

Newsletter Friends of Kibera Foundation (11)

July 2025

Dear reader,

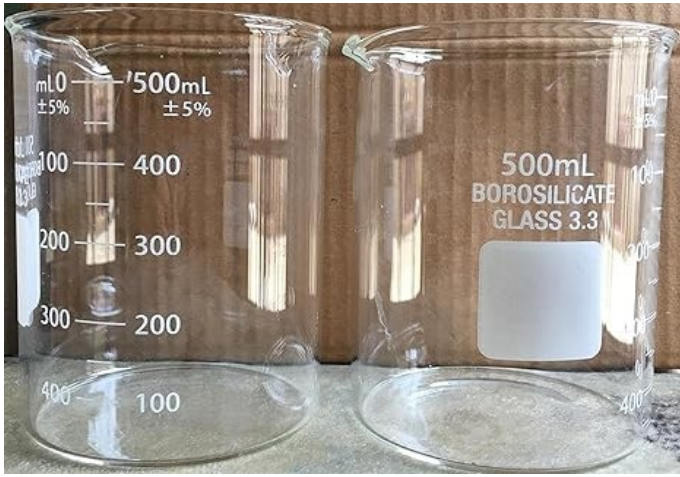


A new newsletter from the Friends of Kibera Foundation (www.vriendenvankibera.nl). The Foundation was established in 2019 with the aim of supporting the Oloo Education Center in Kibera, Nairobi (Kenya). With financial support, we make it possible for children from this slum to receive education. Oloo Education Center, a primary school was founded fifteen years ago by Judy Oloo. Together with a team of (voluntary) teachers and support staff, she is committed to improve the living circumstances of the children of Kibera through education. Judy and her team depend to a large extent on the support of private gifts. Parents pay a contribution that is feasible for them. As a Foundation from the relatively rich West, we structurally support the school with an amount that is feasible given our budget. If possible, we pay for additional and unexpected costs that the school has to incur. The spending of the money is always in consultation with Judy Oloo as director of the school through one of the board members who lives in Nairobi. At the moment, as a Foundation, we are mainly committed to setting up a Junior High School department. Our fund is filled by structural and/or incidental donations from people and Dutch organizations/funds that are willing and able to contribute to this way of developing opportunities for disadvantaged groups in Kenya.

Project development 'Junior Highschool'

In a previous newsletter we have written about the adjusted education policy in Kenya that makes that Oloo Education Center wants to expand with a department 'Junior High School'. We can now report that the school is working on the expansion and important steps have been taken for approval by the inspectorate. Thanks to a nice donation from the Jan Amos Comenius Foundation, materials have been purchased in Nairobi that are needed for the furnishing of a Science and computer room. And in addition, Judy Oloo was able to purchase lockers, books and uniforms from this donation.





Then for the second time (first time in 2020) we received a gift from Books4life Nijmegen at our request. And that money came just when there were two contiguous houses for sale in Kibera, close to the school. These homes can be used as additional classrooms for the *Junior High*. The selling *landlord* and Judy Oloo have agreed on the price, which means that there is space and housing for the two classrooms that are needed. Compared to the existing school building, these are not beautiful classrooms and not safe against burglars. For our Foundation, the next project is: building material so that good, future-proof classrooms can be built.





Project sponsoring school fees for secondary education

Thanks to the support of friends, colleagues, family and acquaintances we were able to have 23 students attend secondary education from January 2024 onwards for four years. For three students, for whom this was not possible before, we also successfully sought sponsorship around the turn of this year. In these photos, part of the group is visiting Oloo Education Center again. All the students have successfully completed the first year of secondary education (old style). They are now in their second year. The school fees are paid by the Foundation in three installments. Just before a term has expired, we hear how much the fees are asked by the various institutes. The amount is higher than originally stated. However, we mainly ran into problems because quite unexpectedly the exchange rate of the Kenyan Shilling against the euro rose by more than 20 percent. We were familiar with a shilling that was getting a little cheaper against the euro. The deficit that arose in our budget as a result has been covered by the Groningse 'Foundation RK-SCI Fund to combat poverty', for which we are very grateful to them. This means that we have enough money to pay fees for the remaining three years of 26 students.

The Friends of Kibera Foundation

The consultation with Wild Geeses has been stopped at our request. Working with them meant a lot of paperwork, a lot of consultation and a condition of Wild Geese was guidance/assessment on location. As a Foundation, we also had to pay for the latter. The conclusion of Judy Oloo and the board was that the requested commitment for the school was too extensive.

The (acquisition) activities around the school by board members always lead to new contacts, donations and interested parties and we are very happy with that. A few examples are worth mentioning. Recently, an 8-year-old neighbor girl came to bring the proceeds of the sale of loom bands she sold! A Belgian family living in Nairobi asked family and friends for a contribution to our school instead of a gift for their newborn baby. A friend sold pimped jute bags at a flea market and the secretary of the Foundation has already sold 25 crocheted 'beastly bookmarks'. Every gift be it large or small helps. We are open to even more good ideas and results!

Change in Composition of the Board

There has been a change of composition of the board of the Foundation. Due to busy work and changes in the private sphere, Willem Bens and Chantal Kool have canceled their membership. Willem has taken on the treasurership for many years. Chantal took care of the website and our digital workspace. We are happy with their commitment and thankful for it. Peter Doting has already taken over the treasurership. Elke Germers – Aarninkhof has joined as a new board member. She is a professional in the digital world and will take over Chantal's work. As the sister of Lieke Aarninkhof, Elke has visited Nairobi a few times and knows the school very closely. And with two sons of 12 and 15 herself, she knows how important school is for the development of children. We are glad that she will join us.

If there are any questions or suggestions regarding this Newsletter, please let us know. We send a newsletter to everyone who has donated and/or is interested in our school. If you do not want to receive it in the future, you can report this to Gerda Geerdink: secretaris@vriendenvankibera.nl. You can always forward it to other interested parties and register new interested parties. Thank you for your support and/or interest!

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RSIN/Tax number: 859738917. Friends of Kibera has been designated by the Dutch tax authorities as an ANBI (Public Benefit Institution). This means that all donations are deductible from income or corporation tax under certain conditions. More favorable conditions apply to periodic donations (minimum 5 years).

