

Gatoto Community Primary School



GIDP - YEAR 2016 REPORT



We Strive to Shine



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The year 2016 was a largely successful one. During the year, 97 candidates were registered to do the Kenya Certificate of Primary Examinations (K.C.P.E), the end of primary school course for the whole country. From the 97 pupils that did K.C.P.E in 2016, Gatoto School had a mean score of 242 marks compared to Nairobi County which had a mean score of 265, and 245.2 nationally. Girls fared better than boys registering a score 16 points better overall at 249 mean mark. The alumni who sat the secondary school certificate examinations did quite well with 16 qualifying to join university later this year, 2017.

During the year we completed a new strategic plan. The Plan focuses on 5 key areas namely improving academic outcomes, infrastructure, fundraising and sustainability. Other areas are improving governance and communications. The Board takes a more active role in donor solicitation.

Stichting Dioraphte's donation of € 50,000 was marked for Staff Costs - € 18,000 – Community support - € 1,000 – and Firewood - € 1,000 – for 2016. The balance will go towards payment of five teachers' salaries - € 10,000, Post Primary Scholarships for 20 alumni of Gatoto - € 15,000 – and Family support - € 5,000 – for the year 2017. The donation was vital to not only bridging our budget shortfall for the year but to also leveraging significantly our funding requests to other donors going forwards.

In 2016 we had the privilege to host Mr. Peter Edwards, a Board member of the American Friends of Gatoto (AFOG). AFOG is now among our major donors and we see our future sustainability in the medium to long term as closely linked to her. Another key event was the visit to Ireland and the UK by the Director. During her trip she had a fruitful meeting with Mr. Denis O'Brien and other senior staff of the Iris O'Brien Foundation (IOBF). She briefed the IOBF about developments taking place at GIDP with regard to academic progress of the children we serve and steps being taken to broaden our funding base. During this visit Gatoto received/ acquired/obtained a funding commitment of € 80,000 from Denis O'Brien for 2017.

Mr. Edwards visit was followed by a donation of \$45,000 to build a better drainage system in order to mitigate the perennial effects of flooding in the school which has been causing great disruptions during rains. Mr. Colman Farrell who has supported the school since its foundation also visited the school for a week. Colman met members of staff, the parents' committee and a section of the Board. He addressed issues to do with academic results, governance and fundraising. The week long training for staff and management will see Gatoto adapt to new ways of teaching and improve on her fundraising mode in 2017 and beyond.

A friend of the school, Mr. Ivan Druckier organised a highly successful crowd funding campaign in Brazil raising USD 22,000. We will continue to work closely with Mr. Druckier and his friends on similar initiatives. On behalf of GIDP we appreciate the effort that led to this noble initiative.

While many reasons exist to call the past year largely successful, our priority measurement of success remains pupil centred. To this end we organised a workshop for all the teachers on teaching and classroom management in November. 3 Education officers were in school to conduct the daylong activity. Also to aid in this development is the expansion of our computer lab following a donation of 11 new computers and a year's



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internet connection by SBI Holdings, a construction company based in Nairobi. The occasion was graced by His Exellency Yahel Vilan the Israel ambassador to Kenya. This event established a strong relationship with the Ambassador who later visited the school to donate books to the school.

The co-curricular activities were a huge success. The music and elocution teams won the award for the best primary school overall in Kenya. This achievement is a significant one considering that 160,000 pupils from around the country participated in the annual festival. We congratulate both the children and their trainers for their commendable feat and the positive recognition they continue to bring the school.

Our alumni in university facilitated an outreach to the pupils and donated books to the school. We were also able to give food and cash to 60 needy families during the year enabling children from the targeted families to continue to come to school without disruptions. Besides the food, our weekly therapy meetings with parents from these families went on without a hitch. During the year, 2 new teachers joined our staff. Notably, the two, Esther Oywaya and Godfrey Kweya, are alumni of the school.

The World Food Programme piloted a new food provision model in November involving 3 schools, ours included. This will see a hot meal delivered to the school each day from a central kitchen in the Industrial Area.

