



NEW SKILLS FOR SELLING BEYOND THE VILLAGE



"I have learnt how to sew and I can make beautiful dresses for my customers in the village. But I want to learn more about design. I want to sell beyond the village."

- Carol, Elimu sewing graduate 2019.

Elimu's Artisan Maker Space is transforming young women in rural Kenya from just sewing in their villages to becoming players in the fashion and design industry locally and beyond. In October, we launched a new training program for our alumni. They will be gaining new skills and ideas including how to produce garments and crafts from recycled waste materials. The products will open up new markets for them and improve their income generating potential.

ELIMU DOCUMENTARY: PENDO! - THE RAGDOLLS THAT TELL GIRLS' STORIES

At the outset of COVID-19 with the sewing college closed, Elimu came up with the idea to bring our sewing students back to their college for business activities. It started with sewing face masks and evolved into an exciting artisan ragdoll project. The dolls are truly Kenyan but with lots of collaboration from around the world.

Earlier this year, with the help of an Ottawa Algonquin College broadcasting intern, we produced Elimu's first-ever documentary to tell the story. It claimed second place at the Grand International Film & Theatre Festival (Nairobi).

Pendo! the documentary had its first North American screening in November. It is now available on our YouTube Channel. [Click here](#) to watch and learn how these adorable Kenyan ragdolls bring girls' stories to life!

GET YOUR OWN PENDO!

Nancy, Carol and Prisca - each ragdoll represents a real Elimu sewing graduate.

\$100 donation to Elimu gets you a ragdoll and an \$80 tax receipt. Funds go to Elimu sewing project. [Click here](#) to learn more.



Meet the Real Nancy, Carol and Prisca! Yes, they designed and created the dresses they are wearing below!



THE JOY OF MAKING IMPACT

Seeing the impact we have made in the life of a vulnerable child who is now an educated and skilled grown up is one of the greatest joys that the Elimu team is privileged to experience. We often get to visit our Elimu alumni at their colleges, homes and businesses. Many times they come to visit us at Elimu Resource Centre to share their updates. Some return to us as interns or to pursue courses through our Cisco Networking Academy. A few have even been hired to work at Elimu.

None of these stories of hope and achievement would be possible without the kind support we receive from an amazing global community that encircles and boosts our efforts in Kenya. We launched a page on our website so that we can share our joy with you. Some of our alumni stories are presented here below for you.

To read more [click here](#) to go to our Impact Page.



HADIJA
From downtrodden
to standing tall!

Hadija is the first female of her village to complete high school and earn a college diploma.

Now she is working in her home area. She is putting her younger brother through high school.



JANET
From voiceless
to a youth advisor!

As the last of 10 Janet had no hope of education. But Elimu gave her a sewing business and digital skills.

