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# A Brighter World

**Today, we celebrate the incredible journey of Samuel, a Form 4 student at Forestal High School, whose story is a powerful reminder of the impact of compassion and timely intervention.**

Samuel had been forced not to attend school due to a significant fee balance and no support to bridge the gap. His future looked uncertain until David, the principal at Forestal High School, reached out highlighting Samuel's dire need for help. We were able to offer him a scholarship, a lifeline that saw him return to school and focus on his dreams.

Since receiving the scholarship, Samuel has flourished. In his first exam, he scored a B-, and shortly afterward, he sat for the sub-county exam, where he placed 31st out of 3,287 students. He is now the top student in his grade. His dream of becoming a pediatrician is no longer just a distant wish but now a growing reality.

In his own words, Samuel wrote:  
*"This kind gesture will go a long way in my life. I promise I will do my best to ensure that I will not let you down. I know that many are deserving of this opportunity you handed to me. Your willingness to invest in my future is an act I will not take for granted, for I know to whom much is given, much is expected. Please know I will strive to succeed in my studies and honor your faith in me by giving the best in everything I do. Once again, thank you for your support and generosity. You have made a world of difference in my life, and I will be forever thankful for your kindness."*

Samuel's words and achievements are a testament to how a one-time scholarship can transform a life. It proves that sometimes, all a child needs

is one helping hand to rewrite their story—from despair to hope, from potential to excellence.

To all who make these opportunities possible, thank you. Your generosity brings academic success, renewed hope, and countless smiles. Together, we are not just funding education, we are building a better, brighter world.

With heartfelt gratitude,

## Olive

BEAM Kenya Co-founder  
& Social Work Manager

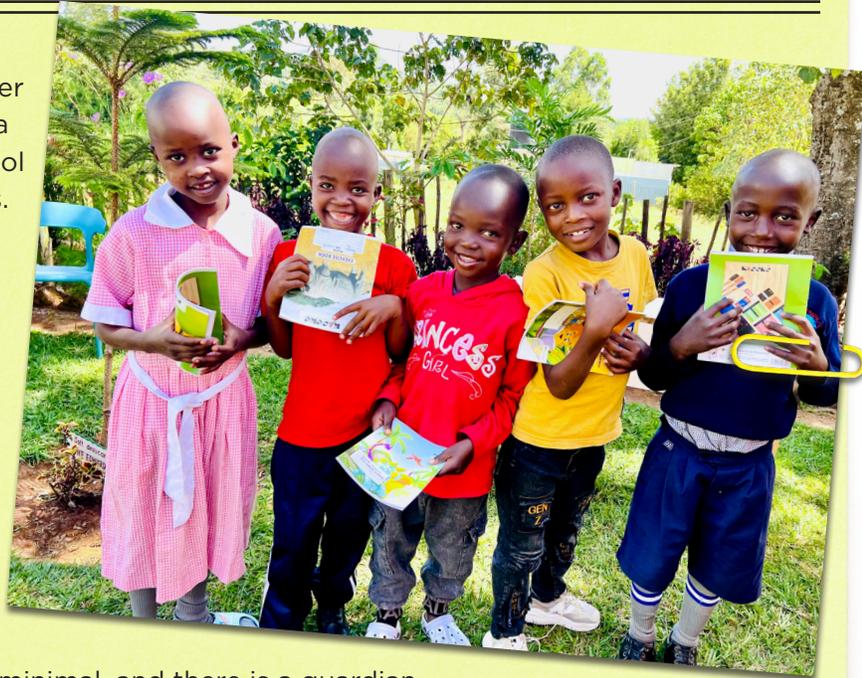
# Removing Barriers to Education

One of the most significant barriers for children in receiving a quality education is being unable to cover the costs of tuition. With your support, BEAM Kenya provides three types of scholarships: boarding school scholarships, day school scholarships, and bursaries.

