



# PEPO LA TUMAINI ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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# NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDING DIRECTOR

2021 highlights have included a partner visit from Segal Family Foundation, the opportunity to speak about the importance of holistic approaches in an online symposium promoting philanthropy in East Africa. Our team has also benefited from participation in child protection and safeguarding workshops, encouraging us to explore how best to adopt international standards of best practice in our organisation. We are grateful to Elma Philanthropies and TJ Meyer Family Foundation for providing us with essential learning platforms for keeping us up to date with our online ethical responsibilities.

PLTJ has a culture of inclusivity, where appropriate additional support is provided for children and young people with disabilities. Our work in 2021 included healthcare for stigmatized conditions such as HIV, STIs and psychosocial provision for rehabilitation addressing effects of trauma, drug abuse and neglect. We have successfully maintained an impartial and humanitarian approach that advocates for the rights of the disenfranchised semi-nomadic and pastoralist communities and those groups who are ostracised due to age, economic status, and social position.

This year we have been focusing our efforts on repairing the fractured support systems that resulted from the disintegration of social gatherings caused by COVID. By renewing our volunteer and self-help groups, we have been re-addressing fear and stigma to ensure a more inclusive and tolerant community that is embracing of people who are normally considered outsiders. As we prepare for 2022, which will be the year of our Kenyan elections, we are strengthening our local partnerships to ensure peaceful processes and education for marginalised communities about their rights and civic obligations.

I am greatly encouraged by the generosity of our friends and board members from all over the world, including our Kenyan partners who continue to support our efforts

