



Beth Scott, ACCES Founder *circa 1993*
Helping young Africans obtain the skills and education
needed to benefit themselves and their society



THE ACCES LEGACY CONTINUES

Celebrating 30 years of alleviating
poverty through education

AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

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2023 Board of Directors:

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Maureen MacDonald

Beth Scott

Tobin Postma, Past President

Moses Akali (Kenya)



OUR VISION



**TO HELP KENYANS
ALLEVIATE POVERTY
THROUGH EDUCATION**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This past year has been a special one, as we celebrated the 30th anniversary of ACCES, its accomplishments, and the generosity and commitment of our donors. The theme of the celebrations (in Canada and Kenya) was promises kept. Every ACCES scholarship granted has been a promise to support that student through to graduation.

Each year, ACCES provides scholarships to between 300 and 400 students, about 350 on average. Over 4,000 promises have been made and every one of them has been kept. The rippling effect of education and the opportunities it has provided have changed the lives of the graduates, their families, and their communities. That is an amazing legacy.

Last spring, after attending a United Nations conference in New York, two ACCES graduates, Wycliffe Kibisu and his wife Catherine, flew to Vancouver for the sole purpose of visiting founder Beth Scott.

Here is what Wycliffe said to her: "We are like maize. You plant a seed and it grows into a tall stalk with many kernels. What starts small, gets big and nourishes lots of others." Catherine added, "We value you as our greatest gift. You invested in us and we are here to say thank you."

As we look toward to the next decade of ACCES, it is our hope that many more seeds will be planted. In the coming year, we will be asking for your input as we seek to improve our communications with donors. We will also be looking at ways to sustain ACCES into the future through a strategic planning session in the fall and welcoming your thoughts and ideas as we engage in this process.

Thank you for working with us to alleviate poverty through education.

Sharon Cohen, President - ACCES Board



ACCES SCHOLARS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Benn Kiche (ACCES Recipient, Post-Graduate Scholarship in 2023)

Benn Kiche suffers from sickle cell anemia, a preventable disease prevalent in areas affected by malaria, including sub-Saharan Africa. Despite severe complications, Benn excelled academically, achieving top scores in his class. Financial constraints initially hindered his education, but with community support, he attended a village secondary school, later joining a mission school that recognized his potential.

After completing secondary school at the top of his class, Benn pursued higher education with unwavering determination. He discovered ACCES during a challenging period and secured a scholarship, completing a Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences in 2022. Now a laboratory technologist, Benn collects and analyzes patient specimens. In 2023, he received an ACCES postgraduate scholarship, funded by the Ocean Park Foundation, and is currently completing a master's in medical laboratory science and technology, specializing in Hematology and Blood Transfusion.

Through his post-graduate studies Benn aims to address the high prevalence of sickle cell disease in his region and is committed to eradicating the disease to prevent others from facing similar challenges.



ACCES STAFF

ACCES has made great efforts to streamline their operations and find efficiencies to direct as much funding as possible to scholarships.

ACCES STAFF - CANADA

The Canadian staff are part time Executive Director, Kevin Fadum, and part time Administrative Assistant, Mary Lou Cadeau. Canadian staff work from home.

ACCES STAFF - KENYA

The Kenyan staff are full time Program Manager, Anthony Mutevane and full time Scholarship Coordinator, Jancered Tibers. ACCES also employs security guards who perform cleaning and maintenance duties to offset operational costs of maintaining the office.



TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

KENYA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (KAC)

The KAC is made up of local business leaders and ACCES scholarship graduates, including a teacher, a school principal, university professor, government official, and local business owner. The KAC was established to maintain a Kenyan voice in decision making including:

- offering advice to the ACCES board of directors on Kenyan issues
- monitoring program progress in the communities
- interviewing scholarship applicants
- contributing advice on local labour laws and customs.



2023 KAC Members:

Rajinder (Pape) Sembi (Chair)

Dr. Moses Akali (Vice-Chair)

Lucky Ngoya

Anthony Napali

Gerishom Manase

Susannah Onacha

Anthony Mutevane (ACCES Staff)

SUSTAINABILITY

ALUMNI

The emphasis that ACCES has recently placed on rebuilding the alumni is having positive results. In 2023 alumni membership reached 300, and on August 4, 2023 the ACCES Scholars Foundation received their official Certificate of Registration under the Kenyan Societies Rules, 1968. This group is excited to contribute to the mission of ACCES and give back to the organization which made their educational dreams a reality.

Alumni volunteer their time to assist in the scholarship selection process including shortlisting candidates, interviewing, and conducting home visits.



SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2023 there were 99 ACCES sponsored students who graduated with 50 from university including 2 students living with disability, 37 from college, and 12 from the TIVET program.

2023 Intake statistics:

In June and July of 2023 ACCES staff, volunteers from the KAC, and nine alumni volunteers carried out the scholarship selection process.

- 938 applications were received for post-secondary scholarships
- 280 applicants were interviewed
- 170 applicants were shortlisted for home verification
- 100 applicants were ultimately awarded scholarships (70 university, 13 in colleges, 10 in TIVET and 7 living with disability)
- 301 active beneficiaries at the beginning of 2023
- (2 living with disability, 15 TIVET, 64 college, 220 in university)



Faith Prudence Nangila (Visual Impairment)
ACCES Beneficiary, third-year student pursuing a
bachelor's degree in pharmacy at Kabarak University

ABOUT ACCES



Through the careful leadership of founders Beth and George Scott, ACCES has been working with Canadian donors and partners to provide education opportunities for bright young Kenyans. Students are selected to receive an ACCES post-secondary scholarship through a comprehensive, competitive process ensuring that only the most deserving of students are awarded a scholarship. Expectations are high and student progress is monitored by ACCES staff. We call them ACCES Scholars.

