
Tri-Lakes Collaborative Counseling

**Daniel Harris, Treasurer**

Doctor of Internal Medicine  
Grand Junction VA Medical Center

**Hosain Lipson**

National Director of Sales  
Massimo Zanetti Beverage

**Diane Gorder, Vice Chair**

Former Director of Strategy  
Philips

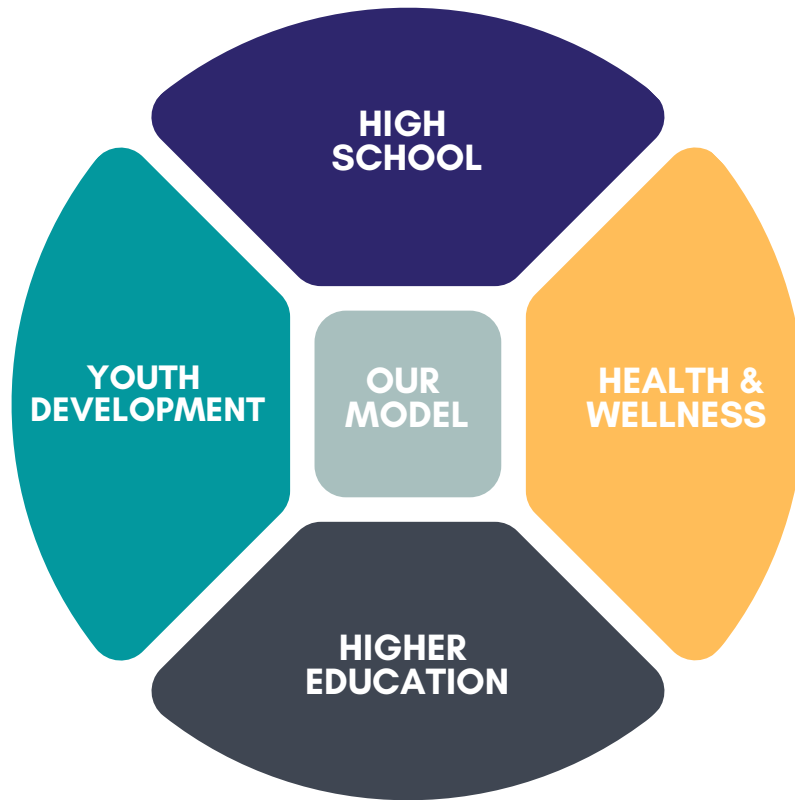
**Sean Rush**

Retired Senior Executive  
PwC, IBM & JA Worldwide

**Anne Baldwin**

Data Integration Engineer  
Baldwin Healthcare Consulting

# KIBERA GIRLS SOCCER ACADEMY'S HOLISTIC MODEL



## KGSA'S IMPACT

FIRST FREE SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IN KENYA

376 GRADUATES SINCE 2009

100% OF SENIORS PASSED THE KCSE EXAMS

80 ALUMNAE HAVE PURSUED HIGHER EDUCATION

*KGSA HAS BROUGHT OUT THE BEST IN ME AND REALLY CHANGED THE LIVES OF MANY GIRLS WHO ARE FACING DIFFICULTIES BY PROVIDING A FREE EDUCATION. KGSA NOT ONLY INSPIRES US TO LEARN, BUT ALSO TEACHES US OUR RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.*

*-MIRIAM, CURRENT KGSA STUDENT*

# 2022 Highlights

*KGSA is more than a school – it's a home, a family, a community.*



## TWO CLASSES GRADUATED

The Class of 2021 completed the KCSE exams in April followed by the Class of 2022 in November. All of the girls passed and graduated from KGSA! The Class of 2021's test scores were lower than past years as was the case for seniors across Kenya. However, scores bounced back up for the Class of 2022 with two girls qualifying for a bachelor's program and three for a diploma degree. We are proud of their extraordinary effort during these shortened academic years.

## SOCCER IS BACK

After a two year hiatus due to the pandemic, the school soccer team resumed training and games. In September, KGSA inaugurated its rooftop soccer field with a friendly exhibition match between the senior league and the school team. The local media showed up to report on Kenya's one and only rooftop AstroTurf! Big thanks to Under Armour for donating new uniforms and equipment and to Construction for Change for procuring an anonymous donor to fund the project.



## SCIENCE LAB RENOVATED

Rotarians from Nairobi Upperhill and Upper Eden in the United Kingdom renovated the science lab providing much needed equipment and storage to enhance chemistry, biology and physics lessons. Historically, science and math test scores have been the lowest at KGSA. The teachers are grateful for this STEM investment to encourage the girls and introduce career paths that have been dominated by men in Kenya.

