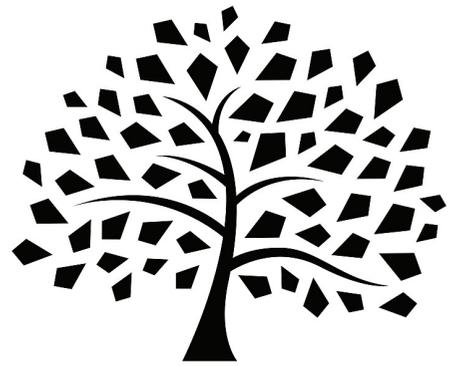


2015



ANNUAL REPORT





flying kites

The year at a glance:

2015 was a big year for Flying Kites in Kenya. Our school was consistently ranked as the top-performing school in the Njabini District, and we doubled the size of our scholarship program to include access to year-round training and support for our secondary school students.

Our first class 8 graduates

In December, we were proud to send our first group of graduates from The Flying Kites Academy into the world! 100 percent of our graduating class went on to continue their studies in Form One at 8 different schools across Kenya.

Doubling the size of our farm

Thanks to the help of generous donors, we were able to purchase an additional three acres of farmland, including a tree nursery, to expand our school campus and increase our ability to grow what we eat.

We made lots of new friends

We are committed to collaborating with other non-profit organizations and this year we were proud to partner with MamaHope, Escondido Sunrise Rotary, and Nairobi East Rotary.

Secondary Scholarships

We partnered with Kenyan and international agencies to secure competitive scholarships for our high-performing secondary school students, including Daraja Academy and Education for all Children.

Meanwhile...

Thanks to the Majewski family, we opened up a computer lab in our school. Our Year 5-8 students launched a Student Council, while others joined the Kenyan National Scouting Association. Classes took field trips to national forests and even spent a weekend on the Kenyan coast. Together, we completed hours of community service and received access to on-going mentoring through our LaunchPad Program.

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Meet Eunice



When I first met Eunice in 2004,

I was struck by her toughness. She was this tiny little thing—probably no more than 4 years old—living in an orphanage on the outskirts of Nairobi with over 200 other kids. I have vivid memories of her sitting in a small plastic chair, eating a bowl of rice and cabbage and teasing a group of bigger boys. I can't describe it; she just had this incredible grit. She was unfeasibly cool.

While it seemed like not much fazed Eunice, she couldn't have known then how badly she'd fared in the infamous birth lottery. With no stable source of education, her older siblings were already on and off the streets. **In some of Nairobi's poorest slums, almost 80 of every 1,000 kids will die before turning five. In sub-Saharan Africa, 11 million students drop out of primary school each year.** As I said, Eunice was a tough kid, but those were some pretty challenging obstacles for someone who is three-feet-high.

While the geography of Eunice's birth was tricky, the timing of it was maybe less so. I started my career in development at a really exciting time—the conversation was shifting dramatically. Gone were the days of charities using images of sad, desolate "orphans" to generate pity and support; donors wanted to talk about outcomes, sustainability and about potential. Finally, this was a framework whereby kids in the poorest parts of the world could thrive, and not simply survive.

At Flying Kites, our mission to provide a transformative education to vulnerable students was shaped by the time our team spent with Eunice and her friends, and by the gifts we recognized in them: resilience, compassion and possibility. Today, at 15, as a student at Flying Kites, Eunice is pulling herself out of poverty, everyday. She's still seriously cool, and on top of that, she's confident and motivated in a way that would give you goosebumps.

Thanks to the support of our donors, teachers and social workers, Eunice receives access to not only a competitive education, but life skills workshops that focus on IT and financial training, reproductive health, and stress management. You just have to look at Eunice to see that she is on the cusp of opportunity. All we did was level the playing field—and it's been really fun to watch, because over the past seven years, Flying Kites has been growing up right beside Eunice. We are on the cusp of opportunity, too.

We have a chance to help more kids like Eunice in a way that fundamentally changes the landscape of poverty.

Girls who receive seven years of schooling marry an average of four years later and have 2.2 fewer children. When 10 percent more girls go to school, a country's GDP increases on average by 3 percent. All of this is to say that when poor kids are given a chance to fight their own way out of poverty, they will. They are, at Flying Kites.

Over the last two years, our primary school has been consistently rated amongst the top-performing schools in the district and our students learn in a holistic, nurturing environment that prioritizes not just academic excellence, but also creativity, critical thinking, and community service.