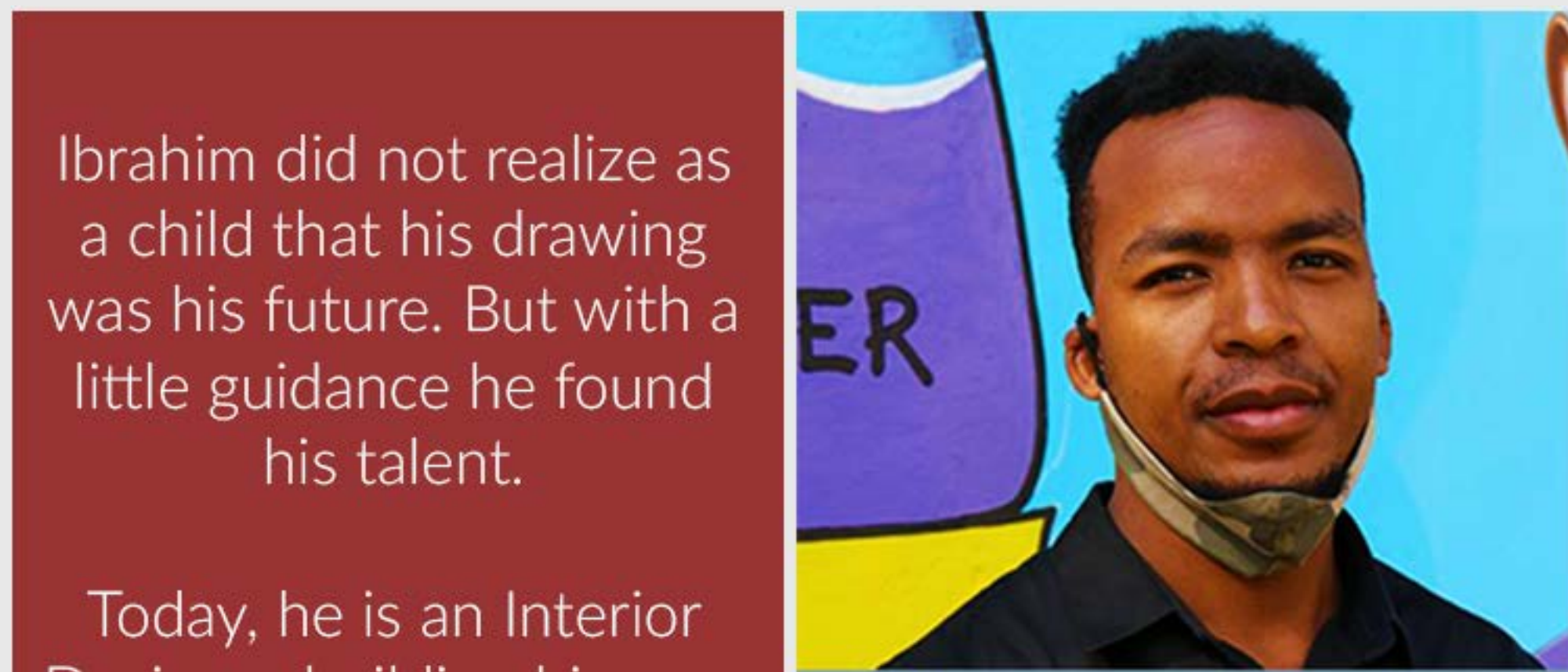
Today she volunteers as a community youth advisor in her village.



DAVID
From uncertainty
to leadership!

David used to be sent home for lack of school fees. So he would jump the fence and sneak into class. Elimu helped him complete high school.

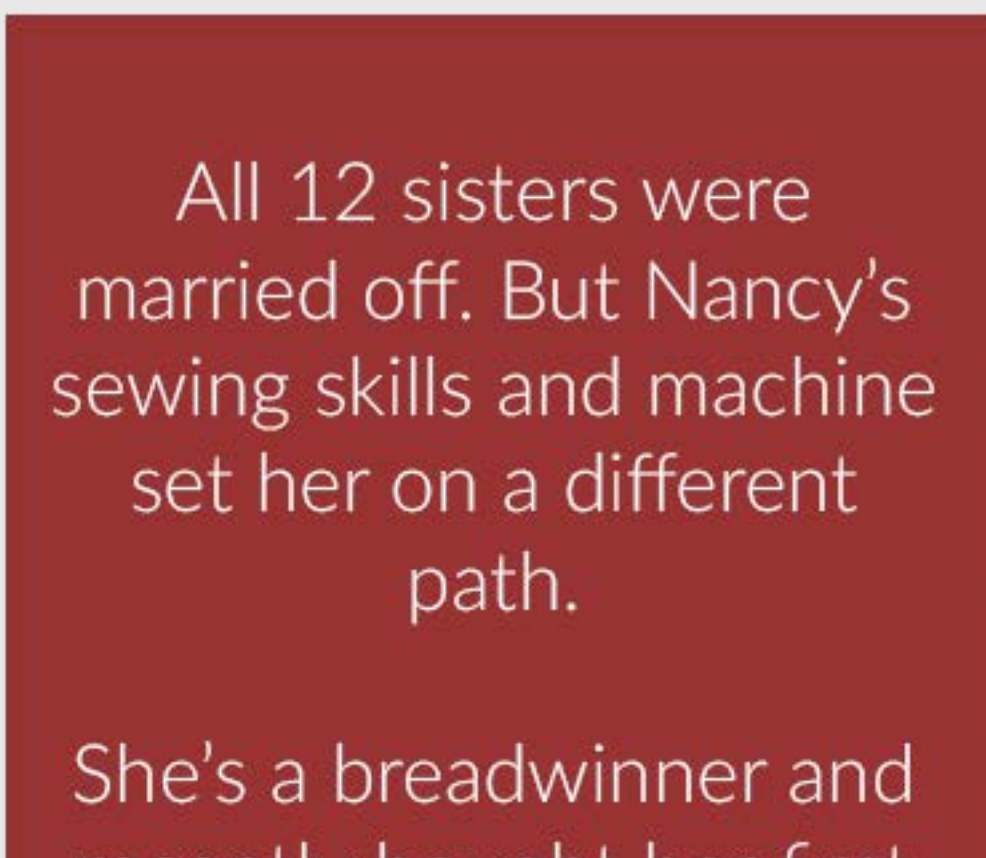
Today he is putting himself through university.



