



We One Action Network

NEWSLETTER | WINTER 2024 EDITION

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LETS BEGIN HERE

We One Action Network is a registered 501 c3 nonprofit organization based in Stanley, North Carolina (USA). Below is a list of our core values as an organization.

- **Integrity** | Acting with strong ethics and character is a priority for everyone representing WOAN.
- **Honesty** | It's not just the best policy. It's a core business practice to act in a transparent, trustworthy manner that earns the respect of our donors, peers, and recipients of our work.
- **Accountability** | Accepting responsibility for our actions is the ultimate way to build trust internally and externally.
- **Listening** | No one has all the answers. A culture of humility and continuous learning is a bedrock principle of our success since 2018.
- **Teamwork** | When WOAN collaborates with others, we can help create something greater than ourselves or individually.
- **Passion** | Having joy not just for the work itself but also for the people whom we serve. WOAN is driven by the PURPOSE of helping others progress forward.



What We Stand For

We One Action Network is committed to partnering with registered NGOs and Community Based Organizations. Our primary focus is educational learning (i.e., life skills, classroom) and other essentials including mentorship programs, youth development, food & nutrition, school supplies & uniforms, and sanitary pads to keep young girls in school. WOAN supported initiatives are designed to encourage the highest standards of creativity and long-term self-reliance.

Since our inception in 2018, we have positioned ourselves as part of the solution by listening and engaging with leaders that understand what those gaps are. In return, WOAN can remain on the frontline in our quest to assist vulnerable and disadvantaged students and educators.



2018 -2023

What began as a mission trip to visit the largest informal settlement in Africa (Kibera), quickly moved to fundraise to support schools. As of August 2018, We One Action Network has now completed **five years** of helping vulnerable youths, students, and teachers in underserved communities and villages in Kenya.

Special recognition to Ismael Oyundi (@Ismaelphotography_ke) for his relentless effort and enthusiasm to illustrate our work in this remarkable **pictorial video** that illustrates our work and our journey since 2018!

What an Amazing Journey!

- Offered scholarships to allow deserving students to continue their education.
- Awarded grants to underserved youths to attend entrepreneurship, leadership, and mentorship programs.
- Supported food drives that provide meals to needy families during the height of the covid pandemic.
- Sponsored multiple events that specifically target initiatives to keep girls and young women in school.

We want to extend the highest gratitude of appreciation to our USA family of donors and contributors for their monetary gifts, prayers, and words of encouragement.

We also want to recognize and give thanks to the many Kenyan-based organizations, schools, and civic leaders that stand united for their communities. They help us immensely understand the environment and the many dynamics of our work.

CULTIVATE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COMMUNITY LEADERS



Cultivate International (CI) belief is that solutions to poverty, injustice, and inequality must be led by community leaders who understand their community, share the same ethnic, socioeconomic, and cultural background. Their programs are designed to address the gap in access and inclusion of community insiders as changemakers in the global philanthropic sector.

CI's motto is simple; "We can only achieve our goals of making this world better for those on the margins when the strength of local communities is our priority, and when the people who intimately know their community are the ones leading change".

In 2023, We One Action Network (WOAN) partnered with CI to offer partial scholarships for **Leadership Training** held in Kenya with various community leaders.



APPLICATION ENDS 29TH APRIL

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT



ARE YOU A FORM FOUR GRADUATE OR A YOUTH IN NEED OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT ENROLL WITH US TODAY AND BE TRAINED ON:-

- PHOTOGRAPHY
- LEADERSHIP
- ENTREPRENEURSHIP
- COMPUTER

NEAR OLYMPIC STAGE
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NEW EXCITING PARTNERSHIP

GARDEN OF HOPE FOUNDATION

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT

Garden of Hope Foundation is passionate about restoring hope to underserved youth, women & children. GoHF is a non-governmental organization founded in 2014. They are passionate about restoring hope to underserved youth, children, women, and girls from urban slums and rural communities.

In 2023, WOAN sponsored **18 youths** to participate in their Youth Empowerment Project.



NIPE TABASAMU NIPE UPENDO

Nipe Tabasamu Nipe Upendo (NTNU) initiative started in 2018. They are a Community Based Organization that aim to impact communities and schools in Kenya by identifying potential gaps while providing resources and solutions that align with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

NTNU targeted audience is primarily young women and children because they are Kenya's largest population that has the most adverse vulnerabilities. Through their guidance and mentorship, young women and children grow with the understanding of why SDGs are important for the progression.

