EAST AFRICA
PHILANTHROPY AWARDS
2012
AWARD WINNERS
The Safaricom Foundation

The Safaricom Foundation in Kenya demonstrated the following aspects

- The Foundation has an independent governance structure of Board of Trustees separate from the mother Company
- The Foundation has adhered to the country’s legal and regulatory compliance requirements as set by the authorities as reported in its annual financial report
- The Foundation has employed its own staff members to manage its day to day operations
- The Foundation has a very creative approach of involvement of mother Company staff members in philanthropy activities such as mentorship and volunteerism.

Unique approach

1) The Pamoja scheme, where the staff member identifies a needy project and contributes only 10% of the project cost and the Foundation contributes 90%. The ceiling for this funding is $6000
2) World of a Difference is also a very innovative way of engaging employees. A Staff member is seconded to community project to provide his/her professional skills to a needy project. The mother company gives the staff a four [4] days paid leave to them to provide professional services to identified collaborative entity every month.

The Safaricom Foundation’s thematic focus areas are Education, Health, Economic Empowerment, Environmental Conservation, Arts and Culture, Music and Sports. The Foundation also responds to disasters and humanitarian emergencies. For example, In 2011, their main funder Safaricom Limited through them championed the Kenyans for Kenya initiative towards alleviation of hunger stricken population in some areas in Kenya which raised near $8.5M [USD]
The Maasai Girls Education Fund [MGEF] believes that, what a woman needs to rise out of abject poverty is to have self-esteem and being self-reliant, and its only education will give her both. MGEF base is in Washington, DC, and they work with independent community-based organization in Kenya to achieve their goals. It creates partnership with independent community-based organization. In Maasailand in Kenya, MGEF provides scholarships to Maasai girls who have never been enrolled in school, or who would be forced to drop out of school due to cultural or economic reasons, from primary school, all through to university level. With economic empowerment, this new generation of Maasai women will end early marriages and circumcision of girls and bring greater literacy, health, and economic well being to future generations. MGEF organizes community workshops to address social customs and cultural beliefs that prevent girls from getting formal education. MGEF strategy is to establish partnerships with the Maasai community, who include the local area chiefs and women advocates for education of girls in order to achieve her goals.
The award seeks to recognize a charitable organization established and/or led by a family that has demonstrated outstanding commitment to philanthropy through direct financial support and/or through volunteering their time. The family should have significant influence in the leadership and/or resourcing.

**Ev. Dr. Charles M. Mulli**

Ev. Dr. Charles M. Mulli is a Ph.D [HSC] holder from Kabarak University for his outstanding contribution in alleviating poverty through Mully Children’s Family ministry. He founded Mully Children’s Family [MCF] in 1989. As the first born in a poverty stricken family of nine children, Charles Mulli grew up experiencing the worst form of poverty and suffering. In his formative age, he survived by begging. Due to circumstances beyond his control, and the experiences that life dealt him, he grew up with a lot of bitterness in his heart.

Ev. Dr. Charles M. Mulli, through his efforts, hard work and God’s immense favor, rose to be one of the very wealthy men in Kenya, having everything money could buy. He owned a fleet of public service buses, a real estate, a security firm, a family home, thousands of acres of land; literally everything one could wish for in this world. One day Ev. Dr. Charles M. Mulli experienced an encounter with the almighty God that changed the course of his life forever. Mulli re-dedicated his life to God and learned to forgive his parents. One day in 1986, Dr. Mulli, had an unfortunate encounter with street children in Nairobi City. A gang of street children organized themselves and stole his new vehicle. This turned his life around. Dr. Mulli shared his new calling with his family who agreed to support him in Prayer and practice. With a blend of compassion, forgiveness and a mission of hope he began to usher street children into his house one by one.
Mully Children’s Family is a Christian Children Charitable Organization in Kenya. MCF focus is on Street children, Orphaned children, Abandoned children, Children from juvenile remand homes and government rehabilitation centers, Child labourers, Children with physical disabilities, Destitute children and mothers, Child mothers, Ex-Commercial sex workers, HIV/AIDS infected and affected children.

MCF is a home and hope for many street children, orphaned, abandoned, abused, HIV & AIDS affected and infected, desperate and neglected children regardless of their religion, sex, color or tribe, who have nowhere to call home and no one to care for them.

To-date, MCF has successfully rehabilitated over 7,000 orphaned and vulnerable children [OVCs]. Have established 3 residential children homes for OVCs, 4 community based child based child care projects, established 3 primary and 3 secondary schools and a vocation training. Has also established 2 Medical centers providing free curative and preventive healthcare services.

