

No longer barefoot on the streets

- former street boy Ben Ndichu is learning to make shoes



Former street boy Ben is training in leather technology which is a very practical course. He and his fellow-trainees were given the challenge of making a pair of shoes. "I came 8th out of 69 students," he told us, "And as a prize, I was given a pair of smart shoes of my own. I was very happy!"

At the age of 10, Ben left home and went to live on the streets of Naivasha, Kenya. He spent each day scavenging for food from the remains of meals thrown into dustbins outside hotels. At night, he was cold and lived in fear of being bullied by bigger street boys.

This was the only life he knew for two years until he was rescued by staff from our Sunshine Centre who took him in, gave him a warm bed, good food. They arranged for

him to go back to school and we have continued to support him at college. Ben is delighted that he has a UK sponsor who he keeps in touch with about his progress.

A fresh start for street boy Alex

Covid hit Kenya's economy hard, reducing incomes and throwing people out of work. Alex Muchai's family was hit hard.

With little money coming in to the family, Alex left home, spending his time on the streets collecting pieces of waste charcoal to sell in the market for a few shillings.

We rescued him last year, and today he is safe at our Sunshine Centre where he likes to lend a hand keeping the compound clean.

And he is back in school too.



Does Sunshine work?

-- it did for Kamau



Our Sunshine street boys' rehabilitation celebrated its 18th birthday on 18th February. Since we started, hundreds of street boys have received love, care, education and encouragement, enabling them to grow up in safety and take their place as members of their communities.

One of the first boys who came to the Sunshine Centre in 2004 was Kamau. Fearing that street gangs were going to kill him, he found shelter at the Sunshine Centre, and we cared for him and paid for him to take a vocational course at polytechnic.

This month he WhatsApp'd photos showing him with his wife and beautiful children. Sunshine worked for Kamau!

Wendy's leap of faith

Long-term Footsteps support Wendy McMahon has just visited the Sunshine Centre and is going to **SKYDIVE** to raise funds for our work.



[Please support Wendy's bravery with a generous donation](#)

[Help Wendy smash her target](#)

Everlyn has a small home but a huge heart

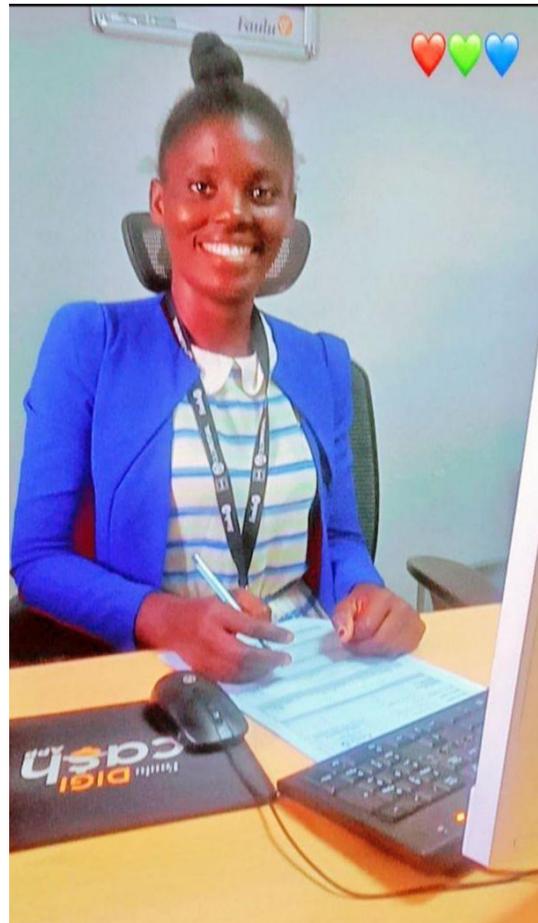


When Everlyn Wekesa heard that four orphaned children needed a home, her heart was moved and she took them in to her tiny house alongside her own children. That was back in 2013.

Today, with support from Footsteps, she continues to give Norah, Purity, Chris and David a loving family setting to grow up in. She also keeps an eye on them to make sure they complete their homework.

Does helping orphans work?

-- it did for Christine



Christine Atieno is an orphan who excelled at school and was delighted to be offered a place at university to do a degree in Commerce. But, with no money to cover her fees, accommodation and food, she feared she would have to turn down the opportunity

We agreed to cover her costs, and Christine repaid our investment by graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce degree, and has recently started working as a Branch Sales Manager for Faulu Microfinance Bank.

Doreen graduates and is ready for bright future

Doreen's graduation photo shows her as a confident young woman striding towards a positive future.