Also of special mention is the support from a Nairobi based Trust towards the pay of seven teaching staff members and rising to nine going into 2017. This is a huge success for us from a local fundraising perspective, this is the largest donation we've received from a local donor. Please see the financial section for details on all the organisations and individuals who supported us during the year.

To all our supporters and partners, we wish to convey our sincere gratitude for your continued faith in our project by offering financial, material and technical support as well as encouragement. Special thanks to Stichting Dioraphte. We hope to strengthen our partnership with you beyond 2016.

YEAR 2016 RESULTS

Committed **Delivered** Quality Primary education delivered to over 1,002 1. Access/Quality: Academics Excellence, Enrolment and Retention targeting 1000 students this term. children in primary school and 150 in post-Teachers continue offering booster classes primary institutions. before/after lessons for class 6 to 8 during the The school programme ensures relevance, school week enabling the children to improve their quality and balance. academic scores. Review staff performance and decide on 97 children sat the Kenya Certificate of Primary appropriate measures. Education (K.C.P.E) Examinations with girls Design a suitable mentorship and affirmative outperforming boys by 16 points. action models to support girls in primary and The boys' soccer team once again bring glory to post primary schools. the school winning at the zonal level with one of



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- Put in place a practice to motivate teachers.
- Continuously inspire students and alumni through extra supports to enable them perform well.
- Engage the local community as partners in education.
- Promote environmental consciousness among the student community including personal hygiene and caring for the surroundings.
- the boys going all the way to represent the Metropolitan Region at the National meets.
- Once again the music and elocution teams lived up to their billing winning in several categories and even more importantly winning an award for the best primary school nationally.
- We secured a donation of 11 new computers and a printer from SBI Holdings, an international construction company. The company also paid for a year's internet access.
- Donation of 100 desks from P.G Bison and Shamco industries for class 7 and 8.
- Text books donation from a Nairobi Trust for nursery and pre-unit classes and Karen Country Club donated social studies books for class 1-7.
- 97 students received support to access high school and with 25 getting tertiary education.
- 16 alumni qualified to join university with one of them, Maria Wamaitha, emerging in the top 10% of the candidates nationally.
- 27 new students placed into the post primary support programme.
- 2. **Health and Safety:** Improve infrastructure and grounds.
- Review the school master plan and draw up a budget for the same.
- Address defects to classrooms, fence, level the grounds and improve drainage to mitigate flooding.
- Put up a school signage along Enterprise Road.
- Align all current and future school development of facilities and grounds ensuring safety and support to education.
- The school master plan reviewed and budget of development of new permanent classrooms done.
- A 120 metre long drainage completed to mitigate effects of flooding and attendant health effects.
- A new school hall built.
- The signage was deferred to 2017
- 3. **Communications and Marketing:** Establish GIDP and Gatoto as one brand in the community, Kenya and overseas.
- Maintain communication with stakeholders through reports, correspondence, website and events.
- Promote accomplishments of students and
- GIDP doubles its local and global visibility by mid-2019 through accomplishments and reports.
- Britain's The Guardian Newspaper drawing a wide reach highlighted the Gatoto Story at length¹.
- The alumni were in school for three times during the April, August and Christmas holidays. They engaged in peer mentorship with regard to

¹ The Guardian Newspaper, October 3rd, 2016.



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alumni in local and regional media outlets. academic outcomes and career choices. In August, Develop a 3-year internal/external Marketing a professional guest speaker was invited to give a Plan. motivational talk to the students. University of Nairobi students led by some of our former students visited to speak to our senior pupils on academic outcomes and also donated assorted books and sanitary towels. Additional families receive livelihood training and food rations courtesy of support from Childslife International. With the registration of the American Friends of 4. Financial Sustainability: Achieve longterm financial sustainability by mid-2019. Gatoto in the USA, our partner base has been widened Agree with the Ministry of Education to support substantially. teacher salaries and capitation grants. One of the Board members of AFOG, Mr. Peter Maintain a comprehensive 3-year budget. Edwards visited the school and held a series of Obtain alternative funding sources to avoid meetings with the Board, staff, Parents' committee dependence on any one single donor. and alumni. Set up a reserve fund to insulate GIDP from The Director had a trip to the UK and Ireland where she held fruitful meetings with partners and financial crunches in case of donor withdrawal supporters among them Mr. Denis O'Brien and and/or delays in funds disbursements. senior staff of the Iris O'Brien Foundation. She also attended workshops focused on Social Entrepreneurship while there. The IOBF committed to further support GIDP promising Euro 80,000 for 2017. Mr. Colman Farrell, a long-time supporter of Gatoto had a weeklong engagement with school stakeholders on fundraising, academic results and the school's future. Mr. Ivan Druckier led a successful crowd funding campaign in Brazil. The campaign realised USD 22,000. A new Strategic Plan for 2016 to 2019 completed. **5. Governance Development:** Looking at 2017 In line with the new requirements of the Basic and beyond. Put in place a training and professional Education Act, it was agreed that we form a development plan to support the Board. School Board of Management in 2017. It will support the GIDP Board in its oversight and Develop an effective mentoring process for new fundraising functions. Board members. The Board will champion and assess the We completed a new 2017 Action Plan. Strategic Plan and its implementation Process agreed to expand the Board and bring in a biannually. finance expert.



