efac | EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN



Sponsor Handbook

Post-Secondary School

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Welcome to the EFAC Community!

We are so grateful to have you join us in our efforts to support EFAC Scholars as they enter the next phase of their Wezesha Journey: post-secondary school! EFAC empowers students to pursue their dreams toward a fulfilling career with the education and skills they need to thrive. Post-secondary school is the next stop on their way to achieving their goals.

As EFAC Scholars transition to post-secondary school, communication between students and sponsors transitions from letter writing to email exchanges - initiated by the students and carried on as it makes sense for both parties. We hope your participation in the Sponsor Program continues to be a fulfilling and rewarding experience!

This handbook is filled with all of the information you need to guide you as a Sponsor, engaging in a cultural exchange with an EFAC Scholar and learning about the impact of your investment as you continue your involvement in EFAC's programs.

With sincere thanks,

Kayla Lawson

Kayla Lawson
Sponsor Program Manager



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CONTACT INFO & QUICKLINKS

Email:
sponsors@efac.org

EFAC Sponsor Resource Hub:
efac.org/for-sponsors

Social Media:

Academic Scholarship Sponsor Program

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About Education For All Children



EFAC was founded in 2008 by Prof. Leah Marangu, Kenyan leader in education and Vice-Chancellor of Africa Nazarene University (ret.), and Nancy & Rod Van Sciver of Rye, New Hampshire. The goal was to establish a program that addressed the pervasive gap in global education. The result, nearly 15 years later, is a unique education-to-employment program that provides a path out of poverty for bright young Kenyans. The EFAC team consists of dedicated staff, trustees, and advisors in both Kenya and the U.S.

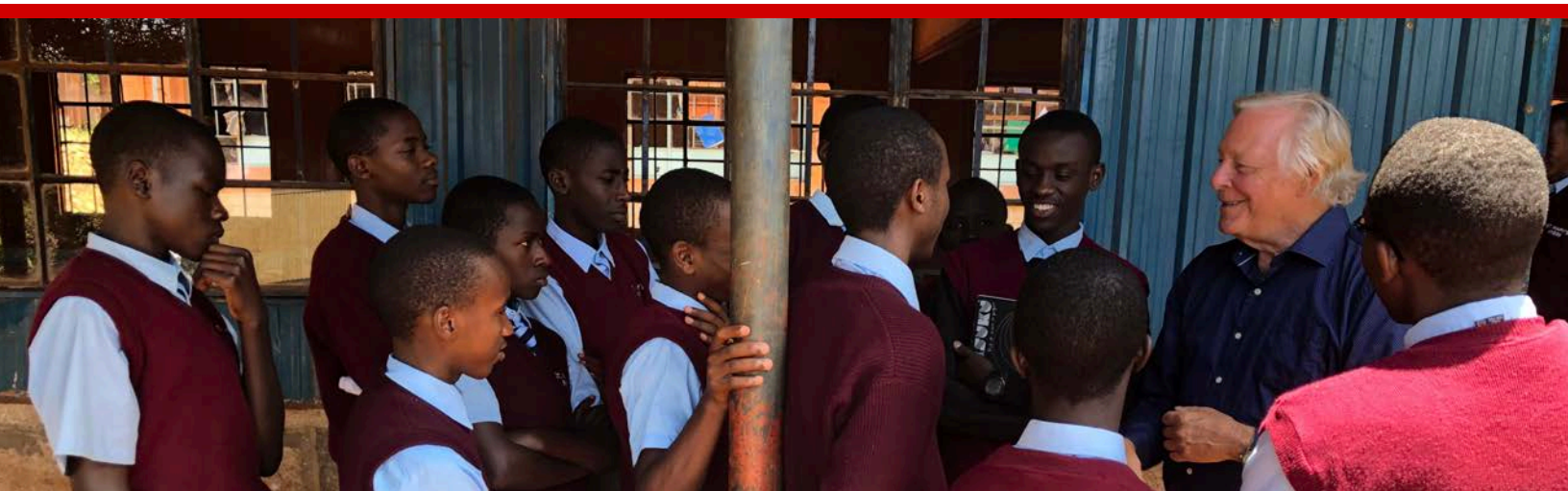
The core of EFAC's model is a commitment to underwrite the tuition and necessary supplies for students to attend a rigorous boarding high school in Kenya and continue on to post-secondary school. Critical to the success of EFAC Scholars is the programming that goes "beyond scholarship": providing mentoring, leadership training, service learning opportunities, and career-readiness throughout the 8-year program. EFAC provides Scholars with an education and empowers them with the tools they need to transform their lives.

EFAC Sponsors Are Changemakers!

Your sponsorship dollars are invested directly in a student's education. By providing the foundation of an academic scholarship, an EFAC Scholar is able to enter into a community of support and learning that nurtures their development through young adulthood. It is our hope that EFAC Scholars and sponsors develop enduring relationships of cultural exchange and encouragement, with the common bond that education enriches lives across the globe.

How the Academic Scholarship Sponsor Program Works

Sponsors typically underwrite the tuition, fees, books, uniforms, basic hygiene supplies and transportation for an EFAC Scholar. As Scholars are selected to join EFAC, they are matched with committed participants in the Sponsor Program through a one-to-one model. Sponsorships are a 4-year commitment, which can be renewed for another 4 years as the Scholar enters post-secondary school. EFAC Scholars and sponsors maintain letter-writing correspondence 3 times a year throughout high school and email/text correspondence throughout post-secondary (and often times, beyond!).



