

## High School Scholarships

TO MAKE EDUCATION  
ACCESSIBLE FOR  
UNDERPRIVILEGED KIDS



HOLD A GIRL'S HAND  
INITIATIVE  
GENDER



SUSTAINABILITY  
PROGRAM  
SUSTAINABLE GARDEN



CAPACITY BUILDING  
IMPROVE QUALITY OF  
EDUCATION

# RILEY ORTON

## F O U N D A T I O N



### FOUNDER, DAVID OMONDI OTIENO

*David graduated with a BSc. Medical Biochemistry Degree of the University of Nairobi and returned to his community of Obunga Slum where he founded Riley Orton Foundation Org (ROF), Kenyan nonprofit supporting underprivileged girls*

*to break the cycle of poverty by implementing sustainable education programs. Having been raised in Obunga slum and seeing women and children struggle to survive and break free from poverty, he has always been determined to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the less privileged in his community. He started Akili Library and Information Technology center in fall of 2010, and Akili Preparatory School for Girls in Jan 2012. He has seen the growth of the library and the school over the years into a center of excellence supporting underprivileged girls to complete primary education*

*and transition to high school. As the Founder/Executive Director at ROF, he is involved in Strategic management, Fundraising/researching and writing grants, partnership development and coordinating volunteer activities.*

David is driven by an innate desire to create sustainable change from the inside with the local community as the development experts.

### CAPACITY BUILDING

ROF has partnered with different schools to build classrooms and train teachers from community schools to improve quality of instruction in the classrooms. With the 100% secondary education transition policy exerting more pressure on the limited resources in both public primary and high schools, ROF partners with existing public and community schools to build their capacity to offer quality education in serene learning environments in Kenya. This includes focus on; Building and refurbishing classrooms, libraries, laboratories, toilets/latrines, water reservoirs and other learning infrastructures, provision of school uniforms, books/stationery etc. We also train teachers and school managers on learner centered techniques, Competency Based Curriculum, resource mobilization etc in partnership with the govt and other civil society organizations

# PROGRAMS

## LEADERSHIP & ENTREPRENEURSHIP TRAINING

Aimed at solving the challenges young people face in finding gainful employment, our leadership and entrepreneurship program focuses on: Equipping youth with competencies in critical thinking and creativity, creating and expanding opportunities for youth re-skilling, and enhancing skills mobility across learning areas. This includes training on personal development, life skills (leadership, work ethic, communication, problem solving, team work , collaboration and entrepreneurship including financial literacy and starting own ventures, use of technology/ict in business.

ROF collaborates with existing Technical Vocational Education Training Institutions and individuals offering training to youth in Building Construction Technology/ masonry, Fashion Design and Garment Making, Appropriate Carpentry and Joinery, Electricals and Electronics Technology, Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy and Computer Studies/ICT.

## HOLD A GIRL'S HAND INITIATIVE

Hold A Girl's Hand Initiative is a gender transformative program that aims to reduce and totally eliminate the high absenteeism rates of rural girls who miss school during their menses, reduce sexual and gender based violence, bolster self esteem and improve sexual and reproductive health rights among rural adolescent girls. ROF partners with different rural schools to eliminate all barriers that hold girls back from achieving their full potential by offering counseling, Sexual & Reproductive Health Education, providing free school uniforms, sanitary pads and pants, bicycles to cycle to school and end transactional sex for lifts to school and involving boys and men in supporting girls empowerment.

## *Sustainable Garden*

ROF started the SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM (coined to mean to sustain- Akili School) aimed at involving the girls in organic gardening, waste management, and business skills training. Its aim is to increase food production, aid in the overall sustainability of Akili Preparatory School, and encourage the students to become stewards of their environments.

Our vision is to produce environmentally friendly minded students who understand the importance of sustainability, learn and share healthy environmental practices that they will use throughout their lifetimes, contributing to a more environmentally friendly Kenya. Akili Students will not just benefit from the school's sustainability, they will contribute to it.

This project will lead to improved nutrition of girls, promote environmental conservation and use of organic techniques of farming as well as spur their interest in stem disciplines.

# SCHOLARSHIPS

ROF has been striving to increase access to education to underprivileged girls and boys living in rural and urban slums in Kenya. Our work has mainly revolved around the provision of free quality education to girls at the Akili Preparatory School for girls, promotion of basic literacy and numeracy skills among school going children and distribution of school uniforms and bicycles to both primary and high school students.

ROF's new strategy focuses on providing primary and high school scholarships to underprivileged boys and girls living in rural areas and urban slums in Kenya. The Scholarships are administered in partnership with existing private and public schools, government institutions and other scholarship and sponsorship providers. The parents of the scholarship recipients are highly encouraged to be actively involved in their kids' education eg visiting students at school, purchasing stationery and other school supplies and assuming medical and other relevant costs. ROF also offers support to exemplary students graduating from high school to continue their education through college. Students at Akili Preparatory school are the first beneficiaries of the program as ROF partners with Akili School to transition its students to high school.