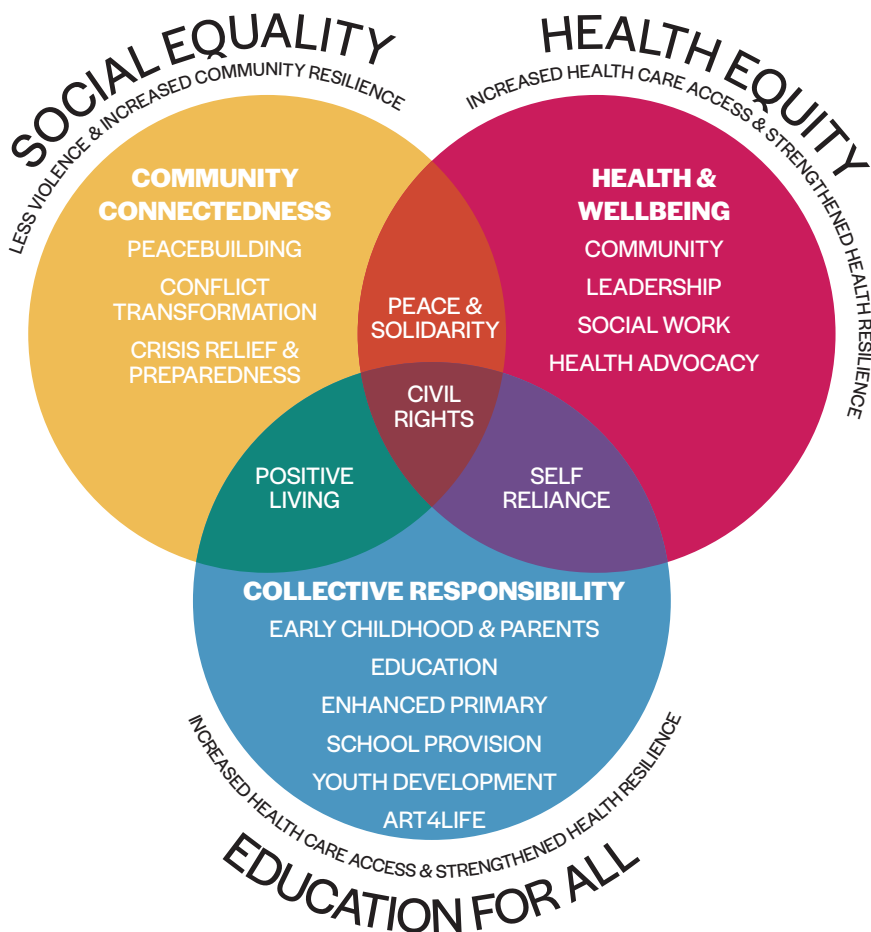


to deliver life-changing work at grassroots level. Without them our work would not be possible. I started a dream for people and life, but the realisation of that dream is being accomplished by so many others. I am a witness who can testify to the impact being made every day by others to reach out in their communities, realising the dream of restoring human dignity in places where it is lost. I am personally proud of our continuity, and the legacy that everyone is involved in creating as they take part in contributing to the impact we are having on people's lives.

*Khadija O. Rama*



# OUR APPROACH AND KEY GOALS





For over 25 years, PLTJ has developed our community-led approach, responding to changing needs and prioritising the marginalised. Since 1994 we supported over 100,000 vulnerable children and their families. Using a holistic approach, we protect and provide:

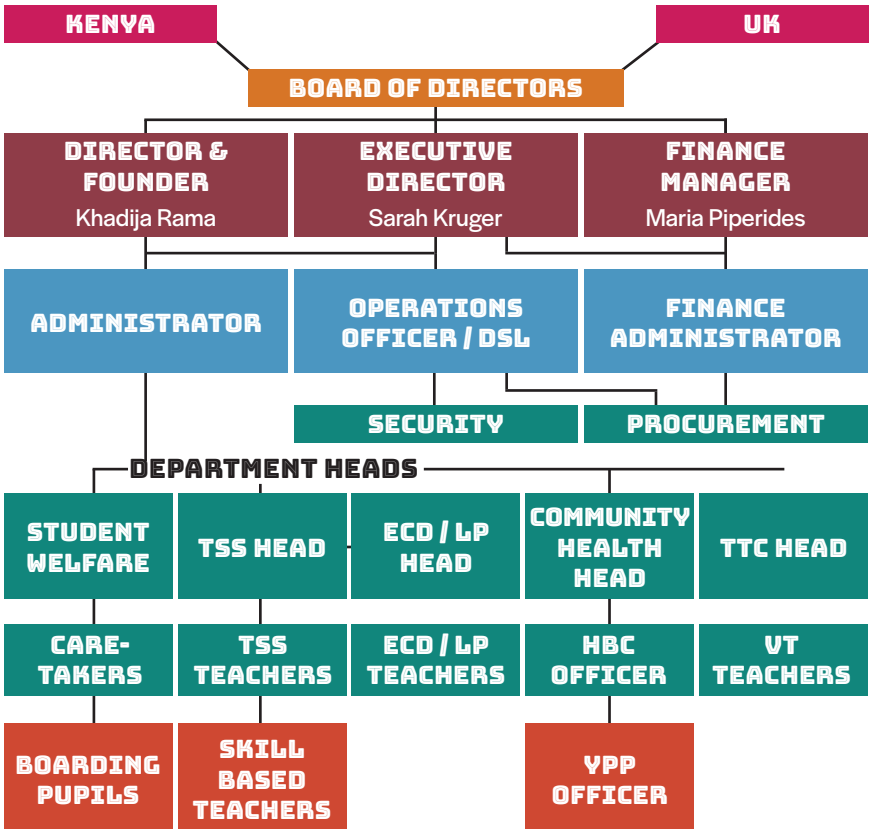
Community health for marginalised communities such as pastoralists and people with HIV	Education and child protection for disadvantaged and at-risk children including child-headed households and street-connected children/youth	Peace-building and community support for the diverse, multi-ethnic communities in Isiolo.
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**OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH TOWARDS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT INCLUDES:**

Education	Behaviour Change	Youth Empowerment	Entrepreneurship
Healthcare	Health Advocacy	Civic Rights	Crisis Response

# ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



# ACHIEVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Made learning possible for

**75**

‘children heading households’  
by providing a safe place to call  
home in our specialised boarding  
school programme.

