

**Dandelion
Africa**

**Quarter 2
Report
2026**



THANK YOU

Dear Partners,

Thank you for believing that lasting change begins with communities themselves and for walking alongside us as we continue to build healthier, resilient communities. We are pleased to share our Quarter 2 report, highlighting the progress made through the Deep Impact Model.



Together, we reached 81,120 people with sexual and reproductive health information, empowering women, and youth to make informed decisions about their health. This translated into a 35% increase in clients served through our Backpack Nurse safe spaces compared to the previous quarter, ensuring that more people in remote communities accessed quality healthcare where and when they needed it most.

The uptake of modern contraceptives increased by 8%, with a growing number of women choosing longer-acting methods that allow them to better manage their health, and strengthen their families' economic resilience. The deployment of a Basic Life Support Tri-ambulance, together with the provision of 146 pints of blood, strengthened emergency obstetric care, ensuring that mothers experiencing complications received timely, life-saving treatment.

Your investment is also creating economic transformation. Active businesses grew by 160%, fueled by a 69% increase in new enterprises and a remarkable 184% expansion of existing businesses. Behind these numbers are women and youth building sustainable livelihoods, creating jobs, and investing in their communities.

Every statistic represents a life changed; a mother who returned home safely, a youth with agency, a health worker equipped to provide better care, or an entrepreneur whose business is creating new opportunities within their community.

Thank you for standing with us and with the communities we serve. Your partnership continues to prove that when local organizations are trusted, equipped, and supported, they lead the change that transforms communities.

I hope you enjoy reading our quarter 2 report.

With gratitude,

Wendo Sahar
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHO WE ARE

Dandelion Africa is a female-led grass root organization, focused on women's health, economy and agency. We work through an integrated model that focuses on improving health outcomes, economic power, education outcomes and amplifying the choice, voice and power of communities. We are locally-led, rooted and deeply embedded in our communities.

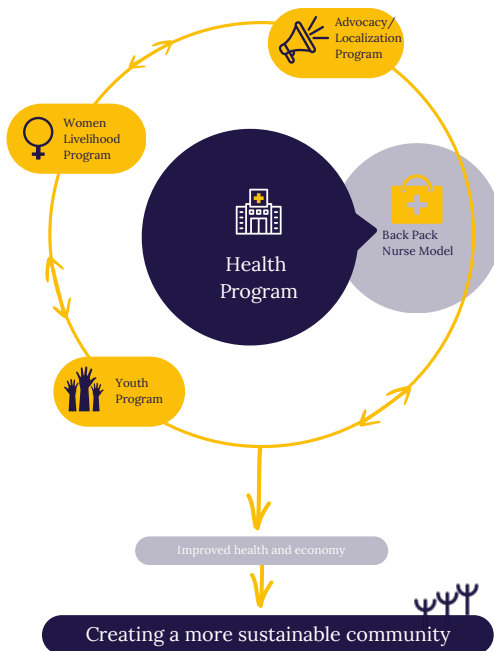
VISION

We want a world where communities live healthy and educated lives

MISSION

Our Mission is to improve the health and economy of women in rural areas.

