Dear Friends,

“And first place goes to The Kilgoris Project,” the emcee of the Nairobi-based Daima Trust Awards gala ceremony announced in March of 2021. Our stunned team could hardly believe their ears. The emcee repeated himself. The third announcement sunk in, and our team leapt to the stage to accept their trophy. TKP was recognized for “Best Collaborative Approach to Community-based Development”.

We couldn’t be prouder of this recognition and the impactful work you make possible. As we look back at 2021, we do so with a huge amount of gratitude.

Our teams continued to tackle pandemic-related challenges with grace and innovation to maintain services for our 1,635 TKP students.

Your big-hearted gifts fueled incredible education, health care, nutrition, and economic development programs in rural Kenya. Your generosity reached a new milestone in 2021—more than $1 million in gifts to The Kilgoris Project—a first in our 18+ year history! Each one of those dollars impacts children in our 12 schools.

Read on in this 2021 Impact Report to see the exceptional returns of your generous investments, your faithful partnership, and your prayers. Think of this as a virtual gala invitation and a chance to swell with pride as we share the trophy with you.

We can’t serve the children and families of Kilgoris without you! Asante sana!

With gratitude.

Caren McNelly McCormack
President and Co-Founder
The Kilgoris Project

David Lemiso
Executive Director
The Kilgoris Project

INNOVATIVE STUDENT NUTRITION PROGRAM

Through a catalytic grant, we launched a new, more sustainable student nutrition program designed to increase the variety and nutritional content of student meals, while also helping us reduce feeding costs as we grow. The multi-faceted new program includes: growing our own maize, beans, vegetables, and fruits; establishing gardens on each campus; storing grains and beans to guard against price swings; and educating parents and community members on child nutrition needs.

We’ve seen the results of our meal program over the year—better student attendance, top-notch test scores, 100% graduation rates, 0% malnutrition. This continued investment will ensure that we can maintain TKP’s meal program for all students.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS TO SUPPORT GROWTH

Despite weather challenges (so much rain!) and material shortages, our team completed two major construction projects in 2021. On our Oloowang campus, new chalets (latrines), with integrated hand-washing stations, brought this site up to our highest sanitation and hygiene standards. This will help ensure the health of the 320 preschool through sixth grade students there.

In November, we opened a new teacher housing compound on the Nentekeny campus. This facility can house up to 20 people (families and single staff members) with plenty of living space, an open communal courtyard, showers, toilets, and clean water access. We’re proud to invest in our staff, and this new home will allow us to attract well-qualified teachers to the area.

PLANNING FOR KENYAN SCHOOL CHANGES

Our teams completed a strategic planning process to prepare for significant educational system changes from the Kenyan Ministry of Education (MoE). Beginning in January 2023, primary schools will end at grade six, instead of grade eight, with students moving to new junior secondary schools for grades seven to nine.

With the support of our board of directors in both the U.S. and Kenya, we’ve decided to continue to focus on our core strength—excellent preschools and primary schools. In 2022, we’ll pilot programs that will offer expanded alumni support as our students leave TKP schools. We are waiting for more information from the government, but are 100% committed to our students and the Kilgoris community—once a TKP student, always a TKP student!
STUDENT EDUCATION & HEALTH PROGRAMS

1635 Student Spaces

95 Kenyan Staff Members, including 60 teachers

686,700 Nutritious student meals served (breakfast and lunch daily)

67 8th grade graduates—100% accepted to high school

230 Students participating in enrichment programs (leadership council, athletics, sports, poetry, cultural dance)

179 Students participating in student health clubs

100% Of TKP primary school graduates accepted to university, college or post-secondary training program

100% of students received...

- Health assessment (well check) by TKP Health Officer
- Deworming medicine to ensure healthy and growing bodies
- Vitamin A supplements to prevent blindness (Age 5 and under)

44 TKP families received supplemental grocery/food kit during school breaks

150 Girls staying in school because of access to free menstruation support

1302 Student sick visits completed

89 Parents and community members serving on TKP school boards

$119,858 Contributed to the community through capital investments on TKP campuses—including local labor and building supplies purchased locally
INVESTING IN STUDENT NUTRITION

Teachers and staff report that students are enjoying the new meal variety, are happier overall, and are more alert in class.

0 Cases of malnutrition amongst students

275 Fruit trees planted (passion fruit, banana, avocado)

22.5 Acres farmed (maize, beans, millet, fruits)

5 campus gardens providing seasonal vegetables (kale, onions, tomatoes, spinach)
PROJECT INCOME

- Donations & Grants: $980,112
- Marketplace*: $68,705
- School Fees: $53,331

TOTAL $1,102,148

PROGRAM EXPENSES

- Education: $343,769
- Health: $204,473
- Nutrition: $113,428
- Administration: $73,550
- Development: $58,373
- Communications: $53,298
- Sustainability: $27,452
- Marketplace*: $20,641

TOTAL $894,984

*Marketplace is TKP's annual pop-up boutique fundraising event. The store sells handmade items from around the world, investing the profits back into TKP’s mission.