

CANOPY LIFE
INTERNATIONAL

— 2022 —

ANNUAL REPORT



“Our students are **increasing in their confidence**, and our work is providing room for God to **shape their character and vision** for their future.”

“A Letter From OUR FOUNDER



We cannot thank you enough for your support of Canopy Life International this past year! 2022 was a year of such tremendous growth, both organizationally and personally, that it took my breath away.

Our goal for the year was to increase our capacity and prepare for the growth that is quickly headed our way, which meant adding the right people in the right roles to help us grow. God not only provided the people for these positions who are passionate, skilled, and well aligned with our needs and values, but He also brought them into the story with perfect timing. They were able to run the organization while I stepped aside so my husband and I could welcome our son, Shepard, into the world and enjoy our first months as first-time parents. Even a year ago, this kind of margin to focus on my family-life would not have been possible. However, thanks to your generosity, God’s faithfulness, and the leadership

of our staff and boards, Canopy Life is growing in timely, appropriate, and healthy ways.

Through this growth, we have welcomed new donors into our family which has resulted in even more impact in the lives of our students. You will learn more about this in the pages that follow.

Our students are increasing in their confidence, and our work is providing room for God to shape their character and vision for their future. We are so blessed that our Canopy Life community is expanding to include new networks and voices.

Thank you to everyone who is making this story possible. We could not do the amazing work that is shown through this report without your prayers, donations, advocacy, and heart for our mission.

Christi Gordy

Christi Gordy

2022 WINS



Raised
\$1 million



Purchased
additional 2 acres

2022 STAFF GROWTH



2 US Staff
Abby Sheppard
Development &
Communications Manager
Molly Bell
Operations Director



2 Kenya Staff
Daniel Mbithi
Senior Finance &
Operations Manager
Linah Njiri
Homelife Director





IN THE LAST YEAR

40

Number of new sponsorships

51

Number of trip participants traveling to Kenya

72

Number of Innovation sessions

72

Number of Counseling sessions



“The rapport she had built with staff gave her a place to **speak up** about her personal needs.”



Canopy for
ACADEMICS



HOPE'S STORY

One of the places Canopy Life has seen vast growth the past year is within the Homelife team. Homelife staff is made up of roles that care for everything at Canopy Life outside of academics — house parents, counselors, chefs, and more. Among other responsibilities, Homelife provides mentoring that prepares students for the future. Anyone that has worked with kids and teenagers knows the importance of helping them recognize their voices matter. The ability to advocate for oneself and others is paramount in the kind of leadership that will move Kenya forward in future generations.

In fall 2022, Homelife staff had the opportunity to support a sixth-grade student, Hope, in putting the skill of self-advocacy into practice. Hope struggles with a pre-existing eye problem for which she was prescribed spectacles at age seven. Unfortunately, a short time before holiday break, Hope's glasses broke. Hope let Homelife staff know, and her parents set up an appointment to take her to the eye doctor while she was home.

However, in the days approaching break, Hope was experiencing persistent eye pain. Known for being confident and self-aware, Hope pressed on the Homelife Director that, "My eyes are very sick," and insisted she didn't feel like the issue could wait until she was home on break. Her persistence led Canopy staff to take her to the optician as soon as they could. Test results showed that one of Hope's eyes was completely damaged beyond repair and in need of transplant, while the other needed urgent surgery to save it. If they had waited any longer, Hope could have lost sight in both her eyes.

In October, Hope had laser surgery to save her right eye. Her recovery was so smooth that she resumed school the following week. Hope's parents are in contact with the local hospital to know when she can be scheduled for the left eye transplant, since the operation is fully dependent on an eye donor becoming available.

Hope's ability to present her case boldly and persistently saved her sight. The rapport she had built with staff gave her a place to speak up about her personal needs. Without her sight, Hope's educational path would have been significantly altered. Her story reinforces that Canopy Life's Homelife team is doing work that makes a difference in the individual lives of its students, preparing them for wider impact in the future.



DAVID'S STORY

David is the talk of the village . . . in the best way!

