



SPRING 2017

Hello Friends,

I am excited to share with you a behind-the-scenes look at some of the amazing partnerships that have allowed AfricAid’s programs to grow and thrive.

First, **thank you (yes, YOU!)** for being a part of AfricAid’s kisa (story). We could not do our transformative work without the support of each of you. Whether you have been with us since the beginning or are a new supporter, you are an important part of the mosaic that impacts thousands of lives in Tanzania. Did you know that **Kisa Sponsors and Scholars** write letters to each other and some build a relationship that lasts for years? Inside you will learn more about a few of these special Sponsor/Scholar connections as well as information on how you can become a Kisa Sponsor and be pen pals with a Scholar.

We are tremendously grateful to those who donate their time as well—in 2016 nearly **200 volunteers** partnered with AfricAid in both the US and Tanzania,

generously giving **over 10,000 donated hours!** Some of our volunteers are local Tanzanians: **Partner School Liaisons** are critical members of the AfricAid volunteer family. These female teachers advocate for Kisa, support our Scholars, and facilitate smooth communication with Partner Schools. Other volunteers come from afar: **Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID)** has been partnering with AfricAid Tanzania since 2014 by sending volunteers to help enrich our fundraising, communication, and program development.

Guided by a handful of visionary individuals, the Kisa Project began in 2010 with 22 girls at two schools. But **YOUR persistent belief that girls can change the world means that in 2017 we will be serving 2,000 girls at 30 Partner Schools** between the Kisa Project and newly launched Binti Shupavu. Personal transformation and growth are key aspects of AfricAid’s programs, but the real power of each individual is exponentially magnified when we come together to work for something greater. ***Tutaimarika pamoja! Together we are stronger!***

With Gratitude,

Jana Hardy Kinsey  
Executive Director



KISA SCHOLARS LIKE INGRID RECENTLY COMPLETED THEIR YEAR ONE PRESENTATIONS FOR A PANEL OF JUDGES FROM THE COMMUNITY.



*“From Kisa, I learned to cooperate with people through openly sharing issues and ideas. For anything to get done in our society, cooperation is needed.”*

- Kisa Alumna Gertrude

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**  
PARTNERSHIPS & AFRICAID SUCCESS!



## KISA SPONSORS SHARE THEIR STORIES



Looking back on my life and living through the feminist movement in America, I see how far girls and women have come in their abilities to do and be anything they set their minds to. Today, gender inequality, though it still exists, doesn't limit our young women from pursuing any career they envision as it did when I was a teenager. By educating girls and women and providing a voice to their struggles and support to their dreams our daughters and grand daughters have been able to break through barriers many Americans didn't even know existed. **Empowering girls to be anything they can dream** to be is what I see the Kisa program in Tanzania doing. Having met with my Kisa Scholars and their Mentors in Tanzania, I know that these young women are breaking down the barriers that poverty, gender discrimination, and lack of education create.

- Sandy Troyano, AfricAid Board Member

*"Our Kisa Scholars are blazing trails for themselves as well as for the future dreams of their daughters and granddaughters. Let's help this important work to continue."*

**-Sandy Troyano**



I've witnessed how girls' lives have been transformed by AfricAid and specifically by the Kisa Project. We are sponsoring Jenifa at this time. She has corresponded with us through letters, and has sent a picture of herself. She has inspired us by being diligent in her studies, in her family life, and in her community. Her letters to us are very personal, and **she treats us as if we are family to her- in a very real way, she IS family to us.** She has so much hope for her future, and the future for girls in Tanzania who want to change their lives, their communities, and their country, one girl at a time! I have seen firsthand how education of girls has transformed communities, by reading about girls who have been helped by AfricAid.

- Tricia Miller, long-time AfricAid supporter



I have had the truly life-changing opportunity to visit Tanzania seven times throughout the years, and I have fallen in love with the remarkable Tanzanian people, their country, and their culture. I have also had the privilege to sponsor several Scholars through the Kisa Project, AfricAid's flagship leadership program. **I have been inspired and humbled by these remarkable young women and their joy, passion and commitment to make their communities and the world a better place.** One particular Scholar named Rose holds a special place in my heart. Through our Kisa Project communications, we shared and learned from each other, and both our lives were enriched through our friendship. It is very gratifying to me to have helped, even in a very small way, young women like Rose who are following their hearts and their dreams.

