



2014 Annual Report





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A Message From Our Founders



2014

has been a great year for Hatua Likoni. In January we added 49 new students to our scholarship program, growing Hatua by 33% and bringing our scholarship total to 190 students in secondary, college & university. That's 190 top students in school and learning who would have otherwise dropped out. Paying school fees for so many students is not easy but they keep us motivated by performing well. Fifty-five percent of our high school students are in the top 25% of their class and 83% of our 2013 secondary school graduates qualified for admission to Kenya's public universities, compared to 27% of students nationally. Much of their success can be credited to our mentoring programs. During the April holiday our secondary students participated in four days of panel discussions with professionals from 12 different careers, learning about the various courses they can study in university and fields they can pursue after school. On Jan 4th we introduced our college and university students to their individual career mentors, officially launching our new university mentoring program. So far 24 students have met one on one with their mentors and four have been hired to work as interns under their mentors' supervision. By introducing our secondary, college and university students to local professionals we are helping them gain the networks they'll need to successfully transition from school to work. We believe this will give our students the edge they need to compete & excel in Kenya's growing economy.

Our work is only possible thanks to you, our generous supporters. Our students have asked us to thank you on their behalf.

Thank you!



Hatua Likoni is a community NGO working to promote education and employment among youth in Likoni, Kenya.

Through scholarship, mentoring and career guidance, Hatua helps top students gain the skills, credentials and networks they need to contribute to and benefit from Kenya's growing economy.

Why We Exist

Hatua's scholarship recipients come from the poorest families in Likoni, which is the poorest part of Mombasa, Kenya. Over 25% of adults in Likoni are unemployed and the average income for those who work is just \$3 per day. Free primary education enables most Kenyan children to attend primary school, but less than half of those who complete primary school in Likoni transition to secondary school, due in large part to the high cost of secondary education. The least expensive secondary schools cost \$270 per year, while Kenya's top-tier National high schools cost \$700. Meanwhile, the average income in Likoni for those who are working is less than \$1,000 annually. Without scholarships, secondary and post-secondary education is unattainable for the vast majority of young people in Likoni.

To ensure that our brightest youth are able to reach their potential Hatua provides scholarships to top students who cannot afford education. In 2014, Hatua is sponsoring 190 students, including 137 in secondary school and 53 in college and university. Weekend and holiday mentoring for secondary students, focused on life skills, civics, community service and career guidance, prepares students for a successful transition from secondary to university. Once our students transition from secondary to higher education we pair each with a local professional working in the field our student wishes to pursue. Mentors are tasked with helping their mentees develop the skills, experience and networks they will need to launch their own careers. Through scholarships, mentoring and career guidance we aim to help youth enter the workforce as professionals and responsible citizens, ready to help uplift our community.