# US TOUR

School Director Teka and Teacher Dalifa visited three states in three weeks

In September and October, Teka, Dalifa and Katy visited California, Colorado and Minnesota to connect with supporters. We enjoyed conversations over meals and our first in-person events since before the pandemic. Thanks to everyone who hosted us!

We toured Pacific Ridge School in Carlsbad (below) and McAuliffe International School and Girls Athletic Leadership School in Denver to learn how teachers are integrating technology into the classroom and creating interactive lessons. We cheered on the San Diego Wave FC at the new Snapdragon Stadium. Dalifa was delighted to test medical technology at Philips' labs in the Twin Cities.



While Teka and Dalifa were in town, the Foundation Board of Directors held a retreat in Denver to discuss strategic planning. Based on feedback from teachers, alumnae and board members, we decided that our top three funding priorities are to invest in STEM, board all girls and provide scholarships for every KGSA graduate to pursue higher education. Many supporters have already stepped up to help us advance these goals. Special thanks to the family foundations and STEM professionals for their generosity and commitment to KGSA.

***The story of KGSA's evolution of a girls' soccer team to an accomplished high school is both inspirational and remarkable. It is through the hard work and dedication of KGSA's founders, faculty, staff and supporters that the school provides a safe haven for young women from Kibera for whom a high school education would have otherwise been unattainable. We believe that with continued support, the impact of KGSA will continue to grow and be felt by even more young Kibera women and their families.***

**-The Whaley Family Foundation on supporting KGSA for over a decade**



# ALUMNAE SPOTLIGHT

## Aisha, Class of 2021

SHE IS PURSUING A DIPLOMA DEGREE IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT. AISHA ACED MOST OF HER CLASSES LAST TERM! SHE'S 19 YEARS OLD AND GREW UP IN KIBERA. AISHA LIVES WITH HER MUM AND SIBLINGS AND WALKS TO HER CLASSES. SHE ENJOYS READING. HER DREAM JOB IS TO BECOME AN ACCOUNTANT OR AN ENTREPRENEUR.



## Irene, Class of 2020

IRENE IS A SOPHOMORE AT STRATHMORE UNIVERSITY WHERE SHE RECEIVED A FULL RIDE SCHOLARSHIP TO PURSUE A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN COMMUNICATIONS. SHE VOLUNTEERS AT KGSA AND ENJOYS MENTORING THE JOURNALISM CLUB. HER FAVORITE HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES WERE BIOLOGY AND MATH WITH MS. DALIFA.

## Josephine, Class of 2018

JOSEPHINE IS IN HER FINAL YEAR OF COLLEGE PURSUING A BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN EDUCATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI. SHE STUDENT TAUGHT AT KGSA SUPPORTING MADAME CLARIS AND MR. JAMES WITH THE 10TH GRADE MATH & BUSINESS CLASSES. JOSEPHINE HOPES TO TEACH AT KGSA AFTER SHE GRADUATES.



## Naima, Class of 2016

NAIMA JOINED THE KGSA STAFF AS LIBRARIAN IN 2022. SHE IS DELIGHTED WITH KGSA'S NEW LIBRARY WHERE SHE ORGANIZES TEXTBOOKS AND TABLETS. NAIMA STUDIED CODING AT MORINGA AND HAS A DEGREE IN GRAPHIC DESIGN FROM AKIRCHIX. SHE COORDINATES THE BOOK CLUB AND ENCOURAGES THE GIRLS TO READ FOR FUN.

*If you educate a man, you educate an individual. But if you educate a woman, you educate a nation.*

- African Proverb



# YEAR IN REVIEW

**\$412,015**

TOTAL 2022 REVENUE

From 300+ donors mostly in the USA - families, businesses, churches, Rotary Clubs, non-profit organizations, foundations and individuals.

**136 STUDENTS**

ATTENDED KGSA

Since 2006, we have grown from educating 13 girls taught by volunteer teachers to a paid staff serving 130+ girls every year.

**\$406,492**

TOTAL 2022 EXPENSES

To educate and board the girls, provide college scholarships to alumnae and run the foundation in the USA. The school's biggest expenses are feeding the girls and staff salaries. We are committed to providing living wages and healthy school meals.

**82 GIRLS**

RECEIVED ROOM &  
BOARD

Since the dormitory opened in July 2021, KGSA has doubled the number of boarded girls. Our goal is to expand boarding to all girls.

**4 STAR RATING**

ON CHARITY NAVIGATOR

The KGSA Foundation is in good financial standing with a healthy reserve.

