

# FOY SUMMER 2019

Ten Volunteers Make Their Imprint in Yimbo

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## Top stories in this newsletter



School Lunch Program Develops



Digital Promise Initiative Expands

Micro-Enterprise Ventures Flourish

Clean Water Still A High Need

## Volunteers and School Explore Developing a School Lunch Program



The effects of climate change continue to affect Yimbo. Longer dry seasons and shorter rainy seasons have exacerbated food insecurity in the village. Muguna School attests to many families that can barely feed their children three square meals a day.

Majority of the students come to school hungry yet there is an expectation for them to focus on learning. Some kids run home during lunch break only to get a sip of water and return. [Read More](#)

## The Digital Promise Initiative



As of June 2018, the school had one mounted projector, two speakers and a desktop in the library. In addition, each teacher has had a laptop for 2 years accompanied by three professional learning sessions. With support from Deno and Henry as a technical support team, Muguna has exhibited tremendous growth in integrating Digital Learning, academic Discourse and Risk-Taking in the classroom.

[Read More](#)



## Micro-Enterprise Opportunities Flourish



Paul, the local FOY coordinator continues to achieve success with small groups in Muguna village. Paul's entrepreneurial success is rooted in continuous mobilization and learning opportunities for the village. His efforts have inspired the village around the idea of business enterprise development as a viable way out of extreme poverty. [Read More](#)

## Muguna Students in Need of Classroom Supplies



Muguna's enrollment currently stands north of 470 students for a school with a capacity of 300 students. The government financial support lags behind the current levels of need. As a result, the school is in short supply of facilities and instructional materials. The July 2019 volunteers delivered over 800 pencils, 500 writing books and 10 text books per classrooms. Yes, that's correct! They only have 10 textbooks per classroom and these are required text books. [Read More](#)

## Clean Water reaches more homes in Muguna



In Muguna, approximately 7 out of 100 individuals have access to clean water. We partnered with the village back in 2014 to sink a well. Since then, we have focused on getting individual homes water tanks to store rain water. Each family filters this captured water for domestic consumption. Sponsor a household today to purchase a water tank. [Read More](#)

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## Volunteers and School Explore Developing a School Lunch Program



Students with food insecurity tend to struggle with chronic absenteeism. Muguna Primary would like to partner with you to financially support the development of a student lunch feeding program. The program would serve lunch to all enrolled students. The FOY volunteers were fortunate to accompany the Muguna teachers and PTA to a neighboring district to learn from a school with a five-year successful feeding program. If the trip wasn't exciting enough, the school bus needed a push to jumpstart the battery—adventures!



Please consider [donating \\$10](#) to sponsor a single child for a full school term of three months. A single meal serving includes a plate combination of maize and beans with vegetables and clean water. This choice is not only affordable and nutritious but also convenient for storing year round in the absence of refrigeration in the village. The PTA will partner with FOY to build this lunch program. Their contribution will include the installation of a 10,000 liter water tank in the school kitchen and day to day administration of the program.

The PTA also plans to collaborate with the women's micro-enterprise group to develop a small scale farm to subsidize the feeding program. The farm will contribute fresh produce to the feeding program while involving students in a farming club. The goal is to model successful programs that have created revenue generating farming activities and small-scale financial lending as part of the learning for the students.

## The Digital Promise Initiative



In the spirit of capacity building, Troy and Jerry trained our local technical support team, Deno and Henry, on the mounting of projectors in the two classrooms recently renovated by donations from FOY. Muguna also received two additional document cameras. The use of LCD projectors and document cameras gives the teachers the ability to share limited text books in a class of 45 students. While in the village, volunteers Chris, Mahak, Khushboo and Lindsey helped the teachers decorate some classroom walls. Muguna classrooms are slowly transforming into learning spaces that are student centric. Seating arrangements have also been transformed to group seating to encourage student collaboration. The students have responded with such enthusiasm as the rest of the teachers cautiously make this transition while parents watch with a healthy skepticism from a distance.



At the school staff meeting, Nancy reminded the team that change takes time and requires patience. Experimentation takes courage. With a fast changing digital global economy, it is critical to have the ability to experiment.

FOY believes in this dynamite teaching staff of eleven teachers to help all the kids of Muguna village achieve great success.

## Micro-Enterprise Opportunities Flourish



Paul makes monthly visits to each participating member in the program. He mentors three groups **1) Muguna Women's Group** (MWG) was already in existence by the time Paul started working with them in 2014. It consists of 30 members. The group focuses on chicken farming and table banking. MWG currently provides small business loans to other village groups. This a local concept cultivated by Paul to help internal community businesses grow by supporting each other. MWG members requires a [combined \\$3,000](#) of additional capital so each member can add four additional high production bird breeds i.e. Kuroiler, KALRO and Kenbro breeds.



**2) People's Own Process** (POP) has 36 members from it's inception in 2016. As the name suggests, Paul facilitated them through a process where each individual eventually selected their business venture of choice. The ventures include pre-owned cloths sale, goat rearing, grocery shops, fish mongering etc. FOY funded 20% while the individual borrowed 80% of the start-up capital from MWG.



**3) The third group, Muguna Uyoma-Angwenyo Men's Group**, is the most recent group to form. They are still in the mobilization stage with approximately 25 members. So far, FOY has funded three training sessions. The unique feature about this group is that members come from the three neighboring villages of Muguna, Uyoma and Angwenyo. The three share a lot of heritage and intermarriages hence the importance of keeping them connected with equal development opportunities. They will soon move into business idea selection so stay tuned.

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## Muguna Students in Need of Classroom Supplies



A proclamation passed by the government of Kenya in 2009 made Primary Education free. However, with free education, families still have to contribute towards essential instructional materials such as textbooks and uniforms. The government sends a few textbooks to rural schools and the parents have to bridge the gap. In 2020, FOY's goal is provide one textbook per child. You can help us today by [donating \\$20](#) per textbook to our goal of 500 textbooks.

A big thank you to your donations toward the school uniforms. All students received a new single pair of school uniforms during the July book fair. Troy, Tony and Claudia did a great job setting up the book fair in the library. In addition, about 190 girls each received a package of three hygiene kits.

## Clean Water Reaches More Homes in Muguna



The local county has a piped water program which is only available to a few families that can afford a monthly payment. Therefore, FOY opted for roof catchment method to support the families that cannot afford the piped water. Under this roof water-harvesting project, FOY donates 50% while the local family also contributes 50%. The components include cement, sand, ballast, gutters, 60 liter water tank and installation cost.

Out of the 40 targeted homes, 8 have successfully completed the payments and utilizing the water. Some homes use the water to grow vegetables.

It [cost \\$250](#) to sponsor a single family under this cost-sharing model. The \$250 pays for the FOY share of donation.



## Other Notable Stories



Christopher surprised the Muguna assembly by playing both the Kenyan and U.S national anthem on his melodica. 20 melodicas were donated to kick-start the Muguna music program



Michele distributes hygiene kits. 195 kits in total were delivered to the girls



Tony and Claudia joined FOY in Yimbo from Milan, Italy.



This Muguna student, James remembered Jairo from the 2018 visit and invited him to their home for dinner. Lasting friendship made!

The mighty Muguna Primary Teachers