Hatua Scholarship Fund



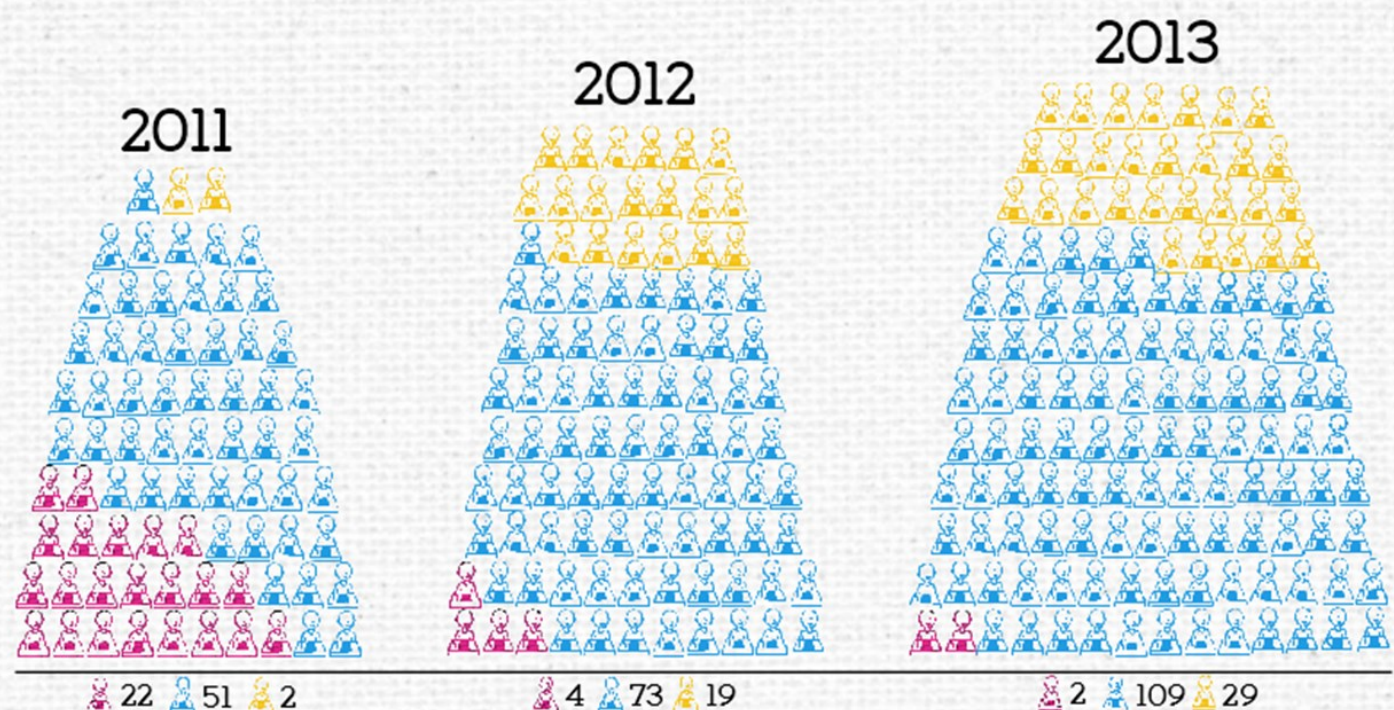
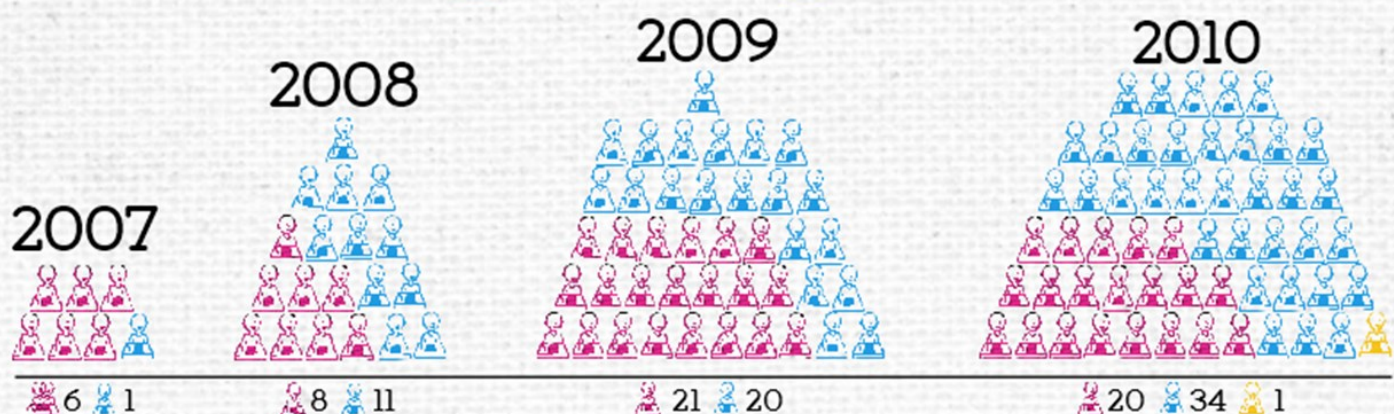
Primary school student



