

# EFACQ15

BUILDING ECOSYSTEMS THAT SUPPORT YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY

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#### **MESSAGE FOR THE EFAC COMMUNITY**

## Dear EFAC Students, Alumni, Friends & Supporters,

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step, or a leap, in the case of Nancy and Rod Van Sciver and Prof. Leah Marangu. Together, they started a simple program in Kenya to empower youth with access to quality education. In 2009, EFAC welcomed its first cohort of 42 scholars. Fifteen years later, we are celebrating our 7th graduating class of scholars to complete the 8-year EFAC Wezesha Journey. We are celebrating the vision of the Founders and the dreams of EFAC Scholars. These 15 years have been transformational, not only for the scholars but for all those who have been involved: the Founders, board members, donors, mentors, staff, and many others. We have learnt that success is based on shared goals, commitment and willingness to learn and evolve.

EFAC has grown from a scholarship program to a viable education-to-employment program that develops successful young leaders and changemakers. EFAC graduates are leading change in their own lives and their own communities. In Kenya, when one life is transformed, it transforms an average of five others in the immediate family, and often transforms the extended family and community.

As of today, EFAC has had a direct impact on 978 scholars, multiplied by the impact of each of their families and communities. We have had 98% transition to post-secondary and 68% of our alumni report financially supporting a sibling through school. Our alumni are engaged as mentors to the younger scholars and serve as connectors in the job market. As the Ubunti saying goes "I am because we are." We celebrate this growing community that has made this success possible. EFAC's partners — employers, coaches, primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, and fellow nonprofit organizations — have strengthened the impact of our program. Together, we have created an ecosystem that has enabled 70% of our graduates to integrate into the job market or continue their education only 12 months after graduation.

Let's celebrate this growing community!

Mary Kiguru, **EFAC Country** Director, Kenya Matt Gianino, **EFAC Executive** Director, U.S.



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## **Presenting the Class of 2023**

## Congratulations to these newly minted young professionals!

#### **Bernard Bakari Charo**

Diploma in Electronics and **Automation Engineering** 

Technical University of Mombasa

High School: Makueni Boys High School

**Experience & Training:** 

· Kenya Ports Authority, attachment

#### **Bridget Karimi Mutwiri**

**Bachelors in Food Science** 

Mount Kenya University

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- YALI East Africa, business & entrepreneurship certificate
- SOMO Entrepreneurship Incubator, awardee
- Project Girls4Girls, mentor program
- Kenya Industrial Research & Development Institute, internship

#### Carol Waeni

#### **Bachelors** in Nursing

University of Nairobi

High School: Naivasha Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Kenyatta National Hospital, apprenticeship
- Pumwani Maternity Hospital, apprenticeship
- Kiandaa Health Centre, apprenticeship
- Taifa Teule Leadership Experience, fellow

#### **Catherine Muringi Wangeci**

#### **Bachelors in Film Production** and Animation

Multimedia University

High School: Alliance Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Multimedia University Film Studios, attachment
- The NGO International Film Festival, volunteer

#### Claris Vugutsa Mugwero

**Bachelors in Agribusiness** and Enterprise Management

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

High School: Naivasha Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- KALRO Dairy Research Institute, attachment
- JKUAT Farm, attachment
- ESAO Research Centre, SPSS & STATA Statistical Package training
- Infinite Entrepreneurs/Friends Chamaa, treasurer
- Rotaract Club of JKUAT, volunteer















#### **Emmanuel Hamisi Gura**

**Bachelors in Environmental Health** 

Kenyatta University

High School: Makueni Boys High School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Wilson Airport, port health attachment
- Kilifi County Hospital, public health attachment
- Impact A Soul Foundation, chairperson
- Dzikunze Dispensary, public health volunteer
- The Eco-Mindset, event planning volunteer
- Global Leadership Summit, participant

#### Eric Wainaina Karanja

Diploma in Electrical and **Electronics Engineering** 

PC Kinyanjui Training Technical Institute

High School: St. Mary's Boys School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Electrical, solar, telecommunications systems and diagnostics, entrepreneur
- Kandara, community volunteer