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EFAC's Program Goes Beyond Scholarship

The 8-year EFAC program is called the "Wezesha Journey". Wezesha means "empower" in Kiswahili and is meant to signify the empowerment of EFAC Scholars as they reach for personal and professional success through EFAC's program. With this goal in mind, we know that offering academic support is not enough. We engage a whole-child approach, supporting students in their academic, social and pre-professional development throughout high school, college and into their careers. Our investment is both deep and long-lasting as the ultimate goal is the empowerment of EFAC Scholars to gain employment after post-secondary graduation. This creates a path out of poverty that transforms their lives, positively impacting their families, communities and country.

EFAC Workshops

EFAC Workshops are held annually to guide Scholars through the transition to the next stage in their education and along their Wezesha Journey.

- Induction: For EFAC Scholars beginning their journey, before they begin boarding school
- Bridge-to-Success: For EFAC Scholars in Forms 2 and 3 as they move on to the next grade
- Bridge-to-College: For EFAC Scholars who've completed Form 4 as they prepare to attend college
- Bridge-to-Employment: For EFAC Scholars in post-secondary school
- Wezesha Workshop: For EFAC Scholars who have completed post-secondary school and are preparing to enter the workforce



Mentorship & Community

EFAC Scholars have access to the EFAC program staff in Kenya, including mental health professionals and EFAC contact teachers at their schools. EFAC also establishes peer mentoring groups at each school, in which students can support each other as individuals and EFAC scholars. This is especially helpful for the younger students to have older peers in their immediate circle of support. Students receive training on peer mentoring as they progress through the program.

Career Development

Throughout their time as students, EFAC Scholars have regular access to progressively relevant training, skill-building and mentorship opportunities to strengthen their candidacy as they ultimately prepare to enter the workforce. Scholars also have access to the Career Resource Center at EFAC's office in Nairobi to support their job searches after graudation.

Academic Scholarship Sponsor Program

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Policies & Procedures

Student Policies

- EFAC Scholars are required to attend annual workshops and other EFAC events and webinars, submit transcripts and surveys to the office in Nairobi
- EFAC Scholars are required to respond to all communication from the EFAC Program team
- EFAC Scholars are encouraged to maintain regular correspondence with sponsors and mentors

Can I send a small gift to the student I sponsor?

We ask sponsors not to send gifts or money to students for several reasons:

- In an effort to promote equity among students, we cannot facilitate any gifts between sponsors and students as we cannot guarantee gifts from all sponsors.
- Packages sent to Kenya often do not arrive; if they do, there are customs fees that the student can't afford. Once a year, however, an EFAC representative travels to Kenya and may be able to hand-carry small items (cards, letters, photos) from sponsors to students.

What if students ask for money?

Students are instructed not to ask sponsors for money or gifts. Please let us know if you receive such a request and we will follow up with the EFAC staff in Kenya to determine if the student is experiencing any problems and how EFAC can provide support.

Correspondence

Sponsor Program communication between sponsors and students at the post-secondary level is managed among the two parties. Writing regularly, expressing interest in their lives, sharing your interests and family activities, and sending encouragement means so much to students!

Things to keep in mind when writing:

- Students love to hear about you and your families, but remember that they come from very poor areas, so sending pictures of a big house or fabulous trip may be hard to grasp.
- EFAC Scholars, like most people, respond to positive reinforcement. Students report that having someone who believes in them is a big incentive to work hard and do well in school.

Other correspondence ideas include:

- Describe your family, where you live, interests, activities, pets, special holidays or customs, etc.
- Talk about milestone events, such as weddings, graduations, new jobs, etc.
- Talk about your profession or education, as they love learning about careers
- Let them know you are thinking of them and wishing them success
- Ask questions about their lives, their classes, hobbies, sports and activities
- Ask about their friends and family
- Invite them to write back

****Please avoid controversial topics, such as politically or socially charged comments.*

When to contact EFAC:

- At this stage, EFAC does not have access to student communications, so if you sense a problem, please reach out so we can liaise with the team in Kenya.
- If you would like to provide additional support for students in lieu of gifts or money, please contact us.

Your contact: Sponsor Program Manager, Kayla Lawson, klawson@efac.org.

Academic Scholarship Sponsor Program

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Getting Involved with EFAC



How can I help spread the word about EFAC?

Being a Sponsor supports the very foundation of EFAC's mission. Your generosity and commitment speaks volumes about the importance you place on the power of education and your confidence in the work EFAC is doing. Networking is the most effective way to share with others the transformative power of giving education.

EFAC Events:

Host a house party or fun gathering to let your circle know about EFAC! The EFAC Team can help with planning, invitations, and student guests (usually joining by Zoom). Or meet us on the green at the Annual Golf Classic!

EFAC Student Ambassador Program:

Encourage high schoolers to join the Student Ambassador. Students typically raise funds, interact with EFAC Scholars through letter writing, and participate in awareness-building activities in their communities.
See more details here: efac.org/SAP



Facebook Fundraisers:

Choose EFAC for your cause on a Facebook Fundraiser to mark a special occasion!

Peer-to-Peer Fundraisers:

Have a race or other challenge coming up? Create a fundraiser on our GiveLively platform and customize it to your story and event!



Thank you for joining EFAC's community of changemakers! As we strive to meet our mission, your support is an essential piece of the puzzle and we welcome you to reach out and get involved in whatever ways enrich your life, knowing that in turn you are changing the life of someone else.

If you have any questions or thoughts, please contact Kayla Lawson, Sponsor Program Manager: sponsors@efac.org