

A photograph of two young girls standing on a dirt path in a rural area. The girl on the left is wearing a grey cardigan over a red shirt and has a small circular badge on her chest. The girl on the right is wearing a green jacket and a blue bag. The background shows a dirt road and some vegetation. A semi-transparent circular graphic is overlaid on the left side of the image.

AMUKA

foundation

Annual Report 2025

Foreword

I am delighted to present this year's Annual Report as Chair of the UK Board of Trustees.

2025 proved to be another difficult year for the communities of Karare, with prolonged droughts and increased cost of living. The loss of livestock and inability to grow basic foodstuffs renders families desperately in need of support. The impact of such crises is always greater on women and girls, and so continued delivery of our programmes is crucial.

Further successful applications for trust and grant monies have enabled us to strengthen our support to the Girls Mentorship Programme with the provision of uniform and termly food parcels. We hosted a series of workshops with Junior Secondary School teachers, consulting and seeking ways to collaborate, bringing the benefit of greater confidence and self-esteem into their classrooms.

I was delighted to visit Karare, meeting with beneficiaries and their families, our partners, Trustees and members of the community.

Success and sustainable change are defined through greater understanding of challenges and those societal and cultural norms which influence the role of women and girls within the pastoralist community. The impact of our work is continually assessed through feedback from beneficiaries, changes in behaviour and key indicators such as enrolment of girls into school, children's access to food and clothing, economic confidence of women and reduction in child marriage and teenage pregnancy.

Sometimes compelling feedback comes from our Board of Trustees in Karare. I was struck by a comment from Mr Charles Orre at one of the meetings this year when he said; "Amuka really is saving lives."

With this endorsement we remain focused, highly motivated and determined to continue to make a difference. Achievements this year are milestones to establishing an environment where girls have access to and are fully supported in all aspects of education, and a community where women and girls are equipped and enabled to make informed decisions affecting their own lives.

I am immensely grateful for the continued support of donors and our UK Board of Trustees who have gone out of their way to raise awareness, secure financial support and investing even more of their personal time to make this possible.

I remain confident that in the year ahead, we will extend our reach and continue to strengthen the impact of our work.

Elizabeth Owsley
Chair; UK Board of Trustees



Karare Dispensary

Pneumonia continues to be a leading cause of childhood mortality in Marsabit County, disproportionately affecting children under five years. Key drivers include high rates of acute malnutrition which weaken children's immune systems and environmental & climatic factors such as dust, indoor air pollution, and seasonal flash floods.

The maternal mortality ratio remains 811 deaths per 100,000 live births, significantly higher than the Kenyan national average of 355. Factors influencing these high rates are numerous. Pastoralist women often travel long distances (frequently over 5 km) to reach a health facility. Less than 60% of women deliver in formal health facilities, relying instead on traditional birth attendants or delivering at home without skilled care. It is also suggested that women who have not been educated are less likely to attend a dispensary. Culturally, pastoralists often believe that preparing or accumulating items for an unborn child tempts fate, which leaves many mothers unprepared and ill equipped to provide protective clothing for their new born baby.

The provision of baby and toddler clothes is a popular activity for our donors, and so we continue to facilitate distribution amongst three Dispensaries across Karare. Incentivising expectant mothers to attend regular monitoring, delivery, post-natal and immunisation through the timely and easy access to baby clothes, blankets, hats and socks is an effective way to address both critical risks. Toddlers who receive brightly coloured knitted hats, warm sweaters, socks and sneakers grow up believing the Dispensary is a good place to visit and so build trust with nursing staff for their own wellbeing.

Our partnership extends beyond mothers and babies to members of our Girls Mentorship Programme. During all three academic terms a female nurse attends a Mentorship session. As well as providing guidance on adolescence and reproductive health, nurses build trust with the girls, debunking myths and helping them better prepare for growth as young women.

We are immensely grateful to everyone who has donated clothing, joined friends in knitting hats and gloves and spent time matching up odd socks to support this initiative. You really are saving lives.



Mwangaza Women

In preparation for enrolment into the 2025 Academic Year, Mwangaza Women produced more than two hundred pieces of school uniform for beneficiaries of our Child Sponsorship Programme and members of Girls Mentorship. Each year, their confidence and technical skills continue to grow, and

we are humbled to observe their collaborative approach, measuring each child, assigning tasks according to skills and presenting high quality uniform to every child. Throughout the year they remain available to provide timely support to children and girls identified as in urgent need of support. For those

orphaned or exposed to extreme poverty, there is a need to maintain their dignity, confidence and attendance in school. Mwangaza Women were delighted to partner with Wodonge TAFE, supplying handmade beaded purses and shopping bags for sale to raise funds for local community projects.