#### **Esther Achieng Otieno**

Bachelors in Economics and **Statistics** 

Taita Taveta University

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Tropikal Brands Afrika, sales associate
- Isra Merchant Ltd, sales and marketing analyst attachment
- CloudFactory, data entry & annotation
- IEBE, polling clerk
- SanCom Digital Cyber, assistant
- Dandelion Africa, mentor

#### **Esther Nduta Kimani**

**Bachelors in Communication** and Journalism

Technical University of Kenya

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- USIU Africa, media assistant internship
- Amazing Maasai Girls Project, videographer
- Social Enterprise Society of Kenya, volunteer
- Project Girls4Girls, mentor program
- Arap Moi Primary School, volunteer





## **Presenting the Class of 2023**

## Congratulations to these newly minted young professionals!

#### **Eunice Bahati Nekesa**

**Bachelors in Physiotherapy** 

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Kenya Kabaddi Union, internship
- · National Spinal Injury Referral Hospital, internship
- Kenyatta National Hospital, internship
- Thika Level 5 Hospital, internship
- JKUAT Handball Sports, volunteer physiotherapist
- Global Grassroots, volunteer

#### Faith Jedidah Mwalili

**Bachelors in Computer Science** 

University of Eldoret

High School: Naivasha Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Jaramogi Odinga Odinga University of Science and Technology, technical support intern
- Coursera Intro to Front End Development, certificate
- Coursera Google Analytics, certificate

#### Faith Jeruto Koech

**Bachelors in Law** 

Africa Nazarene University

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Milimani Law Courts, court clerk
- ANU, Professional Mediation Training

#### Ivy Ndunge Mwanza

**Bachelors in Economics** 

University of Nairobi

High School: Naivasha Girls School

Experience & Training:

- EFAC, data entry & administrative assistant
- Intro to Data Analysis, IBM certificate
- EFAC, trained mentor & volunteer
- Moringa School, data science training
- IBM, data entry, analysis & administrative assistant training
- Green Globe CBO, volunteer
- Naivasha Girls School, math & science tutor
- Arap Moi Primary School, computer instructor



#### Ivy Songok Chebichii

Bachelors in Journalism

Multimedia University

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Kectil Youth Community, fellow
- MASK Creativity, ambassador
- Taifa Teule Leadership Experience, fellow
- Mosoriot Sub-county Hospital, volunteer
- i-change Foundation, founder



**Bachelors in Education** 

Maseno University

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Maseno University, teaching & mentoring attachment
- Ilusya Primary School, teaching volunteer

#### Joseph Wainaina Waringa

Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences

Kenya Medical Training College

High School: St. Mary's Boys School

**Experience & Training:** 

 Kenyatta National Hospital, medical and laboratory technologist attachments



#### **Julius Nyondo Nyawa**

Bachelors in Public Management and Development

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

High School: Makueni Boys High School

**Experience & Training:** 

· Mentors Without Borders, web development training course



#### Lydia Wambui Waweru

Bachelors in Theater Arts and Film Technology

Kenyatta University

High School: Naivasha Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- K.U FM 99.9, radio host internship
- K.U TV Station, television presenter internship
- PZ Cussons, sales representative
- Yusudi Sales Academy, certificate



## **Presenting the Class of 2023**

## Congratulations to these newly minted young professionals!

#### Margaret Wachera Mukundi

**Bachelors in Mass Communication** 

Africa Nazarene University

High School: Naivasha Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Faulu Microfinance Bank, PR intern
- Mentors Without Borders, customer support training course
- Yusudi Sales Academy, certificate
- EFAC, trained mentor & volunteer

#### Marko Ewoi

**Bachelors in Computer Science** Catholic University of Eastern Africa

High School: Makueni Boys High School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Technical University of Kenya, IT internship
- CISCO, network certification
- Mentors Without Borders, web development training course
- Stand Up, Shout Out, volunteer



**Bachelors in Community** Development and Environmental Science

Jomo Kenvatta University of Agriculture and Technology

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- ICEA Lion Group, insurance sales agent
- World Vision Kenya, attachment
- Kenya Model UN, member
- Dandelion Africa, volunteer

