



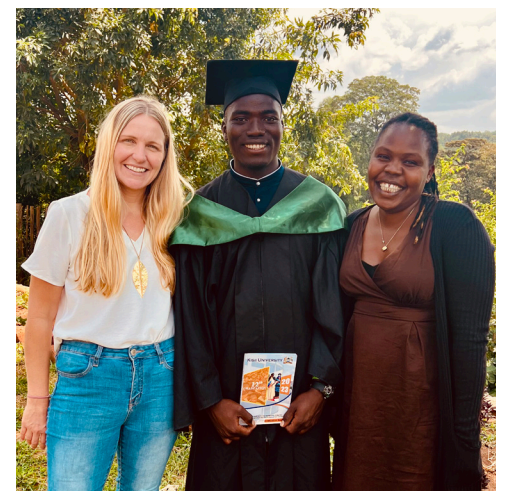
The difference national leadership makes

The importance of national leadership in development work was instilled in me from the very beginning by my mentors in Kenya. My drive and passion to fight for the rights of vulnerable children helped to get BEAM Kenya off the ground, but sustainability is only possible through a Kenyan-led team.

In this newsletter, you're invited to get to know some of our Kenyan team members. Their leadership is the persevering force behind BEAM, and it is one of my greatest privileges to labor alongside and learn from them.

With hope-filled gratitude,
Colleen Costigan
Founder & International Director

Today, we have 13 Kenyan team members who work together to walk out the mission of BEAM. They are the ones who are out in the field. They are the ones we entrust to embody the original vision while also taking the work further and deeper. They are the ones who offer counseling to the community using the power of their native language in connecting and healing. They are the ones who make sacrifices every day to advocate for justice for vulnerable children and their families.



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MEET THE MANAGEMENT

2024



Evans Kimutai (Kim)
Operations Manager



Hudson Kisia
Accountant



Cecilia Seba
Lead Counselor



Olive Cherop
Cofounder & Social Work Manager

Kim has a bachelor's degree in finance and joined BEAM in 2019 to run the income-generating projects. In 2020, he was promoted to the operations manager to bring more structure, accountability, and financial integrity to the organization. He loves being a part of the BEAM team and encouraging students to pursue academic excellence and explore their talents. He often works with post grads, connecting them to internships and other job opportunities. Kim is passionate about creating strategic partnerships with the government and other organizations to implement the laws in Kenya that protect the rights of children. In his free time, he works on his farm and spends time with his family.

Hudson was the second employee to join BEAM Kenya as our accountant in 2016. He is a certified public accountant (level II) and has worked with nonprofit organizations for over 20 years. He is passionate about giving the most valued virtues of financial integrity, faithfulness, accountability, and transparency to all BEAM stakeholders. When out of the office, Hudson can be found tending to his land as a seasoned farmer.

Cecilia is the lead counseling psychologist at BEAM. She obtained her master's degree in counseling psychology at Moi University and has worked in different mental health settings including hospitals, schools, and private practice. For the last 13 years, she has provided services to children, adults and families who are dealing with traumatic situations by helping them cope and become more resilient. She is a gifted public speaker and passionate about helping people improve their mental health and well-being.

Olive joined BEAM in 2016 as the first employee. She has her associate degree in social work from the University of Eldoret and is dedicated to fighting for the rights of vulnerable children. She is passionate about advocating for children who need a voice in society, and her dream is to ensure that all the children are heard. Olive has cultivated strong bonds in the community, cementing her credibility and deepening trust—something that has helped her receive cases that require attention and have the opportunity to educate the community. She is the mother to her daughter, Truphy, and fosters four BEAM children.

BEAM HIGHLIGHTS



Abel Kiprop

We met Abel when he was in his junior year of high school. His single mother struggled to pay his school tuition fees through casual labor and holding fundraisers in the community. Despite her efforts, Abel's past due fees continued to accumulate. He was warned by his school that if he didn't clear his balance soon, he would be sent home. His three older siblings dropped out in the middle of high school because their family couldn't afford the tuition, and it seemed Abel was heading down that same path.

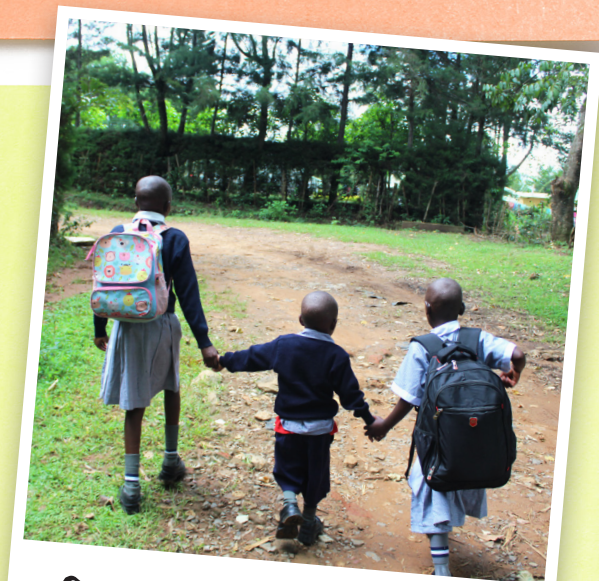
Abel had a strong foundation in his lower primary classes and performed very well on Kenya's mandatory national exam for primary school students. He was also the top student in his class, earning him a spot at a top-tier high school. With his strong work ethic and driven nature, Abel was selected to receive a scholarship through BEAM in January 2023.

Today, Abel is in his senior year of high school and hopes to study law in the future. He desires to bring more honesty and transparency to the legal field in Kenya and fight for justice for people who cannot afford legal fees. He dreams of starting an organization similar to BEAM to help vulnerable children go to school. Abel said, "I really thank BEAM. If I didn't receive a scholarship in my junior year, then I would have had to transfer to a local secondary school and leave the opportunity I had at a top-tier national high school. Thank you for helping my mother with fees and school supplies. I really thank you."

Ali* is a first grade student who recently transferred to a school where BEAM provides counseling services. While in class, the teacher realized that he was having trouble concentrating and seemed withdrawn. He was unhappy, irritated, and struggled to communicate. He didn't play with his peers and developed a problem of involuntary urination. Generally, he was psychologically disturbed, and his teacher referred him for counseling.

During the first counseling session, Ali was unable to open up. Through the use of play therapy and core conditions (a person-centered counseling approach), he began to open up in the second session. He bravely shared that in January this year, he witnessed his father being murdered by his uncle. The trauma of this horrifying event caused him to go into shock, shut down, and experience severe anxiety.

Through the continued counseling sessions, signs of healing have been appearing. Ali can now talk and express himself well. He plays with his peers, and his psychosomatic symptoms have reduced. Ali's teacher shared that his concentration in class has improved as well. Counseling is still ongoing to support Ali's mental well-being and continued healing so that he's able to cope with his loss and grief. ** Name changed for privacy*

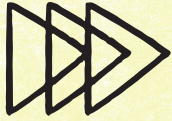


Counseling Highlight



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opportunity to
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Words of thanks



"I have been a student of BEAM since 2020. Through BEAM's support, I got a scholarship to study clinical medicine and surgery at Kenya Medical Training College. I benefited a lot from the support mentally, financially, and spiritually.

I did a three-year course without any major challenges, and I am extremely grateful. God bless the BEAM Kenya donors and the staff in Kenya for all you do."

*Emmanuel
BEAM Kenya graduate*