



www.kenyaeducation.org
keefcan2010@gmail.com

Kenya Education Endowment Fund

Update 11 August 2020

Habari (hello) from KEEF to our sponsors and supporters!

The purpose of this mail out is to update our April 9, 2020 message and let you know that we continue to support our 130 secondary students during these pandemic times. [Our April 9 message "**Supporting Our KEEF Students**" is on our web site].

In mid-March students returned home to their small rural farms in poor communities. Similar to Canada, KEEF students are 'learning from home' and outlines for learning expectations are provided for each form (grade).

We have recently been informed that **secondary schools will not re-open until January 2021** and students are trying to keep up with their studies until then.

In January, the school year will begin again as students had only completed term one of the three term year. The Ministry of Education has provided expectations online, however they have not provided access to supports. We have taken some action to help our students stay connected to their studies and hopeful for when their schools re-open. Sarah Nabongo (Kenyan office manager), the KEEF Kenyan board and some KEEF alumni have been in regular contact with our students. They provide mentoring support and are helping us to understand the specific challenges of each KEEF student. Based on responses from our students, they – and their parents/guardians – have been very appreciative that KEEF has reached out to contact them.

KEEF Canada has also established a **COVID-19 Emergency Fund**. This is providing solar lamps, some financial assistance to students who have lost a parent, and revision books (something like Coles Notes) for all Form 4 students. As funds become available, we will provide revision books for the lower forms. We are trying to make sure that all secondary students have the opportunity to effectively continue with their studies until the January opening.

If you are able to assist us to meet the needs of students during this difficult time, we welcome your donations. **Options for donations are below.**

- **Mail cheques payable to KEEF to:**
Margaret Klesner
#904, 2135 Argyle Avenue
West Vancouver, B.C. V7V 1A5
Canada
- **Email an Interac e-transfer to:** keefcan2010@gmail.com
- **Donate through PayPal** – see our [web site](#)
- **Donate through CanadaHelps** – see our [web site](#)

GC4C Projects for 2020

In spite of the pandemic, we have been very pleased to learn that construction projects can go ahead. KEEF has received over \$7,000 from GC4C, mainly for water harvesting projects at two primary schools. Funding will also include some bookshelves and secure cupboards at one of the schools. We extend a huge **"Thank You"** to Sarah, Thompson, Tatuli and all the volunteers and community members who make these projects possible.



1) Materials arriving 2) Assessing site for water tank 3) Planning for book shelves and secure storage cupboards 4) Community engagement - at a safe distance



www.gc4c.org

Post Secondary students

We are asking postsecondary students to contact Sarah to update their circumstances. Some post secondary institutions are expected to open in September, possibly with a mix of online courses and face to face instruction. Many sponsors are in email contact with their post secondary students and may receive updates directly.

If post secondary sponsors wish to send funds to their students, we ask that you send funds through KEEF, in the usual way, stating how you want the funds used (family support, new course expenses, etc.). See Options for Donations above.

Student Challenge: Virtual Cycling Tour of South America

A few weeks ago, KEEF offered a challenge to all B.C. Middle and High School students to create a virtual cycling tour of one of six South American countries (max. 450 words).

We are pleased to congratulate Matias Aviles Vezina and Philippe Linfoot, grade 6 students at École Victor Brodeur in Esquimalt, BC, (near Victoria) whose joint entry is the randomly selected regional winning entry. They researched the country of Chile and submitted their report on what they might have encountered there on a cycling tour of South America.

The Challenge was offered when COVID-19 precautions indefinitely postponed an actual five and a half month cycling tour & fundraiser across South America, planned for summer 2020 by a long time KEEF supporter. KEEF is grateful to the teachers, students, and home schooling parents who considered the Challenge.

To recognize Philippe's and Matias's efforts, a KEEF Supporter has made a donation to help another bright, very poor student in Kenya, East Africa to attend high school - which is not free there. Congratulations, Matias and Philippe! To read their report (in French & English), check our [web site](#).