#### **Priscah Mmbone**

Bachelors in Health Records and Information Management

Kenyatta University

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Hamisi Sub-County Hospital, volunteer
- Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital, internship
- National Integrated Identity Management Systems, assistant
- Project Girls4Girls, mentor program
- EFAC, trained mentor & volunteer



## **Regina Cheptoo**

**Bachelors in Clinical Medicine** and Community Health

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

High School: Starehe Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Kitale Referral Hospital, attachment
- Maragua Sub-County Hospital, attachment
- Thika Level 5 Hospital, TBI awareness training
- Global Grassroots Uganda, Young Women's Academy for Conscious Change, training and grant recipient
- Mentors Without Borders, Project Management course
- Chapati Sunday Charity Group, volunteer
- Kapenguria Referral Hospital, volunteer
- Murkwijit Dispensary, volunteer

#### Stacy Murugi Karimi

**Bachelors in Medical Laboratory** Science

Kenyatta University

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral & Research Hospital, internship
- Mbagathi Hospital, internship
- Kitengela Sub-County Hospital, internship
- Ongata Rongai Sub-County Hospital, internship
- Global Health Network, clinical and laboratory certifications

#### Teresa Mukite Matili

**Bachelors** in Physiotherapy

Agriculture and Technology

High School: Vanessa Grant Girls School

**Experience & Training:** 

- AIC Litein Mission Hospital, attachment
- Kenya Kabaddi Union, sports physio internship
- FASU, sports physio internship
- JKUAT American Football Club, sports physio internship
- World Physiotherapy Women in Leadership, training
- World Rugby First Aid, training











## **Reflections From Graduates**

## From Samburu's Plains to Silicon Dreams: My EFAC Odyssey

Picture this: a young boy, me, Marko Ewoi, born and raised in the vast, sun-soaked plains of Samburu, Kenya. Education wasn't a distant dream; it was a mirage shimmering on the horizon. But then, like a bolt from the blue, came EFAC - the Education for All Children program.

EFAC wasn't just a scholarship; it was a lifeline, a dream factory, and my golden ticket. It was the light at the end of my dusty tunnel, a prayer answered, and a bridge straight to my destiny.

With EFAC's support, I embarked on a journey through the world of computer science. It wasn't easy, but it was exhilarating. I emerged from the cocoon of poverty and ignorance, spreading my wings like a tech-savvy butterfly.

As I stand on the precipice of graduation, the future beckons with a sly grin. My expectations? Well, they're as high as the Kilimanjaro. Armed with knowledge and determination, I'm ready to conquer the world of work. I carry with me the hope of a million stars and the belief that my dreams are within reach.

EFAC, you didn't just change my life; you turned my plains into Silicon Valley dreams. I'm not just graduating; I'm launching into a future of boundless possibilities. I'm ready, world - bring it on!

#### **BY MARKO EWOI**









## Ready for the Future

The EFAC scholarship has not only provided financial assistance but has empowered me with essential skills and experiences needed in the professional world. The opportunities to participate in Workshops, mentorship programs and networking events have shaped me into a well-rounded individual ready to take on any challenge.





EFAC's focus on community engagement has instilled in me a deep sense of empathy and social responsibility. Through community service, I have had the privilege of making a positive impact on those in need and have developed a true understanding of the importance of giving back to society. The sense of social responsibility is something that I will carry with me throughout my career, ensuring that I always strive to make a difference in the lives of others.

As I transition to the job market, I am confident in my abilities and skills to succeed beyond the academic realm. Being aware of the dynamic and competitive nature of today's job market, I believe that with the support and guidance from EFAC, I am well prepared to excel and make a meaningful impact.

## **Reflections From Graduates**

## Empowered by EFAC: A Journey of Education and Leadership

BY IVY CHEBICHII

Eight years ago, my high school journey began with a spark of hope, courtesy of EFAC, an organization that would shape my life in unimaginable ways. As I stand on the cusp of graduating from this remarkable program, I can't help but reflect on the incredible journey that has led me here.

EFAC didn't just support my education; it nurtured my dreams and aspirations. Their unwavering commitment to the vision of "educate, elevate, and employ" has been the driving force behind my journey. They organized workshops that honed my personal development and leadership skills, instilling in me the importance of confidence and integrity.