Supported

**128**

children to attend our ECD Centre  
and Grade 1 – 5 lower primary classes.

**110**

children participated in the Art4Life  
therapy and rehabilitation programme.

Provided health and welfare support to

**78**

patients needing HIV palliative care.



Delivered HIV and SRH education to

**3,800**

young people

Trained

**45**

Community Health Volunteers to  
educate, counsel and monitor sick  
patients at household level.

Arranged and Monitored placements for

**135**

orphans and vulnerable children in the  
community with mother-carers.

**126**

young mothers out of school received  
education, support and care.

Provided outdoor feeding and  
advocacy for

**105**

street children in Isiolo.

Connected with

**5,000**

people across our 9 centre points in  
the pandemic response.



# IMPACT STORIES

## Opiyo

*"Tumaini is an oasis in the desert where a flower can grow without roots"*

- Ahmed Set, Council of Elders

Meet Opiyo, our youngest boarder of 7 years old. Opiyo was living on the streets, working in the market carrying water and pulling goods carts to be able to get something to eat. Fearing for his safety, our street youth leaders requested that he be placed in our residential school programme. Opiyo only has a single mother who is unemployed and struggles with her mental health. After a difficult start, Opiyo is now learning in school for the first time, proud to have a place he can call home, and happy to have a mother-carer he can turn to for love and guidance.

Our school gives our children a place they can call home and friends they can call family. Our education model provides equal opportunities for children who have missed out on education and are unable to fit into normal school systems. Our school enables them to join into the most fitting class and start their education journey without stigma and discrimination. Our current focus in education is on increasing access to therapeutic support, which will help improve academic performance at our boarding school and to increasing child-protection training and renewal of our safeguarding committee.





## Felix

Adolescence is a tough time for boys as they transition into manhood. We often take for granted just how much change our children go through and the challenges they overcome. Felix is 15 years old, and has been making tremendous progress in the Expressive Arts and Play Therapy programme. With his permission he allowed us to share this brief summary about his progress: Felix joined Tumaini in 2019.

Due to his life circumstances, he found it difficult to care for himself and others, he showed severe learning difficulties in class and was unable to make eye contact with adults. Through his creative storytelling work with drawing, sand and clay, Felix is overcoming his past traumas and is well on his way to becoming a responsible and self-assured young man. Now he is able to say no as confidently as he can say yes and understands the importance of keeping boundaries and making positive choices.



# ANNUAL PROGRESS

## Community Update

In the wake of the pandemic, we have been working especially hard this year to root ourselves in a trauma informed practice that ensures safety, trust, choice, collaboration, and empowerment for everyone. We hosted 3 family day events for the school, involving caregivers, parents and community members supporting our efforts to help pupils to stay in school after the impact of Covid and the changes in the curriculum. Reintegration of roles and responsibilities between children and their families is an essential part of our education programme, supporting positive and sustainable behaviour change for neglected children.

Our inclusive Youth Peer Provider model is focused on behaviour change, empowering 'street connected youth' with capacity building and enabling them to positively influence their peers. This year we worked with 250 young people across diverse communities, equipping them with information and skills that result in improved decision-making skills and attitudes geared towards self-reliance. Topics included economic empowerment, employment promotion, HIV and adolescent reproductive health education.



## New Programmes/ Systems

PLTJ passed the Equivalency Determination process by NGO source team, with Equivalency Determination certification valid through until 12/31/22. As part of our ongoing commitment to self-regulation, we are soon to be finalising our certification process with Viwango, an organisation responsible for improving the credibility and integrity of civil society organisations in Kenya. We are proud to have achieved full PAYE compliance for our staff with all statutory bodies in 2021.

We were successful in using inclusive facilitation methods with our stakeholders, staff and community beneficiaries to renew our strategic plan. We planned and organized our prioritized focus areas for the next 3 years (2022 - 2024), including a re-evaluation of how our program is designed and how it is supposed to work. We used it as an opportunity to analyse and evaluate how we work in each department and created our own theory of change for our organization.





