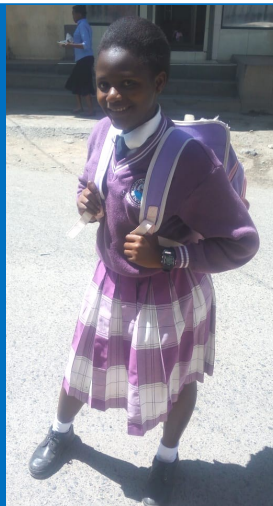


# The Maisha News

## Maisha Bora support education scholarships & mentorship



Miriam Nangila smiles as she proceeds home for April holidays in her second year in High School



Maisha Bora Initiative has been able to touch lives of the programme beneficiaries not only facilitating their education but also ensuring they get placements for experience and exposure during long holidays. John Karani has been attached at Naivasha District hospital in the Laboratory and his supervisor praised him for determination in his work..

## Touching lives through education

Touching lives of the girl child remain a core business of Maisha Bora Initiative. As it is said that empowering a girl child is empowering the whole society. In 2018, Maisha Bora Scholarship program, saw six girls graduate from five different universities in Kenya with degree certificates in different disciplines. At Maisha Bora we celebrate our girls with precision and honour. As we mark our 13<sup>th</sup> year in supporting the girl child education, we confidently testify of the strides made.

*"We have seen our girls make this milestone in their lives as an assurance of a positive impact to the society with the knowledge that has been imparted"* said Hannah



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Donate online as little as **\$50** to educate a bright needy student in rural Kenya that covers part tuition...



## A TIME WITH PROGRAM BENEFICIARIES

In August, we held an annual meeting with program beneficiaries, both current and a number of alumnus. This was one of the memorable events of the year as Maisha Bora family. Over 60 beneficiaries shared and explored the bond that has brought us all together. Among the highlights of the event included presentations by motivational speakers. Institutional representation was present as Naivasha Professionals Association represented by the CEO. Others represented included the office of the Area Women Representative in the National Assembly and the board of directors was under the leadership of the board chair madam Sunguti.



### Program Manager



**Hannah Wanjiru** is the programme manager who is dedicated to her work. She is driven by the passion to see an equal society where every child has equal chance to access education to the highest level. Driven by this desire, she has dedicated her time in caring for the program students as her own children.

Under her leadership, the program has witnessed milestones and developed strides towards being one of the leading charitable institutions in Kenya. In ensuring a rise in employability percentage of the program students, she introduced a leadership training that is attended by all the program students annually. This sharpens their skills for better results at interviews.



Maisha Bora Initiative for Youth Programme vision statement “To be a leader in empowering bright needy youths academically to secure self reliant future” has been so tangible and conspicuous especially during the field visits to our beneficiaries. The unfading joy, hope, smile which was seldom before they met Maisha Bora Initiative can never be buried any more. The confidence they put on as they take us around, ready to compete with other youth from well up background is encouraging, giving the morale to wake up every day to their service. It is only education that can bridge the gap between the poor and rich. **By Esther—Social Worker**



**Joseph during program visits at campus**

## What the program beneficiaries had to say...

Am **Muturi John Gikunju** a second year student at Karatina University taking applied statistics with computing. Maisha Bora Initiative has been like street lights that lights up the highway. It lit up my education path to enable me to realize my potential. The light provided me with assurance of security and safety that gave me the composure to realize a bright future that was once *nosediving in oblivion*. The perfect assurance of a bright future always gives me a reason to yearn each day to unveil more in my course of life.

To Maisha Bora fraternity I say ASANTE.....



My name is **Rosemary Opwondi** a teacher by profession interacting with the young people for many hours. As a teacher, I love teaching, imparting knowledge, encourage, admonish and give my students hope. In life I believe step by step we move from grass to grace. I'm where I am today because of God's power through Maisha Bora walking together for 10 years.

Your opponents would love you to believe that in hopeless, you have no power, there is no reason to act as you can't win. Hope is a gift you don't have to surrender, a power you don't have to throw away. Through faith, we are hopeful for faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1). My determination has gotten me places and heights for there is no chance, no destiny, no fate that can hinder the firm resolve of a determined soul. The chant is- *shatter the glass ceiling if you can*, nothing is impossible; nothing should stop you. The bottom line is to keep ones hope alive and not loose faith.

It has been a wonderful 10-years walk with Maisha Bora with every single moment being exciting. It is a great initiative that has transformed the lives of many young people in Naivasha-Nakuru county and Kenya at large. It is not just an organization but a family as well that many would love to be connected to. From a well organized management to a family of cheerful and vibrant people who gives a sense of belonging.

It changed the course of my life from a hopeless girl to now a hopeful and ambitious career woman I am today. After I did my KCSE options of continuing with my studies were very slim. It bridged the gap towards my success by providing educational financial aid that brought a sigh of relief to me and my family and this allowed me to focus on my school work. Therefore, the great achievement I have, I owe it to Maisha Bora who've been so supportive in every step of my life.