I vividly remember the day my sponsors, Carter and Josh Siegel, handed me a Benjamin Franklin-inspired journal. It was more than just a gift; it was a symbol of their belief in my potential and their dedication to ensuring I excelled academically. Their support was a constant reminder that I was not alone in my pursuit of higher education.

As I prepare to step into the next phase of my academic journey, I am profoundly grateful for the opportunities EFAC has provided. Their support inspired me to give back to the society. I've founded "i-change," a foundation focused on mentoring young children, tree planting, and community development.

I am immensely proud to be a part of the EFAC family, and I carry their mission in my heart as I embark on this new chapter. With the lessons learned and the values instilled, I am ready to make a difference in the world, one step at a time. My journey continues, and with EFAC's guiding light, I'm confident it will be a remarkable one.







#### BY JOSEPH WARINGA

## Raised for Impact

I always had a passion for medicine since I was a young kid, I always knew that medicine was my calling and my way of

giving back to the people who gave me support and a platform to better myself. All this has been made possible by EFAC which took my dreams and made them a possibility, a real one at it; I am a true testimony that education unlocks endless possibilities. As a Medical Laboratory Technologist, I look forward to saving lives through accurate diagnosis for a better and healthier community.

The training and mentorship programs that I have attended at EFAC over the years were vital to my professional acumen, they helped me develop a sense of leadership and develop relationships that will help me learn new things, build networks and grow as a professional. Since I started attending the training and mentorship programs, I have felt enabled and personally aimed to participate in socially engaged topics such as mental health and other common communal issues that remain at the core of my work as an individual.

I have nothing but gratitude to EFAC for turning my life around, and the lives of the people around me, because I definitely will impact them positively.







## **Reflections From Graduates**

## My Journey of a Thousand Miles

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step and am glad my courage to take that step has yielded such an amazing product. I would say it has been a journey of learning, re-learning and unlearning full of great memories and setbacks. Am proud of myself for not letting the setbacks be a hindrance to the achievement of my goals.

I would like to thank the EFAC family for being in my academic journey to ensure that my dreams and goals of impacting people's lives have been achieved. Seeing that bright future in a girl who didn't know how the trajectory of her life would be and providing the light so that she could start her journey still amazes me. It has been a journey of guidance, love and support to ensure that my dreams were achieved.

Through the various workshops and trainings, I build the capacity to express myself better, set SMART goals, know how to manage my finances and am well equipped with what is required of me even as I transition to the job market. I have grown to be a confident person who knows what she wants and is well-equipped to go for it no matter the obstacles on the way.

In my clinical experiences as a nursing student, I honed my nursing skills and am confident that I have the required knowledge and skills to help me scale up in my nursing career in the job market. With my passion for health research, I aspire to do more research in my career. I would also like to explore the technological trends in the healthcare field as I grow in my nursing career. I look forward to creating a better society through my knowledge and skills.

Thank you EFAC for helping a destiny.

**BY CAROL WAENI** 







### The EFACTOR: Our Outcomes

of EFAC Scholars transition to postsecondary school

68% of EFAC Alumni pay school fees for family members

100%

of EFAC Scholars participate in community service

34% of EFAC Alumni received funding for career-specific training Scholars &
Alumni
participated in
formal
entrepreneurial
venture
planning in the
past year

Alumni
rticipated in
formal
repreneurial
venture
nning in the

5,000 Family Members Impacted

**728** 

**EFAC Scholars** 

Currently in School

based on national family size average

70% of EFAC Alumni are employed, interning or continuing education within a year of graduation

## **Building the Ecosystem: Partnership & Community Service**

## The Transformative Power of Community Service NABU and EFAC Join Forces

BY BERYL OYWER, NABU COUNTRY MANAGER

Community service has the incredible ability to create positive change and empower individuals to make a lasting impact on their communities. In a remarkable collaboration between two organizations, NABU and Education for All Children (EFAC), the true power of community service was demonstrated through the NABU - EFAC Literacy Champions initiative. This initiative saw EFAC scholars returning to their former primary schools, armed with the NABU App, to conduct reading sessions and establish book reading clubs. The results of their efforts showcased the transformative potential of community service.

