It is our mission to encourage young people to live the ‘give back’ doctrine. Our Alumni are giving back to their communities in amazing ways. For them, the greatest reward is the realization that they have made a significant change in someone’s life. And if not “significant” then a positive change nevertheless.

A growing number of young people are knocking at our doors asking for opportunities to volunteer in our programmes or the community including mentoring young students. This to us illustrates our objective of supporting our young people to grow into refined and responsible adult citizens with the ability to change their communities.

We have been able to host 27 volunteers this year who have also gained first hand experience working in a professional environment.
Did you know, an average of 38.5% adults are illiterate in Kenya. Often overlooked are adults navigating the world without vital literacy skills not forgetting the vital role a parent with literacy skills plays in child development. We started Adult Literacy classes at the end of 2015 and so far 30 women have enrolled for those classes. It is amazing seeing women aged between 17 to 55 years from different backgrounds and religions sitting together with a common aim of studying to achieve basic literacy competence.

During the International Literacy Day, the project was recognized and awarded for (best learner, Bahari Division, overall 3rd best learner Kilifi County and best adult Literacy Instructor).

**Women Empowerment**

The continuous sensitizing of parents on the various aspects of Child Protection is key for creating safe spaces for children in our communities. However a child friendly environment can also be achieved by improving the livelihood of parents. We piloted the Street Business School training an incredible approach to business training and support with the core aspect being coaching and mentorship. This transformational class has instilled confidence and decision making skills among our women and the skills necessary to start, run and manage a business. Through this trainings, we now have 41 businesses up and running.

Specials thanks go to Bead for Life-Uganda for the design and content of the training programme and to Hope for Children-UK for providing the resources to make this happen.

"Through these I can help my children with their schoolwork and keep accurate book records for my business. It has really improved.” SBS participant

“That training is different from what I was used to. It is very practical and whatever I learn I can immediately apply.” SBS participant

The Power to read, write and transform
Embedded in our Youth Development Programme, Kesho Edutainment Group was established in April this year. Though the group is still very young they can already look back to an amazing journey: Performance at various events; winning awards at theatre Extravaganza’s and kicking off a behavior change sensitization and mentorship project amongst adolescents in two schools within Kilifi.

Through drama, music and dance the group is using theatre to addresses social issues affecting youth in Kilifi County with the overall benefits not only accruing to the youth in the audience, but also for the actors who are nurturing their talents in the performing arts field.

"Through performing in front of crowds, I have gained lots of confidence." (Yvonne Zawadi)

"It has helped me to explore and discover my hidden talents”. (Samuel Garama)

Are you interested in being part of our dynamic youth programming? Send a shout to us through....

https://www.facebook.com/KESHO-Edutainment-Project_KE-1780838948816532/?fref=ts
Our year in pictures

Annual Parents Meeting

Kesho Staff Teambuilding

Phonics Training for teachers

Kesho children participating in the National Youth Choir

New partners

- Pawa 254
- St. John’s Ambulance
- ZwarA Arts
- Pope Francis Rescue Home
- DKA Austria
- Hope for Children-UK
- Agora for Good
- Bead for Life
- Education Development Trust
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
BASIC EDUCATION
- 147 children sponsored (female 72, male 75)
- Literacy Programme in 4 Primary Schools reaching out to 521 children.
- 341 children visited Resource Centre
- Rich holiday activities: motivational speech, leadership and first aid training, sensitization on child protection, crafts day, etc.
- Saturday Programme reaching out to an average of 80 children a day.
- 6 children in the first ever National Youth Choir of Kenya.
- Adult Literacy: 25 adults enrolled, 4 awards for the adult literacy class.
- 12 Primary school teachers of English trained on creative writing.
- 18 ECD teachers trained on teaching of language through stories.
- 100% retention rate.
- 10 out of the 12 children who sat KCPE in 2015 went to secondary schools in 2016, 1 went to vocational training.

SECONDARY EDUCATION
- 92 students (female 39, male 53) sponsored
- Rich holiday activities: First aid and basic IT training, Form 1 orientation day, tutorials.
- The 17 students who took national exams in 2015 qualified for college diplomas and university degrees.
- 100% retention rate of students.
- An average of 70 students accessing the resource center daily during the school holidays.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
- Growing Alumni: 158 (female 61, male 97)
- 2 general Alumni meetings
- Trainings held: Peer education, IT, Entrepreneurship, Sensitization on Alcohol and drug Abuse
- Meeting with gap year students and their parents
- Career guidance to Kesho and non-Kesho students
- 38% of Kesho students volunteer and adopt the give back initiative
- 74 are in College and Universities
- Eduainment group established
- Gap year students class of 2015 had 90% of the students transit to University & colleges

CHILD PROTECTION & FAMILY SUPPORT
- 105 have undergone child play therapy
- Capacity building session on child safeguarding (214 parents/guardians have been trained on child protection)
- Capacity building for Women-Trainings on financial literacy and business management. 10 Individual new businesses started, Women have started GS&L activities reaching 86 parents
- Dealt with 18 child incidences
- Dissemination and distribution of the Kilifi County Coordination Guidelines to the County Area Advisory Council and the CP technical working group
- 1 School safeguarding policy developed and piloted in 9 schools
- 7743 beneficiaries reached in 9 schools with the Schools safeguarding policy
- 15 teachers from 8 different primary schools within the county trained on alternative forms of discipline