## Advocacy

Every year we spend \$25,000 facilitating HIV support services for affected children and families unable to afford and access equitable healthcare services. This year for World Aids Day we engaged over 3000 people across different cultural groups rural and urban, infected, and affected by HIV in campaigning against treatment shortages and tackling the fear around accessing services at the hospital.

We renewed our commitment to community health needs following the impact of Covid19, by training and facilitating support groups for our team of 40 community health volunteers from 7 of our urban slum and rural areas. Our diverse group of women have been working in their communities as confidants, bridge builders and advocates for non-discriminating and dignified access to health services.

We have been highlighting the unmet needs of the young street families who have emerged as a direct result of Covid school closures and high unemployment rates. Our work, including outdoor feeding, medical care and psychosocial support with this vulnerable group was featured on local news channels appealing to the government to help make mainstream services available to this group of 105 street youth. By partnering with the Provincial Administration in Isiolo we were able to help obtain ID documentation for 37 of the young people.



# CREATIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Isiolo has low literacy/education. Only 31.79% attend school (2006). The youth are perceived as both victims and perpetrators of violence/crime and alcohol/drug use is rising. 75% of the out-of-school youth do not have regular, full-time employment. New 'camps' (informal settlements) have been forming all over the fast-developing town with gangs operating throughout. We have been acting as unique link with these communities, raising awareness, advocating for their rights and providing essential support throughout the pandemic. Our plan is to empower the unemployed local young people by developing accessible opportunities for training and creative entrepreneurship at our new vocational training Centre.



Due to closures brought about by Covid in obtaining our TVETA license, we were unable to officially recruit new day scholars to attend registered courses at our new Vocational Training Centre. We did, however, deliver a successful pilot financial management 'training of trainers' course for 5 of our 'youth peer providers', we are planning on rolling out this training for a further 25 young people in 2022. Our new Training Centre was able to cater for our primary school pupils from grades 6 – 8. 75 Pupils were actively involved in 4 trade courses: Metalwork, Woodwork, Tailoring and Masonry/ Painting.





The timeline for the opening of our vocational training centre was pushed back (delays due to Covid), which means we are now in the next 12 months focused on registering with TVETA, enrolling students into vocational training courses and establishing an income generating scheme for the Centre to help facilitate some of its running costs. We continue to champion the relevance of vocational training for primary school pupils. Our new Trade and Talent Centre is building self-reliance and important business skills for street-connected and vulnerable youth.



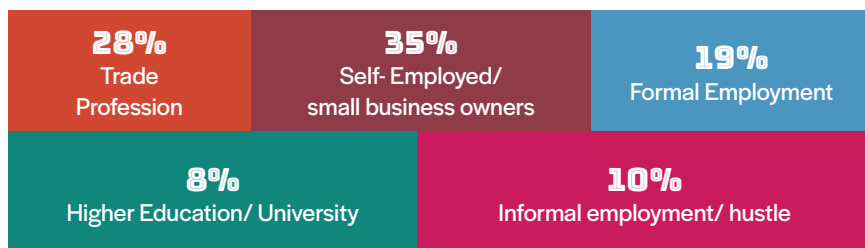


# ALUMNI

We are proud of the continuing relationship we have with our alumni who send us news of their progress, sharing their achievements and sending contributions towards our school. Since the inception of Tumaini Senior School, we have worked with over 2000 vulnerable children, many of whom return to us during their time off or drop back to us when things don't work out. In this way we continue to provide a lifeline for them even after they have left by providing them with a family to belong to. Their stories are testimonies to the value of our school, which combines both academic learning and vocational skills training. As part of building the sustainability of our organisation we continue to provide direct mentorship to 5% of our alumni.

