

EDUCATE EMPOWER ENCOUR AGE

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE HIGH-OLIALITY EDUCATION IN AFRICA

Africa River of Life

The mission of Africa River of Life* is to provide affordable high-quality education to children that live in underserved regions of Africa. We believe that true, lasting change can only come about through education. It is a long-term approach that demands planning and commitment from us and our partners. We also believe that children are best served by their families and local community. That is why we seek out and collaborate with local leaders. We currently have ongoing projects in two countries: Nigeria in western Africa and Kenya in the east.

Nigeria is the most populous nation in Africa and owns one of the largest proven oil reserves in the world. But Nigeria's history of religious and political turmoil, and the institutional mismanagement of assets has left it with the largest population of people living in extreme poverty.** The village of Imosan in Ijebu-Ode reflects this state as many families live below the poverty line and children lack access to affordable schooling. Our goal is to fill that need for more than 500 children through the Alliance International School. *See next page*.

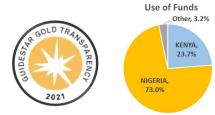
Kenya is home to Kibera, a community in Nairobi considered the largest urban slum on the African continent. Most residents of Kibera live on less than \$1 per day in deplorable conditions with almost no access to medical care or social services and very few public schools. In the midst of this abject poverty, Rev. Chrispinus Okumu established the Soweto Academy nearly 30 years ago. The school educates its 500 students, provides meals and offers housing when necessary. *See next page*.

Our Team

Mia Chang, Steven Ku and Thomas Chi are the founding trustees of Africa River of Life. Lola Akiwowo is Director of the Alliance Int'l School project in Nigeria. We share a common passion to serve the children of Imosan and Kibera. While we are based in the state of New Jersey, we regularly travel to Nigeria and Kenya to help guide and collaborate with the local team and community leaders.

Our Organization

Africa River of Life* was founded in 2016 as a nonprofit tax-exempt organization. As a smaller organization, we are intensely focused on optimizing the impact of our financial resources and deploying them prudently and efficiently. To date, we've contributed 97% of funds directly to our projects in Nigeria and Kenya. We are an approved charity of the Fidelity Charitable Gift FundSM as "Kibera River of Life." We also earned a gold Seal of Transparency from GuideStar©.



To Give

Thank you for your interest in supporting Africa River of Life. Please contact Steve, below, for additional information or should you wish to partner with us in any way. You may also visit africariveroflife.org to give online.



Nigeria

The Alliance International School opened in 2018 and currently has nearly 300 students.



Kenya

First grade students enjoying a lesson at the Soweto Academy in Kibera, Nairobi.

*Africa River of Life, Inc. (a.k.a. Kibera River of Life) is a nonprofit organization registered with the IRS under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

 $**Source: Brookings\ Institution$

Nigeria

Alliance International School

The vision for the Alliance International School of Nigeria ("Alliance") started when Rev. Dr. Lola Akiwowo visited the village of Imosan in Ijebu-Ode in her native country of Nigeria. She saw that too many children still lacked access to affordable education and thus began the Alliance journey. Teaming up with Rev. Dr. Mia Chang, a plot of land was acquired in 2015 and construction began in the following year.

After two years of planning and construction, the Alliance school opened and enrolled its very first class of young students in September 2018. In the coming years, this three-acre compound will have a primary and secondary school with a library, cafeteria, playground, assembly hall, chapel and medical clinic for 500 students. In addition to academics, students are provided meals during school hours, and transportation to and from home. The teachers and staff of Alliance live and work in the greater Imosan community and share a vested interest in serving their children.

Partners in Nigeria

Our sister organization called "Nextgen One World One Love Outreach Int'l," a registered nonprofit corporation in Nigeria, currently operates the school and manages ongoing



the center courtvard. The "U" will house classrooms, a library, cafeteria and assembly hall. Our Project Manager leads a hardworking construction crew that aims to complete the "U" in 2022. We are two teams across an ocean but share a passion to serve the children of Imosan.

construction in Imosan. Africa River of Life provides funding and administrative support. Lola has spent the better part of the year traveling to Imosan and working with the local team to open and operate the Alliance school.

Steve also visits periodically to meet with the directors, site engineer, project manager and administrator. Alliance is already a lively, vibrant school for young children with a caring, dedicated team of experienced teachers. The children are learning, singing and enjoying meals provided by the school.

We've finished 12 classrooms so far and working to complete the upper floor. The main building is a U-shaped compound with three wings and a temporary playground in

Our Vision

Our vision is to take part in enhancing the lives and realizing the potential of the students of Alliance by accomplishing these goals:

- 1. Raise awareness of Alliance Int'l School
- 2. Provide financial support to Alliance
- 3. Empower the teachers and administrators

Upper Floor and Newly Finished Roof



Kenya Kibera, Nairobi

Soweto Academy

The Soweto Academy of Kenya was founded in 1988 by Reverend Chrispinus Okumu. It began as a feeding center and a nursery school for five orphaned children who lived in the streets of Kibera located in the outskirts of Nairobi, the capital of Kenya. The Academy sits on a piece of land that was once designated as a dump site by the city council of Nairobi. Living in extreme poverty, many children lacked basic nutrition and access to affordable education. They spent

their days in search of food often at the very same dump site. Today there are 500 students enrolled at Soweto Academy from kindergarten through high school including 60 girls that are housed in a dormitory onsite. In addition to academic learning, all students are also provided with at least one meal per day. Teachers encourage students to pursue their dreams and utilize their talents for the purpose of making a positive contribution to their community. Over the years, many students have attained top scores in national exams and have gone on to attain greater academic achievements.

> Soweto Academy has also received accolades for its "Mighty Minnows," a girls volleyball team that recently advanced to the East Africa Regional Tournament and competed with schools from several other countries.





Our Vision

Our vision is to take part in enhancing the lives and realizing the potential of the students of Soweto Academy by accomplishing these goals:

- 1. Raise awareness of Soweto Academy
- 2. Provide financial support to Soweto Academy
- 3. Empower the teachers and administrators