The NABU - EFAC Literacy Champions embarked on a mission to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment for schools within their communities, uncovering a startling reality - a significant number of primary schools lacked libraries. Undeterred, these champions, driven by determination and purpose, formed 15 groups and reached out to 72 schools, many of which they had attended. The outcome was nothing short of transformative - they established 30 school-based reading clubs, breathing life into spaces where young imaginations could flourish.

One of the cornerstones of their approach was the utilization of the NABU App, a revolutionary tool that captured the hearts of young readers. Stocked with enchanting tales, the app became an instant hit. Its availability for offline reading transcended language barriers with its rich variety of Kiswahili and English stories. The highlight of each week was the eagerly anticipated two-hour reading sessions held every Friday, creating an atmosphere of excitement and enthusiasm for learning.

This case study beautifully illustrates the power of community service and volunteering. The NABU - EFAC Literacy Champions' initiative not only addressed a critical educational need in their communities but also demonstrated the impact of individuals coming together for a common cause. These scholars, by returning to their former schools and dedicating their time to improving the educational opportunities of young learners, showcased the ripple effect of community service.

Harambee, which means "pulling together" in Swahili, is a fundamental cultural value in Kenya. It emphasizes the idea that when people unite and collaborate, they can achieve great things. The NABU-EFAC Literacy Champions' initiative embodies this philosophy, as scholars from various regions of Kenya joined forces to uplift their communities by impacting literacy. Their efforts showcased how the spirit of Harambee can be a driving force.

The NABU - EFAC Literacy Champions initiative serves as a shining example of how community service can transform lives, bridge gaps, foster a love for learning, and create a brighter future for the next generation. It underscores the idea that community service is not just a noble endeavour; it is a powerful force that can drive meaningful change and leave a lasting legacy in our communities.



Our partnership with EFAC has been a huge success, and transformative for the 75 students we are sponsoring in both secondary school and university. These students are all graduates of our partner primary schools, and would never have been able to afford secondary or university fees without the EFAC program. The workshops, coaching and mentoring make this so much more than just a scholarship program. And we especially value the emphasis on community service and "giving back". These young people become change agents in their very poor communities."

- CRAIG HAMMON, BOARD CHAIR KIJABE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

## Thanks To Our Partners!



EFAC Scholars volunteering as NABU Literacy Champions in primary schools.

Achungo Children's Centre Africa Nazarene University Alliance High School Ashoka Bank of Africa Bridge Kenya **Butere Girls High School** Chavakali Boys High School Crow Erastus & Co. **Dandelion Africa** Flying Kites Friends School Kamusinga **Global Grassroots HALI Network** Kanga School KenSAP Kenya High School

Kijabe Children's Education Fund Loreto High School, Limuru Lwala Community Alliance Mangu High School **Mentors Without Borders** Moringa School Nairobi Garage Community

Naivasha Girls High School Nakuru Girls High School One Acre Fund **Open Capital Advisors** Penda Health **Project Girls4Girls** Resurge Children East Africa Rongai Boys School SafariCom Shining Hope for Communities/SHOFCO **SOMO** St. Mary's Secondary School Starehe Boys School Starehe Girls School The Leo Project

**Thorn Tree UNHCR Upper Hill School** Vanessa Grant Girls School

Wavumbuzi Windle International Kenya Women's Empowerment Link

Yusudi Zeraki Learning

#### Khadija's Story - Little Things that Matter -

Sometimes our lives are determined by the little decisions that we make in life. Those things that we choose to do or not to do can determine the course of our lives forever. They seem minor but they are very significant. The truth is, for every great thing that happens in our lives we can narrow it down to very tiny details that we choose to overlook because we think they are too little to be significant. These big things often appear to be influential and important. However, life is about the little things that matter.



As a leader and a mentor, giving back to the community and becoming a change-maker are two things that I really admire. The zeal to become a role model to many is what drives me. Moreover, giving and gratitude are things that are deeply personal to me. And something that I've learnt over the years is that the little things matter so much.

