

AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION SOCIETY

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



*"Giving is not just about donating.
It's about making a difference."*

*Mark Buronya, Teacher, ACCES
sponsored graduate - 2019*

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Maureen MacDonald
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Tobin Postma, Past President

AFRICAN CANADIAN CONTINUING EDUCATION SOCIETY

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OUR VISION



TO HELP KENYANS
ALLEVIATE POVERTY
THROUGH EDUCATION.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In 2024, ACCES entered its fourth decade of alleviating poverty through education. As in 1993, the granting of post-secondary scholarships in the Kakamega region of Kenya has, and will continue to be, the primary means of achieving this mission. To date, over 4,200 graduates have been supported by ACCES through to graduation. These are promises that have been made and kept.

The rippling effect of education and the opportunities it has provided have changed the lives of the graduates, their families, and their communities. To mark the new decade, we conducted a survey to gather information about donor communication and engagement preferences. The response was robust, with 88 individuals completing the survey. Based on the findings, our communication protocols have been adjusted. Other data collected through the survey is informing future planning, beginning with a strategic planning process that began in the fall will continue through 2025 and into early 2026. We will be asking for donors and other stakeholders in Canada and Kenya to participate in this process.

In June 2025, I will be joining the ACCES Executive Director, Kevin Fadum, on his annual trip to the Kakamega region during the scholarship application process and look forward to connecting with our Kenyan partners and participating in the interviews. Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to ACCES through your donations to support the post-secondary scholarships. The need is immense, and your generosity makes the world a little better in these challenging global times.



Sharon Cohen, President - ACCES Board

ACCES SCHOLARS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Mark Brown Buronya's life epitomizes resilience and the transformative power of education. Born out of wedlock and orphaned at the age of seven, Mark faced abandonment and malnutrition under his stepfather's care. His maternal grandparents, despite their financial struggles, rescued him and became his strength and inspiration, instilling in him the value of education and laying the foundation for his aspirations to escape poverty and become a teacher. Mark's journey was not without hurdles. After completing school, he faced the daunting challenge of financing his college education. Driven by determination, he left his village for Nairobi, where he worked tirelessly as a cleaner for five months, saving just enough to pay the enrollment fee at Kibabii Diploma Teachers' College. With no means for tuition, Mark's prospects changed when he received a life-changing scholarship from ACCES, which enabled him to pursue his studies. In 2019, Mark graduated as a Geography and Business Studies teacher. He currently teaches at Moi Girls Isinya on temporary terms while striving to secure a government position.

Mark's gratitude to ACCES inspired him to uplift his grandparents, relocating them from a grass-thatched house to a semi-permanent home with an iron roof. His commitment to giving back has also had a positive impact on his wider community.

Mark dreams of furthering his education and becoming a motivator to inspire others. Reflecting on his journey, he says, "Who knew that a boy like me, from a village where witchcraft was the norm, could rise and teach at one of Kenya's top schools? I hope to continue touching lives and remain part of the ACCES family forever." Mark's story underscores the power of education, perseverance, and generosity.



*As he says, "Giving is not just about donating,
— it's about making a difference."*

ACCES STAFF

ACCES has streamlined operations and continues to 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

TRUSTED STAKEHOLDERS: KENYA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (KAC)

The Kenyan Advisory Committee (KAC) was established in 1997 to provide advice and guidance to Kenyan staff and the Canadian Board of Directors through the Executive Director. The group has no policy making or decision-making authority but is a valuable resource in helping make strategic decisions that are culturally sensitive and in the best interest of our long-term goals of sustainability.

Currently the KAC is made up of five members who have a great depth of experience.

Name	Sponsored in:
Dr Moses Akali	1998-2003
Gerishom Manase	1997
Lucky Ngoya	1998-2001
Anthony Napali	1993-1997
Susannah Onacha	2017-2023



SUSTAINABILITY

ALUMNI

ACCES continues its efforts to assist our alumni to build a stronger presence in Kenya. This group of ACCES beneficiaries 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.