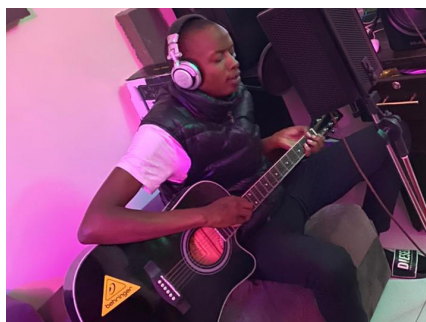


## Alumni Outcomes



Phabian Amollo, graduate from Tumaini Senior School in 2010 is currently at university completing his final year of BSC Nursing. "I am always grateful to Pepo for the high-quality education and vocational training I received, along with all my basic needs being catered for and all the love, care and support from all the great staff. Thank you to everyone involved who helps to make a Pepo a place, where children like myself can call home."

Tumaini Senior School Graduates Salat & Yassin from Pioneers graduating class of 2012. Now young men and fathers, who work as painters and decorators in Mombasa. Tumaini Senior not only builds lasting friendships but instils a meaningful creative work ethic that impacts the lives of our alumni in more ways than one. Both boys were victims of abandonment, losing their parents and being exposed to street life from a young age. They are now fulfilling their responsibilities for their own families, while looking out for the younger generation and making referrals to our school for other young boys who share their story.



Bilaal joined Tumaini Senior School in 2015, he lacked adult care and supervision at household level in Kibera the largest slum in Kenya and East Africa. Without a family to call his own, Tumaini became his home and he claimed his talent for music alongside his classmates, performing at the schools national music festival competitions. He is now a young man writing and recording his own music in Nairobi.

Betty was rescued in 2016 and given a safe haven to call home. She was able to recover and complete her primary school education. With renewed resilience she is now self-reliant and working in Nairobi.



Winnicate has recently graduated from secondary school and is training to become a teacher

Saalim graduated from Tumaini Senior School in 2018 and is now training as a security guard at Sirikoi Lodge in Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. He returns to the programme during his breaks and works alongside Tumaini Senior School pupils sharing experiences and being a positive role model for our future pioneers.



# LOOKING FORWARD

Limited staff capacity due to increased demand for digital communication skills. To help support our transition into the efficient and responsible use of digital technology, we recruited a new financial assistant with comprehensive computer skills to improve and implement our digital financial and administrative control structures. We will be enrolling our staff into ICT classes and working with each department to implement new models of monitoring and evaluation recording systems. We plan on being able to include more of our staff in online capacity building workshops.

Responsibility for increasingly vulnerable ‘at-risk’ children. We have been monitoring emerging safeguarding risks by facilitating regular safeguarding and child-protection workshops for beneficiaries and staff. This has been helping us to ensure that the safety and welfare of our beneficiaries and staff remain at the core of our identity, programmes and operations. Going forward we plan to further develop our sustainability, diversity and quality assurance of our programme activities by mentoring youth alumni and community members.

Rapidly changing needs at societal level – We have been diversifying treatment, support, care and outreach programmes and enhancing community support mechanisms by co-ordinating a responsive community outreach team addressing home-based care, sexual health, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health needs. Going forward we are planning to support and organize self-help and leadership groups to engage in development activities that advocate for disenfranchised communities. We will be building community organizing expertise through stakeholder collaboration and community members, government, religious and civil society groups.





# THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS IN 2021

Our international and local partnerships give us unique opportunities to learn and grow, connecting us to like-minded organisations who challenge and inspire us. They have shown unwavering support during the pandemic, championing African-founded, African-based, and African-led organisations, who continue to disproportionately face sharp funding inequalities. Thanks to the generosity of individual friends around the globe, we have been able to continue providing crucial holistic support for underserved, youth, families and communities.

## International

The Claude and Sofia Marion Foundation

Segal Family Foundation 



T&J Meyer Family Foundation

The Rosalbe Foundation



**KUUNGANA TECHNOLOGY**  
YOUR PARTNER IN FINANCIAL SECURITY



## Local



Ministry of Education



