

GARDEN OF HOPE FOUNDATION

2022 Annual Report



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About Us

Garden of Hope Foundation is a non-profit organization that is passionate about restoring hope to underserved youth and women in urban informal settlements and rural areas in Kenya.





Our Mission

To equip youth to be change makers through mentorship, entrepreneurship and leadership development in urban slums and other underserved communities in Kenya.

Our Vision

Youth as champions in entrepreneurship, and leadership development in urban and rural communities.

Education

At Garden of Hope, we recognize that youth in our communities face many challenges in their educational journeys including the inability to pay school fees, a lack of menstrual health products, drug abuse, and teenage pregnancies. With this in mind, we offer a comprehensive set of education initiatives designed to support and guide students, encouraging personal growth, development, and positive life outcomes.

Through our mentorship program, scholarship program, and Menstrual Hygiene Management project, we hope to empower youth to stay in school and build the future they envision.



Mentorship Program

At Garden of Hope, we believe that mentorship is an essential aspect of youth development. Our mentorship program provides support and guidance to help young people succeed in life. This mentorship ensures that at-risk youth are well-equipped to overcome the challenges they face on a daily basis and make informed decisions about their futures.

This year, more than 30 mentorship sessions were held in schools in Kibera and Homabay. In these sessions, students were able to discuss a variety of topics that are meaningful to them, including selfesteem, decision-making, effective communication, mental health, and the consequences of gang involvement.



612

Students received mentorship in 2022

Scholarship Program

Many students in our communities struggle to afford school fees, uniforms, and supplies, keeping them from accessing quality education. Through our scholarship program, we provide financial assistance to needy students with the aim of keeping them in school and ensuring they are better able to achieve their goals.

This year, we more than doubled the amount of scholarships we provide and had our first cohort of graduates who received scholarships for 4 years of secondary education.



New students received scholarships in 2022



Total scholarships awarded in 2022





Students sponsored to take their Kenya Secondary School Examination in 2022

Menstrual Hygiene Management

Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) is a key pillar of Garden of Hope work. We aim to restore the dignity of women and girls by ensuring they have the knowledge and resources to manage their menstruation. Further, we work to end period shame and demystify myths and misconceptions about menstruation.

This year, we distributed more than 1,000 sanitary products, helping to keep over 300 girls in school. Further, we provided 91 girls in need from 7 different schools with monthly sanitary towels. We also held programs to educate 341 students in MHM. With this, girls were able to better understand their bodies and be comfortable with menstruation. Boys also became more comfortable discussing periods and were committed to helping girls menstruate without shame or stigmatization. In partnership with Globally Engaged Men, we were also able to engage 21 men in conversations about MHM to reduce the stigmatization of periods.



Girls kept in school in 2022

Sanitary products distributed

Sanitary products distributed in 2022



Male and female students taught about menstrual health in 2022



Entrepreneurship

In our communities, young people encounter significant challenges stemming from limited opportunities for sustainable employment and a lack of marketable skills, often as a result of completing only primary or high school education. At Garden of Hope, we address these challenges by engaging with young people, whether they are currently enrolled in school or not, who are passionate about entrepreneurship and are eager to develop the skills necessary to achieve their goals.

Garden of Hope proudly offers two entrepreneurship initiatives- one tailored for youth looking to expand their skills and another dedicated to empowering women and young mothers who would like to develop their own small businesses. Through these programs, Garden of Hope provides vital support and resources that enable aspiring entrepreneurs to succeed and make a positive impact in their communities.

Youth Economic Empowerment Project

This project seeks to bridge the gap between what today's job market demands and the training youth receive in our communities by offering opportunities for young people to expand their digital literacy and entrepreneurship skills.

In 2022, 49 young people, both in and out of school, learned computer skills vital to today's job market. Students left this program able to use Microsoft Office, prepare documents including curriculum vitae, keep records with Excel, and design communication material.

17 students received entrepreneurship training which included topics such as resource assessment, feasibility studies, social enterprise, start-up capital, profitability, sustainability, marketing, and management.

Further, 13 students were trained in photography. These students are now able to take clear and precise photos that tell a story, edit those photos, and present them professionally.





Youth trained in 2022

Women Economic Empowerment Project

This project provides women and young mothers with entrepreneurship skills in order for them to start their own income-generating activities, reducing the likelihood of engaging in unsafe behaviors in order to make ends meet. These women are trained in business development and management and have the opportunity to apply for our interest-free start-up loans.

In 2022, 28 women, mostly young mothers, were trained in topics including record keeping, resource assessment, market research, feasibility analysis, and sustainability.

9 of these women qualified for funding and each received an interest-free loan of KES 50,000 to start their businesses. Collectively, 55% of these loans were repaid within the first few months, indicating that these women were able to successfully generate income.





Women trained in 2022



Women awarded interest-free loans for their businesses in 2022



2022 in Review

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to our partners and supporters.

Without your support, our work would not be possible. We appreciate your ongoing commitment as we continue to restore hope for underserved youth and women in Kenya.





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