IBRAHIM
From doodler
to Designer

Ibrahim did not realize as a child that his drawing was his future. But with a little guidance he found his talent.

Today, he is an Interior Designer building his own business.



NANCY
Seeing a brighter
future!

All 12 sisters were married off. But Nancy's sewing skills and machine set her on a different path.

She's a breadwinner and recently bought her first pair of eye glasses.



CAROLINE
Opportunity knocked
and she dove in!

The last of 8 Caroline's future was to be early marriage like her sisters.

But Elimu helped her start her own sewing business. She is making a name for herself in her community.



ROSE
From dropout
to empowered educator!

Rose dropped out in Grade 4. By age 18 with two children she was desperate.

With her sewing training from Elimu she is now giving her children the education she never had.



MARGARET
From deadend
to college grad!

Margaret's dream of flying didn't seem possible with no one to pay high school fees.

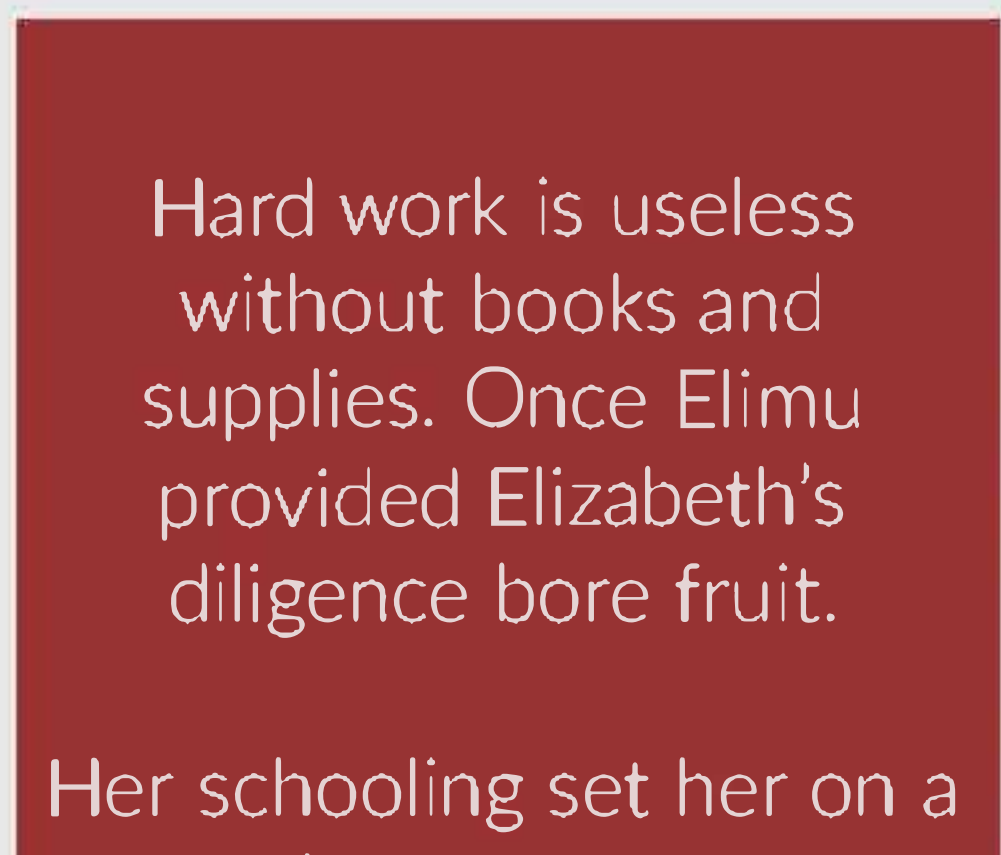
But Elimu did that and she made it to aviation college where she trained as a cabin crew.



JANET
From 'burden'
to provider!

As an Elimu sewing graduate Janet proudly announced "I am no longer a burden to my parents!"

Later her parents passed away and she became the provider for her siblings.



ELIZABETH
With support diligence
bore fruit!