ACCES SCHOLARS FOUNDATION (ASF)



Meet the ASF Executive, pictured here with ACCES Executive Director Kevin Fadum, from left to right:

Kevin Okwara, Vice Chair (ACCES beneficiary, 2012-2015)

Anthony Mutevane, Staff (ACCES beneficiary, 2005-2009)

Aminah Mukonzo, Treasurer (ACCES beneficiary, 2010-2014)

Andrew Ndiema, Chair (ACCES beneficiary, 2011-2013)

Prudence Munyendo, Secretary (ACCES beneficiary, 2016-2019)

and, ACCES Executive Director, Kevin Fadum

SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2024 there were 100 ACCES sponsored students who graduated, with 75 from university, including 2 students living with disabilities, 17 from college, and 6 from the TIVET program.

2024 Intake statistics:

In June and July of 2024, ACCES staff and 3 ASF members, as well as a small group of donors visiting from Canada, carried out the scholarship selection process.

- 615 applications were received for post-secondary scholarships
- 210 applicants were interviewed
- 150 applicants were shortlisted for home verification
- 72 applicants were ultimately awarded scholarships (42 in university, 15 in colleges, 10 in TIVET* and 5 to persons with disabilities)
- 302 active beneficiaries at the beginning of 2024 (241 in university, 41 in colleges, 13 TIVET and 7 persons with disabilities)

**Technical, Industrial, and Vocational Education and Training*



Hilary Junior Okeya, (Deaf), ACCES Beneficiary, 2nd Year Artisan Food Production at the Karen Technical Training Institute for the Deaf.