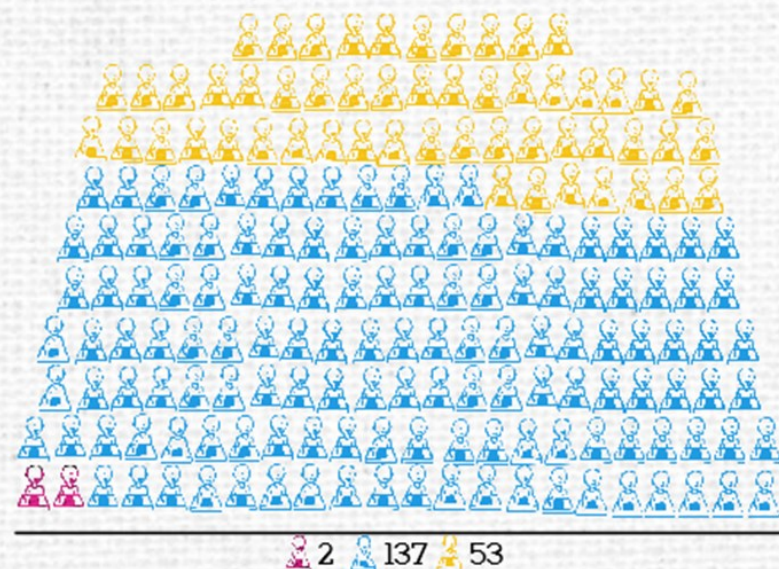
Secondary school student



Gap Year or university/college student



2014



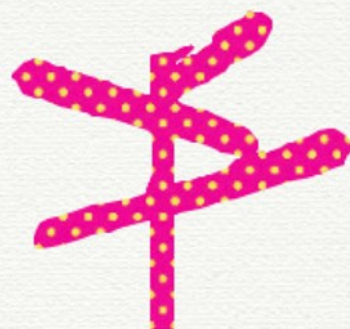
IN 2014, WE ADDED 49 OF LIKONI'S
BRIGHTEST STUDENTS IN NEED OF
FINANCIAL HELP TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP
AND MENTORING PROGRAM.

hatua
LIKONI

HATUALIKONI.ORG

More than just a scholarship...

To ensure that our students get the most from their scholarship, we provide them with weekly mentoring sessions focused on **personal development**, **civic education** and **career guidance** to help them enter the workplace with the right skills and as informed and responsible citizens.



Provided they maintain good grades, we commit to sponsoring our students through secondary school and college/university, during which time we identify a suitable professional from their field of interest to support them in their job search and introduce them to a wider professional network.



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Only once our students have settled into their first job are they alumni of our program.

hatualikoni.org

Hatua Scholarships



January 2014 began the 8th year of Hatua's Scholarship Program. During our 2014 student selection we received 255 applications, conducted 96 home visits, and selected 49 talented students to join our program, including 24 boys & 25 girls. Our New Student Welcome Ceremony took place at the Likoni Library on January 18th. Along with new students and their parents, we shared the occasion with our Board, Head Teachers from Likoni's public primary schools, and our local donors, including representatives from Rafiki Bank and Base Titanium. After our new students and their guardians signed pledges of participation, performance and behavior we presented each with certificates, officially welcoming them into the Hatua Family.

Hatua now sponsors 190 students, an increase of 33% from last year. Of our 137 secondary school students, 38% are attending Kenya's top-tier national schools. Meanwhile, 18 of our students finished secondary school last November after completing their KCSE Examination. Students in Kenya must score at least a C+ on their KCSE exam to qualify for university. While 27% of all students in Kenya scored C+ or above, 83% of Hatua's students reached that mark.

Holiday Mentoring

During April Kenya's schools break for holiday, giving us time to meet our students daily for mentoring.

Our Form One students (freshman) spent the first week of holiday mentoring learning about life skills, including goal setting, good study habits and choosing good friends. During their second week they participated in a Resonate! Workshop where they learned about the power of storytelling and public speaking, got a chance to explore their personal values and created their own personal narrative.

Meanwhile, our older high school students focused on career guidance, beginning with the different courses offered in Kenya's universities and requirements for admission. They then spent four days with professionals from different fields learning about their careers and the path each has taken to reach where they are today. Professionals working in education, health, IT, media, public policy, hospitality, engineering, mining, urban planning, business, and more came to share their experiences and advice with our students. Our students followed up with great questions about job opportunities in each field, the tasks involved in a typical day, the challenges, and what each professional loves most about their career.