Hard work is useless without books and supplies. Once Elimu provided Elizabeth's diligence bore fruit.

Her schooling set her on a path to a career in hospitality.



PENINA
From dead end
to a new start!

Penina is the only girl in her family to complete primary school, but she couldn't get to high school.

Elimu started her off with her own business and now she helps support her single mum.



JACKSON
Fending for
himself!

When his mum died Jackson had no one to rely on. Elimu got him through high school and helped him apply for his first job after graduation.

Today he provides for himself.



JAMES
A late start to a bright
future!

James started school late because of lack of fees. But once enrolled by Elimu he caught up and excelled.

Today he is in college working his way to a career in journalism!



MARIA
She rose above
the challenges!

Poor health got Maria labelled 'weak' but her true quality is perseverance.

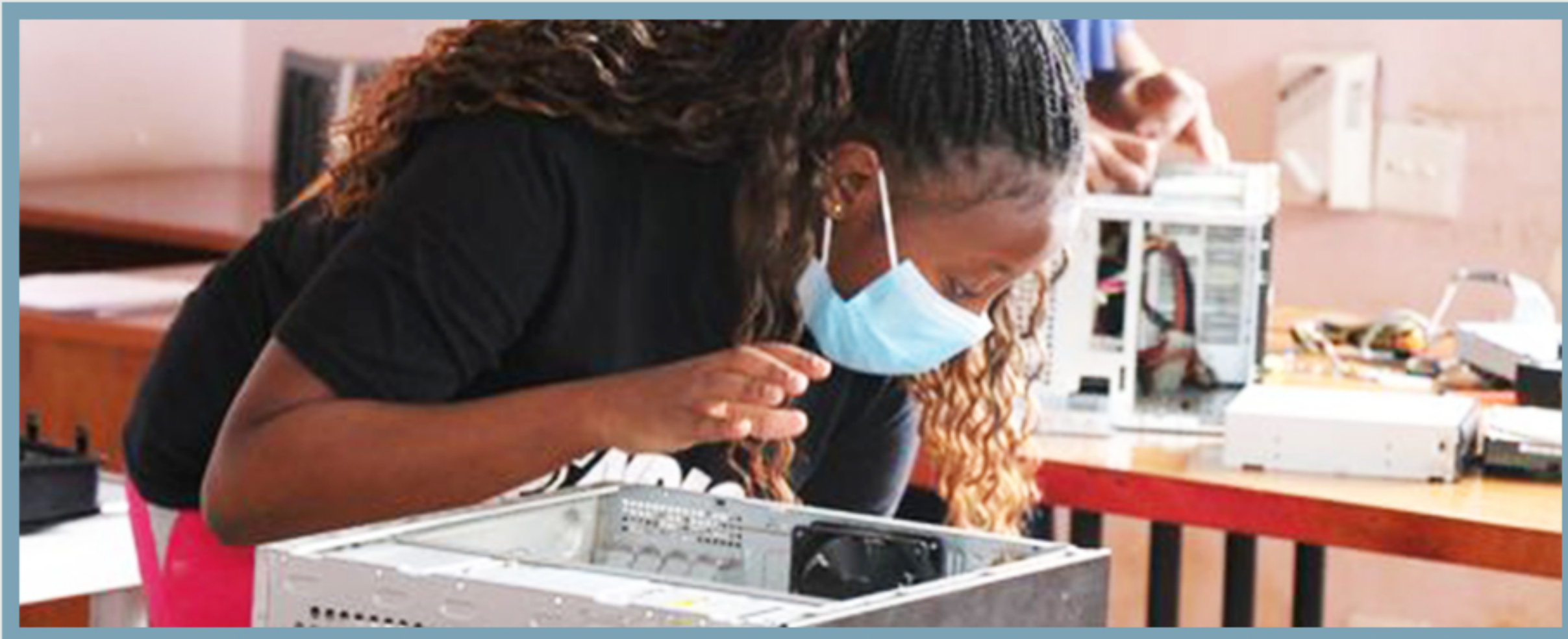
Sewing skills changed her status and made her a provider. She proudly owns livestock.