Education is very expensive and that's the reason why there are so many people who are not learned. To me my education is very important and vital to the success of my future. Being a beneficiary of this initiative confirms that college was the best idea of my future. It has helped me make several steps towards realizing my dreams and I look forward to accomplish more.

I'm grateful beyond words and I wish my fellow scholars all the best in their lives.



**Ann Kinyanjui**



## Pictorial



**The program manager with Miss Wangui, Meshach's mother at their residence. Meshach was admitted to the program in May 2018**



**Dreams answered for Muthoni's mother and her siblings**



**Collins Munala on his first day at school**



**Maisha Bora program manager makes food donations to the family of one of the program beneficiary**



**Kelvin and his guardian. He was recruited into the program in 2017 taking his Electrical course at Rift Valley Institute of Science & Technology**



**Basil on his last day in high school accompanied by his father.**



**Home visit to Daniel Munius family at Nyandarua county. Daniel a first born in a family of eight children.**



**Program alumni posing with the program manager**



## CELEBRATING OUR 2018 GRADUATES

Maureen Mwaura is the only child of a poor single mother. She was enrolled to Maisha Bora programme in 2010 in Form 1 at Bishop Wambari Secondary School. She was a bright girl and ended up scoring a mean grade of B+ in KCSE. This enabled her to secure admission at Kenyatta University to pursue a Bsc. Community Resource Mobilization and Extension. She graduated in December 2018 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> class upper division. She is currently working with a Technology company in E-commerce online market across Africa on digital currency market.

**Maurine Wanjiku**



**Rose Wanjiku**

Rose Wanjiku is an orphan, her mother passed away at a time when she needed her most. She is the 2<sup>nd</sup> born among the 5 siblings. The family background was poor and so there were no finances to cater for her Education. The elder sister also drop out of university because of financial hardships. She was enrolled to the programme in 2014 when joined Maseno University to pursue Bsc. Information Communication Technology and she graduated in December 2018 with a 1<sup>st</sup> class honours. She is currently on internship at Jomo Kenyatta University in their IT department and hopes they will consider her for employment.

**Grace Wairimu**

Grace Wairimu is an orphan, her mother died when she was at her tender age left with eight (8) siblings. To this family Education was not a priority at any given point and so even the elder siblings never proceeded beyond primary school. After the demise of her mother all the 8 siblings were left under the care of her elder brother who was at that time a casual labourer. It called for well wishers to give hand to the family and that is how Grace joined Maisha Bora Kenya in 2012 Mumui Secondary school and later The Kabete National Polytechnic to pursue a Diploma in Information Communication Technology. She graduated in October 2018, currently she is a trainer of computer application packages in Magina Secondary School.



## CELEBRATING OUR 2018 GRADUATES

Lilian Wamucii is an orphan, 2<sup>nd</sup> and last born daughter. When her single mother died Lilian and her elder sister were left under the care of their poor uncle. In the village where they were residing one of the neighbours purposed to rescue Lilian as she was vulnerable gender related abuse. In 2009 Lilian was enrolled to Maisha Bora Kenya in Bishop Wambari Secondary School and she proved to be a bright and disciplined girl. She passed in her high school final examination and secured admission to Maasai Mara University where she pursued Bsc. Social work. She graduated with 2<sup>nd</sup> class Upper Division in December 2018. She is currently on internship with Nyandarua county government in the children department, hoping to be absorbed on permanent basis.

**Lillian Wamucii**



Lucy Muthoni is the 1<sup>st</sup> born among 3 siblings. She was brought up by a single mother who was divorced as a results of domestic violence. Her mother was not learned and so it was tough for her to secure a good job. Despite Muthoni performing well in her primary school there was no hope for furthering education. She enrolled to Maisha Bora in 2010 in Bishop Wambari Secondary School and excelled. She joined Egerton University to pursue Bsc. Agribusiness Management and graduated in December 2018 with a 2<sup>nd</sup> class Upper Division. She is currently working with a Vegetable growing farm in parking vegetables and herbs for exports.

**Lucy Muthoni**



**Rosemary Wacuka** comes from a family of 10 siblings of a single mother. She was enrolled at Maisha Bora in 2009 in form one at Bishop Wambari Girls Secondary School. She latter enrolled at Mount Kenya University to pursue a certificate course in Veterinary and graduated in March 2018. She has enrolled to pursue a further Diploma course in the same field.

**Rosemary Wacuka Njeri**





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**Hope** is one of our program beneficiary in form two at Moi Girls Eldoret. As part of celebrating Christmas festivity, our partners made personal donations of clothing and food to families and student. **Hope** displays some of the clothing she received as Christmas gifts.

### Special Case



Mary Wanjiru Kinyanjui is a mother of eight children. The family lived in slum area of Naivasha when paid a visit by Maisha Bora team and partners from Omaha Nebraska. This was a life turn around as education of the four children, their housing and food was provided by the team. This is additional outreach ministry.



In 2019, Sospeter joined form one in Magereza Academy and assurance of his academics taken care off has boosted his morale to achieving highly. He got an A in the end of the term exams in April 2019.

The family health condition has greatly improved with assurance of at least a meal every day thanks to our Omaha partners.