It is difficult to believe that when she came as an orphaned child to our Tumaini children's home she was a shy girl. As she settled in to her new home surrounded by a new family, one thing became clear, Doreen was a hard worker who pushed herself to excel.

As a reward for her drive and energy, this month she graduated in HR Management from the Cooperative University of Kenya in Nairobi.

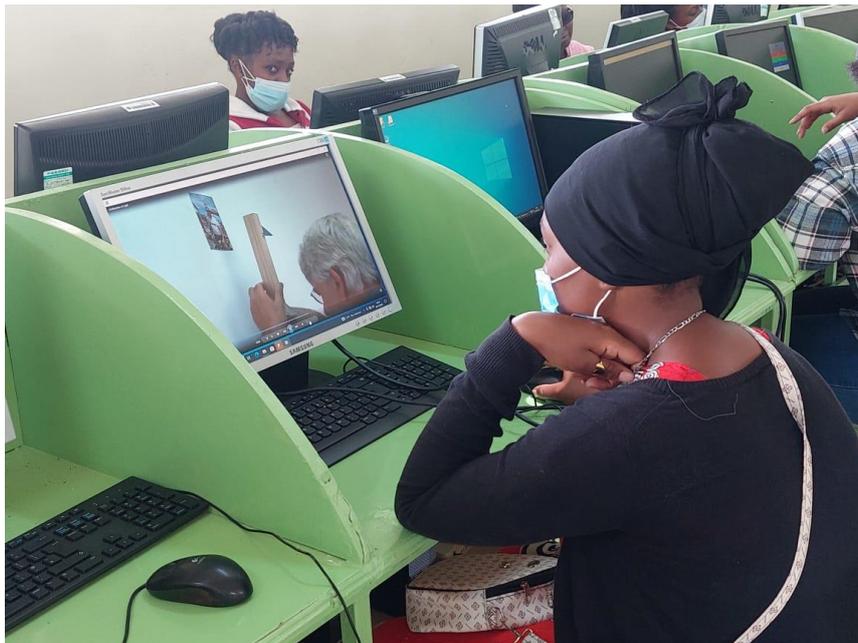


Vocational training students benefit from donors' generosity



Two recent generous donations have helped provide vocational trainees at Naivasha Technical Training Institute with the opportunity to acquire skills to earn a living in Kenya's changing economy.

Included in a gift of tools from Rotary was a facial machine for the Cosmetology course trainees to learn the latest face and skin care techniques, and a Megger tester for the electrical trainees to check circuits and ensure safety.



With the help of a generous gift from a long-term Footsteps supporter, the Institute completed a Digital Learning Centre (above) which provides trainees with up-to-date information from across the globe, broadening their knowledge and keeping them informed of the latest technologies and best practice.

A vocational skill and qualification provide young adults with the essentials to earn a living and care for themselves.

Pauline's new arrival



Orphaned and with no family to care for her, we gave Pauline a place at our Tumaini children's home in Mombasa where house-parents Charles and Mary welcomed her in alongside the twenty-five other children they cared for

After she had completed high school, we helped Pauline train as a mechanic. This month she messaged us to say she was doing well and introduced us to her new son Adrian Sam Wafula.

If you would like to support a street boy or orphan...

[...Donate now](#)

Virtual Kenya Marafun is ON!

- hold the date: 18th June 2022

Virtual Kenya Marafun 18 June 2022



Anyone - Anywhere - Anyway

Last year 497 people on 3 continents took part in the Virtual Kenya Marafun. This year we are aiming for more participants (and more continents!).

The former street boys will be running a course near the Sunshine Centre and would love to know you were taking part too.

You can run, walk, swim, cycle any distance you choose anywhere you want, and whatever speed you are comfortable with.

All we ask is that you send us a photo of you taking part to share with the Sunshine Boys, and raise some sponsorship if you can.

More details next time!

Personal challenge update

- a special message from Martin and Mary Print



Mary had a major operation on 2nd February and is recovering slowly. She is hoping to be able to leave hospital soon, but will need a lot of extra care when she gets home.

Thank you to all who have written, emailed, text messaged, prayed and shown their care for Mary in so many other ways - she has been very encouraged by you all.

We remain committed to carrying on the important work we do through Footsteps, and were delighted that our trustee Paul Robinson, our treasurer Ben Gardner and supporters Wendy McMahon and Ellie Mitchell were able to visit as our representatives. They have come back with lots of photos and stories - we will share these with you in later editions of our newsletter.

Martin

Mary

Martin and Mary Print
Co-founders, Footsteps International

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