



## NURSING PROGRAM

YEAR 1 REPORT  
May 2019





# Introduction

Throughout Kenya, there is a severe shortage of qualified medical staff, and clinicians are concentrated in urban areas.

In rural *Narok County*, where we work, one in ten children does not live past the age of five due to preventable or treatable diseases and a lack of access to maternal healthcare. Here, there is only one doctor per 100,000 inhabitants and nurses are a vital lifeline for villages that would otherwise have no access to medical care.

The *Unstoppable Scholars Nursing Program* is the only medical education program in the region, and is addressing this critical need by training skilled healthcare professionals to provide desperately needed care in rural communities.

*Unstoppable Scholars* are bright, motivated students who are passionate about following their dreams, but unable to afford access to post-secondary education. Because of your help, they will be able to give back to their communities and help save lives.

The inaugural *Unstoppable Nursing Scholars Class of 2022* consists of 20 female students enrolled in a 4-year diploma program at the new *WE College* in *Narok County*.

Nursing Scholars study the theoretical components of medical practice, complete practical clinical rotations and take general courses to provide them with the leadership, technical and business skills to succeed in their careers as nurses.

# WE School of Nursing

## Overview

The 4-year *WE School of Nursing* program curriculum consists of seven “blocks” of classroom instruction, in which students study medical theory and selected specialties, as well as the fundamentals of nursing practice.

Scholars are continuously assessed on their coursework through examinations set and graded by *WE School of Nursing* faculty. As the program progresses, students spend less time in the classroom, and more time in clinical settings. Each block is followed by clinical rotations at local hospitals and care centers.

Students complete other required external activities, such as educational visits, supervised community diagnosis visits, and an ICU placement.

In addition to their nursing coursework and clinical experiences, students take general studies courses in computer literacy and business. They will also complete the *Unstoppable Leadership Academy*, a six-course, two-year leadership and empowerment program.



# In the Classroom



## *Unstoppable Leadership Academy (ULA)*

From February through October 2018, students were engaged in general studies and the *Unstoppable Leadership Academy* – these are the topics that were covered during that time:

- *Communication skills*
- *Interpersonal skills*
- *Decision making*
- *Critical thinking*
- *Building and sustaining relationships*
- *Goal setting*
- *Problem solving skills*
- *Emailing and interviewing skills*



“The confidence, personal growth and practical skills Unstoppable Scholars attained during their training are observable as they begin their clinical work.”

– Eunice Ngure,  
*Unstoppable Leadership Academy Facilitator*

# Clinical Rotations



Dr. Stephanie Mann, MD, WE School of Nursing Advisory Board member conducting a workshop for the nursing students in June 2018.



After their winter break, Nursing Scholars returned to school December 2018 and began their 16-week series of four rotations. Students attended an orientation to the health centers in which they will complete their clinical work over the course of their studies, and were placed in their rotation groups.



“My career will offer me opportunities for growth and intellectual challenge, which I will seek with vigor to be able to solve health-related challenges that face humanity.”

– Sara, *Unstoppable Nursing Scholar*

# In the Community



I feel empowered to mobilize other youth to address community issues.

– Eunice, Unstoppable Nursing Scholar

## Student Outreach

**U**nstoppable Nursing Scholars selected and developed the content for a community outreach day, delivering sessions on a variety of healthcare topics to primary and secondary students in the neighboring village of Emori Joi.

Topics included:

- *Teenage pregnancy*
- *STDs/HIV*
- *Drug abuse and alcohol*
- *Personal hygiene*

Nursing students held another community outreach day for eighth-grade students from *Kisaruni High School*.

Utilizing leadership skills acquired through the *ULA*, Nursing Scholars led discussion groups and role play to address some of the issues they had previously identified as challenges during visits to the *Kisaruni* community, including:

- *Teenage and peer pregnancies*
- *Early marriage*
- *Poor academic performance and dropping out of school*
- *Substance abuse*

## Medical Outreach

Throughout the month of October 2018, students gained practical exposure to the nursing profession and connected with the community by volunteering at *Baraka Hospital*.

Students applied the personal and professional skills they acquired in the classroom and engaged in support activities such as:

- *Documenting patient demographic and treatment data*
- *Observing rounds*
- *Checking patient weights and temperatures*
- *Assisting with intake and admissions*
- *Assisting with dispensing and documenting medication*





On April 22nd, 2019, following the completion of their first 16-week series of rotations, Nursing Scholars returned to the classroom for Block 1, a ten-week block of classroom instruction.

# Student Profile



## Joyline Cherono

Joyline Cherono is a promising student in the Unstoppable Scholars Nursing program, who fought hard to make her dream come true.

She grew up in the community of Emori Joi, Narok County, the second-born in a family of seven. She attended Emori Joi Primary School, where she faced challenges to her education – the roofs leaked, there were no books for learners and they had no access to clean drinking water.

Joyline would have to travel long distances to get water for her family, just one of the many chores she had at home.

This hindered her studies – she'd be so tired from her housework she couldn't focus on schoolwork in the evening. Joyline remembers vividly when the Unstoppable Foundation partnered with her community – not only did they give her access to clean and safe drinking water, she was also able to continue her education. After passing her grade eight exams, Joyline was admitted to one of the Kisaruni Group of Schools.

She had access to great facilities and amazing education facilitators, and quickly became a confident leader at the school, passing her senior grade exams with flying colors.

Joyline is now continuing her education at WE College, pursuing a diploma in the School of Nursing.

She loves the Unstoppable Leadership course – it has inspired her to encourage the young girls attending Emori Joi Primary School to keep pursuing their dreams.

Joyline can't wait to graduate and return home to Emori Joi, where she can help others using her new nursing skills. Becoming an Unstoppable Scholar at WE College has truly transformed her life.



“I am so grateful for this chance in life. I waited six years and overcame so many struggles for this opportunity. I never thought I’d get the chance to be a person that others look up to or that helps those in my community. I’m so grateful.”

– Betty, Unstoppable Nursing Scholar



Empowering Lives Through Education