

#### Volume 4 Issue 3

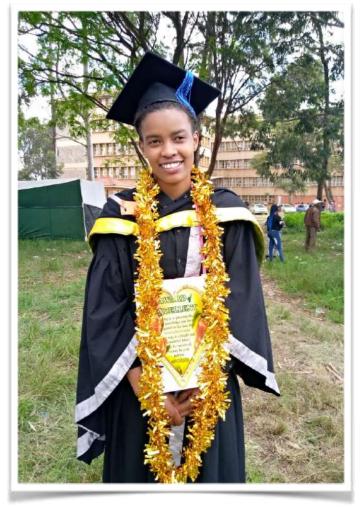
Winter 2019

## Happy Holidays from the HCF Board



When the Jerusha Mwiraria Hope Children's Home opened its doors to the first 18 AIDSaffected street children in 2005, Primary School Headmaster Joseph Kirima Rwito, the founder, emphasized to the new arrivals that their only route to self-sufficiency was the pursuit of education.

"Education is the Key" became the motto of the orphanage. Nine-year-old Doreen Gatwiri was one of the original residents of the Home. The only child of a mentally ill mother and absent father, she arrived suffering from fainting spells that were a result of malnutrition. After she recovered her health, Doreen internalized the message. She became one of the most academically outstanding residents at Hope Children's Home. When Kirima Rwito became the headmaster at Meru Primary School, Doreen was brought along and continued to thrive. In 2010 she passed the test that enabled her to enter the prestigious Yururu Girl's Secondary



Boarding School. While there she not only excelled academically but also became so proficient at football (Kenyan for soccer) that she joined a team that competed at a national level.

After graduation from Yururu, Doreen was accepted in the pre-med program at Jomo Kenyatta University, with her fees paid by her mentors, a doctor in California and an office worker here on Long Island. After five years of hard work, she received her diploma in November and will begin her residency in gynecology early next year.

Doreen is the first doctor to grow up at Hope Children's Home. She is an outstanding example of what happens when a talented young person internalizes the belief that "Education is the Key."

## A proud moment for all of us!





Education is the Key Doreen and her Jomo Kenyatta classmate are all smiles.

Kelvin Koome, a former HCF resident and another one of our stars, shares a moment with Dr. Gatwiri at her graduation celebration. Kelvin, a graduate of Kenya Methodist University, is now a physician's assistant at a hospital in Meru.

The graduation festivities, which, of course, included a cake, were celebrated by all at Hope Children's Home. Doreen is a role model for every child at the Home.



### From the Board

The Jerusha Mwiraria Hope Children's Fund home is about to enter its fifteenth year of operation. Founded in 2005 with just 18 children, the home's slogan was and continues to be EDUCATION IS THE KEY!

The epitome of the realization of that slogan is the journey of Doreen Gatwiri. She has made the long educational trail to become a medical doctor. While many of our children have graduated university, Doreen's accomplishment is the top of the mountain.

None of this would have been possible without the support of our many donors like yourself. Thank you for making Hope Children's Fund a success for all these years.

On behalf of all the children and staff, we wish you a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Year.

Hope Children's Fund is a 501 c (3) charitable nonprofit organization. All gifts are tax deductible.

#### EIN: 75-3065651

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Every ticket sold sends a youth to day secondary school for a trimester.

The 3rd Annual Douglas J. McDonough

2020

assion for Aducation

ala

# to benefit Hope Children's Fund

Join us for an evening of music, cocktail hour, a plated dinner, raffles and silent auction all supporting the education of the children of the Jerusha Mwiraria Hope Children's Home, Meru, Kenya

## Sunday, February 16, 2020 6:00 - 11:00pm \$199per person at The Inn & Spa at East Wind, Wading River

*Please rsvp*: HCFgala@gmail.com Hope Children's Fund, P.O. Box 1345, East Northport,NY 11731

Formal attire preferred. Discounted overnight accommodations available.





## **Gala Sponsorship Opportunities**

Dear Friend of Hope Children's Fund,

We are excited to announce our third annual Douglas J. McDonough Passion for Education Gala. It is our largest fundraiser of the year, and we are asking for your help in making this year's event even more successful than last year's.

Please find below our levels of sponsorship:

**Gold:** \$10,000 — Name branding for dinner includes 10 tickets (table) plus three pages in the journal.

**Silver:** \$5,000 — Name branding of cocktail hour includes 10 tickets (table) plus two pages in the journal.

**Bronze:** \$2,500 — Band sponsorship includes two tickets and one page in the journal.

- 4. \$2,000 Name branding of journal plus two pages in the journal.
- 5. \$2,000 Table sponsor 10 tickets plus full page in the journal.
- 6. \$1,500 Name branding Raffle/Auction plus full page in the journal.
- 7. \$365 Child mentorship for one year.
- 8. \$250 Full page in the journal.
- 9. \$210 Food for one week to feed 89 children at the Home.
- 10. \$125 Half-page ad in the journal.
- 11. \$100 New bed/mattress for the children.
- 12. \$75 Business card ad in the journal.

Your support of our efforts on behalf of some of the world's most vulnerable children is greatly appreciated. Your donation is 100% tax deductible under the tax law. We are a 100% volunteer organization with no U.S. office, employees, or overhead.

Respectfully submitted,

Hope Children's Fund Gala Committee