Girls' Mentorship Programme



Our Mentorship Programme has grown from twenty-three girls enrolled in 2018, to fifty girls in 2025. Seven years on, the Programme has developed through regular review, constant learning and a realisation of the impact such investment has on the lives of girls. Our reach and growth have been possible due to successful applications to Trust Funds, and the generosity of so many people.

Delivery is designed through consultation with the girls, Head Teachers and parents. We seek to understand together how to bring about change, how to enhance the opportunities for girls to make informed decisions, to be skilled in problem solving through critical thinking, and to have their voices heard.

In an end of academic year analysis, sixty percent of girls stated that access to sanitary towels and soap had enhanced their confidence in school.

Better standards of personal hygiene and the ability to maintain cleanliness of their uniform during menstruation enhanced their self-confidence and willingness to fully participate in discussion and responding to questions.

Eighty six percent of girls stated that access to Girls Mentorship Programme had had a positive impact on their lives, their ability to understand problems, to build confidence and to make decisions.

As well as twice weekly mentorship sessions, Amuka Foundation provided sanitary towels, bathing soaps, bras, pants, uniform and shoes to each girl. We continue to ensure that donations of sports shoes and clothing are made available too.

It is particularly rewarding to maintain contact with and

monitor the progress of our Mentorship Programme Alumni. All of those enrolled in 2018 have now graduated from High School. Two attained B- in their Kenya Certificate in Secondary Education and are now midway through respective university programmes.

Transforming traditional and cultural beliefs and practices is achievable and sustainable through continued family and community engagement. At the heart of change is proof that girls have an equally valuable contribution to the safety and security of communities.

With financial support we will continue to build a generation of women who have equality of access to education, have confidence and the ability to make decisions affecting themselves, their family and community.



Child Sponsorship Programme



Throughout 2025, ninety children (boys and girls) were beneficiaries of our Child Sponsorship Programme. In collaboration with Head Teachers and community representatives, they are identified as being the children in greatest need of support.

The timely payment of fees ensures that children are not chased away from school. The provision of two sets of uniform, a pair of school shoes and academic resources ensures that they are properly equipped to attend and fully engage in the academic curriculum. Issuing a voucher for a food parcel at the conclusion of each academic term goes some way to sustaining a family for at least a few weeks. Presenting their end of term report incentivises good attendance and attention to their performance.

Access to donations of clothing and footwear protects children from the harsh conditions in which they live. Mothers report that the provision of food and clothes, enables her to divert the limited funds that she has to other important needs within the family.

We recognise that sponsorship protects those most vulnerable from child marriage, forced labour and exploitation, and remains a crucial part of our support to strengthening the capability of women and girls.



After School Programme

The provision of revision books and stationery complements those donations which bring dignity and confidence. The chance to engage with a teacher twice weekly in a more conducive learning environment provides an opportunity for girls to ask questions, to fully participate in classroom discussions, and build confidence to realise their true potential.

For most schools there is a lack of creative resources to fulfil the academic curriculum, so girls are denied the opportunity to develop critical thinking, problem solving, resilience and patience. The provision of creative and artistic materials helps to balance the focus on academic skills with emotional intelligence and self-confidence.

Delivering After School curriculum through qualified local teachers, we strengthen our partnership and chance to influence. Teachers have a better understanding and appreciation of the challenges girls face and the need to develop.

Throughout the year we monitor attendance and performance and support the girls to track progress against personal targets. Almost fifty percent of girls recorded improvement

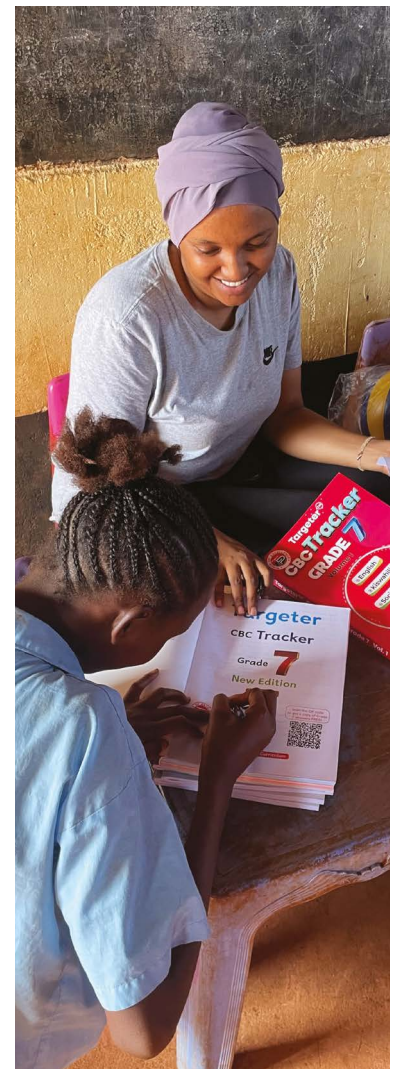
in their academic performance from Term 1 to Term 3. Across the three schools, thirteen girls maintained their position in the Top Ten. In Karare Primary School a number of girls doubled their performance throughout the year.

