



Elimu Resource Centre



## ELIMU'S CANADIAN CHAIRPERSON VISITS KENYA

On her first trip to Kenya, as Chairperson of Elimu (Canada), Jennifer Lavoie enjoyed a very rich experience. She met sponsored students at their schools, listened to volunteers and interns share their stories, observed our Cisco students at their computers and our sewing students at their machines.

She also met school administrators, gaining a deeper insight into the challenges of Kenya's education system. She engaged with students at our partner school as they accessed content from our Offline eLearning Solution from the server hosted at Elimu Resource Centre nearly 4km away – without the need of internet! Founder, Nina Chung, was on hand to accompany her on many of the activities in her jam-packed itinerary.

Before departing, Jennifer made a very generous gift of an electric sewing machine for our Artisan Maker Space. We are very grateful for her visit, for the valuable sharing of experiences and observations, and for this kind gift which is sure to enhance our program delivery.

## HOW ABOUT GIVING EMPOWERMENT THIS CHRISTMAS?

December is here! As you plan your Christmas giving this season, please consider a donation to Elimu on behalf of someone on your list. Your gift will show your friends and family members that you care about them, and that you also care about empowering children, youth, and their parents in Kenya with learning and skills.

The donate page on our website allows you to send an e-Card.

Visit us at [www.Elimu.ca](http://www.Elimu.ca) or send a cheque made out to Elimu to P.O. Box 38144, Ottawa, ON K2C 3Y7



## ELIMU HISTORY AT A GLANCE

Our founder, Nina Chung, first arrived in Kenya in 2004 on a 2-year volunteer posting. The seed for Elimu was planted during that time, when she paid school fees for two small boys to go to kindergarten. In this issue we focus on the impact we have made over another busy year in Kenya. To set the scene, we start with the timelines of our establishment as an official charitable organization:

- 2005: Nina begins paying school fees.
- 2010: First board meeting.
- 2011: Non-profit registration.
- 2012: Charitable status in Canada.
- 2013: Registered in Kenya and USA.
- 2016: Elimu Resource Centre opens.





## ELIMU RESOURCE CENTRE



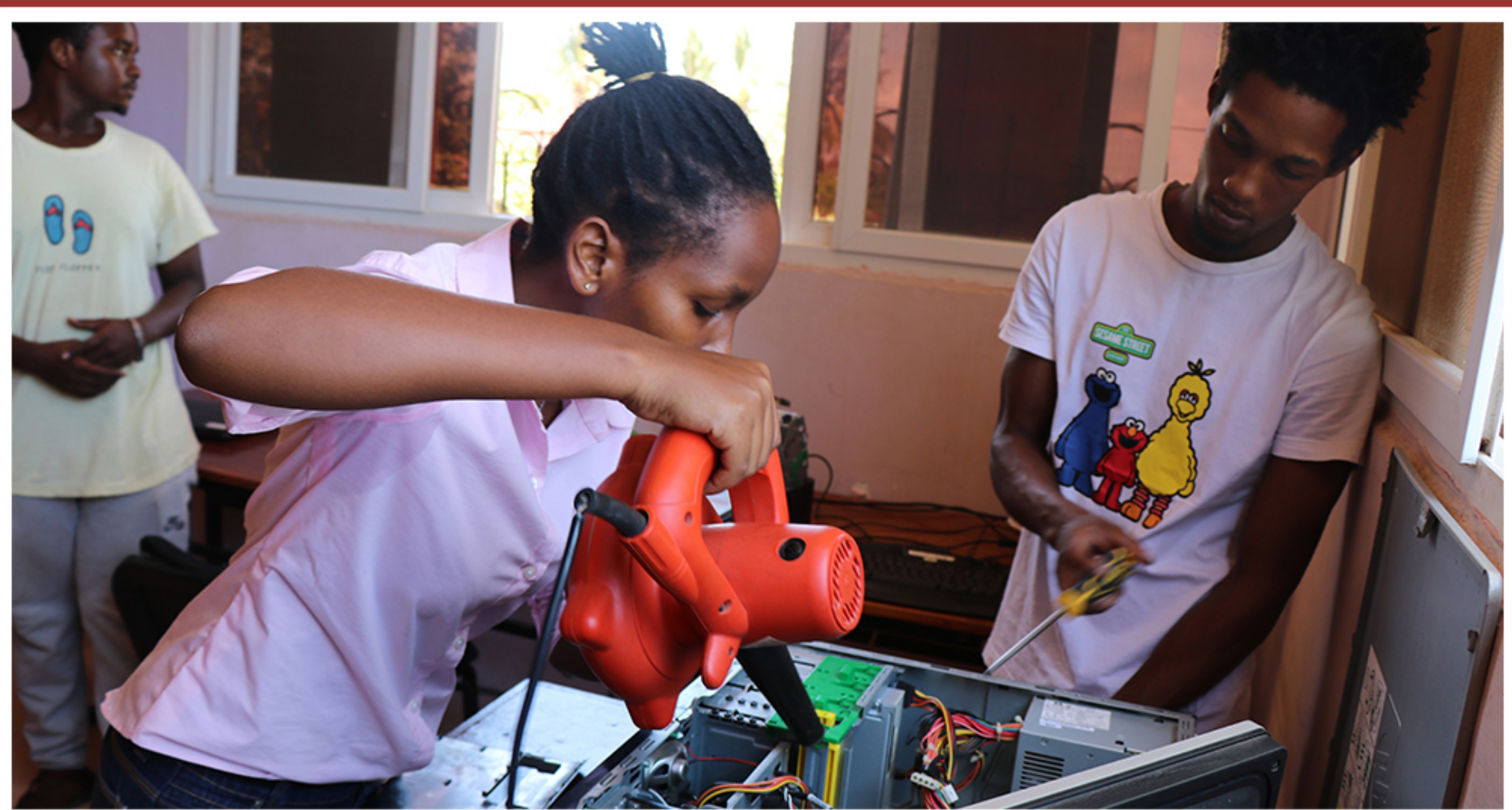
## ANNUAL STUDENT VISITS:

2016:	7,091	2020:	2,573 (closed 8 months)
2017:	7,765	2021:	2,540 (ongoing lockdowns)
2018:	12,598	2022:	7,495 (to November)
<b>2019: 15,532 (pre-pandemic)</b>			

From one room with a capacity of 80 in 2016, to our current four-storey building which can host 300 students, Elimu Resource Centre is a digital hub for learners. Our Digitech Lab serves primary and high school students with Kindles and offline e-Learning and sewing students with training on how to use technology to expand their businesses. We offer college students internet for their studies and are exposing girls to technology options for their future career choices. We also help adults with training to develop income generating businesses at home.

## ELIMU'S CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY

Many children in Kenya finish high school without ever touching a computer. At Elimu, we are determined to change that! We bring disadvantaged youth up to speed with the computer skills that so many of their counterparts take for granted. We established our in-house Cisco Networking Academy in August 2019 with the goal of transferring important 21st Century Skills to the community, especially youth.



## CISCO GRADUATES SINCE 2019:

2019:	14 graduates (Aug-Dec)
2020-21:	75 graduates (despite 2020 lockdowns)
2022:	52 students

**Total graduates to-date: 141**

## KEEPING KENYAN KIDS IN SCHOOL BOOSTS THEIR FAMILIES

Our Stay in School Project began when a single Mum approached our founder in 2014. Poor health had forced her to leave their farm plot because she could no longer manage the labour involved. But with minimal education, she found that in town she could not find work. Nina stepped in and got her three boys back to school. Today those boys are in Grade 8, 10 and 12 and Elimu has supported 75 families to keep their kids in school. Keeping one or two of their children in school reduces the psycho-social burden on parents and enrollment into our savings and loan scheme gives them financial literacy and good savings habits. Parents also receive guidance on starting or expanding their own home-based businesses. Our goal is families fully independent of Elimu.

## FAMILIES SUPPORTED BY ELIMU

2014: 1 FAMILY - 2022: 25 FAMILIES

A total of 75 families have been supported, of these, 70% are single-mother-headed families.

To-date, 90 students have been sponsored to complete high school, and 47 are currently continuing with their studies.





## KEEPING KENYAN GIRLS IN SCHOOL



In Coastal Kenya, 18% of girls never make it to high school. But these girls sponsored by Elimu made it and more are following their footsteps.

## OFFLINE ELEARNING SOLUTION

Elimu expanded our Offline eLearning Solution to more centres after the initial pilot test in 2020. Based on the Kolibri learning management platform, this solution provides access to a curated library of digital educational resources accessible via any Wi-Fi enabled devices without the need of internet. We scaled up from one school in Malindi to serving 627 students and 65 teachers at 2 schools; 3 children's homes and a girls rescue centre.

## SAVING GIRLS FROM EARLY MARRIAGE THROUGH SEWING



In rural Kenya, many girls miss out on a decent education, often being forced to drop out after Grade 8. When money is scarce, their brothers are chosen to continue their studies. Around the Coastal area, 'idle' girls at home become a 'burden' to their families and their parents look for ways to marry them off in exchange for a 'bride price' which includes cash and livestock. The girls usually have no say in these decisions.

But bringing a girl to sewing college, training her to run her own business and starting her up with a sewing machine so that she can start making an income right away totally changes her status! With a business, an income, training in entrepreneurship and computer skills, Elimu sewing alumni become leaders in their families and role models in their communities. They get to make their own choices for their futures and very often make sure that their younger siblings, and later on their own children, complete their education.

