



*April 2021 Newsletter*

## **2021 Graduation**

*It has been a long and tough year for the Form 4 Students at Living Hope High School. With perseverance, prayers and fortitude they trudged onward. Studying and working hard to get to graduation day. We want to congratulate the students and wish them the best as they now walk into the world to find out what the Lord has in store for them!*



### **Form 4 2021**

#### **Back Row (Left – Right)**

1. Joseph Wekesa- Catholic University of East Africa to study church management.
2. Ivy Mukoshi- Nairobi University to study Quantitative Survey
3. Josiah Mwanja- Masinde Muliro University to study building and construction.
4. Brivine Juma- Kibabii University to study Education Science
5. Raynold Wekesa- Egerton University to study Music and telecommunication
6. Levis Ochieng- Mt Kenya University to Study Electrical Engineering
7. Dynitias Wanjala- Kibabii University to study Primary education
8. Kevin Wekesa- Moi University to Study accounting
9. Isabella Nasimiyu- Egerton University to study fashion design and marketing.
10. Titus Muchanga- University of Nairobi to study Medicine.

#### **Front Row (Left - Right)**

1. Brian Lusaka- Kibabii University to study Electrical Engineering
2. Annab Sakwa- Kisii University to Study Nursing
3. Phydalis Wafula- Muilimedia University to Study mass media and Communication
4. Roy Wafula- University of Eldoret to study medicine (Ophthalmologist)
5. Medune Nanjala- Mt Kenya University to Study mass media and communication
6. Caro Wanjala- Pwani University to study Nursing
7. Shaloom Juma- Egerton University to study Nursing
8. Lavender Simiyu- Egerton University to Study Nursing
9. Georgina Soita- Egerton University to study nursing
10. Clare Imbenzi- Rongo University to study sign Language

Each student has a dream to go to college, but not all will be able to. It may have to happen at a later date. Not every student's high school sponsor can support them through college, but some will be able too. For those sponsors that can, we celebrate you for those students who go onto college, change their community and the world. We ask that each student that is accepted into college be in contact with their sponsors once they know where they are going. The student needs to share the cost of their college, a detailed budget and grades with their sponsor and try to be in contact with them monthly if possible.

I am here to help however I can. - Sandy

### **Here are a few statistics about Living Hope:**

*Living hope High School graduated their first class in 2013. They had 20 kids in each class; so far they have graduated 160. On average 10 out of 20 goes on to higher education, college, university and technical schools. Right now there are 65 kids in college and 35 have graduated from college. There are teachers, Ministers, a dentist, several doctors in medical school getting ready to graduate; there are chefs, zoologist, and several Engineers.*



### **Notes of Love From several of the Form 4 Students to Mum Marilyn**

To Mum Marilyn: 1 Corinthians 15:58- Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the LORD, because you know that your labor in the LORD is not in vain.

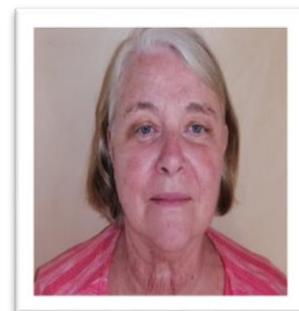
1. Living hope, my home. I call it our home, school, and a small heaven. Dear Mum you are so special for being there for me. You have nurtured me, controlled me and shaped me into a good person. I had no sense and Living Hope gave me some sense. I was discouraged and lacked Hope and Living hope imparted living hope in me. I can now hope for a future. I can dream big, and I can bring together ideas and make decisions because of your great person. You mean everything in my life. Please receive this special thank- you sincerely from me.....

2. My four years of stay here have mentored me, nourished me and guided my life. The guidance. You gave us made me strong when I was low. The preaching from the pastor elevated my spiritual life. That team work of living hope family made me feel warm. The care you gave us mum, was safe under you broad warm wings. Indeed you deserve to be called Mum for real. You mean a lot to me, just as much as my parents!! Thank you a lot Mum for loving me.....

