



## Calling all Ottawa-based Friends of Elimu!

Elimu's Annual Charity BBQ is coming up Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.

I will be freshly back from my latest trip to Kenya. My 1 PM Founder's Presentation will be packed with stories from our projects.

Learn how Elimu alumni are taking my vision beyond Malindi. Hear how the young adults who have gone through Elimu's programs as children and teenagers are now using the education and skills they gained to build their futures.

I will have an update on where the now grown up kids of Nyumbani Kwetu Home are at in their lives – their post secondary studies, their jobs, and their children.

If you're in Ottawa, please come over and see how your contributions are spreading learning, empowerment and hope to children, youth and their parents in Kenya!

## Here with Our Kids and the Team in Kenya

As we post, I am still in Kenya but will be back in Ottawa in time for the BBQ. During my visits I have the pleasure of engaging with our students and trainees – hearing their stories, seeing their joy and embibing their sense of hope for the future! I joined our Elimu Familia Stawi team where I helped encourage kids to be creative in their drawing and create stories about their pictures. I also watched as, in another room, their parents learned how to make liquid soap and bleach for household use. These are cheap to make and are a great way to make some home-based income, income that can go towards food and school fees.

*Elimu Annual*  
**CHARITY BBQ**  
**IN OTTAWA**

All dollars raised at this event will go directly to Elimu projects in Kenya.

Enjoy Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and Sausages, with Gluten-Free options available!

**SATURDAY**  
**16TH AUGUST** | **11AM - 3PM**

**Founder's Presentation @ 1 PM**

**Holy Cross Church**  
**685 Walkley Road, Ottawa ON K1V 6R8.**

Downstairs in the Church Hall,  
Accessible from the parking lot.  
Free parking.



I always make time for my Nyumbani Kwetu Home kids, many are now living in and around Nairobi. They are mostly young adults now – some finished post secondary studies, some working at jobs in their field, others between jobs, others completing college. It's been a joy to watch them grow from small children to adults managing their own affairs! There are also a few 'grandchildren' now! I also love seeing how our youth take to their new digital skills. Some come to us never having touched a computer before ... they leave able to operate a computer and even do basic maintenance. They graduate with a Cisco Networking Academy certificate which is internationally recognized and a great boost to their resume!

## Stay in School Project School Visits



We successfully carried out school visits in counties of Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi and Tana River as part of our commitment to supporting our sponsored students both in and out of the classroom. These visits help us check in on how our students are adjusting, assess their learning environment, and ensure they are receiving the support they need to thrive. It's also a chance to encourage them to stay focused, disciplined, and committed to their studies.

It was encouraging to see that many are actively participating in extracurricular activities. Some taking part in science fairs, others in music festivals — and we're proud to share that two of our students will be proceeding to the national level competitions with their schools! Several students have also been ranked top of their classes. These strong outcomes are a positive reflection of the impact of Elimu in their lives.

During the visits, we explored the possibility of working with more schools in the future and identifying new partnerships that can benefit our students. Our school visits are not only about monitoring progress but also building strong relationships with teachers, parents, and school leadership to create a supportive network around each student.



## Elimu Familia Stawi Launches Cohort 3 Across Three Locations

Elimu Familia Stawi (EFS) has officially launched Cohort 3 across Karima Primary School, Buntwani Village, and the Elimu Resource Centre. Following successful pre-visits, we are rolling out 14 interactive family sessions designed to strengthen parent-child relationships and equip families with practical life skills.



In Mijikenda Village, parents engaged in a kitchen gardening session, where they learned how to grow vegetables in small spaces to boost family nutrition and reduce daily expenses. In Karima, families took part in sessions on nutrition, hygiene, and child growth monitoring, receiving tailored guidance based on their children's health indicators.

Parents in Karima and Buntwani also received soap and bleach-making training, a hands-on skill that promotes better hygiene at home and opens up small income-generating opportunities. The excitement was evident as many handled the materials for the first time and expressed eagerness to apply the knowledge at home.

At the Elimu Resource Centre, families participated in a reflective session on self-awareness, focusing on emotional intelligence, personal growth, and better communication. As Cohort 3 progresses, EFS continues to walk alongside families—building resilience, connection, and stronger communities.

## “Playing with Computers” Turned into Her Career

Meet Mima, a young woman from Malindi who has turned her passion for technology into a promising career. Her journey with DigiTech began after working as a tutor under the new school curriculum, where she was first introduced to the world of IT. Despite her curiosity and love for computers, she lacked access to training and guidance—until she joined Elimu's DigiTech Program. “I always loved playing with computers,” she says. “But I never thought I could turn that into a career until I joined Elimu.”



Through DigiTech, Mima explored coding, programming, and digital design, while also building strong communications and teamwork skills. As she progressed, her interest in web development deepened, and with encouragement from her mentors, she gained both the technical and personal confidence to pursue work in the tech space. “Learning to code felt like unlocking a whole new language,” she says. That growth eventually led her to an internship with Techkidz in Malindi, where she now works as an instructor.

Now, Mima is determined to give back. She hopes to mentor other young women from her community and show them that a career in tech is possible, no matter their background. “I want to inspire girls like me to believe in themselves,” she says.

Mima's journey is a powerful reminder of how access, opportunity, and belief can change the course of a young person's life.

# Investing in Youth! Will you join us in 2025?

At Elimu, we are investing in the educational journey of children and youth – giving them access to resources and experiences that help them find their strengths and reach their full potential.

Will you help us to do this again this year? With your support Elimu will continue to invest in children and youth in Kenya as we set them on pathways to brighter futures!

What does investment in youth look like? Here are some examples:

### One Year of High School for one teenager:

School fees alone	\$850 (boarding school) \$300 (day school)
Boarding requirements	\$200
Stationery and textbooks	\$130
Uniforms, gym kit, shoes	\$100

### After High School:

One girl trained to start her own sewing business	\$2,000 (2 years)
Digitech Tech Training course for one youth	\$800 total (6 months)
Or a single Digitech unit (eg. graphic design or cybersecurity)	\$175 to \$235
Ad hoc support for one college, university or vocational student	\$240 to \$500
Putting one high school graduate through Cisco Essentials course	\$140 (4 months)

Whether you donate to cover all costs, or make a contribution towards the total, every amount is gathered to one purpose, brighter futures. Will you consider a donation today?

We are raising \$11,000 to keep at least 20 youth studying in 2025. Will you help us make this happen?

Visit our website to make a contribution at **Elimu.ca**.

### 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