## GIRLS SPONSORED BY ELIMU

**Total Alumni since 2006: 81**  
**Current sponsored students: 14**  
**Sewing Graduates in 2022: 7**

## OFFLINE INTRANET RESOURCE CENTRE

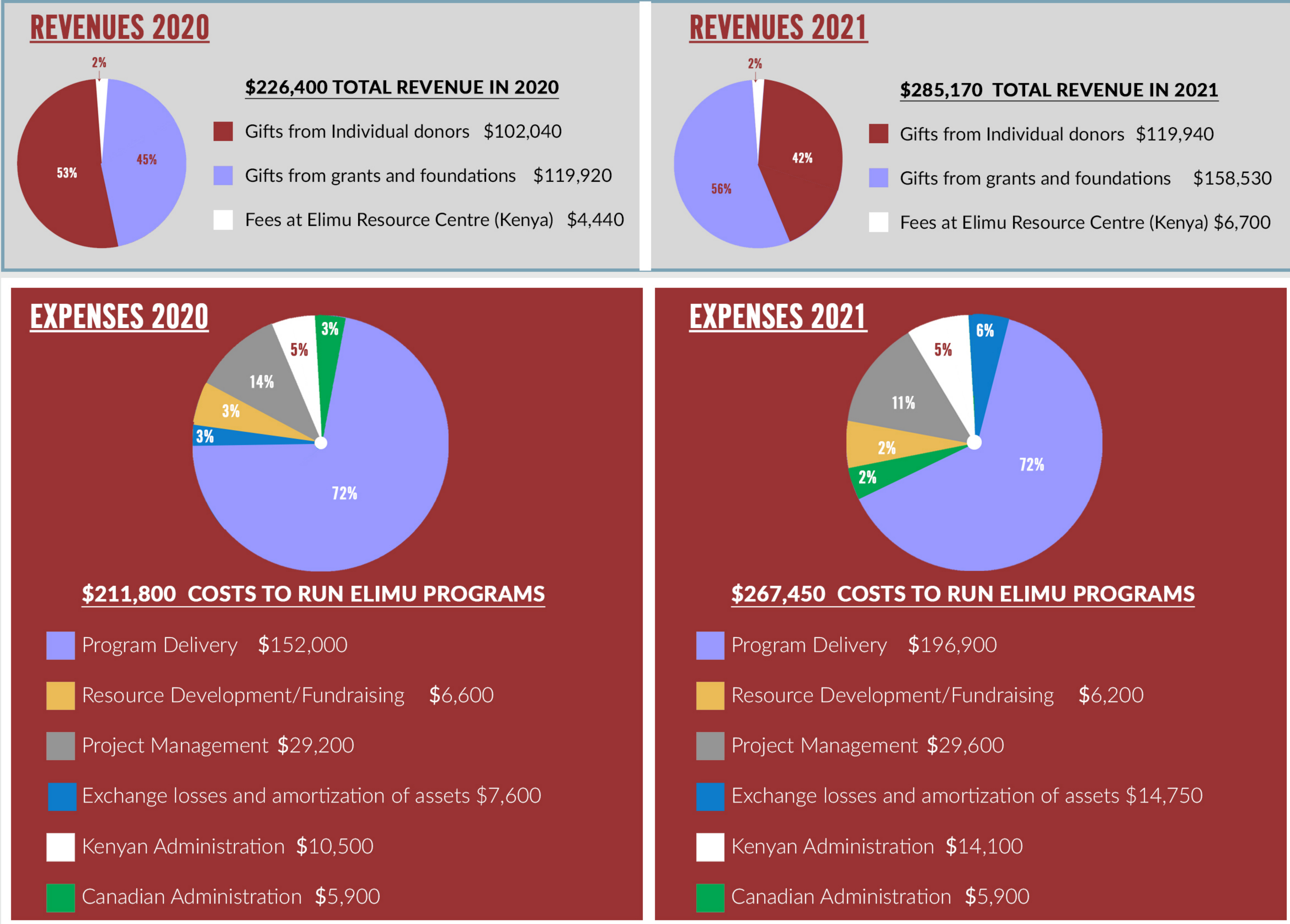


Our Offline eLearning Innovation allowed us to grow from serving just one classroom at a time to supplying digital educational content to an entire high school compound as well as to another primary school 5 km away, all from one computer server – this time without the need of internet or electricity! We were thrilled to be given the opportunity to pilot our innovation in a partnership with UNESCO and the Ministry of Education in 2022. This innovation is an effective solution for rapidly expanding access to quality educational resources to remote under-served communities where internet and electricity supply is unreliable and expensive. The two schools of the pilot project with UNESCO & Ministry of Education will reach over 4,440 students and about 80 teachers.



**ELIMU FINANCIAL SUMMARY – YEAR END 2021**

Revenues continued to grow in 2021 despite ongoing challenges of COVID-19 protocols and project expenses returned to more normal rates. The four semester school system which the government implemented to make up for the lost semesters of 2020 added some budgeting challenges to our Nyumbani Kwetu Home, Stay in School Project and Sewing Project, however, these were mostly offset by less staff travel to schools. Our program implementation through Elimu Resource Centre also grew in 2021 as we embarked on projects with UNESCO and the Ministry of Education in Kenya and an initiative to develop Girl-inclusive teacher training modules for STEM related subjects under the new Competency Based Curriculum that is currently being implemented through the Kenyan school system.



The charts above represent summaries of our year end financial statements which were submitted by our Board of Directors to the Canadian Revenue Agency.

To view detailed financial statements visit the About Us section at our website.

**ELIMU eMAGAZINE**

Stay up-to-date with Elimu’s projects through our **eMagazine**.

To read more of the impact stories in this newsletter visit our website at [www.Elimu.ca](http://www.Elimu.ca)

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Elimu Development Projects