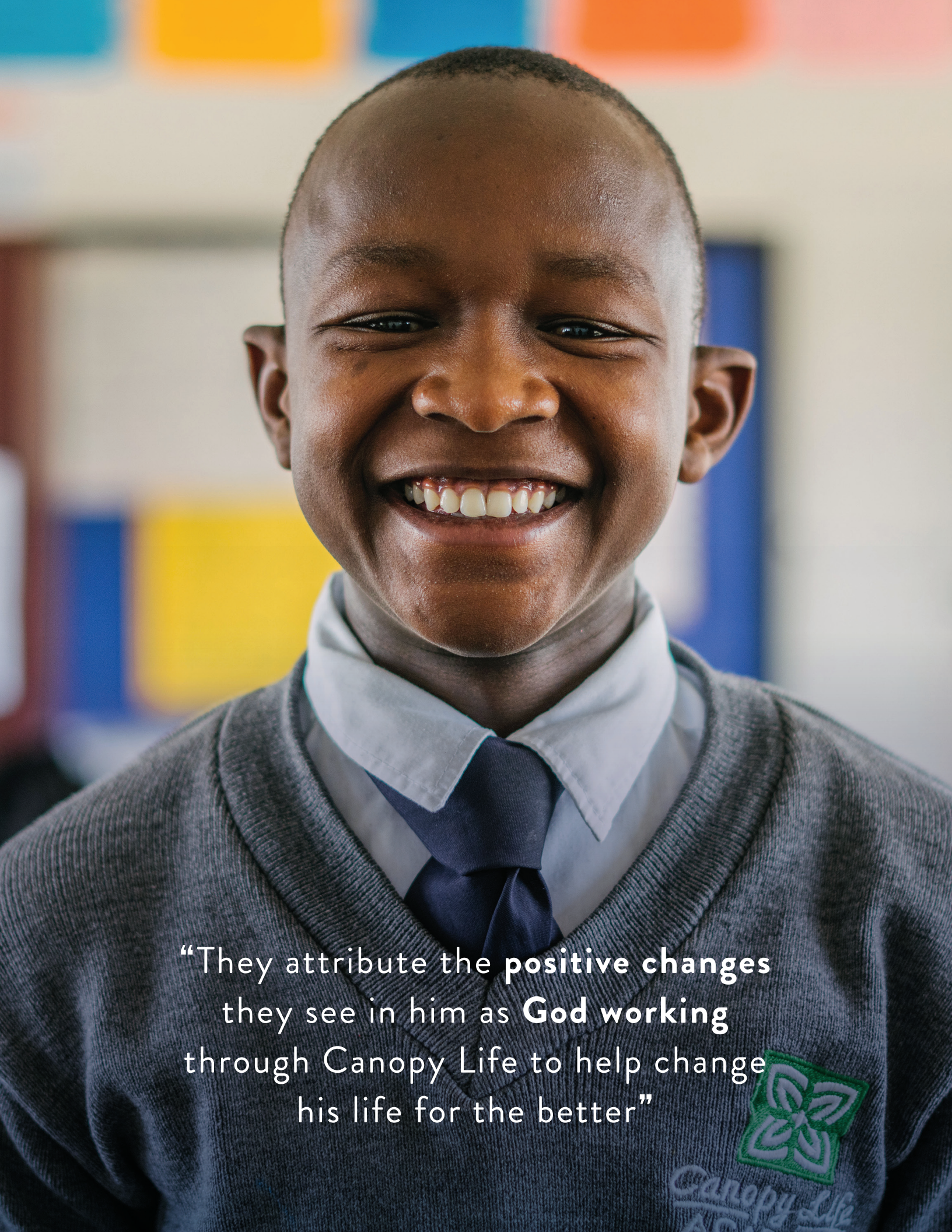
Canopy Life is developing leaders who can bring change to their communities in Kenya.

Through ongoing counseling with Canopy high school students, our Homelife Director, Linah, was able to learn more about David (a Canopy Life student in grade 7) that attests to the beneficial changes happening in our students.

Linah says, “Each time I meet with our high schoolers, we go through highs and lows, and catch up on how their school break went. At my last visit with them at the beginning of this term, Grace (a Canopy Life high school student) mentioned that her highlight was the change she has witnessed in David, who lives in her community. Other students who also attended this specific high school in the Karogoto community began telling me that David, a Canopy Life middle school student, is being recognized in the village due to the changes people have seen in him! They attribute the positive changes they see in him as God working through Canopy Life to help change his life for the better.”

The students reported that he is more confident in who he is. He can easily maintain conversations and eye contact with people, which he couldn't do before joining Canopy Life. They also mentioned his cleanliness, responsibility, and trustworthiness. Villagers can confidently ask him for help when needed and he will help to the best of his ability. He has also become very active in his Sunday school.

Of course, we are able to see the wonderful change in our students, but are encouraged that others can see the changes as well! This is a small glimpse into a much bigger vision . . . One day, our students will bring change to their communities and help end the cycle of poverty.



“They attribute the **positive changes** they see in him as **God working** through Canopy Life to help change his life for the better”



NEW BOARD MEMBERS



FRED WAMBUI

Fred Wambia, a dedicated Project Manager with extensive experience, serves as a valued board member at Canopy Life International. Residing in Nairobi County, he is happily married to Ludy Oluoko for 15 years and is blessed with two teenage sons, Fred Wambia Junior and Terrence Mshindi. Inspired by Canopy Life's commitment to its vision, Fred admires the deep ownership and trust displayed by the organization's staff and leaders. He finds fulfillment in the opportunity to volunteer and give back to society, and resonates with Canopy Life's belief in providing children with innovative opportunities to become leaders who lead the community out of poverty.