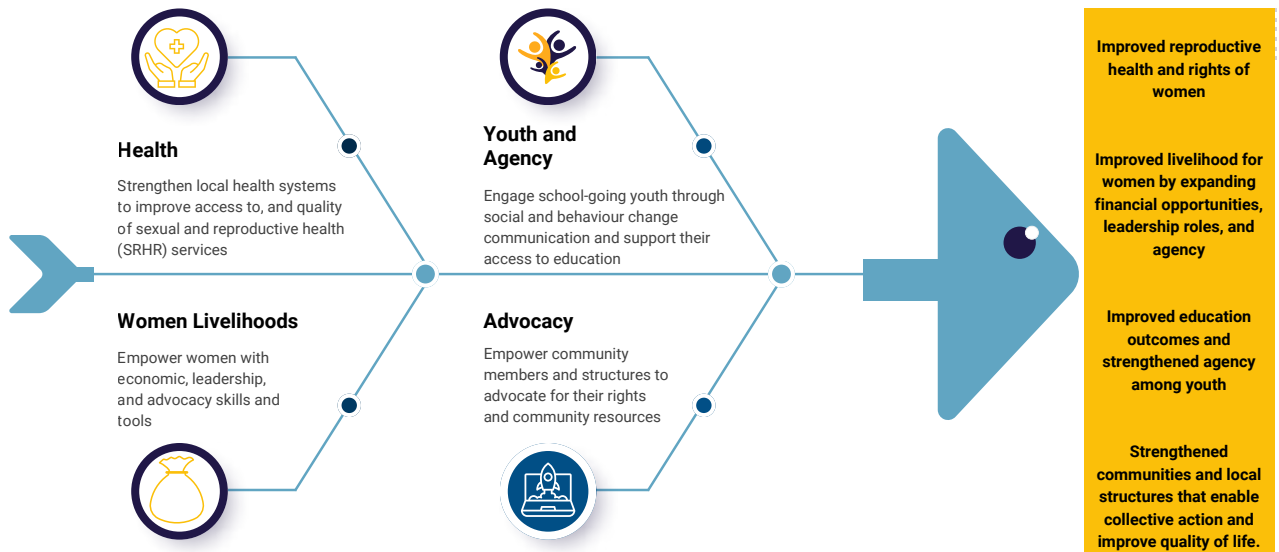
OUR MODEL



WHERE WE WORK

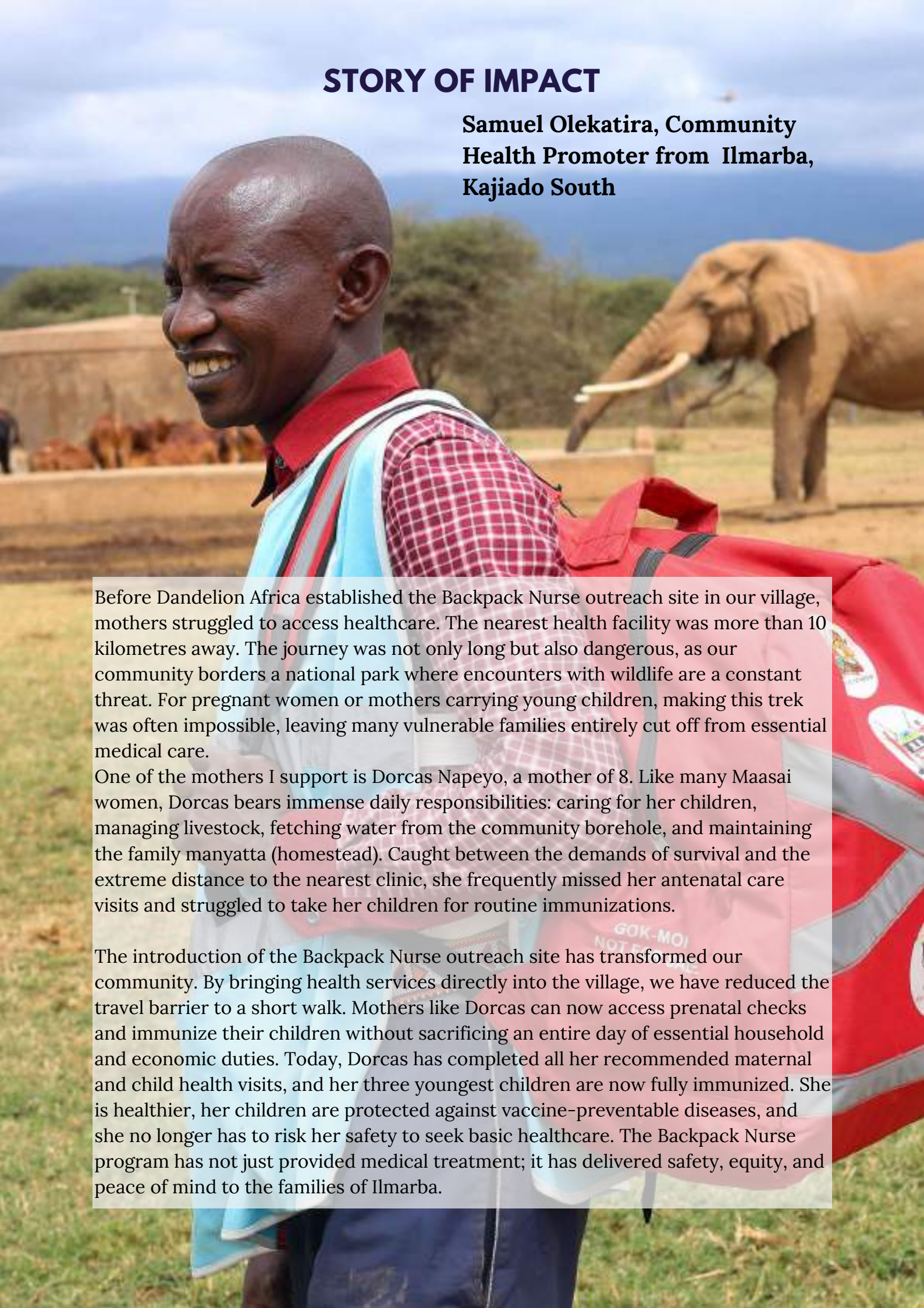


THEORY OF CHANGE



STORY OF IMPACT

**Samuel Olekatira, Community
Health Promoter from Ilmarba,
Kajiado South**



Before Dandelion Africa established the Backpack Nurse outreach site in our village, mothers struggled to access healthcare. The nearest health facility was more than 10 kilometres away. The journey was not only long but also dangerous, as our community borders a national park where encounters with wildlife are a constant threat. For pregnant women or mothers carrying young children, making this trek was often impossible, leaving many vulnerable families entirely cut off from essential medical care.

One of the mothers I support is Dorcas Napeyo, a mother of 8. Like many Maasai women, Dorcas bears immense daily responsibilities: caring for her children, managing livestock, fetching water from the community borehole, and maintaining the family manyatta (homestead). Caught between the demands of survival and the extreme distance to the nearest clinic, she frequently missed her antenatal care visits and struggled to take her children for routine immunizations.

The introduction of the Backpack Nurse outreach site has transformed our community. By bringing health services directly into the village, we have reduced the travel barrier to a short walk. Mothers like Dorcas can now access prenatal checks and immunize their children without sacrificing an entire day of essential household and economic duties. Today, Dorcas has completed all her recommended maternal and child health visits, and her three youngest children are now fully immunized. She is healthier, her children are protected against vaccine-preventable diseases, and she no longer has to risk her safety to seek basic healthcare. The Backpack Nurse program has not just provided medical treatment; it has delivered safety, equity, and peace of mind to the families of Ilmarba.

