

En Route

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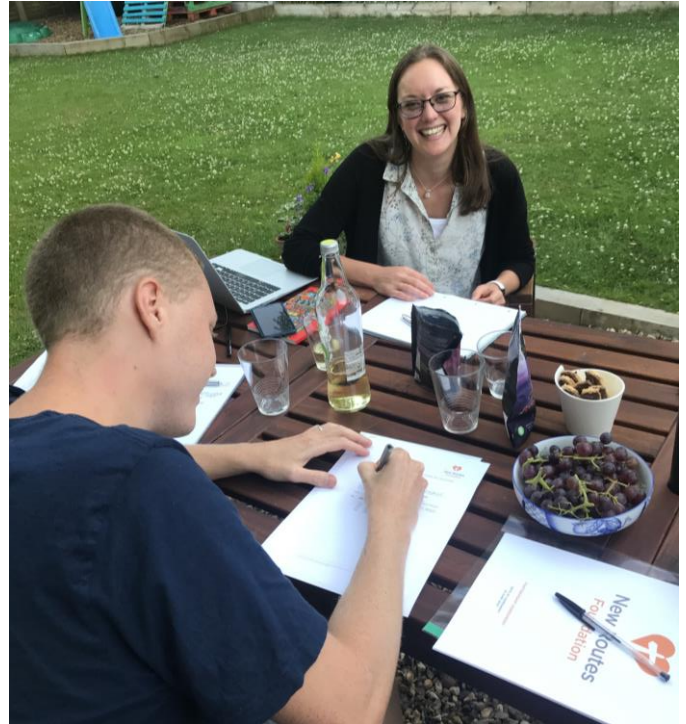
Hi everyone, we hope you are keeping well even in this very unexpected year! Everyone has been affected by coronavirus in some way and New Routes Foundation is no different.

The Kenyan Government took very strict measures at the beginning of the outbreak (by closing schools/churches, setting an evening curfew and restricting movements in and out of major cities). Schools are still closed, and it seems most likely they will re-open in January 2021. However, all students will potentially need to repeat their entire school year. This means that the 10 students we select will be a year older in age (17) but will still be in Form 3 (penultimate year of secondary school).

We are currently waiting on final permission from the Kenyan Ministry of Education to allow us to enter schools in Kenya. After this, we will begin selecting our students straight away. It has been very challenging for us to find the right person to give us this access. However, through perseverance and God's timing, Storm was able to finally present our programme to the Ministry last week. The meeting went very smoothly and we are awaiting further communication from them.

The last couple of years has been about setting the groundwork for NRF and we are so grateful to begin our programme with every permission, approval and endorsement from many parts of the Kenyan Government! Although at times this has proved a long process, we know that this was completely controlled by God and in His timing.

For example: If we had started our programme in January 2020 as planned it would have been chaos – with schools being shut for almost a year, no movement in or out of cities or country. It would have made it almost impossible for us to provide the love and care that our students deserve.



Both NRF's chairperson (Storm) and NRUk's chairperson (Pip) signing the Partnership Agreement.

NEW BEGINNINGS

While Storm and I were in the U.K. due to COVID-19, we were able to make the most of the opportunity of being there and have some exciting news! New Routes UK (NRUK) was established by three incredible trustees and officially registered on 2nd September 2020 (charity number: 1191119).

NRUK will act as a key fundraising arm for supporting the work of New Routes Foundation in Kenya. Being a registered UK charity will give us access to grants, donors, gift aid etc. that NRF otherwise would not have access to. We are so excited to have such fantastic board members supporting our work all over the world.

NRF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Speaking of board members, we thought we should introduce you to our fantastic NRF board of directors. We really have been blessed with a great team and want you to know who they are, and why they are on the board for NRF.



Our Chairperson: Storm Lindenberg

STORM LINDENBERG

Storm, 27, has lived in four countries but grew up in South Africa. From a young age, he started noticing and being affected by the poverty around him - even amongst some of his school friends.