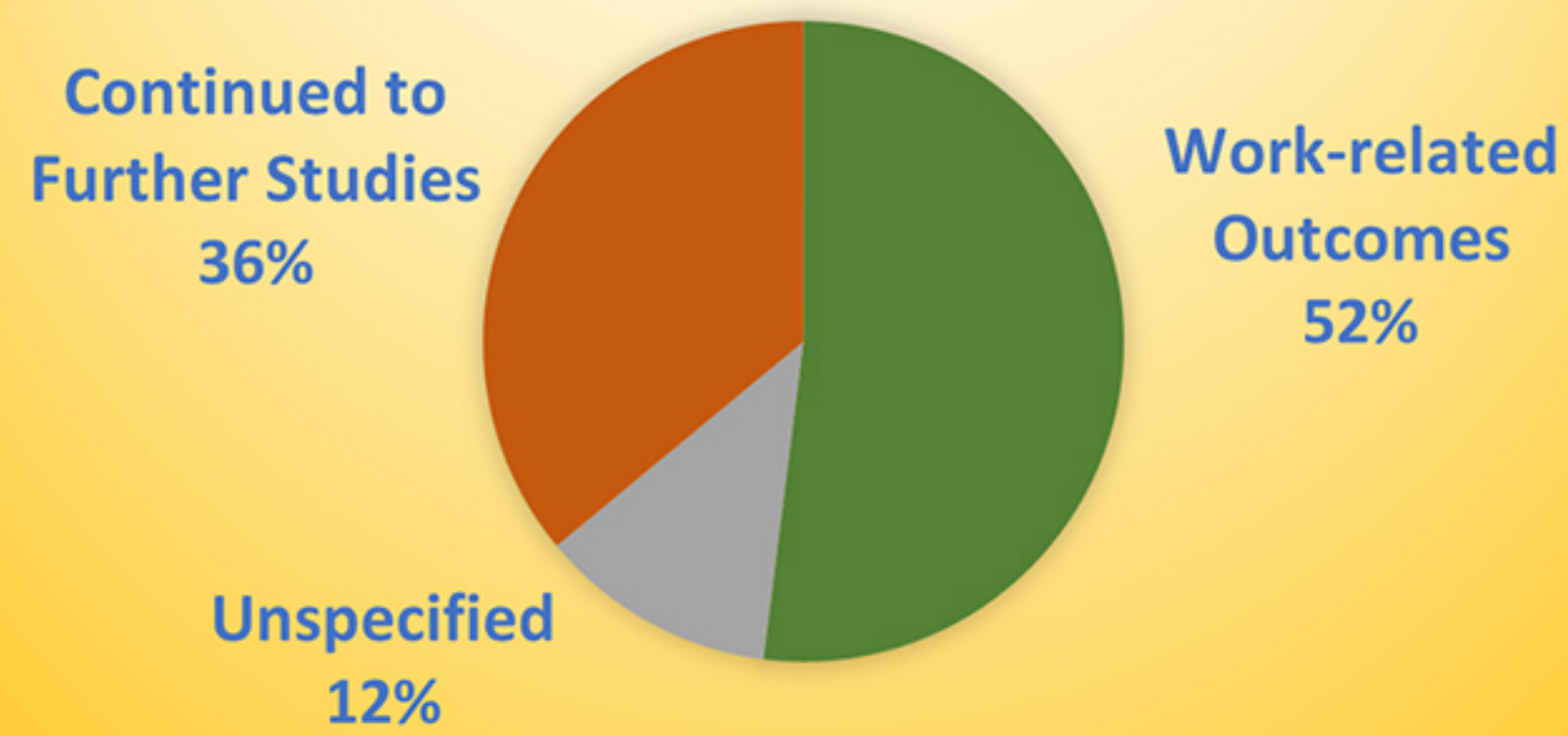
JOSEPH
From out-of-school
to top of class!

Joseph's happiest day was his first day of school! It nearly didn't happen.

Elimu's support and all the school supplies he needed made him top of the class. Now he is at university.



CISCO ALUMNI OUTCOMES



TRANSFERRING DIGITAL SKILLS TO THE COMMUNITY

Elimu's Cisco Networking Academy is housed inside Elimu Resource Centre in Malindi. Established in September 2019, our first graduation event included only 15 graduates. Last year was our first full year of operation as an academy.

Despite the challenges of the global pandemic, we were able to assist 50 youth (15 females / 35 males) with digital skills.

More than half used their internationally recognized certificates to find work or improve their professional skills and one started his own business. Many continued on to further studies in the technology fields.



