



## 2022 Mid-Year Update

*The last few months have been memorable for NEF and we're excited to share some highlights.*

### 2022 Highlights:

**Ten-Year Anniversary Commemoration:** On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 371 people – local and national government representatives, Advisory Bodies, teachers, staff, current and former students and their parents/guardians - gathered at Busijo Secondary School to commemorate NEF's 10-year anniversary. The program included inspirational speeches, reflections on achievements and challenges, and the installation of motivational quotes and tree seedlings around the school campus.

NEF is among the few organizations working along Lake Victoria that are complementing the government in its role of providing compulsory basic education to all the Kenyan citizens. I'm extremely grateful for the opportunity to play this role, for the things we've learned on the journey and for the people who have made it possible for us to reach this milestone – including all of our donors and partners.



Students planting trees on the school grounds, and an elder addressing the crowd. (Photo courtesy of Anne Truphosa, 2022.)

**Game-Changing Donation:** In early June, we received a game-changing donation from Linda Sidhu, dear friend of Jessica and NEF, through a fundraiser she organized with her business network of female entrepreneurs. We have used a portion the money to support a university tour for the students, and carry out a stakeholder mapping exercise and a forum with other organizations working with youth in Samia. These activities will help NEF chart our path for the next 5-10 years. In addition, we will be able to fulfill our dream of expanding to another school to increase and diversify NEF's impact.

**Student University Tour:** A portion of the money from Linda Sidhu was earmarked for the students at Busijo Secondary School to decide how they wanted to spend it. They were given a specific amount of money and guidelines to follow, most importantly being that the project had to benefit the school, not just the eight NEF

beneficiaries. The students met with NEF staff and the Advisory Committee to vet options. The top choice selected was long a dream of the students: to take a day trip to a local university. Thus, on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 42 students boarded a bus and visited Maseno University. They toured and talked to faculty at the medical school, and also had time to visit an animal park and have lunch. For the students, it opened up the world beyond their village, and it inspired them to try even harder in their high school studies so that one day they might be able to attend a university.



Students and staff from Busijo Secondary School with NEF local coordinator Anne Truphosa (far right) at Maseno University. (Photo Courtesy of Allan Wanjala, 2022.)

**Beatrice’s Hospitality Internship:** In early September, NEF beneficiary, Beatrice, started a three-month internship at a hotel as part of her certificate program in hospitality and catering. NEF’s local coordinator, Anne Truphosa, paid her a personal visit recently. Living away from home in a new place has been challenging for Beatrice, but she is doing well and grateful for the opportunity to apply the skills she is learning at Bumbi Technical Training Institute.

**Bicycle distributions:** In the Spring, NEF purchased three bicycles from a local vendor to help NEF beneficiaries who need assistance getting to/from school safely and efficiently. When a student successfully completes her education at Busijo Secondary School, the bicycle will be loaned to another eligible student. Therefore, the three bicycles will benefit multiple people over their lifespan.



Damaris receives a bicycle (Photo courtesy of Anne Truphosa, 2022.)



Beatrice outside Minata Hotel. (Photo courtesy of Anne Truphosa, 2022.)

*Founded in 2012, NEF is a community-initiated project, under the umbrella of The Zawadisha Fund, that helps girls and young women in rural Kenya achieve their educational goals. We provide scholarships and other resources to set them up for success.*

**SAVE THE DATE: Support NEF on Giving Tuesday, November 29, 2022!**

<https://nasirumbieducationfund.funraise.org>