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Additional Achievements

Academic (Primary)

- We received feeding programme support from WFP and Feed the Children Kenya enabling our pupil attendance rates to stabilise at plus 95%.
- Children from class 7 and 8 went on a study tour to the National Assembly and the Nairobi Museum.
- During the year, 2 of our alumni, came back to join us as teaching staff. We congratulate them and welcome them back to the Gatoto Family.
- The World Food Programme piloted yet a new project involving providing food from an industrial catering facility. Our school was the only one in Kenya to be used for this pilot. We wish to thank the WFP for the honour.
- We held an important workshop for all teachers focusing on classroom teaching and results. 3 education officers facilitated the workshop.
- Breakfast offered to the nursery and pre-school funded by Livia Machancoses
- We received a donation towards the lunch programme for all pre-school children from a Nairobi based trust and cooking oil from Gill Oil Company. The school were treated to a Christmas party by the Nairobi based trust.
- Barbara Steenstrup donated funding for a whole year's breakfast program for nursery and pre-school for 2017.

Academic (Post-Primary)

- Year 2016 candidates for the KCSE Examinations did us proud with 16 qualifying to join university. We congratulate them for their performance and wish them all the best going forwards.
- Monitoring and evaluation of students in post primary schools has been stepped up to ensure that the children get the best they can from their education and those facing challenges assisted to improve.
 Students met in school to discuss their progress and learn from one another.

Management, Fundraising, Planning

- We got support for 7 teachers from a new Kenyan donor (a Nairobi based Trust). The same donor also agreed to fund the feeding programme for pre-school pupils for the year.
- AFOG committed to funding us to the tune of \$100,000 this year.
- During the year we were privileged to host a number of important guests. They included:
 - 1. Rachel Brass and her friend Lauren Traina. Rachel is a key supporter of GIDP through the American Friends of Gatoto.
 - 2. Robert Jenkins of Pro seed Trust. Robert's trust is involved in our post primary sponsorship programme as a donor. He committed to supporting more children joining university.
 - 3. Ms. Patricia Korver-Kicak of ChildsLife International. During her visit she made a donation to rebuild the school hall.
 - 4. The Israeli Ambassador to Kenya.
 - 5. Mr. Peter Edwards of AFOG. He funded the construction of a new drainage project.
 - 6. Ms. Ruth Ogao and two others of the Ministry of Education trained teachers on effective curriculum delivery.



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7. Mr. Colman Farrell trained the staff on planning, monitoring and evaluation. On behalf of the entire Gatoto community we wish to thank all our guests for finding time to visit us and for their invaluable words of advice and encouragement.

Infrastructure Development

- We got support for the upgrade of the school's security from the Embassy of Ireland. The project involved repair of the fence, construction of a security house and a new gate. We are grateful to the embassy for this kind gesture.
- With the support of Childslife International we were able to construct a new hall.
- Notably Mr. Peter Edwards of AFOG gave a donation of \$45,000 that enabled us to construct a drain. This will mitigate the perennial floods that previously disrupted the school work during rains. We thank him for the great support.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- With the support of our partners and well-wishers, we provided nutritional food and medical allowances to 60 vulnerable families from Mukuru. Mr. Charles Kanyi popular known as Jaguar was a key individual supporter providing food to parents.
- We continued to facilitate weekly group therapy meetings for HIV infected parents with guest speakers invited.
- With the support of FEED the Children, we continue to support a group of parents on entrepreneurial and money management skills. The parents meet in the school once a week to discuss their developments and challenges. Each of the members contributes an agreed amount each week that is saved in a pool and can be borrowed at an interest.

