

# **The Walk Centre**

IMPACT REPORT

2017



"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

— Martin Luther King, Jr., Baptist minister and civil rights activist

---

---

**Chairperson**

Amy Marriott

**Registered Charity Number: 1129576**

**Trustees**

Clare Maher

Edward Griffiths

Patrick Maher

Paul Isaac

Samantha Wilson

**Registered Office:**

Mayfield

Windsor Lane

Wooburn Green

High Wycombe

Buckinghamshire

# Contents

	Page
Welcome from the Chairperson	4
The harsh reality of the community that we support	5
Our story so far and how we achieve change	6
Education Case Studies	7
Income and Expenditure	8
How you can help	9
Programme Details	10



## Welcome from the chairperson

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, it gives me great pleasure to introduce our Impact Report, and share the significant and positive difference we have made to the lives of hundreds of vulnerable children.

Eight years after The Walk Centre UK charity was registered, in response to the struggle of children and their families against poverty and access to education. We remain committed to helping the children and families most in need from the Walk Academy, Nakuru, Kenya.

The grants that we are able to make to the Academy remain vital. Since the Academy began the level of educational support has been extended from 60 to over 500 children and a support structure for their families has been successfully implemented. We believe that all children have unique potential and we are committed to funding the support and opportunities that they need to create a better life. This support centres around their education but also encompasses their health and family circumstances.

This report is not only an opportunity for us to review the impact that we have had at the Academy but also provides the Board of Trustees with a chance to reflect on the robust strategy to fundraising and provisions of grants. This ensures that we continue to manage a sustainable charity with a strong vision for the future with basic human needs at the centre of all we do.

We are extremely grateful to our donors who are fundamental to the achievement of our objectives and goals. They enable us to continue to provide opportunities to the children and their families to help improve their current situation.

Amy Marriott

*“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams” – Eleanor Roosevelt*

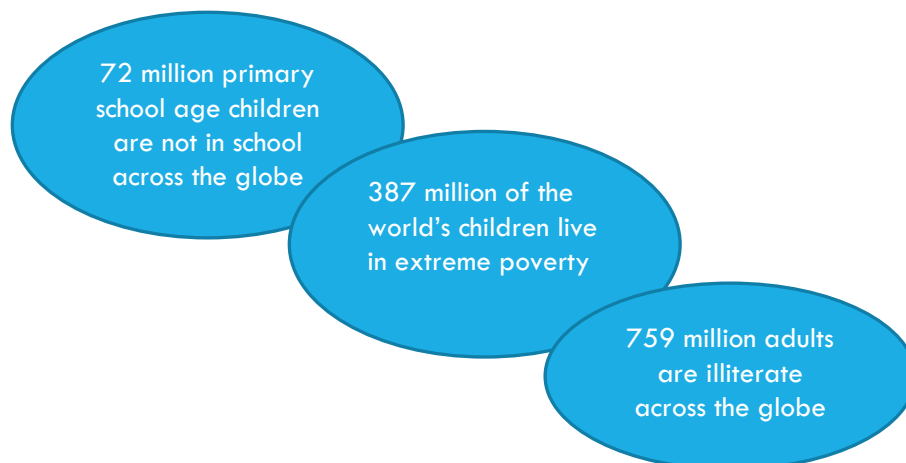
## The harsh reality of the community that we support

The residents of the Hilton Slum reside on the edges of Nakuru's local rubbish dump. The community experiences poor health, poverty and high levels of unemployment. The levels of unemployment have remained high and all government run schools require uniforms, school books and exam fees which are beyond the means of the locals. Without an education, it remains impossible for the children to lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty.

The 2017 statistics continue to reflect a shockingly high youth unemployment rate in Kenya with an overall recorded unemployment rate of 39.1 percent. Kenya continues to have the highest unemployment rate in East African Countries.

The Walk Centre UK provides grants to support the running of The Walk Academy primary school, supports students through secondary and High School education and the continuation of the feeding programme and adult learning. The programmes support approximately 500 children and their families. The Academy has seen great success with the graduation of our first student from University who studied Community Development and has gone on to gain a position of project director at a charitable organisation.

Our vision is to be able to continue to expand the level of financial support that we can provide to the education and feeding programmes, and enable the Academy to provide greater opportunities to more children and their families.



## **Our story so far and how we achieve change**

The Walk Centre began in April 2005 in order to cater for the needs of the local Hilton Slum, Nakuru, Kenya. Alex and Patricia Maina, both teachers by trade and respected members of the community, identified the needs of the slum and gave up their jobs to establish and run what is now known as “The Walk Academy”.

In 2005, the couple occupied a rented plot of land where they housed 60 students from the slum. They were able to provide a basic education and a regular supply of food. Over the years with the support of The Walk Centre UK registered charity and volunteers, the school is now situated on its own plot of land and provides a formal curriculum led education to over 300 students. It also supports a further 180 through secondary school and high school and feeds 300 children six days a week.

The Academy is also providing sewing classes to local women to give them the skills to gain employment and support the local families whenever there is a need for nourishment, housing or medical attention.

The school has seen one of its first students graduate from University (case study included on pg 7) and this truly demonstrates the significant impact that the Academy has. The support provided and funded by The Walk Centre UK provides the stepping stones to the children and adults of the slum and the tools to improve their financial and social situations. The success stories coming from the Academy are a testament to the impact that each donation can have. Since our registration in 2009 we have raised over £200,000 and this has enabled us to make a difference to each child's life.