- Nina Shuyler, AfricAid Founder and Board Member

**DO YOU WANT TO JOIN THE KISA FAMILY AS A SPONSOR?**

**VISIT [WWW.AFRICAID.COM/KISAPROJECT](http://WWW.AFRICAID.COM/KISAPROJECT) AND BECOME A PART OF A TANZANIAN GIRL'S SUCCESS STORY TODAY!**

**\$500 SPONSORS ONE YEAR OF KISA • \$1,000 SPONSORS BOTH YEARS  
\$50/MONTH RECURRING GIFT OPTION**

TOP: SANDY AND SENIOR KISA MENTOR ESTHER PINIEL WITH A GROUP OF KISA SCHOLARS  
MIDDLE: TRICIA VISITS WITH STUDENTS AT LOSINONI PRIMARY SCHOOL, AN AFRICAID LEGACY PROGRAM  
BOTTOM: NINA WITH KISA SCHOLARS FROM MAWENZI SECONDARY SCHOOL



## KISA LIAISONS SERVE A VITAL ROLE AIKANDE ROBERT NKYA, KISA MENTOR



KISA LIASONS WITH KISA PROJECT MANAGER DEVOTHA MLAY DURING THE 2017 KILIMANJARO LIAISON MEETING

Kisa Liaisons are the female teachers from the respective Kisa Partner Schools who work as intermediaries between AfricAid, Kisa Scholars, and school administrations. **AfricAid recognizes and appreciates that the volunteer role of the Liaison is critical to achieving the vision and mission of the program.**

The 20 Liaisons pass information from the school to the Kisa Mentors and share any issues that might hinder the Kisa Project. In turn, the Mentors communicate with the Liaison about the progress of the classes, and give them any important news to pass along to Kisa Scholars and school administrators. Through the Kisa Liaisons, we get to know about challenges that are

facing the program, receive updates on what is going on in the schools, and hear advice on how we can make the program move in a successful way.

Annual meetings are held with the groups of Liaisons from both the Arusha and Kilimanjaro Regions. These important meetings allow our project to continue in a positive direction as AfricAid gets to know our Partner Schools better and understands the impact of our empowerment curriculum on their students.

General Studies teacher Madam Magdalena Mswatathe has been the Kisa Liaison at Weruweru Girls High School for two years. She says, **“girls who are enrolled in Kisa are very confident in class and in other meetings, daring in taking leadership positions at school and act as a good example to others.”**

[VISIT AFRICAID.COM/BLOG FOR MORE STORIES LIKE THIS ONE!](http://www.africaid.com/blog)



KISA LIASION MADAM MAGRETH FROM IRKISONGO SECONDARY SCHOOL RECEIVES THE BEST LIAISON AWARD AT THE ARUSHA REGION CAREER DAY IN 2016

## AUSTRALIA MOBILIZES GLOBAL VOLUNTEERS NGAIRE MCCUBBEN, PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

*“I love my work. I get great personal satisfaction from seeing positive change take place, whether that’s at the level of the individual or community. I also love the positive changes that have happened to me, through expanding my skill set, being immersed in a different culture to the one I grew up in, and making so many great friends through my work.”*

My first volunteer assignment with AfricAid started in 2014 as Communications, External Relations and Fundraising Fellow, based in Tanzania. All of my volunteer assignments with AfricAid are part of the Australian Volunteers for International Development (AVID) program, delivered ‘on the ground’ by AVI, a delivery partner of the AVID program. In my first role, my work involved providing support and building organizational capacity in the areas of fundraising and communication. A lot of my work related to our grants program and in early 2016, we were awarded a grant through the AVI Community Grants Scheme to support the community service component of the Kisa Project.

In February 2016 I took on a new volunteer assignment as Program Development Coordinator and have been helping develop new programs so AfricAid can expand its reach and impact. In this role, **I have worked closely with my Tanzanian colleagues to develop Binti Shupavu (Courageous Daughters), which is aimed at younger, more rural, and therefore more vulnerable, adolescent girls.** In 2016 we did the research and development work, and I was excited when we commenced a pilot of the program in January 2017. Even better, we were able to recruit four former Kisa Scholars to deliver the Binti Shupavu Life Skills and Personal Leadership Course. Under the leadership of current Project Manager Asimwe Suedi, Binti Shupavu has moved from an idea to a reality, and we currently have 10 Partner Schools and over 800 girls enrolled.



NGAIRE AND ELIGRANIA LEMA, WHO WORKED TO DEVELOP BINTI SHUPAVU





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Art & Soul 2017  
SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

# Celebrating Growth

FROM 22 GIRLS TO 2000 LEADERS!

## SAVE THE DATE

September 23, 2017 6pm • Posner Center • [africaid.com/artandsoul2017](http://africaid.com/artandsoul2017)

Join us for a festive evening celebrating AfricaAid

*Honoring Dee & Gene Milstein and Applewood Seed Co.*