GIDP BOARD AND MANAGEMENT TEAM

- The Board made important contributions to the development of our new Strategic Plan.
- The Board played critical roles in enabling us obtain support from the Irish Embassy in Kenya and Childslife International.

CHALLENGES

- By the middle of the year, GIDP had not yet raised the full budget for the year.
- Heavy rains occasioned flooding in the village and the school. The rains also swept away the bridge connecting the school and Mukuru-Kingstone village. Up 40% of our pupils use the bridge daily as it is close and a more secure connection.
- The school was understaffed because some teachers left during the year to join the Teachers Service Commission.

SOLUTIONS

• We put in a request for funding to Stichting Dioraphte to plug the budget deficit.



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- We are pursuing the County Government and its political leadership to see if a new and better bridge can be erected soon.
- Five new teachers joined us. Incidentally two of these teachers' are alumni of the school.

LESSONS LEARNT

- That there is a great need to continuously monitor and evaluate teachers' work with the children to identify gaps and offer support in order to maximise academic outcomes.
- That there is need to build a reserve fund in order to have a fall back kitty in case of funding deficits and/or delays.
- That getting people in Nairobi to volunteer on Boards of NGOs can be a long and difficult process.

GOING FORWARDS BEYOND 2017AND IN LINE WITH OUR STRATEGIC PLAN WE COMMIT TO:

1. TO PROVIDE PRIMARY AND POST PRIMARY EDUCATION TO 1,200 CHILDREN

To provide a quality, holistic, gender balanced education programme:

- Improve our learning resources to ensure high quality education for all the children in the school.
- Continue to monitor students in high school by way of school visits, results monitoring, encourage them and see how to support them further.
- Put in place a rigorous evaluation of teaching and engaging pupils. Further conduct an annual teachers' job satisfaction.
- Coach and mentor all students to encourage them to excel
- Organise regular career guidance sessions to offer advice on best career choices for students to choose from.

2. TO RAISE FUNDS FOR YEARS 2017 TO 2019

- Primary objectives:
 - Engage local businessmen and companies to raise funds needed for the year.
 - Engage international NGOs and Foundations to raise funds for between 2016 and 2021.
 - Agree a strategy to engage the Ministry of Education with a view to, at least, obtain capitation grants and learning resources.
- Continue to research and target the following groups;
 - Kenyan companies
 - International embassies based in Nairobi.
 - Individual supporters (Friends of Gatoto Standing Orders. Sponsor a Child)

Maintain and build relationships with donors



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3. PROVIDE FAMILIES FROM KWA REUBEN AND ITS ENVIRONS WITH A NUTRITION AND HEALTH PROGRAMME

- Continue to offer psycho-social support programme for people affected or infected by HIV and Aids in Mukuru.
- Link beneficiaries to appropriate referral centres/organisations.
- Continue to provide families from Reuben and its environs with a nutrition and health programme.

4. EXPAND PARTNERSHIPS AND NETWORKS

To achieve a sound positioning of Gatoto in Society

- Work to consolidate the gains thus far made in the United States with the support of the American Friends of Gatoto.
- Develop a communications and marketing plan
- Continuously update website and use social media to support relationship management and fundraising
- Marketing and fundraising locally and overseas
- Work proactively with the Government of Kenya to realise its support in the medium term.

Note: A Summary of Income and Expenditure for the Period is filed separately in Ms.Excel.



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In Pictures



Top: Different views of the completed drainage project.

Middle: 1. The choir celebrates with one of the trophies they won at the National Music festivals.

2. The elocution team rehearse before a presentation at the festivals.

3. The trophy haul of the choir and elocution teams from the year's Music Festivals.

Bottom: 1 and 2: Children pose with books donated to the school last year.

3. Pre-school children enjoy their lunch after classes.