# THANK YOU 2022 PARTNERS

Adam Leedy and Sydney Friedman  
Adam McNeil and Candice Chacon  
Alexander Moon  
Alyssa Healey  
Amanda Straigis  
Amy Livermore  
Amy Betts  
Anette Bachmeier  
Anita Shen  
Anne and JP Feve  
Anne Baldwin and Dan Wiegand  
Astrid Vikstrom  
Barbara and Greg Lewis  
Barbara Rush  
Barbra Driscoll  
Beatrice Hines  
Becky Albright and Phil Tedeschi  
Becky Murphy  
Beth Loy  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
Beverly Van Kirk  
Brian Fallon and Jenifer Nields  
Brutten Family Foundation  
CJ Millett  
Caitlin and Chuck Schultz  
Caitlin Bradshaw  
Candy Campbell  
Carole Boyum  
Cathy Huber and Chad Weinstein  
Celia Baldwin and Bruce Catania  
Chelsea and Mark Geraghty  
Chris Brown  
Chris Stafford  
Christian Cramer  
Christina Gable  
Christina Henning and Victoria VanDiest  
Christine Elliot and John McNeil  
Connie McNeil Family and Friends  
Cory and Rachel Schauer  
Courtney Kelly  
Craig and Beverley Miller Family Fund  
Daniel Doherty  
Denise Cox  
Denver Zumba Community  
Diane and Pete Gorder  
Dorothy Renstrom  
Dr. Andy and Janet Ruth  
Dr. Dan Harris  
Dr. Sarah Werner  
Dr. Suzanne Maslo  
Dr. Tim and Colette Diegel  
Elizabeth Scroope  
Ellen Weber  
Ellie Roscher and Dan Ruth  
Erick J McKesson  
First Unitarian Church of Providence  
Ginny Snow  
Global Give Back Circle  
Google  
Gordie and Jo Bailey  
Helen Resnik  
Hope Wisneski  
Hosain Lipson and Angie Weber  
Jackie and Ricky Sward  
James and Deborah Tierney  
Jean Jarvis  
Jenni and Ed Ryan  
Jessica Campbell  
Jessica Hartnett  
Jill Eckert  
Joan Sharp  
Joel K. Greenberg and Marcy Gringlas  
John and Joy Birkeland  
John Andrew  
Julia Treen  
Julie Klaus  
June Nery and Rick Strittmater  
Junior Achievement  
Karen Kishpaugh  
Kathleen Gajewski and Matthew Petsos  
Kathy and Jeff Wiegand  
Katie and Cory Rutledge  
Katy Furey  
Kelly Cooper  
Kelly Keaney  
Kemp Peterson  
Kevin Moore  
Lauren Whaley  
Lisa and Paul Smith  
Map Kibera  
Marcia Mendenhall  
Margie Roscher  
Margaret Roy  
Marilyn Levinger  
Mark Bruning and Donna Wood  
Mark Dawes  
Martha Manno and Philip Grupposo  
Martha McCandless  
Matt Musel  
Michael Lowenthal  
Michael Sarafolean  
Mike and Mary Ellen DeBois  
Mike Roszak  
Morgan Burns  
Nadia and Joe Martyn  
Nan Rothschild  
Nancy and Dave Doyle  
Naomi Seawell  
Nichole Sobecki  
Pacific Ridge School  
Pam and John Harris  
Pam and Bill Rostal  
Patricia Sauer  
Patrick Kobliska  
Ralph and Trish Scorpio  
Rob Peick  
Rosalie Szyal  
Rotary Club of Denver Southeast  
Rotary Club of Evergreen  
Rotary Club of Lansing  
Rotary Club of Upper Eden  
Rotary Club of Upperhill Nairobi  
Ryan and Lily Banning  
Samantha Schreiner  
Sanderson Family  
Schmitz Family  
Scott Lanard  
Sean Rush and Carol E. McMullen  
Sharon Frederick and Cedeira Dawson  
She's The First  
Sheila Collins and Chris Reisdorf  
Shofco  
Sobecki Family Foundation  
Star Soltan Lerach  
Steph Dawes and Patrick Metz  
Stephany Zoo  
Stephen Colbert Americone Dream Fund  
Steve and Elena Arthur  
Strathmore University  
Susan Sheridan  
Tereza Cervenka  
Tierney Family  
Tim Kotowski and Moira Cullen  
Tom Baldwin  
Tracia and Jamie Burke  
Tyler Anderson  
Umbrella Tree Trust  
Vicky Dickson  
We One Action Network  
Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Whaley Family Foundation  
Wiegand Family  
William I Mark  
Wishwall Foundation  
World Reader  
Xin Shen  
Zee McLeod

***Our mission wouldn't be possible without you!***



**Educate. Inspire. Empower.**



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