HEALTH PROGRAM

Strengthen local health systems to improve access to, and quality of sexual and reproductive health services

Community Health Promoters

2,472



Trained and active

Trained in Q2: 1,197

Traditional Birth Attendants

425



Collaborating TBAs

Trained in Q2: 239

Healthcare Workers

321



Facility Staff Trained

Mentored in Q2: 242

Reproductive Health

26,954

Women receiving contraceptives

28,233

Couple-years of protection

Maternal & Child Health Services

43,834

Antenatal care attendees

14,328

Skilled deliveries

105,225

children immunized

9,986

children fully immunized

67% of program goals met

Empowering Communities for Responsive Health Systems

To systematically evaluate and improve the quality and performance of health facilities across Baringo County, the Kenya Community Scorecard training was conducted; a tool that strengthened the capacity of Trainers of Trainers and Community Health Committees on community evaluation and feedback mechanism to health facilities. The rollout across 7 sub-counties empowered CHCs, youth, religious leaders, opinion leaders, and national government administration officers to identify, score, and prioritize critical health service indicators. This process will encourage constructive dialogue, accelerating the resolution of service-delivery gaps, and establishing deep community ownership of local health interventions.



HEALTH PROGRAM

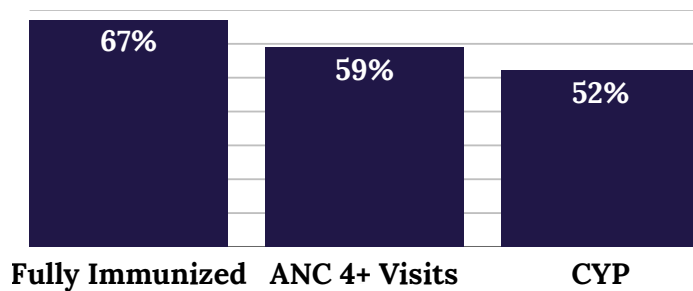
BackPack Nurse: Creating Demand and Access

From Awareness to Action

During this quarter, community health promoters demonstrated the power of quality over quantity in localized health promotion. They reached **81,120** people, including **18 young mothers' support groups**, with sexual and reproductive health rights information; their mobilization channels became remarkably effective at converting awareness into direct clinical action. As a result, the total number of clients served at the BackPack Nurse sites increased by **35%** compared to the previous quarter.

Health Outcome Indicators

● Mid-Year Reach (%)



Ahead of Schedule and Accelerating

Total immunizations increased by **26%** while the number of fully immunized children rose by **22%**. Because of this accelerated quarter drive, the program has secured **67%** of its entire annual target for fully immunized children in just six months.

Strengthening Continuity of Maternal Care

Keeping pregnant women engaged in clinical care through their fourth antenatal visit remains a major public health bottleneck. This quarter's outcomes tell a powerful story of built trust and strengthened continuity of care: while the ratio of 4th ANC visits to 1st ANC visits stood at **42%** last quarter, it increased to **65%** this quarter. The program registered new mothers and successfully kept them coming back, ensuring safer pregnancies and significantly better birth planning.

Sustaining Long-Term Family Resilience

Women in drylands continued to take control of their reproductive choices by adopting modern family planning methods to space their pregnancies safely. Family planning uptake continued to grow steadily, with the number of clients increasing by **8%**. Concurrently, Couple-Years of Protection (CYP) grew by **6%**, pushing the program to **52%** of its annual CYP goal and proving that women are increasingly choosing longer-acting, reliable options that support long-term household economic resilience.

Health System Strengthening

Stronger Skills, Safer Deliveries

During the quarter, maternal and newborn health outcomes improved: the maternal mortality ratio declined by **12%**, while the neonatal mortality rate declined by **31% in our thematic supported health facilities**. Healthcare workers demonstrated stronger competencies in managing obstetric emergencies and newborn complications. This directly led to better identification and more timely, lifesaving management of postpartum haemorrhage, obstructed labour, hypertensive disorders (including eclampsia), prematurity, birth asphyxia, and neonatal sepsis.

Community-Led Behavioral Shifts

By transitioning Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs) into birth companions and referral agents, and supporting them with alternative livelihood skills for household subsistence and supplemental income, the program achieved an **18%** reduction in reported home deliveries. TBAs referred and accompanied **192** pregnant women to health facilities for skilled delivery during the quarter.

Delivering Beyond Barriers

Further analysis of home deliveries revealed that systemic infrastructure gaps, including long distances, transport barriers, non-operational maternity units, and periodic staffing shortages, drove them. To directly overcome these geographical and operational barriers, we expanded the system capacity. Emergency transport and community referral linkages in hard-to-reach areas were strengthened by deploying a **Basic Life Support Tri-ambulance**. **Five health facilities** in Baringo County were supported by providing pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical commodities. Regional capacity for emergency obstetric care, trauma, severe anaemia, and pediatric emergencies was reinforced by securing **146 pints of blood** during World Blood Donor Day to prevent deaths from obstetric haemorrhage.



