



NORTHERN KENYA
FUND

IMPACT REPORT

2023





OUR MISSION

To support deserving and high achieving Northern Kenyan students in attending secondary and university level schools. The Fund places an emphasis on providing scholarships to female students since they have fewer opportunities to attend secondary school and beyond.



OUR VISION

To utilize the gift of education and in turn the power of knowledge, to curb poverty in one of the most remote and marginalized regions of Kenya.

OUR IMPACT

Together with our partners, Northern Kenya Fund is transforming the lives of Northern Kenyans through the power of education. With an emphasis on girls, we are uplifting locals to create systematic change in their own community– empowered to address challenges related to climate change, poverty, and access to resources for years to come.

LOOKING AT THE NUMBERS



630

high school and college students directly served through our scholarship program.



373

of those students were girls

100% of the girls in our program received full scholarships.



257

of those students were boys

70% of the boys in our program received full scholarships.



\$600

is the average cost per student to cover one high school student's school fees for one year.



\$60

is the average cost per student to incorporate essential mentorship support – increasing rates of success in school and beyond.



500+

students engaged in mentorship programs.



94

students graduated from high school in 2023.



90%

of the students we currently serve are in high school.



10%

of our students are currently in trade school or university.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT FEMININE HYGIENE

Our program emphasizes providing feminine hygiene products, reducing school absences, and dropouts. Alongside this initiative, we foster body confidence through educational sessions and supportive discussions, empowering girls to embrace their bodies and feel confident in their own skin. We are creating a supportive environment **where girls can thrive academically and personally.**



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

2023 STUDENT

GATHERING

The 2023 student gathering brought together nearly 2,000 current and prospective students, alumni, family members, and partners. As we grappled with the challenge of accommodating such a large crowd, it became evident that the impact of our work extended far beyond the students directly benefiting from our programs. Parents, some traveling hundreds of kilometers, joined us to appeal for support for their sons and daughters, underscoring the widespread need for assistance within the community.

Students had the opportunity to engage with a wide array of facilitators and experts, ranging from social reproductive health to career guidance, fostering personal growth and empowerment. The presence of successful members from the Gabra community further enriched the event, as they shared their experiences and offered invaluable motivation to the students. The overwhelmingly positive feedback received from participants affirmed the impact of the gathering, with many expressing a desire for it to become an annual tradition, symbolizing the enduring commitment to positive change and empowerment within the community.



STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

ADHO ADHI

I choose to share my story, and I hope it will uplift and inspire others out there, especially the girls from Northern Kenya.

My name is Adho Adhi. I was born and raised in North Horr, Marsabit County. My home is often referred to as a marginalized area, but to me, it was a place where I spent my beautiful childhood. It made me resilient, and made me the woman I have become today. I grew up rearing goats for my family. I remember the sand dunes that I loved to play on in my free time.

I am the youngest of six siblings, and neither of my parents have a formal education. My mother, a homemaker, supplemented our income by brewing and selling illicit brews to sustain our family needs and to support our school fees. I remember very vividly my mother getting arrested by the police and local administrators as she

engaged in this venture to support our family. My mother got arrested not once or twice, but numerous times. This was the only way she could earn an income and help us access the education she so much valued – even though she herself would never attain one. On many occasions, my older siblings and I were sent home to collect school fees. While these were often only a few dollars at a time, it was still beyond the reach of my parents. My mother, a very strong and resilient woman from whom I draw all my strength, never gave up the fight. She believed in the transformative power of education and gave her all to see us educated.

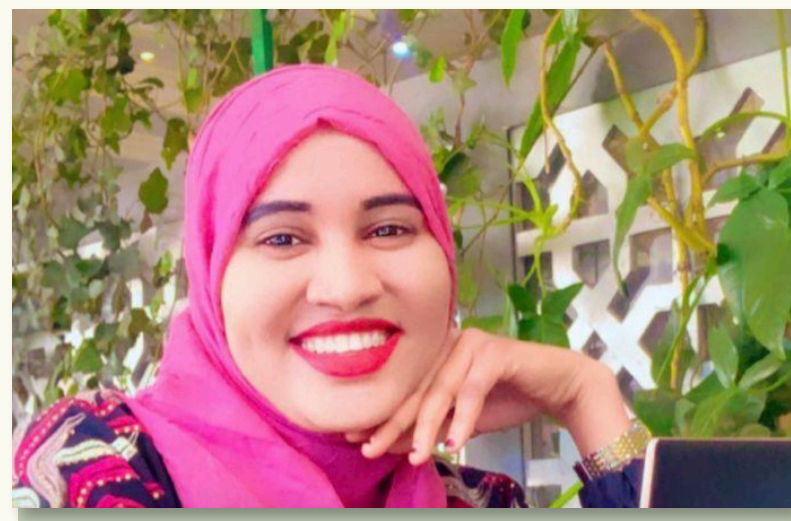
As I completed primary school, I achieved high grades and advanced to high school, though uncertainty loomed as to how I could afford high school fees. Thankfully, my parents sought assistance from Northern Kenya Fund. Through their generous support, I focused on my education and studied through high school without interruption. I owe immense gratitude to Northern Kenya Fund for granting me the opportunity to pursue my high school education. Their generosity paved the way for my journey towards realizing my dream. I extend my sincere gratitude to the entire organization and all the benefactors that held my hands.