2024 ACCES SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



AGNES
MICHELLE AMASE



AITSA EDELEQUINN
EDALIA



ALBERT WANYONYI
WANJALA



Angoba M
Emmanuel



BELDINE
MITCHELLE KWEIYU



BLESSED BUYANZI
KISSINYA



BRANIMIR
OCHENG_ODHIAMBO



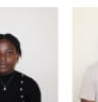
Calvin
Oseko Nyaribo



DENIS OVIITA



EMMANUEL
FADHLI



EPHY WANYONYA
MUSUNDI



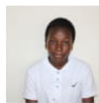
ETHAN LLOYD
OSERA



FLORENCE CHEBBI
SIMIYU



FLORENCE
VUGATWA



FRANCISCA
MMBONE MUKHWANA



GRIFFINS ELIJAH
OTIWANG



HARRISON MABIA
SHILAHU



ISAAC CYPRIAN
ANZETTE



ISIAH WAMBANI
MUTAMBO



JOANNA GRACE
INYANGALA



MAYWEL
UMUKOKO OMUNABO



MIKEL OBUYA



MUKANGULA
AKINYI JULIET



NICKSON TORONI
MATEBA



NURU BADRAAH
ASMAN



OKUTOYI NEWTON
OWINO



OWEN ATSALI
ATIEKO



PATIENCE NGOZI



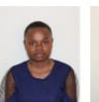
PETRY SEVENI



RAEL NAFULA
WANJALA



ROBINSON
EKWENZI



SEVITICK OVERLY
PENDERY



SHARON OMU
TIOHWI MWALO



VINCENT
AMUPUNZI



WERESA AMOS



YUSEF AW-HONY
AMBIIRA



AMUNGA
ELIZABETH AUMA



AWINJA
BREVERLYNE



AYUKO LUJAN



BREVIL MAENDE
WANDA



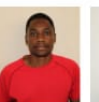
CHARITY ORINGO



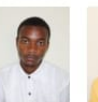
CHRISPIUS
WANJALA



DIAMARI AKELLO
ONGULO



DOUGLAS MBOYA
MAKHU



EDWIN MUSUMBA



ELIZABETH AWINO



ERIC WANDERA
OKUMU



EUGINIE KANJIA
ONJITA



FLORENCE ODUOI
OKUMU



IAN LIGAMI
ATSANGO



INGANGA ARTHUR
NDAKALU



JANET ANYONA



JERRY MIDEVA



JOSEPH MACHICHA
SHITSAMA



KHADIA ADEYA



LILIAN NAFULA
MUSUNGU



LORRAINE
PRECIOUS OENDI



MARGARET NGUIRA



MARRION TIMOTHY



METRINE NABWIRE
MUTSOI



ONYIAH



PETER DELVINE



PHILIP WANJALA
WEKESA



SAMUEL SIMIYU
WANJALA



SHERYL BEATRICE
AKINYI



SHIRLYNE NYANDIKO



STANLEY AMMBEYI
MUTSOI



SUSAN WINNIE
ANDWA



VALENTINE IKONI
BUTICHI



WANYONYI W
JOSHUA



WILSON LUVUNGA
PHILIP



JOYCE ANJIMI

BENEFICIARIES GIVE BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Students are encouraged to give back to the community. By performing a service ACCES students will gain confidence, cultivate a giving attitude in themselves and others, and make a difference in poverty-stricken communities. A group of ACCES sponsored students visited a deaf school in Kakamega county. At the deaf school, one of the teachers, who is also deaf, received an ACCES scholarship in college, helping her to become a teacher.

Activities included:

1. Guidance and counselling sessions for the students to gain confidence and avoid stigmatization.
2. Providing personal hygiene sessions and supplies to the school for deaf students to use.
3. Offering food and essential needs, such as stationery, as most of them have been neglected.
4. Understanding setbacks and linking the students with reliable donors who can support their needs.
5. Encouraging the students and informing them of ACCES scholarship opportunities.

Other ACCES sponsored students helped out in the community through student organized activities.

1. Cleaning up local street markets.
2. Visiting the elderly and making simple contributions such as food, clothes, shoes, blankets and sheets.
3. Visiting orphanages to support the orphans by counselling, and encouraging them. Supporting them with stationery, sanitary towels, clothes, food and beddings.
4. Mini medical camps in interior villages where primary health care is inaccessible.
5. Organizing for anti jigger campaigns in villages where there is an infestation of jiggers.

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	2024	2023	2022	REVENUE	2024	2023	2022
Funds to Kenya	189,526	186,059	189,160	Donations & Fundraising	277,299	273,418	293,929
				Interest	251	-	-
Project Kenya				TOTAL	277,550	273,418	293,929
Monitoring & Evaluation	16,736	16,589	13,924				
Wages	18,792	20,591	19,610	EXPENSES	281,325	284,990	271,464
TOTAL spent in Kenya	225,054	223,239	222,694	NET INCOME	(3,775)	(11,572)	22,465
				Operating Surplus (beginning of year)	89,159	100,731	78,266
Project ACCES				Operating Surplus (end of year)	85,384	89,159	100,731
Administration	11,503	17,575	10,606				
Amortization	1,221	1,433	1,094				
Contractors	1,899	-	-				
Professional fees	9,875	9,333	5,832				
Fundraising	352	560	284				
Wages	31,421	32,850	30,954				
TOTAL spent in Canada	56,271	61,751	48,770				
Grand Total	281,325	284,990	271,464				

Note: During the year ended December 31, 2020, ACCES Society received a \$40,000 loan through the Government of Canada Emergency Business Account program (CEBA). In 2024 the Society repaid the full amount owing on the CEBA Loan on January 10, 2024.

ACCES has established robust financial controls that require official receipts, detailed expense tracking, monthly reporting and approval system for all expenses. Combined with real time on-line banking, ACCES tracks and manages expenses to the highest standards.

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

2025 ACCES Foundation Board of Directors

Donna VanSant, President

John Keenlyside

Maureen MacDonald

Mo McKendrick

Beth Scott

Kevin Fadum (non-voting)

Please call the ACCES office to learn more.

604 688 4880