Dear Friends of Jitegemee,

This past year, you have helped us make the dreams of children come true. For Ezekiel, who dreamed of going to college. For Miriam, who dreamed of finding a job. For Agnes, who dreamed of catching a glimpse the world beyond her home town and a few weeks ago visited beautiful Lake Nakuru with other Jitegemee students.

Because of you, this year, 75 needy children in Machakos, Kenya went to primary school with books, shoes, uniforms, and health care. Because of you, 16 youth were able to complete a year of secondary school. Because of you, 26 students went to university, and 86 more participated in a vocational program that will equip them with the skills and social connections they need to gain employment. Because of you, 238 children and parents had annual health check-ups and necessary treatment through our program doctor. For this, we thank you.

We’re thriving, despite challenges

We believe in academic excellence. For the first time ever, all our high school graduates gained admission to excellent public universities, where they are working hard. We also believe in second chances. This year, our vocational program includes two youth who were convicted of petty crimes who were referred to us by the local probation office. We also piloted a "street business school" program with 50 parents and caregivers, who met once a week to run cooperative businesses in basket-weaving, catering and poultry. Those businesses bolster the finances of the families we work with and foster a stronger connection between parents and their children’s education.

Our team is growing

Our new country director, Jennifer Katiwa, has exceeded our expectations in her first year as our leader on the ground in Kenya. Jennifer, who previously oversaw a network of schools in