I have always wanted to challenge the cultural norms prevailing in my community, particularly the myth that women cannot pursue careers in engineering and stem subjects.

To negate this belief, I vowed to pursue my ambition of becoming an engineer. **Today I am happy to report that I am a proud software engineer in one of Kenya's leading companies.**

This would not have been possible without the invaluable support of the Northern Kenya Fund. Their unwavering assistance not only enabled me to achieve my dream profession, but also opened doors to endless opportunities.

I am forever grateful to Northern Kenya Fund for their belief in my potential and for illuminating my path to a bright future.



STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

ARBE ROBA

got enrolled in school due to my mother's efforts. When I was eight years old, I lost my father to tribal conflict. My mother quickly took on the responsibility of taking care of us, always nurturing and encouraging us to give our best in everything we do. She reminded us that we have to work twice as hard as boys to reach our goals – this has always been our driving force.

At the age of 15, I completed primary education and achieved the grades to progress to high school. While my mother faced immense challenges in raising my school fees, she was determined for us not drop out. She hence spread the word to all well-wishers, including the Catholic Church, Northern Kenya Fund, and many other people of goodwill.

After a week Northern Kenya Fund came to my aid, and made a commitment to pay my school fees through high school. On hearing this great news, I vowed to give my best and make my mother proud. For me, this was not only an opportunity to climb my educational ladder but also to put to shame those who laughed at my mother for having only daughters.

When I turned 18, my mother fell seriously ill. A small blister on her foot was later diagnosed as cancerous. My sisters and I were devastated. After a couple of months, my mother passed away, leaving us as orphans. My younger sister and I went to live with our eldest sister, who now serves as our mother figure. We vowed to give our best in school and in life to be good role models and success stories in our community, just as our mother taught us.

After completing high school, I received a government scholarship to study nursing, the profession of my dreams. **I am now a trained nurse working at Marsabit Teaching and Referral Hospital.** One day, I would like to get married and raise a family, but until then, I will continue to work and serve humanity.

Northern Kenya Fund has enabled me to realize my dream and my potential. Without them, I would have been at home rearing goats or taking care of kids, just like my so many of my peers. My story would be incomplete if I fail to mention that my younger sister, who is also training to be a nurse, was also supported by Northern Kenya Fund through high school. I am eternally grateful, and I will aspire to be the best in life. I hope to carry the great spirit of Northern Kenya Fund forward by serving the poor and most vulnerable through my nursing profession. THANK YOU.

Everyone's life is a journey of twists and turns, and my journey has been no exception. It has been a learning process that has made me who I am today.

I was born into a polygamous family: my dad had two wives, and five children. In my culture, if a woman does not bear a baby boy, the man is entitled to marry a second wife so that she can bear him male children. This is the story of my family. My mother bore three girls, and hence my father had to remarry, which made the resources in the family very limited. Despite having very little growing up, our home was filled with love.

My parents never understood the value of education. Due to this, my elder sister didn't get the opportunity to access education, and got married at an early age. My younger sister and I were lucky, and we



FINANCIALS

\$412,340

**Total raised
from private
donations**

EXPENSES: \$388,015

ADMIN COSTS

(salaries, professional development, rent, etc.)

\$74,266

EDUCATION FEES

(tuition, tutoring, uniforms, books, etc.)

\$218,133

PROGRAMMING

(mentorship, students gatherings, leadership summit)

\$80,983

LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS

(drought resistance, livestock restocking, climate change revolving fund)

\$14,633

THANK YOU!

2023 was a great year! Thank you to our partners who have worked with us hand in hand to make a difference for the lives of students in Northern Kenya. We can't wait to see what we accomplish together in the coming years.

www.northernkenyafund.org