During one day we separated our boys & girls so that our boys could discuss what it means to be a responsible man and our girls could learn how to use a [Ruby Cup](#), a long lasting, reusable sanitary cup. We purchased one for each of our girls, eliminating the need for them to buy pads. They are thrilled to have an alternative that doesn't require money every month.

Fridays were aside for activities that bring all our students together, including a blood drive at which our students donated 70 pints, and a day of team-building games that helped strengthen bonds within the Hatua family.



Reflections on Home Visits

By Evan Omondi, Hatua Library Coordinator

Without a doubt our scholarship home visits proved to be one of the most enlightening moment of my life. I come from a difficult background and believed I had seen it all as far as poverty is concerned but my situation looked like a Christmas party compared to what I saw while doing home visits for Hatua's scholarship selection.

Most of the families I visited were single parent families. I visited one family where the father had abandoned the mother, leaving her to take care of nine children on her own. The family of boys and girls share a single congested room with their mother. The mother earns so little from her small business of weaving mats. They only eat a single meal each day and they struggle with payment of the monthly rent. From the look of things she is not well nourished and very weak, a sign that she is far from healthy.

Another family I saw was also a single parent family. The mother is living with her sole daughter. They were abandoned by the father who himself is an old man now being taken care of by his extended family. The extended family has no time for his wife and daughter. The daughter is a very bright girl learning in a national secondary school. But she suffers from ulcers caused by stress. Her mother has had a number of operations on her hands and limbs since she was involved in a car accident. She can no longer walk for long distances let alone do strenuous work; she survives by making and selling chapati (flat bread).



These are only two cases of the twenty home visits I carried out this year. My reaction overall and especially from these two families surprised me. It was both a sweet and painful reaction- sweet in that there are people and an organization which recognize these families and their suffering, and are ready to help in their moment of absolute need. And painful in that I'm asking families to narrate their ordeal in full to me, someone they are meeting for the first time. Some were a bit shy and found it shameful to open up to a stranger. But eventually they relaxed and gave a comfortable narration knowing this might turn out to bring the help their children most need.

Personally I was very sad throughout these visits but made sure not to show my emotions. I witnessed during these visits the way life is so unfair at times. If there is anything on the face of the earth that makes humanity so hopeless, distraught and desperate it is poverty and hunger. But there is a very thin line between hope and despair. While others are enjoying in abundance all they may need, many are struggling to get their bare basic needs such as food and shelter. I then thought of Hatua Likoni and the many people who support Hatua. Hatua can't support every family that I visited but we will help many. It's because those who can are willing to help that we can offer hope to families that suffer more than their fair share.



Library Additions

Hatua's library is looking better than ever. Our collection of curriculum books for primary and secondary school students has grown to over 1,100 books, and we now have 125 books by African authors and about Africa. This new and improved collection includes 431 books donated by Base Titanium, one of Hatua's local corporate sponsors. Our computer lab is also in tiptop condition after a thorough maintenance overhaul and the addition of a full size photocopier machine, donated by Safaricom Foundation. The computer lab and photocopier machine are both helping to generate income for the Library while providing the community with low cost services.

American Friends of Kenya (AFK) has made another wonderful contribution of 1,600 books, half of which we added to our library's collection, and half of which we donated to ten local public schools. We are now helping to create a Library Network among these schools so they can be trained by AFK on library management.

So far this year our library has been packed with an average of 242 visitors every day. During the April holiday this number jumped to over 350 visitors daily. In the mornings, before the library opens, dozens of students wait outside the doors. Once the doors open the crowd pours in and students rush to claim their favorite seats. While some people say Likoni kids don't care about education, anyone who visits our library can see that there are, at the very least, hundreds who are eager to learn. They just need the opportunity.

Likoni Free Medical Camp

Every month roughly 18,800 cases of respiratory related diseases are diagnosed in Likoni. There are also an average of 11,117 cases of malaria, 5,336 cases of diarrhea, and 2,394 cases of pneumonia diagnosed every month among children and adults. These diseases are often preventable and almost always treatable, but Likoni residents regularly go without treatment because of poverty.

To combat this issue Hatua, with the Kenya Association of Muslim Medical Professionals and the Likoni Community Football League, organized our first free medical camp.