I recall starting my first girls' talk program back in 2022, a year that seemed to be a turning point for me. I started the program with the aim of having talks with young ladies and young mothers of Kibera community. This was to enable them realize the potential that they had to become great leaders of the society and women of substance. After meeting and encountering many ladies in the streets of Kibera suffering from early pregnancies, drug and substance abuse and even engaging in heinous acts to get staff like sanitary towels, I decided and start the initiative. With the help of my mentors and stakeholders from the Efac community, I was able to hold my first program.

Even with the fact that only 30 ladies from the community showed up, I really felt satisfied. The smiles on their faces showed a great ray of hope. The ladies felt free to talk and discuss their issues and after the first program, I was sure that I made leaders and women of substance. From that day onwards, the program has been running successfully and has now grown to a platform where ladies have a safe space. The ideas of the ladies brought about change in the program for currently, we engage in income-generating activities such as crocheting, embroidery, soap making and digital literacy.

The fact that I am not getting anything in return, does not mean that I will stop change from happening. I love my society, my community is my home and I'll do anything possible for it to be a better place. With the current position that I'm in, it is the little things that matter the most. Seeing these ladies showing gratitude and growing makes me feel satisfied and fulfilled.

If I reflect on my own life, I have to be honest, it's the little things that matter. I now work with various organizations and CBOs in the community and have been blessed to play a role in mentoring and guiding people. All this is because I want to change lives. Truly, a lot might seem little but together they mean everything.

## **Building the Ecosystem:**The Entrepreneurial Path

## Catalyzing Innovation through Entrepreneurship Education

Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge resonates deeply with EFAC's overarching theme this year - "Building Ecosystems that Support Youth Employability."

In the quest to accelerate job creation, it is imperative to nurture a critical mass of individuals with the entrepreneurial potential to create high-impact innovations that can disrupt industries, open new markets, and redefine how we live and work. However, this journey towards groundbreaking innovations is often hindered by cultural norms that encourage replication rather than originality.

BY THE WAVUMBUZI TEAM



Contrary to popular belief, innovation is a long-term journey, not race. Successful innovators and problem solvers possess a set of competencies, some acquired and some innate. Entrepreneurship and innovation are inherently linked. Entrepreneurs are distinguished by their innovative thinking, creativity, and zeal to identify market opportunities and solve problems while creating value. They embody qualities such as leadership, resilience, adaptability, and unconventional thinking, all crucial for surmounting obstacles and turning visions into reality.

One avenue to cultivate a culture of high-impact entrepreneurship is through entrepreneurship education, exemplified by programs like the Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge. Wavumbuzi plays a pivotal role in enrolling high school learners into the complex world of entrepreneurship and innovation, not only by introducing them to entrepreneurial competencies but also by building their entrepreneurial aspirations, hence increasing the pool of entrepreneurial potential needed to catalyze high-impact entrepreneurship in Africa.

The Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge is a six-week online gamified program designed to ignite entrepreneurial aspirations among high school learners. This program, backed by the Allan & Gill Gray Philanthropies (AGGP), addresses the pressing issue of youth unemployment by harnessing the power of market-creating innovations to create meaningful employment opportunities. AGGP recognizes high-impact entrepreneurship as a critical driver for job creation and poverty alleviation in Africa, underpinning its mission to cultivate responsible entrepreneurs for the greater good.

By engaging secondary/high school learners, Wavumbuzi lays the foundation for future generations to be proactive problem solvers and social value creators. It equips them with essential critical thinking, creativity, digital literacy, and collaboration competencies. Through micro-challenges, participants are exposed to real-world scenarios in various industries, nurturing their entrepreneurial aspirations and introducing them to innovations across Kenya and Africa at large.

In Kenya, the Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge has seen significant reach, from the inaugural KE-1 cohort in 2019, engaging 1,851 learners, 250 teachers, and 150 schools with 12,623 submissions, to KE-2 in 2020 reaching 3,322 learners, 400 teachers, and 250 schools, generating an impressive 34,512 requests, and KE-3 in 2021 achieving new heights with 3,553 learners, 664 teachers, 254 schools, and 113,280 submissions. In 2023, the program continued to expand exponentially, involving 20,388 learners, 1,879 teachers, 973 schools, and an extraordinary 531,457 submissions. Beyond Kenya, the Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge has also made substantial contributions in Rwanda, with prospects to expand to other countries in Africa.

