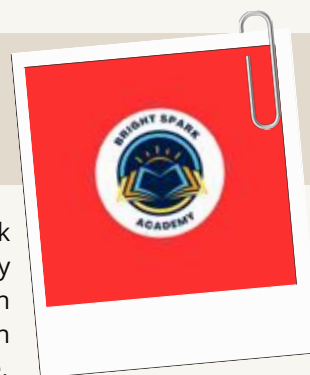


NEWSLETTER



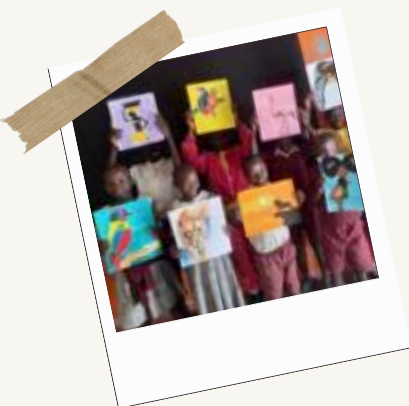
BRIGHT SPARK ACADEMY



The past year has been monumental for Girls Hope Rescue Mission, with our newest initiative, Bright Spark Academy (BSA), opening in January 2024. Founded by Gladwell Wachira, and rooted in her incredible journey and vision for young girls in Kenya, BSA has already transformed the lives of over 400 village children through education, safety, and community. As we celebrated our first graduation in October, we reflect on the accomplishments of this incredible year and the dedicated donors and community who made it possible.

January 2024 - BSA Opens its Doors

On January 8, Bright Spark Academy welcomed over 400 students, including girls from the mission and children from the nearby village, from pre-primary through 6th grade. Every day begins with morning porridge, with lunch provided at midday. As Gladwell reminds us, "hungry children cannot learn," so ensuring our students are nourished remains a top priority.



April 2024- Phase II Expansion

Following a successful first term, the generosity of our supporters enabled us to begin Phase II of BSA. We demolished an old building to make way for expanded primary classrooms, and by May, our campus was ready to welcome students back with new classrooms, additional teachers, and dedicated dining halls. This expansion included a new computer lab and an art classroom, creating fresh opportunities for students to explore and learn.

May 2024- Phase III and Growing Demand

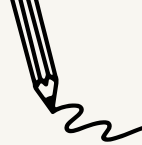
With a rapidly increasing student body, we launched Phase III, adding three more buildings to accommodate students up to 9th grade by 2025. This expansion will serve not only the school but the broader community by providing education for over 500 students and their families. It will help to boost the local economic activity and lay the foundation for long-term educational impact.

October 2024- Graduation Day

October was marked by our first-ever BSA Graduation Ceremony! Our graduates were celebrated with a dignitary-led event, speeches, a Girl Scout escort, and Gladwell's famous banana nut cake. The ceremony held special meaning for our students and the community, serving as a powerful symbol of hope and resilience.



NOTABLE MENTIONS



SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS



Gladwell's journey toward sustainable food production began in October 2022 with the creation of a permaculture farm design plan, approved by Dee. By January 2023, GHRM implemented the design, establishing swales and off-forest areas, planting Napier grass, and creating wetland systems, which enhanced water management and provided abundant fodder for livestock. With the addition of Joy the milk cow, sheep, rabbits, and 200 chickens, Gladwell's efforts were already supporting over 150 rescued girls. Building on this success, by July 2023, she introduced an electric grain mill, processing bumper maize crops and achieving record-breaking yields in Migori County. In June 2024, she expanded her agricultural efforts further, acquiring an extra hectare of land to cultivate maize and beans while planting a variety of fruit trees, including dragon fruit and Wambugu apples. This expansion also included upgrading the production of existing fruits and vegetables, ensuring a sustainable future that will nourish both the students and the mission, as BSA continues to grow and support its community.

STARLINK ★★★★★

Bright Spark Academy is now operating with Starlink satellite internet! Improved access to the internet will greatly increase students' learning opportunities. Starlink, engineered by SpaceX, provides the academy with internet speeds that reach 124 megabytes per second, which is a tremendous improvement from the previous 1-5 megabytes per second that they were operating with previously. With this gracious donation, the Girls Hope Rescue Mission has already been able to further their goals of educating children in Kenya. Now, with greater access to educational programs like BYU Pathways, Bright Spark Academy can look forward to the success of many more young scholars!

PLANNED CLINIC

Bright Spark Academy is in critical need of a clinic close to the people. There are many stories of people needing medical help but not being able to get the care they need. Gladwell is doing her best with having done her community nursing program and attached internship experience, but the nearest medical clinic is 35 Kilometers away on rough roads that are nearly impossible to navigate when it rains. We need to have a place that is easily accessible to the people and to do that our goal is to build a clinic that will serve the girls in the rescue mission as well as the villagers in the surrounding area.



The planned clinic will provide services for:

- Prenatal care, labor and delivery, maternity care
- General medical services to the villagers
- Safe house for women and girls who have experienced violence
- Emergency care for victims of FGM (female genital mutilation)
- Teaching facility for mothers with newborn babies

A MESSAGE
FROM YOUR
DIRECTOR

"Millions of children around the world are looking for hope and love. Our mission must continue to Rescue, Educate and Protect for these children to be free. It's not our responsibility, but it's God calling us to change this world to a better and safer world for our children-one child at a time and one step and a time."

Love, Gladwell

**GIRLS
HOPE**
RESCUE MISSION

GIRLSHOPERESCUEMISSION.ORG

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

@GIRLSHOPERESCUEMISSION

RESCUE, EMPOWER, EDUCATE