Dandelion Medical Centres

Eliminating Preventable Mortality and Transmission

Dandelion Medical Centres advanced maternal and newborn survival this quarter, achieving zero maternal deaths and zero mother-to-child transmissions of HIV. This milestone reflects improved clinical quality and patient trust, which drove a **17% increase** in facility-based deliveries over the previous quarter. While two perinatal deaths occurred due to delayed care-seeking in the community, the program transitioned these tragedies into systemic safeguards: through the Maternal and Perinatal Death Surveillance and Response process, actionable feedback was returned to the affected communities to prevent future delays. Maternal safety and family planning autonomy were reinforced by the delivery of **22 Caesarean sections** and **6 Bilateral Tubal Ligation procedures**, ensuring timely access to life-saving surgical obstetrics.

Reversing Malnutrition and Securing Early Childhood Development

Integrated nutrition interventions strengthened continuity of care by linking community screenings with Baby Welfare Clinics, ensuring consistent growth monitoring, micronutrient supplementation, and active follow-up for mothers and children. Together, these efforts have contributed to a sustained reduction in underweight births across Dandelion facilities and a significant decline in cases of severe acute malnutrition among children.

Building Self-Sustaining, Capable Facilities

System-wide supportive supervision and EmONC assessments across **131 health facilities** have successfully institutionalized better maternal, newborn, and child health standards. These facilities are transitioning toward long-term self-reliance: clinics are now actively leveraging Social Health Authority reimbursements to fund their own operations, directly strengthening their health work forces, upgrading local infrastructure, securing medicine supply chains, and reinforcing emergency preparedness.

Empowering Clinical Decisions

An expanded laboratory footprint transformed patient care from reactive treatment to precise, proactive clinical management. Enhanced diagnostic capacity directly improved clinical decision-making, increased patient confidence, and drove higher outpatient attendance. TB case detection surged to a 10% positivity rate, and HIV detection reached 1%, ensuring vulnerable patients are now identified and enrolled in care. Access to obstetric ultrasound for 40% of antenatal care contacts enabled early detection of pregnancy complications and improved birth preparedness. Concurrently, comprehensive ANC profiling for **259 first-time mothers** established early risk identification, shifting the standard of pregnancy care from routine checkups to individualized, high-quality management.

Innovation Spotlight: Efficient & Effective Cluster-Based Mentorship

The Mentorship Flow



1. Use Trained EmONC Mentors & Mentees



2. Who train 3 clusters per month



3. Target people in the clusters: Healthcare workers, Community Health Promoters (CHPs) and Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs)

Session Split: Targeted Training

Session A: Healthcare Workers



Trained in Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care Modules

Session B: TBAs & CHPs



Trained in Community Maternal Health & Livelihoods

Impact & Proven Results in 5 months

Impact on Facilities

- ✓ Facilities now manage cases effectively
- ✓ Reduced referrals to higher facilities