ELIMU ALUMNI – DEBORA

Meet Debora - when she discovered Elimu Resource Centre in high school, she dove in! She found solutions to so many of her challenges. The conducive youth-friendly study environment made study time fruitful and enjoyable and provided the opportunity to network with fellow students. Our digital educational resources and textbooks gave her what she needed for advancing herself in her studies.

Handling the digital devices gained her valuable 21st century skills and encouraged her to set her sights high! After high school, she returned to pursue a Cisco course. During the pandemic, when her university switched to online learning, she once again found the

solutions she needed at Elimu – a laptop for her personal use and quality internet connection. When Elimu hosted a demonstration of our Offline eLearning Innovation in October 2020, Debora volunteered and used the occasion to network for her future. [Click here](#) to watch as Debora shares in her own words why she encourages students at all stages of life to go to Elimu Resource Centre for solutions to their learning challenges.

KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL MAKES LIFE EASIER FOR SINGLE MUMS



With two children in secondary school, life was not easy for Christine. Her kids were often sent home when she fell behind in paying their school fees. But once Elimu removed the burden of school fees from her, she was able to start a small business and earn some extra cash. Now she can manage rent and food and smaller expenses like transport and pocket money for her children. Her daughter, Maryann used to get poor grades due to being sent home from school so frequently, but now she never gets sent home and

her grades have improved. In fact, she is among the top 10 in her class.

Her children are growing in confidence and seeing brighter futures for themselves. But that is not all! With her children in school and her financial situation stabilized, Christine's self esteem has grown as she can hold her head up high in her neighborhood. She recently joined Elimu's savings and loan group for parents and is learning to save and budget for the future.

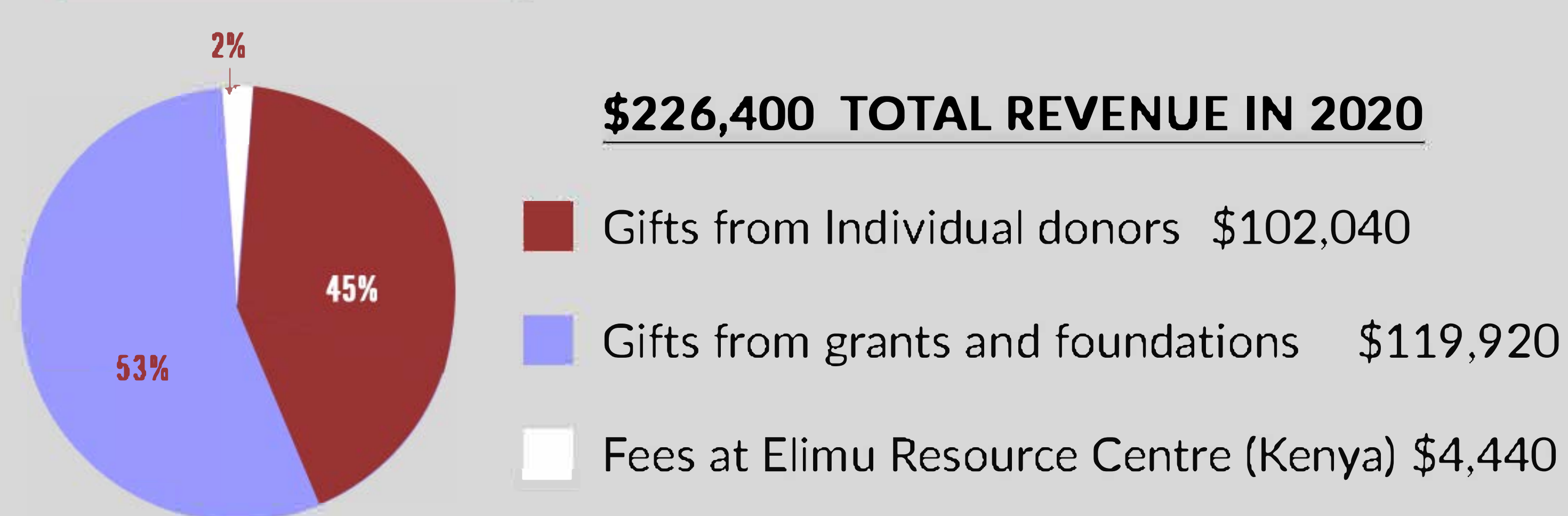
ELIMU FINANCIAL SUMMARY – YEAR END 2020

Despite the challenges experienced in 2020, revenues to Elimu grew slightly. The team in Kenya kept expenses lower as the year proceeded with uncertainty being the only constant. Generous individuals continued to represent a significant proportion of donations to Elimu in 2020. We are extremely grateful to all of our donors who remained with us during this most challenging pandemic period. We received additional foundation grants in 2020 which helped us to quickly respond to the special needs experienced by our children and their families. We are especially grateful to all of those who allowed us to transfer funds from one area, such as school fees which were not used in 2020, towards other activities such as emergency food assistance and the development of our Offline eLearning Innovation.