In 2023, WOAN sponsored two of our most memorable and emotional events since our existence:

- Empower to Impact at Noontoto Primary School
- Girls in Tech at Kimbilio Girls Rescue Center



REIMAGINING NEW COMMUNITIES | TEACHER TRAINING

REimaging New Communities (RNC) is founded on the principle of uniting diverse communities, fostering connections and sustainable partnerships through peacebuilding, cultural exchange, and meaningful conversations. They aim to bring people together, transcending barriers of language, race, culture, and worldview that might impede collaboration.



In 2023, WOAN sponsored (3) teacher training cohorts on a variety of techniques to resolve conflict through peaceful negotiations as teachers stand on the front line with students, and their parents.

See these remarkable events below:

- Teacher Training/Cohort 1
- Teacher Training/Cohort 2
- Teacher Training/Cohort 3



A NIGHT TO REMEMBER!

In November 2023, RNC earned our highest honor of gratitude for their energy, and effort in 2023.

WOAN had the opportunity to honor RNC for their ability to connect teachers with the **“right resources”** to maintain their classrooms while building strong relationships with the student & their parents.

RNC is the true definition of listening to understanding the need then filling the gap through **“action”**.



Here is a quick glance at this incredible night!



SHINE ACADEMY EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Shine Academy Educational Center (SAEC) is a pre-primary and lower primary school located in the informal settlement (e.g., slum) of Kibera. SAECs vision is to offer quality education to orphan and disadvantaged children. Their mission is to provide vulnerable children with an opportunity to pursue their dreams through education that encompasses classroom learning, mentorship and life-skills.

In 2023, WOAN provided food items (e.g., flour, rice, beans, etc), school supplies, **student uniforms**, and other viable resources like water and firewood.

Unfortunately, SAEC did experience two student fatalities due to illnesses in 2023. With guidance from SAEC Director, WOAN provided financial for proper burials and emotional support for the teachers and students. WOAN also visited SAEC in **November 2023**.



TOGETHER FOR AFRICA LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Together For Africa (TOFA) purpose is to provide solutions that can help young people become empowered, both socially and economically therefore presenting themselves as part of the solution to deal with and reduce the high rates of poverty.

Their methodology is focused on sustainable development, innovation, and economic/social empowerment. Their mission is training and empowering the youth on pragmatic humanitarian approaches that bridge the economic and social disparities in their society.

In 2023, WOAN had the honor and opportunity to sponsor their **Leadership Conference**.





WE ONE ACTION NETWORK

Program Coordinator



Florence A. Otieno

MEET THE NEWEST MEMBER TO WOAN

Florence Otieno arrives at We One Action Network with extensive knowledge and experience with the intricacies of managing Kenya-based initiatives at the Community Based Organization (CBO) level. She is a nurturist who understands the duality between social environments and how those environments adversely impact Kenyan youth, especially young girls. She will serve as our first Program Coordinator and single point of contact in Kenya.

Florence is a Board Member of Angels of Hope Special Children’s Center. She previously led efforts in youth-based training, projects, and programs with CBO Box Girls-Kenya for 8 years. There, she worked in various roles ranging from Program Manager and Project Officer to Program Coordinator. She also co-founded Green Dada Organization in 2019 which creates a safe environment where girls and young women can reach their full potential. These roles and opportunities have strengthened her ability to manage a variety of initiatives focused on education, livelihoods, sexual reproductive health, youth leadership, and community development.

Her educational background consists of:

- BS Degree in Environmental Health from Kenyatta University.
- Diploma in Community Health from Jaramogi Oginga University.
- Certificate in Reproductive Health Justice (Africa) from Afya-na-Haki Organization.
- Certificate in HIV/AIDS prevention and awareness with Let’s Stop Aids Organization.
- Certification as a Human Rights Defender under the East Africa Human Rights Program.





In November 2023, WOAN visited Kenya to receive 2023 project updates and to meet with various community leaders in preparation for 2024! [Click here to view highlights of this visit!](#)



APPRECIATION

We extend our highest gratitude of appreciation for your continued support of our work since 2018. Your support whether monetary, sharing our work, or through your words of encouragement means so much to us. Even with uncertainty and challenges, on your side, you have stood by us!

Last year, 2023 was a pivotable point for our foundation. We continue the journey of working with schools and civic leaders to close crucial gaps with vulnerable youths and students living in informal settlements and village areas of Kenya. We struggle to find the right words to express our sincere gratitude for your support. Please know that it is not and will never be taken for granted.

If you would like to be more involved in our work whether big or small, please reach out to our Board of Directors & Advisors at info@weoneactionnetwork.org.

Thank You | Travis L. Rudd

