



Global Give Back Circle

USAID/ Jeffrey Karang'ae



Joyce Makungu, volunteers on Sundays at a children's home. She practices the 'Give Back' ethos designed to transform beneficiaries into benefactors.

U.S. Presidential Initiative:

- President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

Funding Level:
\$5.1 million

Duration:
February 2011
– August 2017



Activity Goals:

- Empower disadvantaged girls and boys to complete their education
- Support disadvantaged girls and boys to escape the cycle of poverty
- Encourage scholarship recipients to give back by helping the next generation

Activity Accomplishments for FY 2015:

- Provided scholarships and mentorships to 600 girls and 28 boys.
- Enrolled a total of 600 mentors from nine countries.

ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

The Global Give Back Circle (GGBC) integrates mentoring, private sector investment and local community support in a circle of empowerment that guides disadvantaged young girls and boys to complete their educational journeys, gain employable skills, and become agents of change. Participants receive scholarships, life-skills training, and mentorship. In return, the participants offer voluntary service to their communities while mentoring the next generation of scholarship awardees. More than 27 partners from the public and private sectors support the project, including Microsoft, Safaricom, Standard Chartered Bank Kenya, MasterCard Foundation, Equity Bank, Deloitte Kenya, KPMG Kenya, PWC Kenya, Barclays Bank Kenya, Ernst & Young USA, and USAID.

ACTIVITY AREAS

Launched in 2008 as a Clinton Global Initiative Commitment, the Global Give Back Circle provides girls and boys from disadvantaged backgrounds—many of them orphans—with the skills, savvy, and support they need to escape the cycle of poverty. Participants are also empowered to lend a helping hand to the next generation.

The program matches each young man and woman with a mentor, either an American or a Kenyan professional woman, who maintains an open channel of communication throughout the program. Mentors provide advice to the participants to facilitate thoughtful decision-making about social, academic, and professional choices. In addition to financial support for secondary school and university, the project provides special courses in managing personal finances, reproductive health, life skills, and information and communications technology.

ACTIVITY IMPACT

At the age of 15, Mariam Nerasha ran away from home after being forced to marry an elderly man. She had just completed her secondary education and was hoping to go to college. Her academic dreams appeared out of reach, as she had no one to help her pay school fees. Luckily, Mariam met a local county official who introduced her to the Kenya Community Development Foundation and the Global Give Back Circle family.

“GGBC was the best thing to come my way and I am counting myself lucky,” stated Mariam. “If it was not for the Circle, I would not be the woman I am today.”

Out of the allowance she received from GGBC every semester, she was able to pay her college fees and still save ten percent of the money. She put her money to use wisely after attending a GGBC sponsored

- 27 Private Sector Organizations have partnered with the GGBC program to provide scholarships, internships and mentors including recent new partners Zep-Re, Standard Chartered Bank, Equity Foundation, Surgipharm, Nestle, Hot-Point Appliances and General Motors.
- 515 members in tertiary education have participated in life-skills workshops that cover financial literacy, Give Back commitments, reproductive health, and work readiness.

Activity Locations:

Nationwide

Key Partners:

Ministry of Education Science & Technology

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workshop on financial management.

Mariam is currently working as an administrative assistant at Transmara Institute for Professional Studies. She is giving back to her community through her work to sensitize youth against HIV and AIDS and by mentoring other girls.