3. You ensured that I ate well, you worked hard to get me a sponsor, and you provided a good place of sleeping for me. What a blessing you are for me. More than a miracle in my life dear mum. Your kindness and care clearly shows me the love of God. You strengthened my faith that indeed God is love. Thank you greatly mum, I lack words to express my thanks but all in all, I promise to emulate you as my role model. Much thanks and love.....

### **Silver dollars Story**

When I was in 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, my dad called me over and said he had something for me. He gave me a real silver dollar dated 1876 and he said for me to keep it to remember him by. I kept it in jewelry box for many years. After I got married, we were desperately poor. I was frying Chicken at a deli and my husband was a bad boy at the grocery store. I had saved \$20 for the rent which was \$30. I did know what to do to get 10 dollars. It came to me that I had a silver dollar. I took it to my Uncle and asked him to give me the \$10 for the rent and when I got paid I will buy back from him. After a few weeks I got paid and I went to my Uncle to buy back my silver dollar. He told me that he had sold it for \$50. This was the only thing that my father ever gave me to remember him by. I was sad and mad. He broke his Promise- **MUM MARILYN**



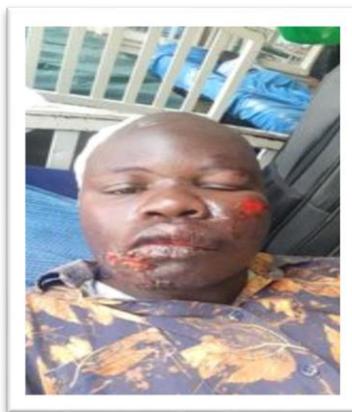


**LAVONNE-**When I turned 30, my father gave me a surprise. And in the same box that you see in the picture were 30 silver dollars, one for each year since my birth. I thought it was a lovely present and very special. I put the box in the back of my drawer and it sat there for 25 more years. One day I was cleaning out my drawers and came across the box of silver dollars. I decided that I needed to do something special with that money. Living Hope High



School's graduation was coming up and I decided to give each graduate a silver dollar. Mom Marilyn explained to them that it was real money but they couldn't spend it in Kenya. She showed the students a real Silver dollar and told them the history of Susan B. Anthony Silver dollar and how she had helped the American women to finally get to vote. Living Hope started the tradition that the graduates will keep their silver dollar and give it to their First born when they graduate from high school. At last year's graduation, we took a survey of how many grads still had their Silver dollar. All but two were saving them to give their children when they graduate.

### A Former Graduate Helps another Graduate with His Skills



[This is Napthal Sikuku. He is a 2016 graduate of Living Hope High School and was in a motorcycle accident in February. Someone hit a woman and then hit the motorcycle he was on head on. He was on his way to school where he was teaching class for college. He got stiches on his head, had 3 broken teeth, and swollen eye. No broken bones but road rash. After he was well enough he went to Living Hope to recover.

Napthal was very thankful he was alive. A blessing came in a white coat and a past Living Hope graduate, Dentist, Ezekiel Wafula. Napthal got his new teeth and said, "I'm well and looking more handsome I think." He also thanked all the sponsors who helped him financially and made sure he was well. Many thanks too, went to all his American friends who prayed for him and sent him messages, I owe you a lot of gratitude. Lastly, the Living Hope fraternity, I'm dry of words to explain how much you have been of great help to me. I'm thankful. I have learnt a lot from this experience.