Impact of CHP & TBA engagement

- ↑ **22%** Increased facility deliveries
- ↓ **18%** Reduced home deliveries

Cost effective

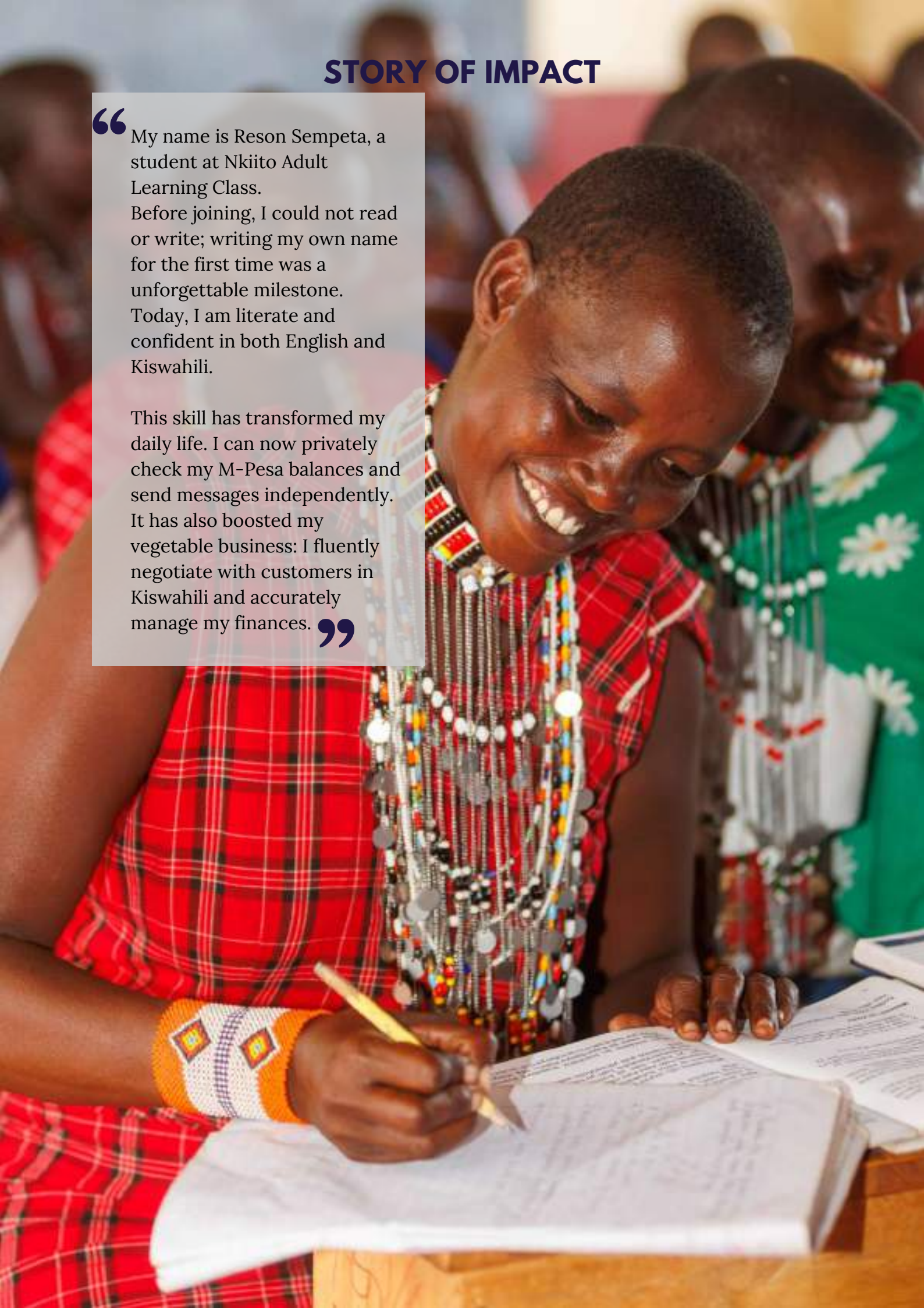
High skills retention and adoption rate

Sustainable model

STORY OF IMPACT

“My name is Reson Sempeta, a student at Nkiito Adult Learning Class. Before joining, I could not read or write; writing my own name for the first time was a unforgettable milestone. Today, I am literate and confident in both English and Kiswahili.

This skill has transformed my daily life. I can now privately check my M-Pesa balances and send messages independently. It has also boosted my vegetable business: I fluently negotiate with customers in Kiswahili and accurately manage my finances.”



WOMEN'S LIVELIHOODS

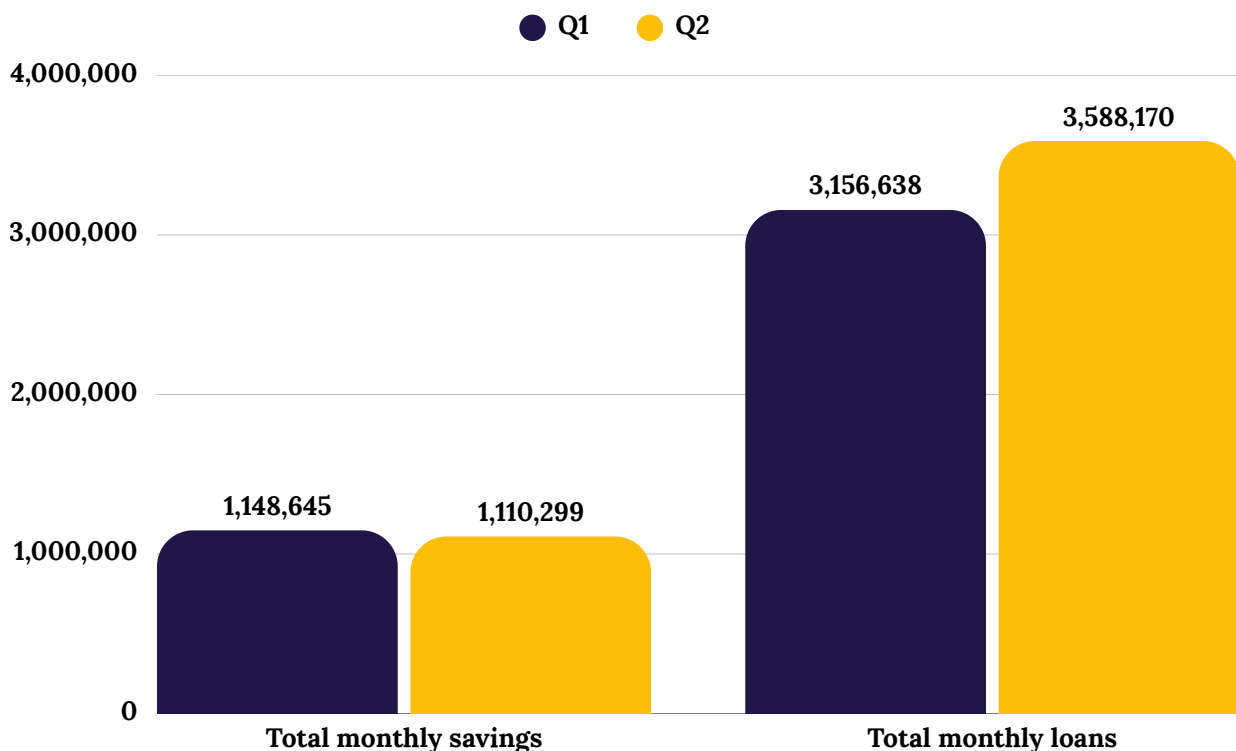
Empowering women with economic, leadership, and advocacy skills and tools

Capital in Motion

The second quarter marked a profound economic transition for women entrepreneurs, including Traditional Birth Attendants, as they shifted to ambitious, active market deployment. While the previous quarter focused on consolidating and stabilizing household resources, this quarter saw these women systematically translate their aspirations into structured, high-potential commercial action. Backed by intensive business capacity-building, **92** viable business plans were developed, giving women the risk-mitigation tools needed to launch and expand their businesses.

