



FIRST TIME IN KENYA

Our founder, Nina Chung, will be on hand in Kenya for our first-ever Fundraising Dinner and Fashion Show on May 27th. This is our first formal fundraiser with our local Kenyan community and we are hoping for a great turn out! Our goal for the event is to raise \$6,000

It's a fundraiser but it is also a celebration. The evening will be an opportunity to showcase the amazing transformations we have witnessed over the years. We will host it at Elimu Resource Centre with the Elimu team in charge. Our own beneficiaries will be providing the evening's entertainment including our sewing students who will present their own fashion designs! We hope they will walk away with a few new customers too!

OUR FUNDRAISING GOALS

10 Tablets

To give more learners access to our offline elearning solution.

12 Cisco Bursaries

To enable needy youth who just graduated high school to gain digital skills that prepares them for the digital economy

Digital Equipment

To diversify Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) learning activities at Elimu's Digitech Lab

3 Industrial Sewing Machines

To expand income generating opportunities for sewing alumni and Malindi's tailoring community

WE BELIEVE THAT IF YOU JOIN US we will fast-track our efforts in empowering learners of all kinds (especially youth, women and other vulnerable members of society) in achieving their educational and work-related goals.



OUR FOUNDER'S CHALLENGE

We look forward to having many Elimu friends and supporters from the community with us. We are asking \$45 per dinner plate. Our founder, Nina Chung, has sponsored one table with a personal donation of \$400. Beneficiaries from our programs will write a brief paragraph on why they would like to join the event. Then we will draw eight names and they will be invited to sit at the President's Table that night!

Nina is inviting you to consider her "Founder's Challenge" and join us 'virtually' in Kenya with your own contribution to the event. You might consider a donation towards:

- Replacing an aging study table or computer chair: \$50
- Paying fees for a Cisco computer course for a high school graduate: \$130
- Buying a tablet for our DigiTech Lab: \$310
- Adding an industrial electrical sewing machine to our Artisan Maker Space: \$600

Funds raised will go towards equipment and furnishings that are greatly needed at Elimu Resource Centre.

We are proud to announce that our Canadian board of directors has also sponsored a table and their generosity has been matched by the board of Elimu-USA.



FEATURED SPEAKER AT ELIMU FUNDRAISING DINNER: HOSEA KAMAU

In 2016, Elimu helped keep Hosea from dropping out of school. He was one of the first students to benefit from Elimu Resource Centre. He loved the access to technology and the joy of reading for pleasure. He has volunteered thousands of hours at Elimu since then and is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Computer Science. During his breaks you will still find him at Elimu Resource Centre teaching our Cisco students and training our sewing students in digital literacy. At our fundraising event, Hosea will share his story and how his experience has guided his future.

BUILDING DIGITAL LITERACY IN STRUGGLING LEARNERS



We are testing a new program at Elimu Resource Centre. Last October, we trained ten vulnerable learners on digital skills at our DigiTech Lab. These children had been struggling in their primary school work, but that changed drastically by the time they completed their two-month training with us. They really enjoyed typing words on a keyboard and doing calculations on a computer. This greatly boosted their ability to read and write in class. As they gained skills in computer operations, their reading also improved and consequently, their grades at school are getting better. We are testing out this program and hope to do much for struggling learners in our community in future.



DEMONSTRATING OFFLINE ELEARNING

We will be demonstrating our exciting Offline eLearning Solution at the fundraising dinner. The beauty and value of our solution is the ease of use, its mobility and the fact that it does not require internet, and can operate using solar.

It is a real solution to delivering quality educational resources to students in low resource areas such as remote rural communities all across Kenya and many parts of Africa.

We have been deploying Offline eLearning since 2016 and now have two solutions to offer. One that can easily serve a standard-sized classroom using a laptop, and another that boosts the Wi-Fi signal of a more robust computer server around an entire school compound and further afield over 5-10 km away. In this way, one computer can provide access to digital content to thousands of students at several schools.

On May 27th, our guests will get a chance to try out our Offline eLearning Solution from their own smartphones (or any other type of Wi-Fi-enabled devices). They will choose from digital story books, interactive math tutorials, teachers notes (created by local teachers in Malindi), or test their trivia knowledge with a digital multiple choice exam. The digital exams are interactive with results provided immediately in real time.

We hope this demonstration will showcase the value of Offline eLearning to many community members and education stakeholders in Malindi.

EMPOWERING ELIMU LEADERSHIP



Elimu CEO & Co-Founder, Kamotho, and our Director of Programs, Jonah, are enrolled in a leadership training program called Abundant Leadership. This is an important investment in our two leaders who have worked with Elimu since its inception. They have been leading the Elimu Kenya team and generally working to ensure Elimu's growth in every way. This leadership program offers a moment for them to realize their greatness as leaders and to also motivate them as they continue with the good work of making great things happen in Malindi, Kenya and beyond. "I am reminded daily to start by appreciating what we have, before seeking how others can contribute," Jonah notes as a key learning from the program.

THE CHALLENGE OF KEEPING KIDS IN SCHOOL IN KENYA



We started the year off in Kenya getting back to the normal pre-COVID 3-semester system that runs from January to November for primary schools and to December for high schools. That was great news for our book-weary students who were forced through a system of four semesters in 2021 and 2022 with shorter holidays and less study time.

But for parents, and all of those of us who pay school fees, there was a shock in store as the government increased boarding fees at their own government-run high schools by 20%! With a devastated post-COVID economy making it even harder to make a living right now, parents need support to keep their kids in school more than ever.

We are so grateful to all of our donors who enabled us to sponsor 14 more needy high school students so far, to put us at a total of 28 learners in primary and secondary schools in the program to-date. These new candidates have all shown good performance in their academics and the only hindrance to continuing with their education, like their wealthier peers, is that they come from impoverished families.

We would like to sponsor 50 students to stay in school this year. It is not too late! One semester of high school fees at a standard public day school is about \$140, one semester at a public boarding school is about \$200.

You can make your contribution on our website at www.Elimu.ca or send a cheque payable to Elimu to us at P.O. Box 38144, Ottawa, ON K2C 3Y7.

ELIMU eMAGAZINE

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