**Moral lesson:** You cannot die if it's not your turn. Thank you God!



## Living Hope Blessings

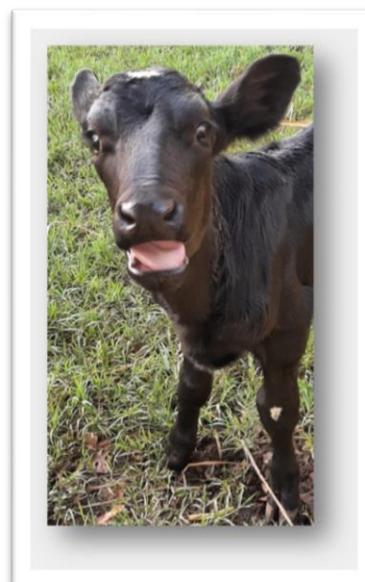
- Living Hope got a wonderful gift from the New York Tully Rotary Club for new textbooks. They have them all covered with plastic so they will last and we will continue to distribute them to students when they come back in two weeks. This is the first time in 12 years that everybody has a book for every subject.
- They lost one of our teachers and have found a new replacement, He will start on May 3rd. He will be teaching Geography and Math.
- Riverton United Methodist Church has donated new mattresses for the form ones.
- Donna Coblitz and her family have donated 20 welcome kits, personal items and have paid for the shipping.
- An Individual donated 20 new bibles and money for graduation.
- The new replacement cow got bred in June and had a new little bull calf last week. He was so big and we called him Big Boy. The Nurse wants to buy him as soon as he is weaned.
- The Government has said that the schools will open as scheduled on May 3rd.

### Needs

- Blankets for all the new kids, \$200 for 20 blankets, \$120 for 20 pillows
- 20 pairs of uniforms that are \$20 each
- Our buckets of hope project is in the negative. The hard times have just begun, many people are hungry. It costs us \$30 for each bucket and contents. We can't give out any more until we get some Donations.
- A printer for the computer room. Students are now able to send their sponsors emails letters and can then also print out the emails they get from their sponsors.
- Donations for putting in Wi-Fi system instead of buying data bundles. Right now we spent \$60-\$80 a month and the Wi-Fi will be much more economical. Computer skills are an absolute necessity no matter what the students do in future.
- At least once a week we have a black out and no electricity which means no water. Sometimes it last for an hour and sometimes a whole week. It's frustrating. Living Hope would like to explore the possibility of putting solar power at least in the Dining Hall so the kids can study.
- That the past form ones get sponsored and the new incoming form 1's do as well.

### Newest Addition to Living Hope

Big Boy. He was born in April 6th and has tripled in size. He is Hungry all the time.





## Matching Grant For Sponsoring Living Hope High School Students in Form 1- Ninth Grade

An anonymous donor has come forth and is willing to sponsor with a matching grant for the form one students of this past year who have not gotten a sponsor.

Fifteen Form 1 students at Living Hope have been waiting patiently for a sponsor. They need sponsors so they can continue to work towards their high school education. The students cannot expect any help from their families. YOU can help make their dreams come true and drastically improve their lives and that of their families by agreeing to sponsor a student.

Until **July 1**, thanks to a matching grant, you can sponsor a student for \$55 a month – about the value of two bags of groceries. For young people who have often gone to bed hungry, your gift of sponsorship will mean they can continue to board at Living Hope High School where they are not only receiving a quality education but where they have beds to sleep on and enough food to eat. Christians are called to care for the needy. This is your opportunity!

Your contribution will be doubled if you take advantage of the matching grant by **July 1, 2021**. Not only can you feel good about stretching your charity; you can feel even better about being a presence in the life of a young person. If you go to the website [livinghopehighschool.org](http://livinghopehighschool.org), you can choose the student you think is the best fit for you and your family. Because the students subject to this grant are just now completing their first year of high school, your commitment will be only for the remaining three years. Yes, the matching gift will continue for those final three years!

Living Hope students are always thrilled when they learn that they have a sponsor. It gives them a sense of security and (living) hope for the future. They are waiting patiently (?) for you!

If you decide to sponsor a student please contact: **Sandy Binotto-yashe4jc@hotmail.com/304-839-1505 to receive information for sponsoring.**

Sandy Binotto- U.S. Coordinator

***FYI- Please send all funds to Living Hope High School to Riverton UMC, Box 23, Riverton, WV 26814 and not to the U.S. Coordinator. Also earmark on check or with a note as to where and to who the funds are to go too. Thank-you!***

***Again thank you so much for your sponsorship and donations that keep the school running. You are changing lives and giving Hope to the Living Hope students. If you would like someone to speak at your church, please contact Sandy Binotto***

**Sandy Binotto**  
**U.S. Coordinator**  
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**304-839-1505**