This operational readiness triggered an immediate shift in local capital movement. Rather than leaving resources idle, **957** active table banking members mobilized their wealth, causing a minor 3.3% dip in monthly savings as they rapidly absorbed credit—driving monthly loans up by **13.7%** in localized loan capital.

Financial Capital Velocity



By combining business planning, practical skills, and access to credit, women grew their businesses and strengthened their financial independence. Active businesses increased by **160%**, **driven by a 69% rise in new enterprises and a 184% expansion of existing ones.** In addition, 921 women gained hands-on skills in poultry, yoghurt, and petroleum jelly production, while 21 members adopted digital marketing for the first time, creating more diverse and sustainable sources of income.



From Large Scale to Personal Scale

This quarter permanently reshaped the local leadership, cooperative, and environmental landscape. Active participation in formal, women-led cooperatives increased by **118%** among women compared to the previous quarter, while the number of women actively holding community leadership and decision-making positions rose steadily by **18%**. This shifting tide of female agency and recognized leadership was powerfully demonstrated on the ground by a member of the Kapkuikui Networking Group, who was formally celebrated by her community for championing environmental conservation efforts.

Ultimately, these achievements prove that when women are armed with the right advocacy tools, they don't just participate in community decisions—they drive them.

From Voice to Action

Training **223 women using the Advocacy Toolkit** gave them the knowledge and confidence to engage with local government and advocate for their communities. As a result, **21 women-led groups successfully secured KES 3.4 million** in government funding an **837% increase from previous funding levels**. They used these resources to start and grow income-generating activities such as tree nurseries, goat rearing, and catering services, creating more stable incomes and improving household livelihoods.

Scaling Green and Resilient Households

To strengthen long-term climate resilience, our Green Movement Champions trained **690 community members, reaching 52% more people** than the previous quarter. While many participants are still beginning to adopt climate-smart farming practices, women-led groups took full advantage of the rainy season by leading large-scale tree planting efforts. Together, **they planted 58,571 trees; a 256% increase from the previous quarter**, helping restore the environment, improve vegetation cover, and build healthier, more resilient communities.

STORY OF IMPACT



“My name is Jackie Kraison, and I am a student at Olkaria Comprehensive School. Before joining the Girls for Leaders, Boys for Change program, I was very shy. I was afraid to speak in front of other people. I could not ask questions in class, even when I did not understand something. I also found it difficult to speak up when I experienced unfair treatment.

I joined the program when I was in Grade 7, and it changed my life. In just one year, I have become confident and able to express myself. I now speak in front of the whole school during assemblies, and I am no longer afraid to ask questions in class. Because I participate more in my lessons, my academic performance has improved significantly.

This year, I also had the opportunity to participate in the Young Voices for Change – Narok Edition as a student panelist. I spoke about the need to ensure girls in our schools have enough sanitary towels so no girl misses class because of her period.

The Girls for Leaders, Boys for Change program has given me the confidence to speak up, not only for myself but also for other girls in my school. I'm proud of how far I have come, and I know that the confidence I have gained will help me become a leader in my community.

”

YOUTH PROGRAM

We engage school-going youth through social and behaviour change communication and support their access to education.



Learning Without Borders



Dignity Has No Price Tag

Each month, **1,135 girls received sanitary towels**, enabling them to stay in school with dignity, confidence, and consistent attendance while reducing the stigma surrounding menstruation through the active engagement of boys as allies. To further strengthen learning outcomes, 40 students were equipped with essential digital literacy skills, and **1,926 students** in the drylands gained access to mobile library services, expanding educational opportunities in under served communities

Boys For Change

This quarter, **100 boys** engaged in conversations on positive masculinity, learning that lasting equality for girls begins with raising boys who champion respect, empathy, and shared leadership. Through mentorship, games, and honest dialogue, they built emotional resilience and committed to becoming allies for change in their schools and communities. At the same time, **11 youth** graduated from our mentorship program equipped with leadership, life, and financial skills, and immediately translated learning into action by launching soap-making and baking micro-enterprises, creating sustainable livelihoods while leading change from the grassroots.



GIRLS FOR LEADERS BOYS FOR CHANGE



Young Voices for Change Summit

4th Edition — Amplifying Youth-led Advocacy

In its 4th Edition, the Young Voices for Change Summit has evolved into Dandelion Africa's flagship youth advocacy platform and premier model for youth-led community accountability. Originally launched in 2023 to lay the foundation for structured youth engagement, the framework brings student peer educators and duty bearers directly into negotiation rooms to influence education, health, and social outcomes across Kajiado, Nakuru, Narok, and Baringo counties. Building on the 2023 baseline, subsequent gatherings, including the 2024 Nakuru and 2025 Kajiado editions alongside a recent impact assessment, confirm that this approach has strengthened student agency, improved education infrastructure, advanced menstrual health and WASH outcomes, and catalysed concrete commitments from policymakers.