## Education Case Studies



### John's Story

John was born to a very poor family and in his later years was raised on a rubbish site by his grandmother. Prior to living on the dump John had lived with his mother in Nairobi. His mother was working and was able to pay for rent and food, so life was ok but in 2000 his mother lost her job and was no longer able to pay the bills. The children had to leave school as they could no longer pay the fees and they were sent to live with their Grandmother in Nakuru who was also homeless but temporarily living in her Cousins house. Their mother promised to return for them but never did. At this point John had lost all hope of returning to school. The family moved to the rubbish dump where they were given a small box house and were able to forage on the dump for food and collect scrap metal to earn a living. Then one day John met Alex Maina and after talking to John he promised to take him to school at The Walk. John started with the Academy in 2008 and has continued his education and is currently at College studying social work and community development. John said

“My life is totally different; the sponsorship of the Walk has really given me hope that I will reach the future I have been hoping to have. After school I want to go back to my community and transform it. According to me the Walk is transforming many people's lives”.

### Eric's Story

Eric was born in 1992 in Nairobi, he was the second born of six children, although the first born passed away in 2009 as a result of Tuberculosis. Eric's family were extremely poor, and his mother was raising the family alone. At the age of 7, Eric became a street boy in Nairobi but in 2002 he decided to go home and relocated to Nakuru with his family to look after their sick grandmother. In 2003 Eric went back to the streets to try and be the bread winner of the family and help his grandmother. In 2005 Eric met Alex and Alex noticed that he was an incredibly bright child so took him into The Walk. Despite having a poor background and no lights at night to study Eric worked hard and managed to make it to University with good grades. Eric joined Laikipia University and was the first student at The Walk to make it so far. Having now finished his degree and awaiting graduation Eric has great hope for his future. He wants to help as many people as he can and change the status of his family. As well as the help Eric has received from The Walk, they have ensured that his grandmother has a good house to live in and his brother is currently in College. Eric “is so grateful for this and wishes to thank all the people who have played a part in his life to become who he is today”.

## Income and Expenditure

We are a small charity and pride ourselves on being efficient and flexible so that we can respond to the needs of the community we work with. We keep our overheads extremely low and all trustees of the Board are volunteers.

**Our income in MAY2016 – APR2017: £33,360**



- Individual donors
- Large donations
- Fundraising events
- Gift Aid

**Our expenditure: £33,197**



- Grants to The Walk Centre (£32, 350)
- JustGiving Fees
- Bank Fees
- Other administration

As the above shows the majority of funds raised are sent directly to the Academy with only 3% being spent on administrative costs

For full audited accounts, please visit:

<http://apps.charitycommission.gov.uk/Showcharity/RegisterOfCharities/CharityWithoutPartB.aspx?RegisteredCharityNumber=1129576&SubsidiaryNumber=0>



# How you can help

Thank you to all our supporters who took part in our events in 2016-2017 to raise awareness and vital funds for the children and adults that we support.

If you are interested in helping us raise funds or in making a donation there are a number of ways you can do so:

## **Fundraising**

Whether you fancy a challenge and raising money or if you want to organise your own event please do get in touch using the details below.

## **Single donation**

If you are interested in making a general donation or helping us fund one of our programmes, please keep reading the report for more details and get in touch using the details below.

## **Monthly Sponsorship**

Become a monthly sponsor giving as much as you like. As an example of how far your money can go for just £5 a month you can feed a child or for £23 a month you can take a student through education. For more information contact us using the details below.

## **Contact Us At:**

Email: [info@thewalkcentre.org](mailto:info@thewalkcentre.org)

Tel: 07870 698177

Post: Mayfield, Windsor Lane, Wooburn Green, High Wycombe, HP10 OEG

**“I believe that if you show people the problems and you show them the solutions they will be moved to act.”**

— Bill Gates, business magnate and philanthropist

## Programme Details

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Education Programme</b>
<b>Project Need</b>	To provide the children of the slum with the basic right to an education
<b>Project Costs</b>	The approximate monthly cost to put a child through education is 3,000kshs (approximately £23) per month
<b>Project Description</b>	To provide the children of the slum with access to education. The current Academy was recently expanded to include facilities to advance the primary students onto secondary school on one site so these costs will increase and therefore the Government secondary school costs will decrease over time. This enables students to remain within an environment where their social and economic situations are fully understood and they are nurtured to achieve their full potential.
<b>Project Start Date</b>	Continuous
<b>Goal</b>	The project will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide opportunities to transform lives</li> <li>- Prevent a generation of illiterate children</li> </ul>
<b>More information</b>	If you are interested in finding out more about The Walk Academy or are interested in supporting the education programme please contact us via <a href="mailto:enquiries@thewalkcentre.org">enquiries@thewalkcentre.org</a>

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Feeding Programme</b>
<b>Project Need</b>	To provide the children of the slum community with regular meals.
<b>Project Costs</b>	<p>The approximate monthly costs of this project are (based on 300 children): approximately. This provides the following (produce may vary due to availability)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flour</li> <li>• Cabbages</li> <li>• Porridge Flour</li> <li>• Salt and fat</li> <li>• Bananas</li> <li>• Meat</li> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Utilities</li> </ul> <p><b>Total: £1500 per month or £5 per child</b></p>
<b>Project Description</b>	To provide the children (approx. 300) of the slum community with 2 meals a day 6 times a week. Without this programme the families struggle to find enough money to pay for regular meals. This then leads to malnutrition and disease.
<b>Project Start Date</b>	Continuous
<b>Goal</b>	<p>The project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the children receive regular meals</li> <li>• Alleviate the financial strain on families</li> </ul>
<b>More information</b>	If you are interested in finding out more about The Walk Academy or are interested in supporting the feeding programme please contact us via <a href="mailto:enquiries@thewalkcentre.org">enquiries@thewalkcentre.org</a>