At 10 years old, he started volunteering at a local orphanage near his school a few times a week. This was where he eventually met his adopted sister. His experiences at the orphanage gave him a deeply burdened heart for orphaned and vulnerable children.

Throughout his teenage years he regularly volunteered with various schools and children's homes in Africa and Asia.

Since co-founding New Routes Foundation in Kenya with Sophie, he has used his Law and Medical Biochemistry qualifications for the benefit of the charity, especially for drafting legal agreements in the NGO and developing some of its extracurricular courses.

SOPHIE LINDENBERG

Sophie, 25, grew up in the UK and has had dreams about becoming a missionary in Africa since the age of 6. She regularly started going to Kenya from the age of 16, including stints of up to six months at a time.

Sophie has a passion for special needs care and has taught boys who have experienced abuse and neglect in the UK. In Kenya, she has home-schooled a child (in Swahili and English) with severe developmental difficulties, and closely supported children with traumatic backgrounds.

Sophie uses her Psychology degree for the benefit of the charity - especially as all the charity's beneficiaries are vulnerable young adults with histories of trauma and hardship.

Sophie gained her vision to serve Kenya in 2014 while at a Christian women's conference in the UK and is passionate about ensuring every student will know about the love of God.

Our Secretary: Sophie Lindenberg (with her daughter Eden)





Our Treasurer: Phylis Amukowa

PHYLIS AMUKOWA

Phylis is the Managing Director of LEP Forensic Consultancy, a forensics company based in Kenya. She has several qualifications in the field of forensics including a MSc in Forensic Medical Sciences from Queen Mary University in London.

Apart from her work, Phylis is passionate about community development since she believes that every person deserves a chance to a better life.

To this end, she has volunteered as a primary and secondary school teacher, is a member of the Kenya Red Cross and has been running an empowerment programme for girls in her community.

Phylis is privileged to be a part of New Routes Foundation because it presents another opportunity to serve and give back to the community.

TRISH FARRELLY

Trish is the headteacher of a large, diverse community primary school. She has a BA honours degree in Primary Education and a diploma in Psychology.

She has been working in education for 20 years and has a passion for ensuring all children have an opportunity to reach their potential - no matter what barriers they might have.

Trish has a special interest in children with learning challenges and set up an enhanced learning provision for children with autism in the UK. She is also dedicated to safeguarding and child protection.

Trish loves being a part of NRF as it provides amazing opportunities for education and has Jesus at its heart.

Our Director: Trish Farrelly





ALFRED OTIENO ACHIENG

Alfred is a lecturer at a prominent university in Kenya. Over the years he has interacted with many students and observed the drastic changes they tend to go through during this period.

He has seen many students make poor choices with irreversible consequences and believes this is often due to poor senses of identity and a lack of proper values.

Alfred joined NRF primarily because it is founded on and run under Christian principles.

He is particularly passionate about the mentorship and spiritual guidance aspects of our programme, which he believes will equip students with the emotional, psychological, and spiritual capacities to handle whatever the future holds for them; through their college years and beyond.

Our Director: Alfred Otieno Achieng

As we are nearing the end of the year, we are very excited to start selecting our students as soon as the Ministry of Education give us permission to do so.

Due to COVID-19 we perceive that our U.K. fundraiser in March 2021 will not be going ahead (which is very sad for us all). Therefore, we will be looking at other ways to introduce our students to you in the new year. We pray that this will encourage donors and sponsors to start their sponsorships, even despite the current

situation. Coronavirus has no doubt affected us all in extreme ways, but the effect it has had on the third world is even more magnified and people are becoming desperate.

If you would like to sponsor one of our 10 students already, sponsorship is £30 per month. This will allow our students to attend university (covering tuition fees, living costs, extra-curricular courses, internships - and much more)! Please get in touch using the below contact details.

FIND OUT MORE

If you are interested in sponsorship, donating to us, fundraising for us or for anything else please contact us:

For NRF: info@newroutesfoundation.org

For NRUK: newroutesuk@gmail.com

If you would like to unsubscribe from this newsletter please email us at info@newroutesfoundation.org



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Foundation**