In conclusion, innovation and entrepreneurship are intertwined, offering a dynamic avenue to combat youth unemployment and drive socioeconomic change. Initiatives like the Wavumbuzi Entrepreneurship Challenge are pivotal in shaping the entrepreneurial landscape by fostering innovative thinking and empowering the youth with the entrepreneurial skills and aspirations needed to thrive in an ever-evolving world of work and life. These endeavors align perfectly with our vision of empowered, prosperous African citizens who contribute to ethical societies with dignity and hope.

## **EFAC Alumni Notes**

**Updates from EFAC Alumni Community & LinkedIn** 

#### **CLASS OF 2018**

Nancy Chege earned a Chevening Award, providing a full scholarship to University of Glasgow in Scotland. She is pursuing a Masters degree in Global Health.





#### **CLASS OF 2021**

Lucy Opany is currently Mentorship & Training Liaison at EFAC. To continue challenging herself, she recently completed a public speaking course. She says "This class has been a game-changer and has impacted the way I communicate and express my ideas."

#### **CLASS OF 2022**

Ann Waringa started her internship as a Finance Officer immediately after graduation and continues to volunteer at Women's Empowerment Link. She completed the EFAC Peer Mentor training and was recently elected as the secretary of the EFAC Alumni Association. She also received her entrepreneurship certification with SOMO Africa and looks forward to starting a food venture with a goal of solving issues of food contamination and unemployment.

#### **CLASS OF 2019**

**Delva Mugo** recently led a new partnership initiative in her role as Career Development Program Officer at EFAC with NABU, supporting scholars in a community service project as Literacy Champions in their former primary schools.



Leonard Kimutai launched a new program in his role as Youth Project Officer at Dandelion Africa to train high school students at Vanessa Grant Girls School to mentor primary school students in local underserved communities.









## **EFAC Governance & Staff**

Board of Trustees, Kenya Prof. Leah Marangu

Chair Emeritus & Co-Founder Vice Chancellor, African Nazarene University (ret.)

**Alan Davidson** 

Executive Director, KenSAP

**Beth Wokabi** 

Chair
Director of Teaching &
Learning, Africa
Nazarene University

**George Hapisu** 

Partner, Deloitte Kenya

**John Opiyo** 

Treasurer
Chief Financial Officer,
Africa Nazarene University

**Shadrack Kirunga** 

Dean of Students, Multimedia University **Peter Burger** 

President, Orr & Reno Law Firm

**Nancy Van Sciver** 

Co-Founder
Principal, Phoenix
Realty Group

Board of Directors, U.S.

Jay Dinkel

Chair Senior Vice President, Enterprise Bank

**Rod Van Sciver** 

Co-Founder Principal, Timbertech Co. (ret.)

Mona Kyle

Attorney, James P. Carr Law Offices

**Nancy Pound** 

Philanthropist

Magdaline Caradimitropoulo

Treasurer Independent Nutrition & Health Counselor

**Alice Bentley** 

Owner & Director, Yoga Life NH

**Timothy Lesko** 

Managing Director, Mariner Wealth Advisors

**Prof. Robert Gateru** 

Vice Chancellor, Riara

Isaac Nyangolo

Co-Founder & CEO.

University

7eraki

Sam Weru

ICT Director.

**AMREF Africa** 

**Carter Siegel** 

Executive Director, Access Yoga **Karin Barndollar** 

Secretary Founder, Seatrade International

**Janet Crowder** 

Principal Partner, 256 Investment Associates

**Cynthia Masai** QC Scientist, Pfizer

George Trumbull CEO, AMC Ltd. (ret.)

**Brittany Urick** 

Senior Manager, Bain & Company

**Nina Henning** 

CEO, Henning Advisors, LTD

Irene Obonyo

Talent Acquisition Partner, Africa and EGM, General Electric Nancy Van Sciver

Co-Founder Principal, Phoenix Realty Group

**Josephine Deupree** 

Broker, Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, New England Properties

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