Looking at our classes, you would never guess that our student body is compromised of some of the country's most urgent cases: orphaned, abandoned, abused, homeless, critically-poor kids who are none of those things when they put on a school uniform. Thank you for helping us provide critical services to inspiring students like Eunice throughout 2015.

Thank you for your partnership,



Leila de Bruyne
Founder and Executive Director

A version of this letter
originally appeared on

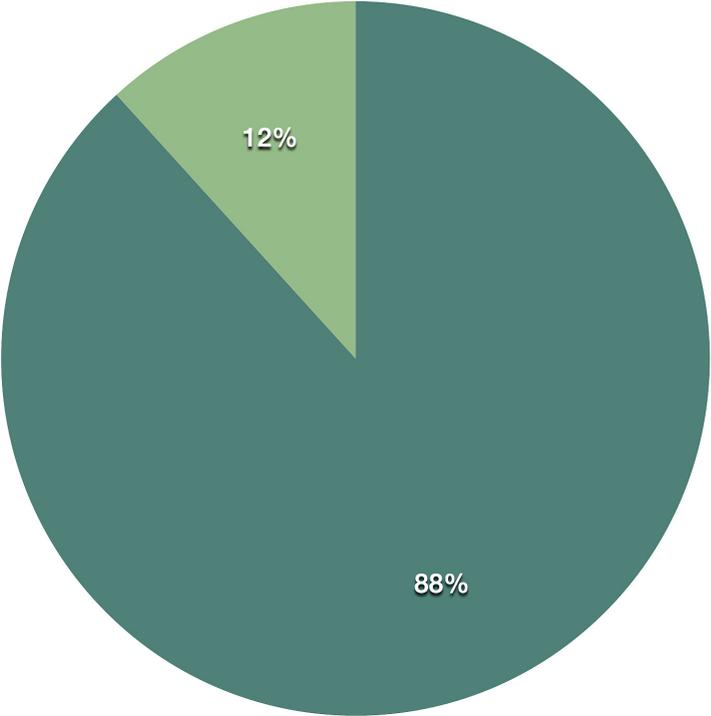


2015 Audited Financials:

Fiscal year ended
December 31, 2015

EXPENSES

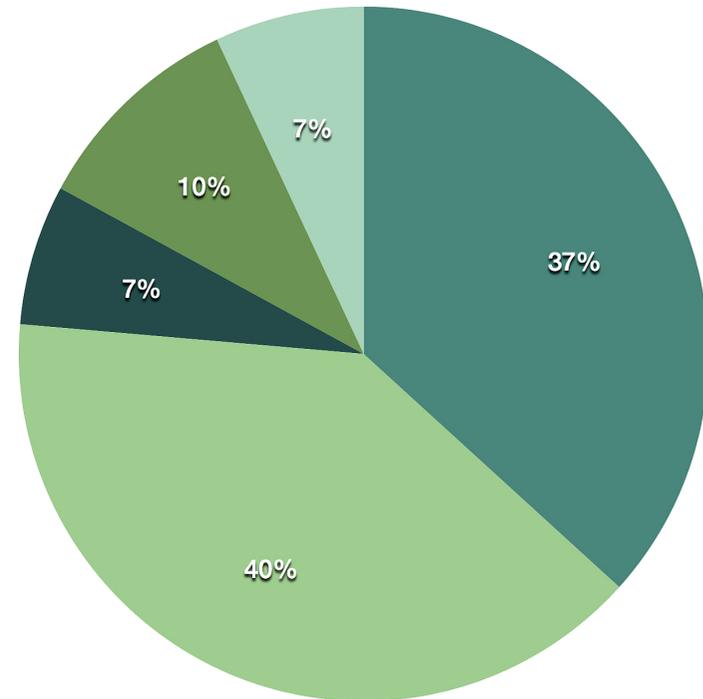
● Programs	\$596,538	88%
● Operations	\$79,678	12%
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	\$676,216	



Flying Kites is committed to financial transparency and accountability. Complete audited financials are available upon request. Thank you for making our work possible.

REVENUE

Individual Contributions	\$249,273	37%
Program Income	\$269,251	40%
Events Income	\$44,445	7%
In-Kind Revenue	\$68,530	7%
Legacy Scholarship Fund	\$47,500	10%
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	\$678,999	





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