The Why

Students in drylands of Kenya face severe systemic barriers to education, from deficient school infrastructure and poor water and sanitation facilities to limited menstrual hygiene access and harmful cultural practices like forced marriage and Female Genital Mutilation. Despite bearing the brunt of these challenges, youth, particularly young girls, are traditionally sidelined as passive beneficiaries rather than active stakeholders, excluded from the decision-making spaces that shape their lives. Without deliberate training in confidence, self-expression, and policy negotiation, their educational outcomes continue to suffer in silence. The Young Voices for Change Summit directly disrupts this status quo by equipping student peer educators with vital advocacy and leadership skills, creating safe, structured dialogue spaces between students and duty bearers, and translating student-identified priorities into actionable commitments.

GIRLS FOR LEADERS BOYS FOR CHANGE

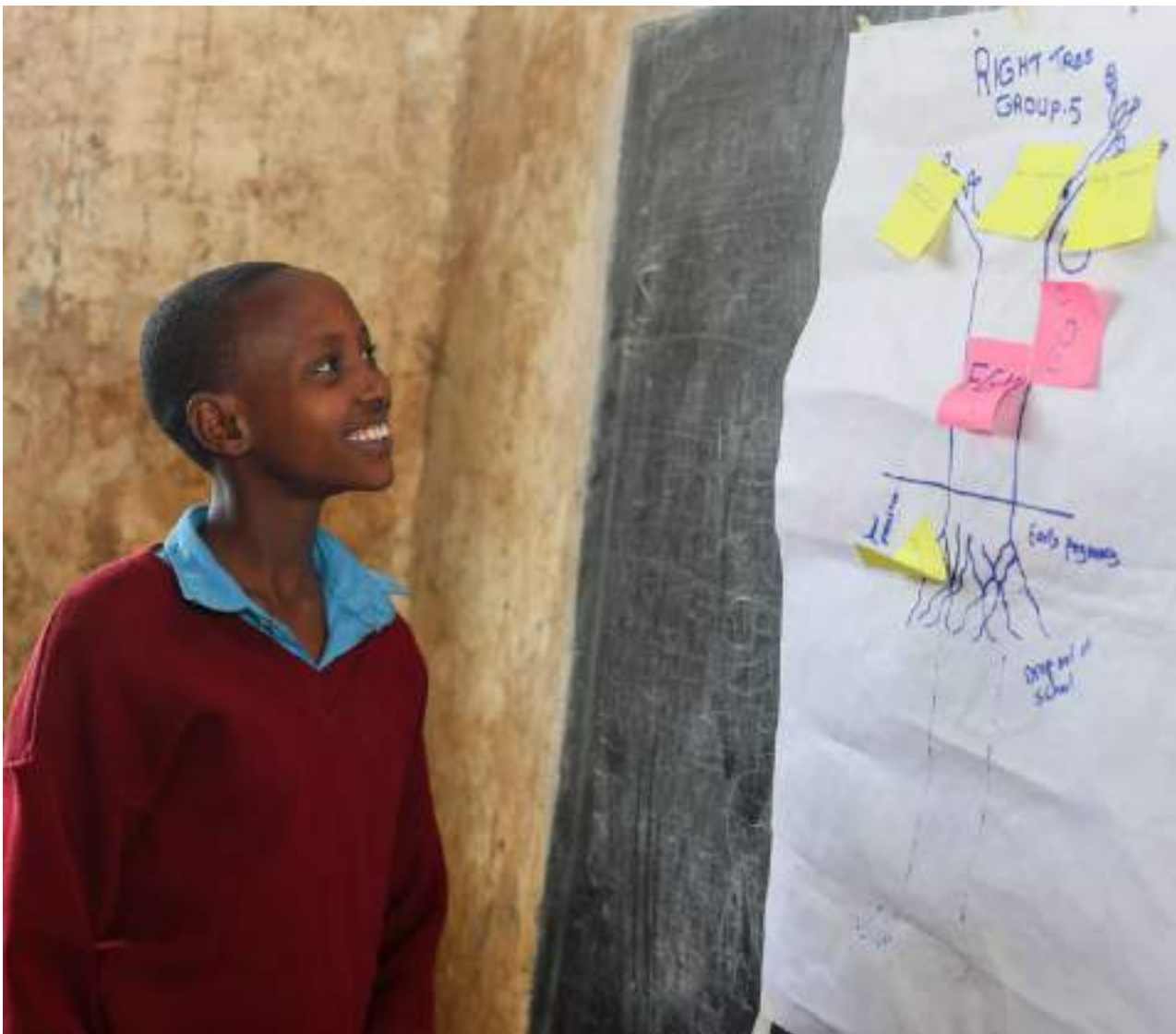


Young Voices for Change Summit

4th Edition – Amplifying Youth-led- Advocacy

The Process

Dandelion Africa implements this model by deploying a comprehensive Advocacy Toolkit designed to build communication, lobbying, and leadership skills among Student peer educators, Youth Peer educators and teachers. Using this framework, student peer educators systematically identify structural deficiencies within their schools such as inadequate classrooms, water and sanitation gaps, menstrual health challenges, and weak Sexual and Gender-Based Violence reporting mechanisms and map out the responsible duty bearers. The students then translate these evidence-based issues into institutional, girl-centered community action plans. The process culminates in joint dialogue forums where students enter negotiation rooms face-to-face with policymakers, presenting their priorities directly to duty bearers who engage with the evidence and commit to specific policy actions, budget allocations, and long-term collaborative solutions.