**Boarding school** provides a safe and supportive environment away from the instability and risks present in the current living situation and typically offers structured care, consistent education, and emotional support from trained professionals. It also gives children access to regular meals, proper clothing, and a clean, hygienic environment.

A child is provided with a scholarship to go to a **day school** when the child is at risk of discontinuing his or her education due to financial constraints. In this set-up, the risks in the home are minimal, and there is a guardian that is providing emotional and nutritional needs but can't afford education. Many families survive through casual jobs that don't provide enough stable income, leaving families in constant financial distress. And then the family has to meet both basic needs and educational costs.

One-time scholarships known as **bursaries** are designed to give families a boost when facing financial hardship by paying school fee balances. This is a partnership with the family as BEAM gives them a boost through the heavy burden of a school fee balance while they work toward paying fees in the future. This allows the student to stay in school consistently and without being sent home for lack of tuition payment.



## Scholarship Snapshot

*So far in 2025, 22 new children have received scholarships to continue their education, thanks to your generous partnership.*

- 11 boarding school students
- 5 day school students
- 6 one-time bursaries



Cheryl is in third grade and loves learning English. She dreams of being a teacher.



Josephine is in preschool and loves recess time. She hopes to become a doctor in the future.



Nathan is in first grade and enjoys learning Swahili and English. He dreams of being a doctor when he grows up.



Maxwell is in second grade and loves studying Swahili. He wants to work hard so that he can become a pilot one day.

# Natalie Rodriguez

BEAM Kenya U.S. Board Member

*"What an unforgettable time! Our hearts are exploding from all the love, incredible hospitality, friendship (new and old), and incomparable beauty. So thankful for our time with BEAM and what an honor to be able to support their incredible work and meet so many of the scholars whose lives have been touched by the staff's dedication."*

# John + Tara Brewer

Friends of BEAM Kenya



# St. Joseph's Academy Solidarity Immersion Trip



*"Your attention to detail and care made the entire experience feel seamless, meaningful, and grounded. You gave our students the space to witness and appreciate the beauty, complexity, and depth of Kenyan life. You showed its vibrant culture, powerful faith, and the remarkable strength of its communities."*

**- Katie Richardson, SJA Director of Global Learning**

*"The opportunity to visit BEAM Kenya at the end of my senior year is one I will cherish for a lifetime. Although we came for a senior service project, the real service was done unto us. The community welcomed us with open arms, giving anything they could to make us comfortable. I was truly impacted when we met with the people, heard their stories, and shared a common appreciation for one another. It is truly remarkable the work Colleen, Olive, and the rest of the BEAM team do to support the people I now call friends. As I reflect on my time, I am left with many questions. Why is this happening to people I care about? How can I help from so far? Although I don't know the answers just yet, I will continue to search and try to understand. Because if I learned anything on my trip, it's that some of the hardest questions to ask lead to the most impactful answers."*

**- Lilly Kilkullen, trip attendee, SJA Class of 2025**



# The Joy of Visitors

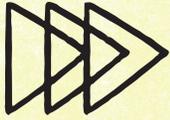
Our team welcomed visitors from St. Joseph's Academy (SJA), BEAM Kenya's founder Colleen Costigan's alma mater. This group marks the inaugural solidarity immersion trip for the school. As part of their visit, the team attended classes and experienced a day in the life of a Kenyan high school student.

*"You have transformed my life and the lives of my students. With this donation come my deepest prayers for all those whose lives are touched by BEAM and your extraordinary love in action. I have come to know God as Love better through you."*

**- Mike Finucan, SJA Director of Campus Ministry and Kenya chaperone**



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## Words of Impact

*"Milkah was counseling one of our high school students who's had some behavior struggles. After their session, she called me excited—she had used several techniques from the child safety training. She said, 'I didn't ask leading questions. I just let him talk, and he opened up.' He was so grateful someone finally talked with him and listened. Just amazing. Big thanks to the BEAM team!"*

*Holly Okoth, Executive Director, Good News Kenya*