KALELI MULI

Kaleli Muli is the Director of Sustainability at MCF, a non-profit organization caring for over 6,000 children, a husband, and a loving father of four beautiful children. He and his family are based in Eastern Kenya, Yatta sub-county. Kaleli is inspired by Canopy Life's Christ-centered approach, and empowerment of children to make a positive impact in their communities. Joining the board of Canopy Life International was a calling for Kaleli, driven by a shared vision and admiration for the organization's core values and leadership integrity. As a steward of both tangible resources and invaluable experiences, Kaleli is committed to contributing to the board's efforts in steering the organization towards its vision.



LOREN HILDEBRANDT

Loren Hildebrandt is the Outreach Director at 12 Stone Church and a supporter of Canopy Life. He has been married to his wife Sharon for 35 years and together they have four children: Trey, Ben, Debra and Beth. Loren began supporting Canopy Life in 2019 and recently joined the board in 2022. His frequent international travels have given him a firsthand appreciation of Canopy Life's unique vision and innovative thinking. Loren brings extensive nonprofit experience and a passion for making a difference to his role on Canopy Life's Board of Directors.



ZACHARY BROWN

Zachary is a seasoned nonprofit professional, currently serving as the Director of Individual Giving at Habitat for Humanity. He is married to his wife Lisa and together they have four children, including Zach, Ellis, Fitz, and Hudson. Zachary brings extensive experience in development and fundraising to his role on the board of Canopy Life. He is deeply committed to the organization's mission and has a strong servant-heart. With his passion for making a difference and his expertise in nonprofit development, Zachary is an invaluable member of Canopy Life's board.

ONBOARDING
New Board Members
for 2023



MCCLURE KING



JD GETTMAN





“I was so inspired by their **creativity**, **determination**, and their **passion** for making a difference in the world.”

AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

Donor, 2022 Trip Participant, 2023 Board Member

I wanted to take a moment to express our deep gratitude for the incredible impact that Canopy Life has had on our family.

Our trip to Kenya last July was truly life-changing, and we are so grateful for the opportunity to become part of the Canopy Life community.

When we first decided to take the trip, Mackenzie (my wife) and I thought it would be a good chance for our son Carter to experience life in a developing country. I had no idea just how much we would all be impacted by the experience. From the moment we arrived at the Canopy Life campus, we were struck by the warmth and hospitality of the staff and students. We felt immediately at home, and our hearts were filled with love and gratitude.

One of the most special parts of our experience was being a part of the Handpicked process. We received a wonderful welcome packet from the child that selected our family, and we fell in love with him immediately. Throughout our time at Canopy Life, we were able to spend time with the children and see firsthand the incredible work that

is being done to support them and their families.

The moment that truly had my heart hooked was when I jumped in to help a few of the kids with their Shark Tank innovation idea. I was so inspired by their creativity, determination, and their passion for making a difference in the world. Hearing their stories and seeing the light in their eyes was truly humbling, and I knew then that I wanted to be a part of this incredible mission beyond our trip to Kenya.

I am thrilled to join the US board of directors for Canopy Life in 2023. I am committed to supporting the amazing work that is being done to provide education, support, and hope to the children and families of Kenya. Our family will always be grateful for the impact that Canopy Life has had on our lives, and we look forward to continuing to be a part of this incredible community for many years to come.



STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

As of Dec 31, 2022

REVENUE:	\$1,157,939
EXPENSES:	\$1,005,049
Programs:	\$677,347
Fundraising:	\$116,524
General & Admin:	\$211,178
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:	\$123,326

STATEMENT OF POSITION

As of Dec 31, 2022

ASSETS:	\$1,202,972
Cash:	\$921,588
Pledges receivable:	\$35,000
Prepaid Expenses:	\$14,349
Investments:	\$232,035
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS:	\$1,202,972
Total Liabilities:	\$33,208
Total Net Assets:	\$1,169,764





WHERE WE ARE GOING

IN THE NEXT 5 YEARS



ADD 60

residential students,
tripling our population.



BUILD

two academic facilities,
two residential buildings
and administrative facility.



PURCHASE

six acres for
campus expansion.



INCREASE

staff capacity to
accommodate growth.

****We believe the next phase of our campus growth will entail at least one additional residential building, a junior high academic facility, an administrative building, space for innovation and arts to take place, and a minimum of four more acres of land.****





Canopy Life
ACADEMY



CANOPY LIFE
INTERNATIONAL