Support for the best, brightest, and most vulnerable students, when they need it most. ACCES provides partial scholarships to the brightest Kenyan students from the most vulnerable backgrounds, ensuring that they are able to complete their full course of studies.

Since 1993, more than 4,000 students have received ACCES university and college partial scholarships many of whom have gone on to become top achievers in their professions.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

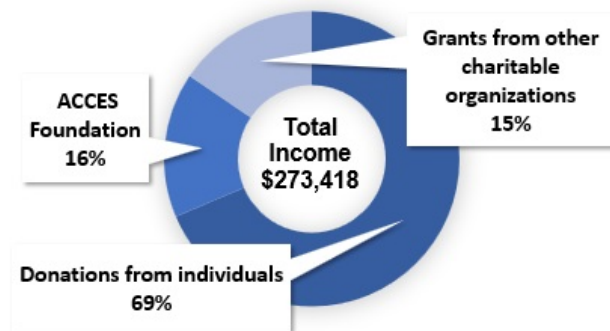
Why Donors Choose ACCES

ACCES has a proven track record of using donations efficiently and effectively. We appreciate all of our supporters from our dedicated monthly donors to the large grants and legacy gifts. One of our top priorities is to be cost-conscious, ensuring maximum impact for students who receive an ACCES scholarship.

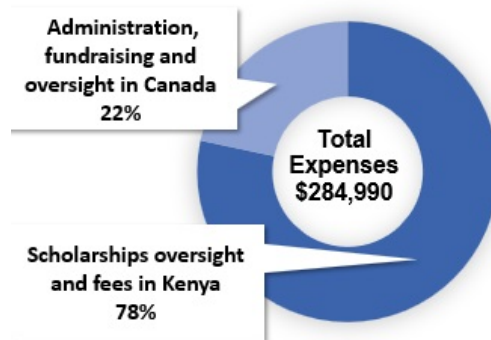
Administrative Costs and Program Funding

Our administration costs in Canada are paid through targeted contributions allowing us to direct your donations to scholarships for students. In 2023, our Board of Directors maintained scholarship funding while lowering the day to day administrative costs.

Donation sources in 2023



Where the money was spent in 2023



ACCES CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN CANADA

On June 10, 2023 ACCES held a celebration event in Surrey honouring the 30 year commitment of donors and volunteers. The event was enjoyed by many long time and new ACCES supporters, their friends and families.



ACCES CELEBRATES 30 YEARS IN KENYA

On November 24, 2023 ACCES held a celebration event in Kakamega honouring the 30 year commitment of ACCES to the community. The event celebrated the ACCES anniversary and the creation of the ACCES Scholars Foundation. Over \$8,000 CDN was raised by attendees for the Kenya-based ACCES Scholars Foundation.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

ACCES is committed to keeping our donors informed through full transparency. The complete Financial Statements and Auditor's Report from Hay & Watson, Chartered Accountants, can be reviewed on our website and is available upon request.

EXPENSES	2023	2022	2021	REVENUE	2023	2022	2021
Funds to Kenya	186,059	189,160	216,923	Donations & Fundraising	273,418	293,929	272,424
Project Kenya				Interest	--	--	--
Monitoring & Evaluation	16,589	13,924	2,557	Government Assistance*	--	--	10,000
Wages	20,591	19,610	21,029	TOTAL:	273,418	293,929	282,424
TOTAL spent in Kenya:	223,229	222,694	240,509	EXPENSES:	284,990	271,464	289,572
Project ACCES				NET INCOME:	(11,572)	22,465	(7,148)
Administration	17,575	10,606	10,686	Operating Surplus			
Amortization	1,433	1,094	398	(beginning of year)	100,731	78,266	85,414
Professional fees	9,333	5,832	6,240	Operating Surplus			
Fundraising	560	284	490	(end of year)	89,159	100,731	78,266
Wages	32,850	30,954	31,249				
TOTAL spent in Canada:	61,751	48,465	49,063				
Grand Total:	284,990	271,464	289,572				

***Notes:**

1. In 2020 and 2021 The Society received \$10,000 each year as part of a CEBA loan.
2. When CEBA loans were re-paid in January 2024 these amounts were forgiven.

ACCES FOUNDATION

The ACCES Foundation was established in 1997 for donors to plan their legacy using strategic options to support ACCES students today, tomorrow, and into the future.



Edith Olumasai: *"I graduated in 2018 with a nursing diploma. I'm now a registered nurse in Kenya working in the emergency room (ER) in one of the biggest referral hospitals in Kenya. I am proud of the fact that I was able to help my family acquire a plot of land and build a permanent house that will last for many generations to come.*

I still have big dreams to achieve, and I am very proud of how education has made an impact on my life and that of my family.

Thank you Canadians, thank you ACCES!"

In your Will – reduce taxes and increase inheritances to loved ones

Publicly traded securities and mutual funds – eliminate capital gains tax

Registered assets – an opportunity for tax savings

Life insurance – leverage small premium payments into a larger gift

Annuities – reduce taxes and increase income

Charitable remainder trusts – reduce taxes now

Major gifts – a gift of \$1,000 or more

2022 ACCES Foundation Board of Directors

Donna VanSant, President

John Keenlyside

Maureen MacDonald

Mo McKendrick

Gwen Murray

Beth Scott

Please call the ACCES office to learn more.

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AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION SOCIETY

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2023