



# SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER

[WWW.KENYAMATTERS.ORG](http://WWW.KENYAMATTERS.ORG)



# Join us FOR A TRIP TO KENYA THIS FALL!

## NOVEMBER OF 2024

In this spirit of learning and growing for transformation, we are inviting you to travel with us to Kenya, departing the Friday after Thanksgiving, **November 29**, and returning Wednesday, **December 11**.

During your time in Kenya, you will spend time with the children, staff, and community that you support via Kenya Matters. Activities will include playing games, taking walks, and going on a field trip with the children. You will visit local communities and learn about the life of rural Kenya. We have a three day safari planned to visit the incredible Masai Mara, too!

Those of us who have traveled to Kenya have been so inspired by the generosity and commitment of our Kenyan staff, board, and village neighbors. Of course, the kids at the children's home are always the highlight of our visit.

You will stay near the children's home, with arrangements that include tasty food & colorful culture, fully immersing yourself in the daily life of Kenya. Your trip will be led by our Kenya Matters board president, who has much experience navigating the entire process of visiting East Africa.



## THE DETAILS

- **Airfare to & from Nairobi, Kenya**, cost determined by airfare at the time of reservations. (Approx. \$1200-1500 round trip)
- **Lodging**, most of your meals, & ground transportation, \$750.
- **Safari to the Masai Mara**, three days & two nights, including lodging & the majority of your food, approx. \$650.
- **Why not join us is the real question?** For more information, email us [hello@kenyamatters.org](mailto:hello@kenyamatters.org)



SCAN TO DONATE



 Givebutter



# NEW “JUNIOR SECONDARY” SCHOOL

Since 2017, the Kenyan Government has been transforming the education system by introducing the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC). The structure of the new system means students will spend two years in pre-primary, six years in primary, six years in high school and three years in University (2-6-6-3). This is the first year this system has been implemented and we have Grade 6 students who have now entered Junior Secondary.

From left to right: Faith Cherono, Patrick Mwangi, Maxwell Kiprop, Joseph Njenga, Rose Waceke. They all attend Milimani School. They were excited when they got new uniforms!



## OUR NEW HIGH SCHOOLERS!

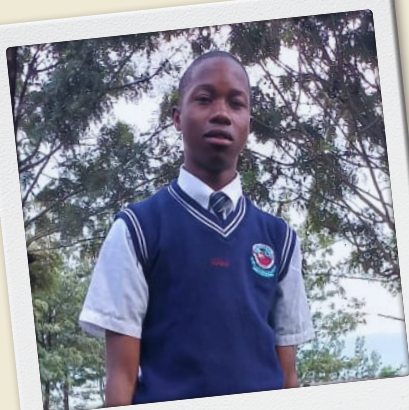
We have 5 new high school students this year and we are proud that they all performed very well in their Grade 8 national exams.



*Ann Wangui*



*Brian Kimani*



*Brian Juma*

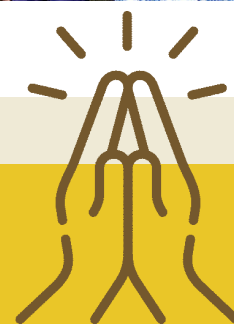


*Mitchel Wangiku*



*Kelly Githuka*

## PRAYER REQUEST FROM KENYA



With the economic hardships going around in the country, continue to pray for families that they are having a hard time to provide for their families.

For wisdom and guidance to handle all the challenges that come our way, so that we can continue to serve our community well.



# Mac & Meatball 2024

## A NIGHT OF FOOD, INSPIRATION, & FUNRAISING

BY RANDY BUIST, BOARD PRESIDENT

Text  
"KENYA MATTERS"  
to phone number  
56651 to donate  
over text.



On Saturday evening, February 24, our marque annual fundraising event took place. Many of the same people who have supported this project for many years, along with new faces too, came ready to hear the latest news from Kenya, have a great time sampling food, and commit to another year of support.

Guests heard the story of CRCA alum Edwin, who has adopted a local boy who is orphaned and is supporting his physical and emotional needs and standing in his corner, just as the CRCA cared for Edwin. It is a full-circle story filled with such goodness. Guests heard about the high inflation in Kenya and were challenged to become monthly donors to provide consistent support during more challenging economic times – and to be someone who stands in the corner with our kids.

And there was much FuNraising during the silent and live auctions. We saw a pint of honey donated by a beekeeper who supports Kenya Matters go for \$300, and a cabin in Baldwin, Michigan, donated by Kenya Matters supporter, go

for over \$800. It was our highest-grossing Mac-N-Meatball auction ever!

The event always ends with the announcement of the cooking contestant winners, complete with a drum roll this year! Janelle DeBlaay and Christine Metzger won the top honors for Mac-N-Cheese with Shannon Klein taking 2nd place. Tyler Engers, Micki Buist, and Krista Voetberg claimed 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for the Meatball category. The tasting and voting is always a highlight of the event, and it did not disappoint again this year.

For those of you who were with us this year, your presence was so appreciated. By being with us, you affirmed the work of our thirteen staff members in Kenya, along with the many volunteer hours of our board and others in the U.S.

We hope to see the Cook-Off return for 2025, with the date being in late February or early March