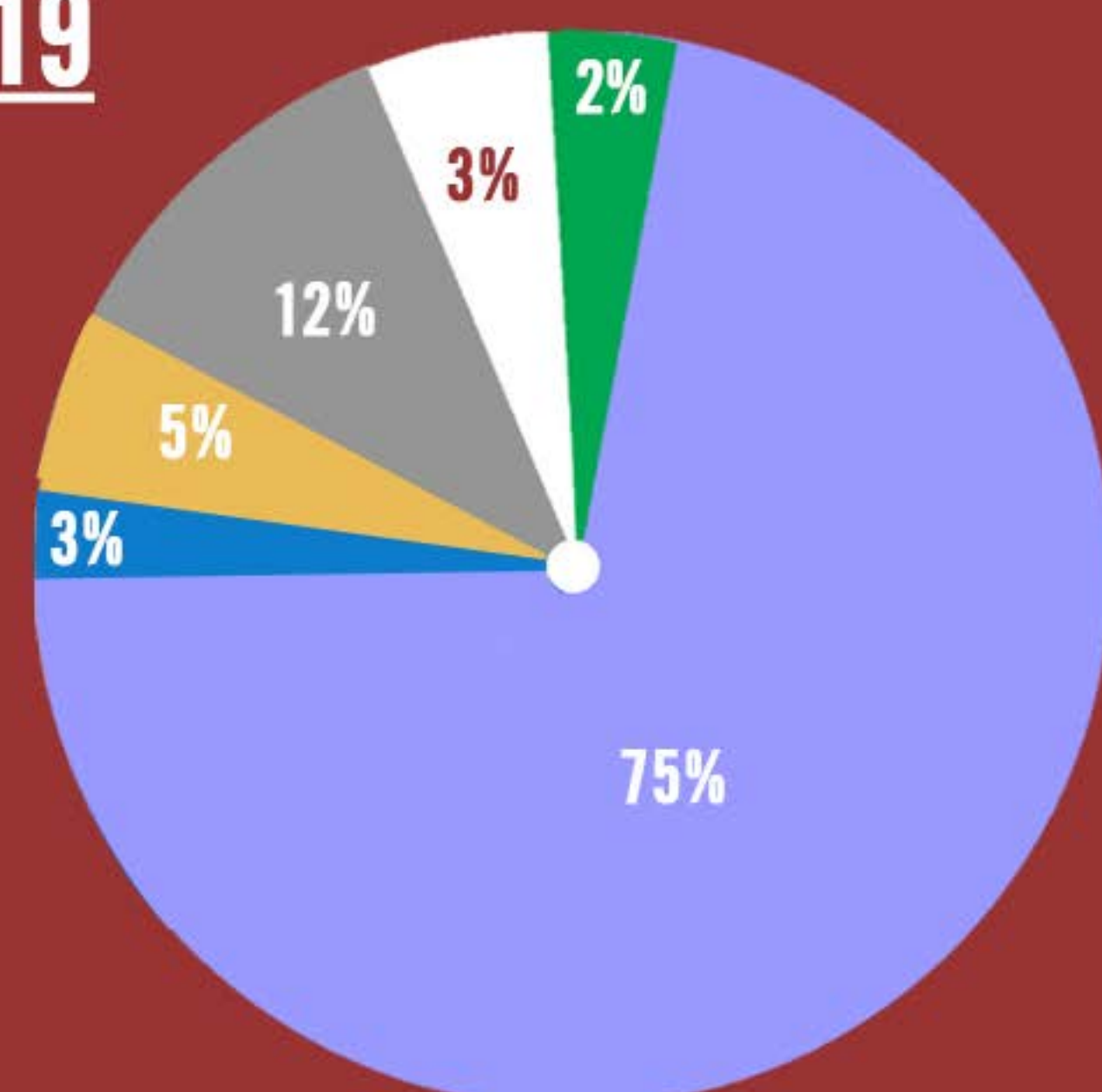
REVENUES 2019



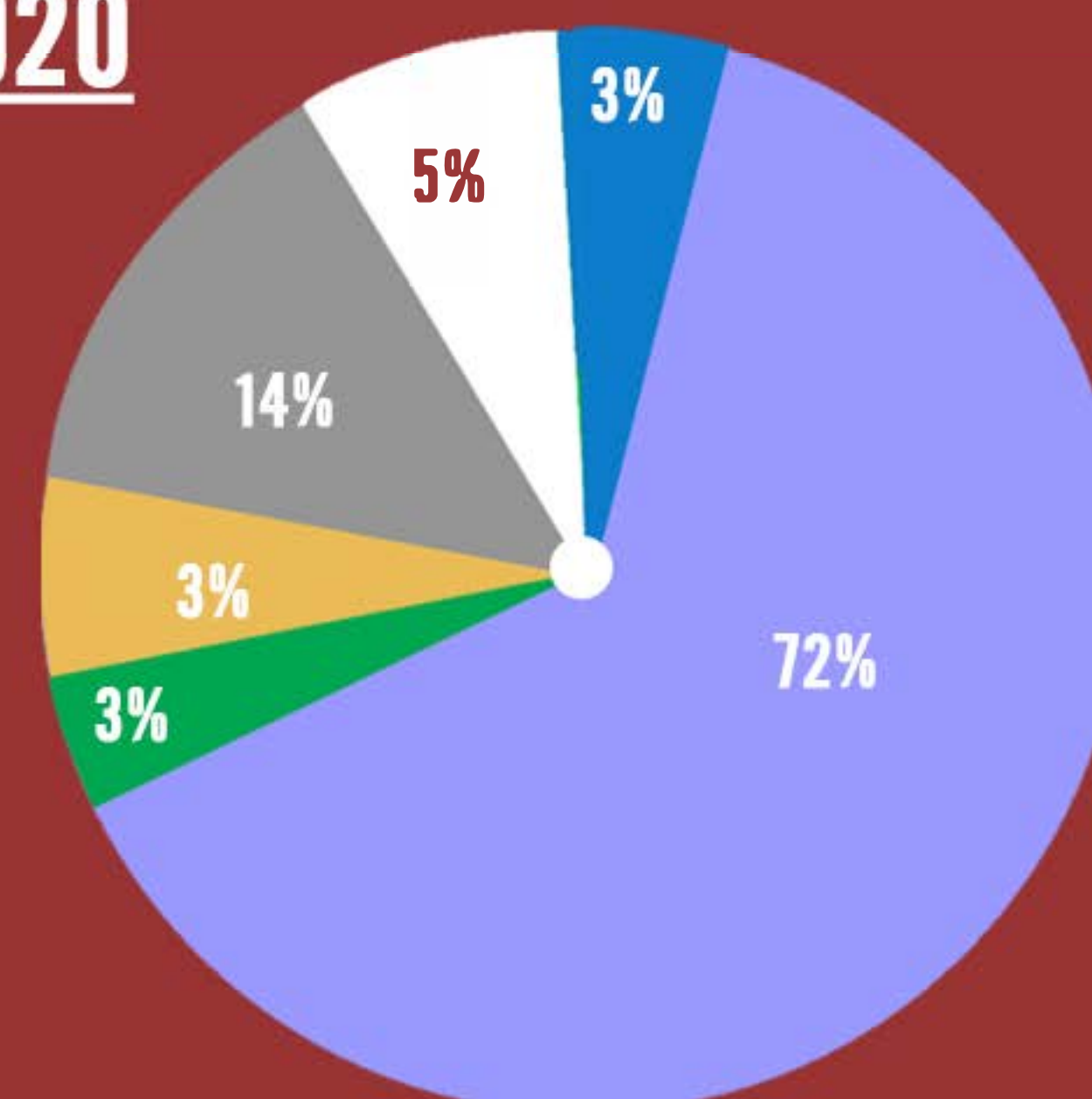
REVENUES 2020



EXPENSES 2019



EXPENSES 2020



The charts above are presented in Canadian dollars and taken from Elimu's 2020 year end financial statements submitted by our board of directors to the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

To view detailed financial statements [Click here](#).

For more information on all Elimu projects visit our website at www.Elimu.ca

Stay up-to-date with Elimu's projects through our [eMagazine](#).

To read more of the impact stories in this newsletter [click here](#).

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