In an end of year survey, some girls reported that creating space for girls to learn together had enhanced their confidence to engage directly with their teacher. 54% of girls stated that After School had improved their learning and performance.

36% of girls stated that enhanced confidence enabled them to stand up and speak in class.

One girl stated; **"Because I can be strong and talk over the crowd"**

After School goes some way to address cultural and societal norms which impede a girl's access to education. The father of one girl stated; **"My daughter's poor performance is attributed to circumstances at home. Once she is out of school we engage her with house chores. Other times she is sent to get water from the river. On Saturdays and the weekends, she has no option but to get firewood as she looks after the goats."**



Academic Clinics



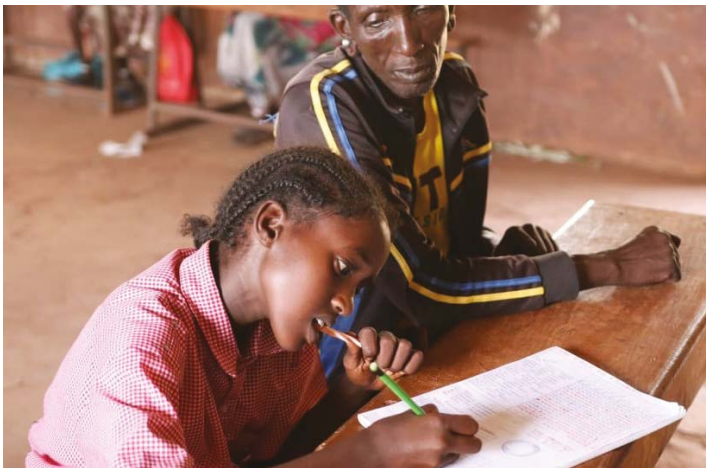
The provision of mentorship and sponsorship to any child is never intended to undermine parental and family responsibility for wellbeing and guidance. We recognise the interest of donors who consider improved attendance and academic performance are good indicators of a return on their investment.

Regular engagement with parents, guardians, teachers and the community is crucial to maintaining that balance. Many parents either did not complete academic studies or did not attend school, and orphaned children cared for by step parents often report a lack of support or interest in their performance. School reports are prepared in English and in a format which is not easily understood.

Throughout this year, and with the full support and guidance of the Karare Board of Trustees, we have worked with schools to establish Academic Clinics.

Bringing together Child Sponsorship and Girls Mentorship beneficiaries, their parent or guardian, a teacher and member of the Amuka Foundation team we talked through academic performance, attendance and conduct. Each child was guided to set targets for end of term examinations, and parents and guardians offered guidance on how to better support improvement in performance and create conducive environments for completion of homework and revision.

We were delighted with the turnout of parents, and particularly the presence of fathers. Academic Clinics are proving to be an effective way to balance the reinforcement of responsibilities and duty of care within the family, with the commitment of schools to educate, support and guide. Facilitating this partnership ensures that investment in payment of school fees, provision of uniform, revision books and food parcels is monitored closely.



Impact

Support to Local Businesswomen

Throughout the year we commissioned four women to supply contents of our food parcels. At a value of 1,080,000 Ksh (£6309 / \$8284), the regular business and timely payment enabled them to buy in bulk and negotiate prices from wholesale suppliers. Enhanced profits have been invested back into their business and enabled them to provide for their families.

Building upon their business skills, the women have established a more collaborative approach, appointing one as a coordinator with Amuka Foundation ensuring best value, maintaining competitive edge across Karare, and best produce for our beneficiaries and their families.

Mwangaza Women

Three members receive monthly allowances, whilst the remaining three are paid commission on making school uniform, reusable sanitary towels and beaded purses.

The commission or allowance helps the women sustain a regular income, supporting their families with provision of food, school fees and payment of medical bills.

Economic empowerment through the development of business and vocational skills helps them produce quality items and build confidence.

Dispensaries

Throughout 2025 we distributed 300 kilos of baby and toddler clothes. Mothers are encouraged to attend the Dispensary to deliver their babies, returning for immunisation and health checks.

Women as Primary Beneficiaries

Eight women are direct beneficiaries of allowances paid by Amuka Foundation. Two are core Amuka team, three Mentors and two After School Teachers.

