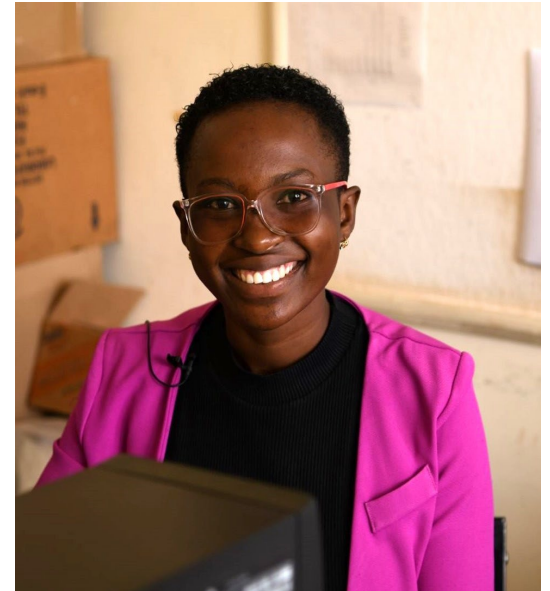


2023 Report to Donors

On behalf of the ACCES Society Board, the ACCES Foundation Board, and our beneficiaries I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support of our mission to alleviate poverty through education in the western region of Kenya as we celebrate our 30-year anniversary in both Canada and Kenya. The purpose of this communication is to provide an information update of some recent developments.

30 Years of ACCES

ACCES was established in 1993 by Beth and George Scott after they were inspired by the book "Save Three Lives" by Robert Rodale. The author was a crusader for organic farming who argued that traditional Third World farming methods may be superior to Western innovations and that development activities needed to be grounded in supporting beneficiaries to self actualize and leverage their own strengths and backgrounds instead of focusing on change and foreign concepts. Beth and George adopted Rodale's philosophy as they attempted to positively impact three lives by supporting the educational aspirations of needy and academically strong students hoping to continue their education past secondary school.



Miriam Natse, ACCES Beneficiary in 2017, now a Public Health Officer in Bungoma County.

From the very beginning ACCES was built on three very important principles: that ACCES will not impose Canadian cultural values in other countries, that ACCES will strive to help other people help themselves, and that ACCES will provide equal opportunity regardless of gender. As the Executive Director I am proud to report that we continue to be guided by these important standards.

Since 1993 ACCES has made a profound impact providing a range of support programs aimed at strengthening community and providing an avenue for individuals to realize their goals. In recent years ACCES has streamlined its operations to focus on providing scholarships to post secondary students to attend trades school, college, and university. ACCES has directly supported approximately 4,000 students to pursue their post secondary school dreams.

To celebrate our anniversary, the ACCES alumni, the Kenyan Advisory Committee (KAC) and ACCES staff are planning a 30-year celebration in Kakamega on Saturday November 25, 2023. I hope that some of you may be able to join me as guests at this important event. Please email me directly for more information.

The ACCES Legacy

The ACCES alumni is a representation of the legacy of your generosity. On Friday August 4, 2023, the Government of Kenya officially registered the 'ACCES Scholars Foundation' as a legally recognized Kenyan society which means that our beneficiaries can now make financial contributions and attract large Kenyan donors to support our mission. It has been a long and complicated process to establish this legal entity which is a representation of the alumni's desire to give back and continue the mission of alleviating poverty through education established by Beth and George.

I have had the pleasure of meeting countless alumni who hold a wide range of roles across Kenya - some are entrepreneurs, doctors, lawyers, teachers, accountants and even politicians. In September 2022 former beneficiary the Honorable Peter Kelerwa Salasya was elected to represent the Mumias East Constituency of Kakamega as a member of parliament. In January 2023 Peter made a special trip to visit me at the ACCES office in Kakamega to personally thank the donors who made it possible for him to attend school and realize his dreams which revolve around making improvements to his community.

In April 2023 we received a visit from former beneficiaries Wycliffe Kibisu Majengo and his wife Catherine Kasuvu Lumasia who were in New York on United Nations business and flew to Vancouver at their own expense to visit with Beth and thank her personally for the impact that ACCES had on their life. This was the first time that a beneficiary had travelled independently to Canada with the express purpose of showing their gratitude.

2023 Scholarship Update

Each year ACCES advertises and awards scholarship opportunities. In July 2023 ACCES received a record 930 scholarship applications and selected 100 new students to benefit from a scholarship that will support each to graduation. Seven of the 2023 intake are persons with disabilities and will receive additional funding to offset the increased challenges that they face in earning an education. As of September 1, 2023, ACCES supports a total of 403 post secondary students including our 303 continuing students plus this year's 100 new students.

As part of our 30-year celebration, we offered seven post-graduate scholarship opportunities to our alumni. Three of these scholarships were filled in January 2023 and the remainder will be selected in November 2023 as part of our Kenya-based anniversary celebration. The scholarships are awarded to former beneficiaries who can demonstrate that additional education will help them make a greater impact on the community that they serve. This scholarship was made possible thanks to generous one-time donations by the Ocean Park Foundation and Hay & Watson Chartered Accountants.

Thank you, once again, for your ongoing support. ACCES is a donor-based organization which relies on the generosity of people like you. If you would like more information or have any questions or ideas you would like to discuss, please contact me directly at kevin@acceskenya.org and we can arrange a telephone or face-to-face meeting.

In summary I am happy to report that Beth and George Scott met and exceeded their goal of saving 'three lives' and their legacy continues.



Kevin Fadum, Executive Director



Catherine and Wycliffe visiting Beth Scott at her home in May 2023.

Ways to Give to ACCES

ACCES accepts donations by cheque, credit card, Google Pay, Pay Pal or e-transfer to info@acceskenya.org. Year end tax receipts are issued in January/February for your donations totalling \$10 or more in the previous calendar year. Your name and mailing address is required to issue a tax receipt.