

2018



ST. JOSEPH TECHNICAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

Nairobi, Kenya

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St. Joseph Technical Secondary School

St. Joseph Technical Secondary School started as a vocational educational program to empower the youth from Kangemi and its environs with quality vocational skills in electrical installations and electronics, information technology, basic computer knowledge, tailoring and dressmaking, carpentry among others at an affordable cost. In 2015 the school was upgraded into a technical secondary school and received its first group of students to be enrolled for secondary and technical education. The students study at least one of the technical courses alongside secondary education and on completion obtain secondary school certificate and accreditation from the National Industrial Training Association (NITA).

Currently, the secondary school section has 76 students (36 girls, 40 boys), while the technical training section has 226 students (146 girls, 80 boys). 37 students (19 female, 18 male) received scholarships; 22 of the scholarships were full course scholarships while 15 were one-year scholarships.

Activities/Projects Implemented

- **Academics:** The school continues to offer a unique blend of technical skills integrated with the Kenyan Secondary curriculum while at the same time training youth from within Kangemi in practical vocational skills for livelihood. All students who sat for their National Industrial Training Authority examinations performed well.
- **Life skills Program:** At the end of every school term, the school offers a life skills training program for its students. The vast majority of whom are drawn from the slum and are often ill-equipped in dealing with life's challenges. These sessions covered a range of issues including drugs and substance abuse, HIV and AIDS, examination writing skills, communication skills, self-esteem, and physical boundaries amongst others. During the year, students were also inducted into engaging in voluntary work for the community by visiting children's homes and offering moral support to the children visited.

Proposed Project

- **Library:** Kangemi slum has over 50 informal schools most of which lack proper infrastructure to support education and as a result, many of them offer poor quality education adversely impacting on the future lives of children within Kangemi. To bridge this gap, St Joseph Technical Secondary School intends to set up a library facility for addressing this problem and for the benefit of the entire community. At the end of 2017, the project was in the final stages of securing financial support for converting the existing school hall into a multi-purpose community hall with a state of the art library incorporating an e-library. The school received a consignment of books worth 10,000 US Dollars thereby significantly boosting the library's capacity to serve the current student population.