Over the course of two days 49 volunteer doctors and nurses provided medical care, dental checkups, eye care, and medicine to nearly 2,000 Likoni residents. They did so with help from 14 partner organizations, 60 volunteers, and 16 donors, including Grain Bulk Handlers, which provided for volunteers' transportation & meals, the Mombasa County Government, which provided publicity & t-shirts, and a generous local donor who provided all the medicine used for treatment & prescriptions.

We thank all those who made the event a success by donating their time, expertise & resources.



University Mentoring Launch

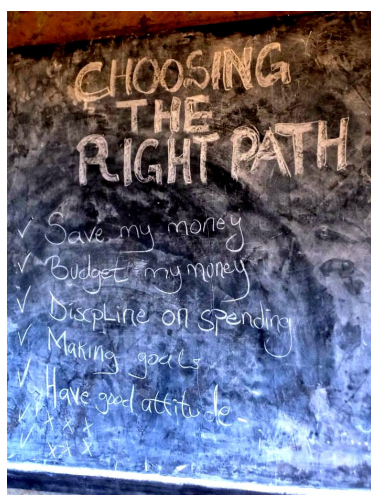
On January 4th Hatua Likoni hosted its first gathering of university students and their mentors. This is part of our new program which pairs each of Hatua's college and university students with an individual mentor working within the field our student wants to pursue. The role of each mentor is to serve as a career coach, helping their mentee prepare for a successful transition from school to work.

During our program launch, 30 of Hatua's college & university students were paired with professionals in their chosen fields, including nurses, bankers, lawyers and business executives, among others. Our goal is for each pair to meet at least three times per year.

Abdallah Mkonga is a first year student at the Technical University of Mombasa studying Business Management. He is paired with Mwenda Thurani, CEO of Myspace Properties, a leading property development and management company. Mwenda thought the best way to mentor Abdallah was by giving him an internship within his company. Recently Abdallah was assigned a property to market. He managed to find a buyer who purchased the property for 5 million shillings. Mwenda is thrilled, and totally convinced that it's more than worthwhile to give a chance to a Hatua student. Abdallah is also thrilled, in part because he earned a commission from the sale. As evidence that he is really learning from his internship Abdallah has decided to use his bonus to start saving for a plot of land. Mwenda and Abdallah are great examples of what happens when professionals help youth gain the skills they need to begin their own careers. We are grateful to the many professionals who have joined Hatua as mentors and we welcome those who wish to join.



Life Poa Financial Literacy



Life Poa is a financial literacy training program for high school students in developing countries created by the YouthSave consortium and led by Save the Children. Hatua is proud to be one of Save the Children's implementing partners. The project began in December when our gap year students were trained as trainers. Since January they have taken Life Poa to 40 different schools and reached nearly 4,200 students. Two Hatua students conducted each workshop, training 35 pupils over the course of 10 hours.

Life Poa means a Good Life and aims to help participants achieve just that. The project's goal is to improve young people's financial management skills and lifelong well being by teaching them the importance of saving for the future and tools they can use to save. Specifically, the curriculum includes goal setting, planning, spending, saving & banking.

According to students at Hekima Secondary School, Life Poa has taught them "why we should save for tomorrow," "how to budget," "about good and bad sources of money," "how to differentiate between a want from a need," and "how to open a bank account."

Of all the partners implementing Life Poa in Kenya, Hatua is the only organization that has trained youth to educate their peers.

Community Blood Drives

Hatua has hosted three blood drives this year. Our Form 3 students (Juniors) planned the first one during their December Holiday. In order to teach our students about the nuts and bolts of community service we asked our Form 3s to plan their own event. They chose to plan a blood drive and successfully mobilized 62 donors.

Our second drive was to support the victims of the tragic shooting that took place on March 23 at the Joy in Jesus Church in Likoni. The blood drive was hosted in partnership with the Red Cross, Likoni Beach Management Unit, Kwetu Beach Resort, Peace Net, and Amurt. Community members of all ages came to donate throughout the afternoon giving 25 pints.

Our most recent drive took place during the April Holiday as a team building activity for Hatua students and staff. Together we donated 70 pints. We plan to host a drive every holiday to encourage our students to be regular donors. It's not every day you have a chance to save a life, but our students will have that opportunity at least three times every year.





The Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) is the end of primary school examination that determines if a student will be admitted to secondary school. The exam is out of 500 points and 250 is the pass mark.

Hatua Likoni did an analysis of the KCPE scores for public and private schools in Likoni to determine the percentage of students who passed their exam. We discovered that only 37% of students in Likoni passed last year, and that among our public schools this number drops to 25%. The fact that 75% of students in Likoni's public schools are failing should be the worst news,

but it turns out that 50% of Likoni public school students are earning less than 200 marks on their exams, indicating that our public schools are not just failing, but failing terribly.

While Likoni's performance is the worst in Mombasa, the rest of the county is not far ahead. Across all public primary schools in Mombasa 34% of students passed their exams with a score of 250 or above, while a larger number, 39% scored below 200. When we incorporate private schools Mombasa's pass rate improves to just 48%, meaning that overall more than half of all children in Mombasa Country fail primary school. Hatua is working to spread this information in order to encourage citizens and leaders to take up public primary school performance as a priority issue.

Media Coverage

Hatua Likoni has gotten great media coverage over the past few months, including a four-page feature article in [Fly540's in-flight magazine](#). This in-depth story highlights how Hatua was founded, what we have accomplished to date, and how we aim to change the future of Likoni.



From Big Apple TO BIG IDEA

Gwendolyn Fenella is an unlikely figure to come across in the sleepy district of Mombasa, but she's been here for over a decade since graduating from Wesleyan University, Connecticut, in 2001.

For many of us, coming to Mombasa was a shock. Gwendolyn has become a beacon of hope as she works a grassroots initiative to help to disadvantaged children and young people to reach their potential through entrepreneurship, mentoring and career guidance.

Children responsible for their own education are a big problem in Kenya. Nationally the gross-out-ride to attend a primary school is about 40 per cent, says Gwendolyn. "The least amount of Mombasa is between 45 and 50 per cent," says the co-founder of Hatua and their education partner, Save the Children. "This is not a very promising statistic for the future of the country."

Gwendolyn is passionate about



Coast This Week, Kenya's official Coast newspaper, has recently done two stories on Hatua, profiling the organization & covering Hatua's Financial Literacy Program.

As part of our effort to mobilize concern and action around Mombasa's poor primary school performance we presented our statistics to the Standard Newspaper, one of Kenya's top national papers. They agreed that this information needed to be shared, and published an article about Hatua's findings which also highlighted our work promoting education.

Fundraising Success

In December the Intercontinental Barclay Hotel in New York City hosted a Holiday Fundraising Party for Hatua Likoni. We were thrilled to have over 80 guests and raise \$6,000, making it our most successful fundraising event to date. Hatua's annual appeal was also our best yet, raising \$14,600 - double last year's collection. We are so grateful to all those who helped make our end of year campaign a great success.

Also in December Segal Family Foundation (SFF) accepted Hatua as its newest grantee and pledged \$15,000. SFF supports 150 grassroots organizations in East Africa with funding, capacity building and networking opportunities. At a recent SFF networking event we met Ruby Cup, a social enterprise promoting reusable, long lasting menstrual cups. Ruby Cup then came to Mombasa in April to train our students on how to use their product. Our girls are thrilled knowing they no longer have to stress when they don't have money for pads. Meanwhile, we are thrilled to be part of the Segal Network. It seems SFF is also please to support Hatua because the foundation has just decided to double their donation for next year.

Over the last six months we've had great success fundraising within Kenya. Grain Builk Handlers, Rafiki Bank, and Save the Children Kenya have all joined the Hatua family as donors, while Base Titanium has made a new pledge of 5 million Ksh (\$57,500) over the next two years.

We have also launched our 10 Ksh Campaign, which aims to engage our community as donors by asking Likoni residents to donate 10 ksh (\$0.12) on the 10th of every month. On April 10th the initiative raised 11,500 ksh (\$132). Theoretically, if every adult in Likoni gave 10 ksh each month we could provide 240 full scholarships each year without any additional support. This is just one example of the potential of community philanthropy.

Educating our Youth, Building our Community



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