MCF has in its sustainability strategy integrated dry land farming as income generation with climate change mitigation and adaptation projects. MCF successful model is being replicated in the following countries of Uganda, Tanzania and South Africa.
4. East Africa Youth Philanthropy Award

Recognizes service by an individual or group of young people below the age of 24 who demonstrate outstanding commitment to the community service by pioneering creative ways of addressing social problems through direct financial support, development of charitable programs, volunteering and civic leadership.

Young Ephantus Maina

- He founded and registered Happy Kidney Foundation [HAKI] in Kenya in 2009 when he was only 24 years old.
- History reveals that, a month before his 18th Birthday, Ephantus mobilized a group of his friends and embarked on 120Km from a rural town known as Sagana to Nairobi to raise funds for his ailing mother who was suffering from a kidney problem.
- During the walk, Maina and his friends managed to raise a total of $650 against a target of $6000. This did not make him despair at all.
- At a very young age of 18 years, Ephantus turned a family tragedy to a national remedy through provision of genuine support to those who suffer from chronic diseases.
- HAKI'S vision is a health, health conscious society in which all young men and women live lives free from harmful behaviour and lifestyles.
- Ephantus Maina has put in place an organizational structure with professional and experienced board members who support and formulate his strategic focus. Some of the board members are prominent persons who have publicly announced that they have chronic diseases.
- He regularly provides monitoring and evaluation reports on HAKI’S activities and resource records.
- HAKI Foundation focuses on health matters and conducts peer education workshops targeting young men and women.
- HAKI Foundation also organizes wellness forums which discuss healthy lifestyles among the Young population in Kenya.
- Ephantus Maina has developed a master piece documentary VCD in conjuction with Kenayatta National Hospital.
Chris Mburu – Founder and Chairman of Hildeback Education Fund

Chris made extra ordinary contribution to the lives of poor children in Kenya. With amazing zeal, Chris dedicated time and resources to the education of brilliant children who would otherwise have no chance to join Secondary school. After experiencing poverty as child, he became successful thanks to a Swedish sponsor who paid for his early education. Years later, he founded an education Fund in the name of his sponsor to give the same opportunity he once got to Kenya’s next generation. He started the Hilde Back Education Fund in 2001 and has since devoted his extra time and donated funds to the Fund. Despite having a busy international job with the United Nations in Kigali, Rwanda, he has continued his passion for the less fortunate children across all the 8 provinces of Kenya.
This award is decided by the jury and extended to a person or an organization that has exhibited an extraordinary performance in offering philanthropic services to a much needed cause that impacts the less privileged, the vulnerable or neglected sections of the community. The Award does not overlap with the other awards—it is pre-stated/pre-defined by the jury, it is defined by the jury after thorough review and scrutiny of information before them that provokes inner insights on philanthropic activities.

Mrs. Phyllis Keino

Mrs. Phyllis Keino is the founder of Lewa Children’s home over some 50 years ago in Eldoret town in Kenya. She has been caring for disadvantaged children despite herself having suffered poverty. Lewa was established to provide a loving environment, nutritious food and education to children in need. In 1994, Phyllis founded Baraka Farm to help raise funds to support the orphanage. The farm creates employment to locals and the surplus produce is sold to raise income for the home. In 1999, Phyllis opened Kipkeino school to provide high quality education to local children. Children from the Lewa attend the school free of charge.

Phyllis was willingly and lovingly given over 50 years of her life giving to the forgotten children of Kenya. Admirably, she realized that for her to achieve sustainability she needed to come up with complementing projects that support her work hence Baraka Farm & Kipkeino school. She serves as an inspiration to many Kenyans.
6. Jury Chairman’s Award for philanthropic excellence

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The year, 2012, Moving The Goalposts [MTG]

Kilifi was celebrating its 10th anniversary. Moving The Goalposts is a CBO that works with girls between 9-25 years in rural Kilifi county in Kenya. MTG found that girls and women in Kilifi were some of the world’s poorest and most disadvantaged people. They have low retention in school; early and unwanted pregnancies and vulnerability to HIV/AIDS trap them in a cycle of poverty. Moving the Goalposts Kilifi [MTG] uses local and youth centred approaches to tackle these issues ensuring girls’ participation as leaders and decision makers.

MTG main focus is on
• Promoting football for girls
• Developing leadership through football
• Providing reproductive health and HIV/AIDS information and services
• Providing economic opportunities
• Promoting access to education

MTG focuses on football to develop essential life skills such as building confidence, leadership, self esteem – of vulnerable young women. Football also provides a unique entry point for reproductive health, human rights and economic empowerment initiatives.

Through their approach of using sports to train leaders MTG has managed to change attitudes of a community that did not value much women leadership. By using sport, the organization is uniting the community and bridging the traditional cultural barriers by allowing young women to assume leadership roles.