NAROK CHAPTER HIGHLIGHT MILESTONES



Girls leading the room

Girls completely defined the Narok Chapter. Having built agency, confidence, and leadership skills, they walked boldly into conversation rooms with leaders. Rather than having decisions made on their behalf, they authored their own policy items and successfully secured binding institutional commitments.

14 Commitments Signed

To address access to safe, clean water, roads, libraries, menstrual hygiene, and scholarship opportunities.

1,782 Learners equipped

Students gained the critical skills needed to identify institutional barriers, map relevant duty bearers, and directly engage them for community action.

ADVOCACY PROGRAM

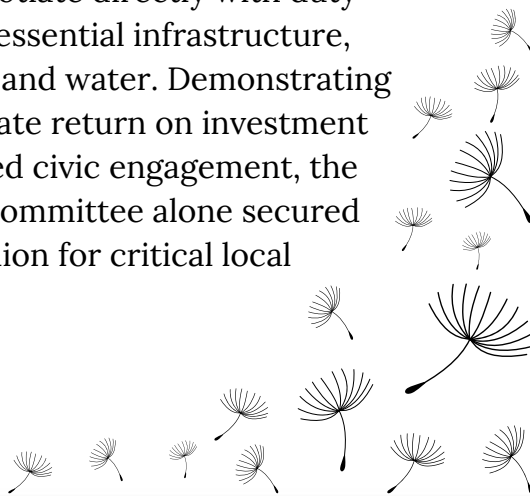
We empower community members and structures to advocate for their rights and community resources.

Structured Advocacy unlocks KES 19M in Public Funds

Advocacy Champions influenced budgetary allocations, directing KES 12.5 million toward grassroots Community Action Plans. To sustain this momentum, champions in Tiaty East and Narok East launched their first community advocacy committees, permanent platforms built to negotiate directly with duty-bearers on essential infrastructure, healthcare, and water. Demonstrating the immediate return on investment of structured civic engagement, the Tiaty East committee alone secured KES 6.5 million for critical local projects.

Systemic Shift Secures Care for 364 SGBV Survivors

Institutional accountability achieved a critical milestone as SGBV case reporting successfully shifted away from informal kangaroo courts and into formal police and health systems. This transition was driven by 361 newly engaged Administrative Officers, who also accelerated local birth and maternal death registrations, and by 103 trained healthcare providers, whose strengthened clinical documentation successfully brought 364 SGBV cases into official justice pathways.



Projects Completed This Quarter Through Advocacy

- Majani Mingi–Lomolo B Road: 7km stretch murramed, improving access.
- New borehole drilled, expanding community access to clean water.
- Rekero Water Bridge constructed, ensuring safe access during the rainy season.
- Aitong security lights installed, improving safety after dark.
- Lab technician allocated to Kaplelewa health facility, strengthening diagnostic capacity.

LOCALIZATION

Our mentorship model scales grassroots potential into sustainable, locally-driven impact.

CBO Spotlight: IPFAT



In communities where stigma often keeps people living with HIV from seeking care, IPFAT is changing the conversation, one mother, one household, one conversation at a time. Through sustained sensitization and with **over 350 clients**, IPFAT connects people living with HIV to the care and support they need through household visits, support groups and through the Backpack Safe Spaces. During this quarter, 30 treatment defaulters were successfully traced and re-enrolled into care.

Why we invest in IPFAT

A CBO this close to its community can reach mothers that larger systems often miss, but that proximity only translates into results with the right organizational backbone behind it. That's why we continue to mentor IPFAT in case management, data tracking, and program sustainability: so their impact outlasts any single funding cycle and their model can be strengthened, replicated, and scaled.

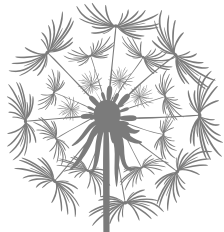
The CBO contributed to improved HIV treatment adherence and continuity of care, resulting in a 76% reduction in the HIV positivity rate among clients linked to care between 2024 and mid 2026.

For IPFAT, every number represents a mother who chose to stay in care, and a baby given the chance at an HIV-free start in life.

ORGANIZATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

We welcome our new partners



- Szekely Family Foundation
- Stratton Chase Foundation
- ForumCiv

Thank you for partnering with us!



Partner Site Visit

We hosted **Mr. Thomas from Crown Philanthropies** and **Nekesa from Medic** this quarter, from this visit we deepened our relationship and learnt in the process. **University of Dayton** faculty - Dr. Natalie Hudson, Dr. Satang Nabaney and Dr Novea Mac were hosted through our ongoing partnership that supports students to conduct research with us.

Women Deliver Conference

Dandelion participated in the **Women Deliver Conference in Melbourne** and presented our work at the **AIDN Open Ground Event** - a space where organizations could tell their stories, in their own format to the audience and learn from other organizations.

Perennial Gathering

We participated in the **Perennial Gathering in Tokyo** - a gathering that creates the conditions for participants to examine not only the work they do, but the deeper patterns, relationships, and practices that shape how the work happens.

Vanessa Grant Girls'

Our Executive Director delivered the **keynote address at Vanessa Grant Girls' School**, a mentor school in our Girls for Leaders program, inspiring students to embrace philanthropy as a lifelong commitment to creating positive change. She also had the honor of joining the school's Philanthropist of the Year 2026 awards, celebrating young women whose generosity and leadership are already making meaningful difference.