Children as Secondary Beneficiaries

According to the UN an average African family has five children. With 90 children as primary beneficiaries of sponsorship, we estimate there were 630 secondary beneficiaries throughout 2025.

Girls Enrolled into School

Throughout 2025 there were more girls than boys enrolled into the three Primary Schools we partner with across Karare. Daily attendance continued to improve, with absence primarily due to sickness. Head Teachers report a significant reduction in pregnancy and child marriage.

AMUKA in Numbers 2025

90

Beneficiaries of Child Sponsorship

130

Rucksacks

1,080,000Ksh

Value of food parcels (£6256.26 / \$841)

221

sets of school uniforms issued

700+

Sanitary Towels and Soap

7,884Kg

Dry food stuffs

896,280Ksh

School Fees (£5236 / \$6980)

432

Food parcels issued

135

pairs of school shoes

122,500Ksh

Revision Books (£715 / \$964)

1,273Kg

Donations

Thank You!

We would like to convey thanks to some organisations and individuals who have helped to make success possible. We are immensely grateful to everyone who continues to maintain monthly donations to support our work.

Westende Junior School

For continued support in the sponsorship of Sabdiyo and provision of more than 100 sweaters for children at Loruko Primary School.



FC Darlington

For continued support through the donation of sports kit and equipment and funding porridge for children attending Lenaa Soccer Academy.



Smalls for All

For the donation of more than one hundred pairs of boys' and girls' underwear in support of our Child Sponsorship and Girls Mentorship programmes.



Wodonga TAFE

For supporting the sale of beaded purses and shopping bags made by Mwangaza Women, raising funds to support our Girls Mentorship Programme.



Dress A Girl Around the World

For continued support through the donation of dresses, shirts and shorts. Your kindness has brought smiles to many children!



AMUKA FOUNDATION

SC047985

Receipts and payments accounts							
For the period from	Period start date			to	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year
	1	January	2025		31	December	2025

Section A Statement of receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Expendable endowment funds	Permanent endowment funds	Total funds current period	Total funds last period
	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
A1 Receipts						
Donations	2,537	31,881			34,418	40,594
Legacies					-	-
Grants	200	8,573			8,773	2,000
Receipts from fundraising activities					-	-
Gross trading receipts					-	-
Income from investments other than land and buildings		58			58	-
Rents from land & buildings					-	-
Gross receipts from other charitable activities	1,378	6,103			7,481	4,624
					-	-
A1 Sub total	4,115	46,615	-	-	50,729	47,219
A2 Receipts from asset & investment sales						
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets					-	
Proceeds from sale of investments					-	
A2 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,115	46,615	-	-	50,729	47,219
A3 Payments						
Expenses for fundraising activities					-	-
Gross trading payments					-	-
Investment management costs					-	-
Payments relating directly to charitable activities	2,944	32,345			35,289	54,323
Grants and donations					-	-
Governance costs:					-	-
Audit / independent examination	100				100	100
Preparation of annual accounts					-	-
Legal costs					-	-
Other					-	-
					-	-
A3 Sub total	3,044	32,345	-	-	35,389	54,423
A4 Payments relating to asset and investment movements						
Purchases of fixed assets					-	
Purchase of investments					-	
A4 Sub total	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	3,044	32,345	-	-	35,389	54,423
Net receipts / (payments)	1,071	14,269	-	-	15,341	(7,204)
A5 Transfers to / (from) funds						
					-	
Surplus / (deficit) for year	1,071	14,269	-	-	15,341	(7,204)

Board of Trustees - UK and Karare

UK Board of Trustees

Elizabeth Owsley	Chair
Jane Ainslie	Deputy Chair
Julia Aslett	Treasurer
Philippa Marks	Secretary
Adrienne Williams	Trustee
Jackie Green	Trustee
Elaine Grant	Trustee
Ellie Lenawarungu	Trustee
Christian Thurow	Trustee

Contact Details

Email:
ellie.lenawarungu@amuka-foundation.org

Website:
www.amuka-foundation.org

Facebook:
[/amukafoundation](https://www.facebook.com/amukafoundation)

Twitter:
[@AmukaTwende1](https://twitter.com/AmukaTwende1)

Karare Board of Trustees

Mathew Lechakwet	Chair
Antonella Lobura	Deputy Chair
Mary Lemaro	Treasurer
Ann Lesaiyaya	Secretary
Rosalia Kame Machan	Trustee
Stephen Lekahle	Trustee
Daniel Lekesike	Trustee
John Upane	Community Elected Representative
Charles Orre	Trustee
Lizza Neppe	Trustee
Selina Gambare	Trustee
Ellie Lenawarungu	Founder Trustee
Stephen Lekahle	Trustee