



MID-YEAR IMPACT REPORT

2024



Dear Uweza Friends and Supporters,

Since its founding in 2008, the Uweza Foundation has been driven by a deep belief in the potential of Kibera, a small but mighty community in the heart of Nairobi, Kenya. Inspired by the resilience, resourcefulness, and creativity of Kibera residents in the face of overwhelming hardships, we believed we could build on these strengths to make a meaningful difference.

With your support, we have remained committed to our mission to **build a better future for the young people of Kibera through the development and discovery of their talents and abilities.**

Thanks to your generosity over the past 16 years, we have ignited powerful stories of change and transformation that have impacted lives, families, and the entire community.

In this report, we are excited to share some of our 2024 highlights, including our key milestones, stories of impact, and the strides we've made toward our goals. We recognize that these achievements wouldn't be possible without your generosity and support. We are endlessly grateful for your belief in us and for choosing to join us on our mission. Together, we are building a better future not only for Kibera but for all of us.

Jennifer Sapitro
Executive Director

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

42 ARTISTS TRAINED ON ART AND BUSINESS SKILLS

(UWEZA ART GALLERY)

In partnership with the European Union, British Council, and HEVA Fund, we delivered a 12-week art and business training to 42 emerging artists from across Nairobi's informal settlements. Notably, more than 1/3 of these artists were female.

8 STUDENTS MATRICULATED TO UNIVERSITY

(SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM)

Our most recent cohort of high school graduates achieved 100% matriculation to college and university. They secured spots in degree programs at universities across Kenya, including Physiotherapy, Medical Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, and Health Records and Information Technology.



ART THERAPY, YOGA, BEADWORK, AND BUSINESS SUPPORT FOR YOUNG MOTHERS

(BRIGHT FUTURES)

Now in its 9th year, our Bright Futures program continues to offer a range of support services and activities designed to promote holistic well-being and financial independence for young mothers.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

FLOOD RELIEF FOR KIBERA FAMILIES

(COMMUNITY SUPPORT)

In May, heavy rains across Kenya led to severe flooding, with Kibera being particularly affected due to its proximity to a river and inadequate housing infrastructure. We responded by identifying affected families within the Uweza community and providing flood relief grants to support home repairs, relocation, and the replacement of damaged household items.



EMPOWERING GIRLS AND WOMEN THROUGH SOCCER

(UWEZA SOCCER ACADEMY)

In 2024, women's sports have garnered increased attention and funding on a global scale. At Uweza, ensuring that girls and women in Kibera can access the opportunities and benefits of sports has long been a priority. This year, we have invested in training female coaches and continue to support girls' and women's football teams, empowering them to compete at the highest level.

SAFER SEX PROJECT FOR 30 TEENAGE GIRLS

(GIRLS PROGRAM)

In partnership with two expert facilitators from Kibera, we recently launched a two-month Safer Sex Project. This initiative aims to enhance access to age-appropriate and culturally sensitive comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information and life skills for teenage girls in Kibera.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS



138 PAINTINGS SOLD THROUGH UWEZA ART GALLERY

(UWEZA ART GALLERY)

Bolstered by a feature in Lonely Planet Kenya, a new gallery location, and a growing number of artists, we have sold 138 paintings from the Uweza Art Gallery this year. These sales have provided essential income for young artists and enabled us to reinvest funds into sustaining the gallery.

NEW HORIZONS FOR KIBERA'S UNEXPECTED TREASURE

(CHILDREN'S BOOK)

Launched last December, our children's book Kibera's Unexpected Treasure has seen significant progress this year. We have begun selling the book in bookstores, donated copies to libraries, participated in book fairs, and hosted interactive readings. Through this book, we aim to share a positive story about the beautiful community we proudly call home.

WELCOMING NEW INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS

(PARTNERSHIPS)

This year, we welcomed interns and volunteers from Utrecht University in the Netherlands and Georgetown University in the USA. Their contributions included researching the impact of our programs, designing and painting a new mural at our center, coordinating events, leading trainings, and more!

STORIES OF IMPACT



WINNEY, BRIGHT FUTURES

Winney is a dedicated single mother and proud owner of a small tailoring and fashion design business. She recently received an electric sewing machine through the Bright Futures program. This donation has significantly enhanced her capacity to fulfill orders and generate income. She is now financially stable, able to provide for her two children, and planning to purchase a piece of land to build her own home.

FRANSISCAH, SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Fransiscah joined the Uweza Sponsorship Program as a primary school student. Shortly after, her family had to move to escape a domestic violence situation. Driven by her desire to help others facing similar challenges, she pursued a career in social work. She recently graduated with Distinction from a Diploma Program and has begun working toward a Higher Diploma. Fransiscah is extremely grateful to all of Uweza's supporters for standing alongside her through her journey.



STORIES OF IMPACT

WESLEY, UWEZA ART GALLERY

When Wesley joined our children's art classes in 2011, he had never held a paintbrush. His natural talent was quickly evident, and it has been inspiring to watch his artistic career blossom. Today, Wesley is Uweza's best-selling artist and has exhibited in several countries. He is set to graduate from university in October, having funded his degree through art sales. His journey has come full circle as he now teaches Uweza's art classes, offering guidance and mentorship to young artists following in his footsteps.



MEDINA, UWEZA SOCCER ACADEMY

Medina joined Uweza as a primary school student facing challenges funding her education. We provided support by securing a scholarship through soccer. Her impressive skills led to recognition from the Kenyan National Women's Team, and today she serves as the Captain of Uweza Women FC. With our continued support, Medina recently completed a coaching course and now works with us, coaching our girls' soccer teams.



BY 2035, THERE WILL BE MORE YOUNG AFRICANS ENTERING THE WORKFORCE EACH YEAR THAN IN THE REST OF THE WORLD COMBINED.

With your support, we can impact change in Kibera, Kenya, Africa, and our world. Here are some of the ways we hope you will consider supporting Uweza and the youth of Kibera:

Your support in action:

- \$50** Full uniform for a soccer player
- \$100** One month of free sanitary pads for all Uweza girls and women
- \$250** One month of rent at Uweza Art Gallery
- \$500** One year vocational training course
- \$1,000** One year of university education



Ways to give:

- 1** Donate : www.uwezakenya.org/donate
- 2** Purchase art from Uweza Art Gallery : www.uwezashop.com
- 3** Sponsor a student : www.uwezakenya.org/sponsorship
- 3** Join our 'Wezeshu' program and become a monthly donor www.uwezakenya.org/wezeshu