



**Dandelion
Africa**



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.

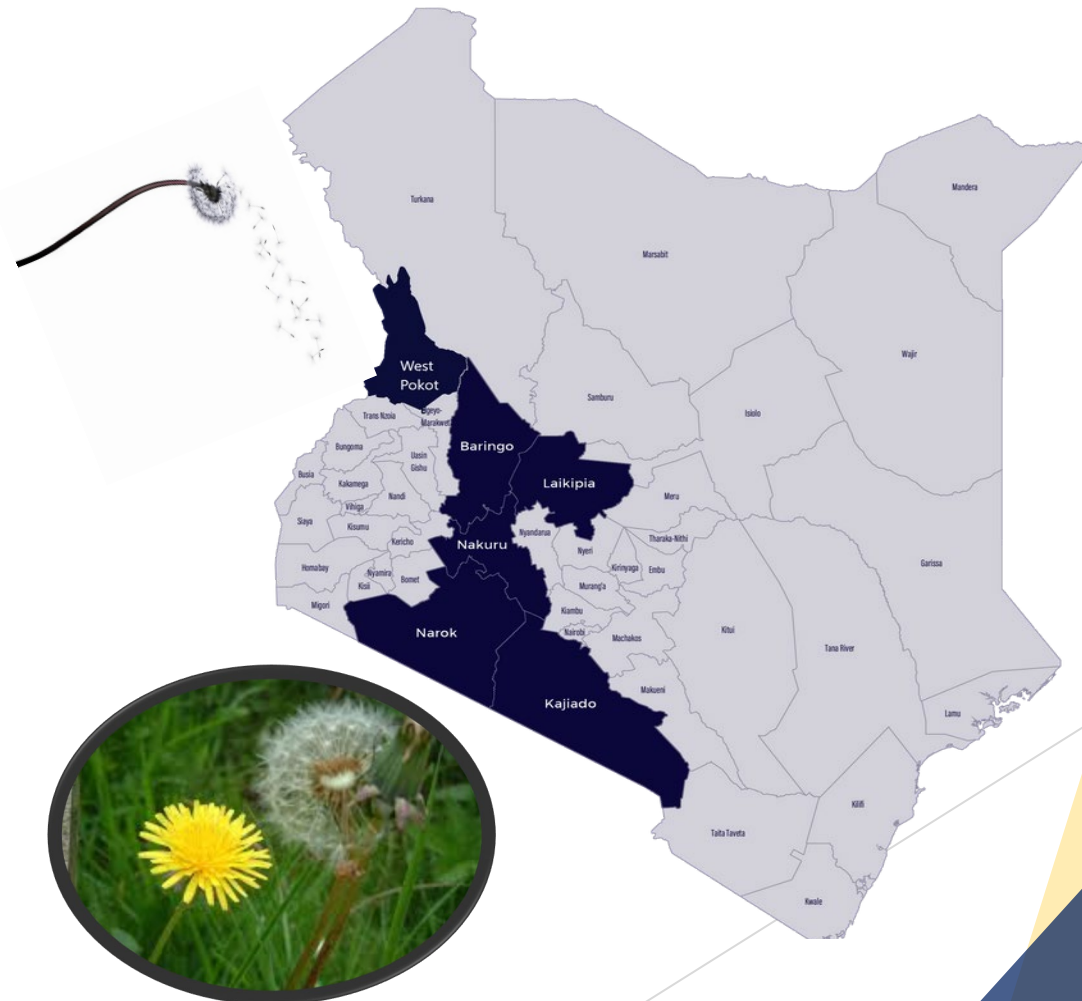
WHERE WE WORK

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 Why

Dandelion's research shows that 70% of women local to Dandelion Africa have unmet needs for health care services with only 56% receiving antenatal care.

Insufficient healthcare is often due to poor education and infrastructure.

In response to this, Dandelion has actively adopted new platforms of delivery to push the Dandelion Africa Integrated approach to reach these remote areas.

4 million

Kenyan girls and women have experienced female genital mutilation

3 million

Women lack access to contraceptives in arid regions of Kenya

OVER 13,000

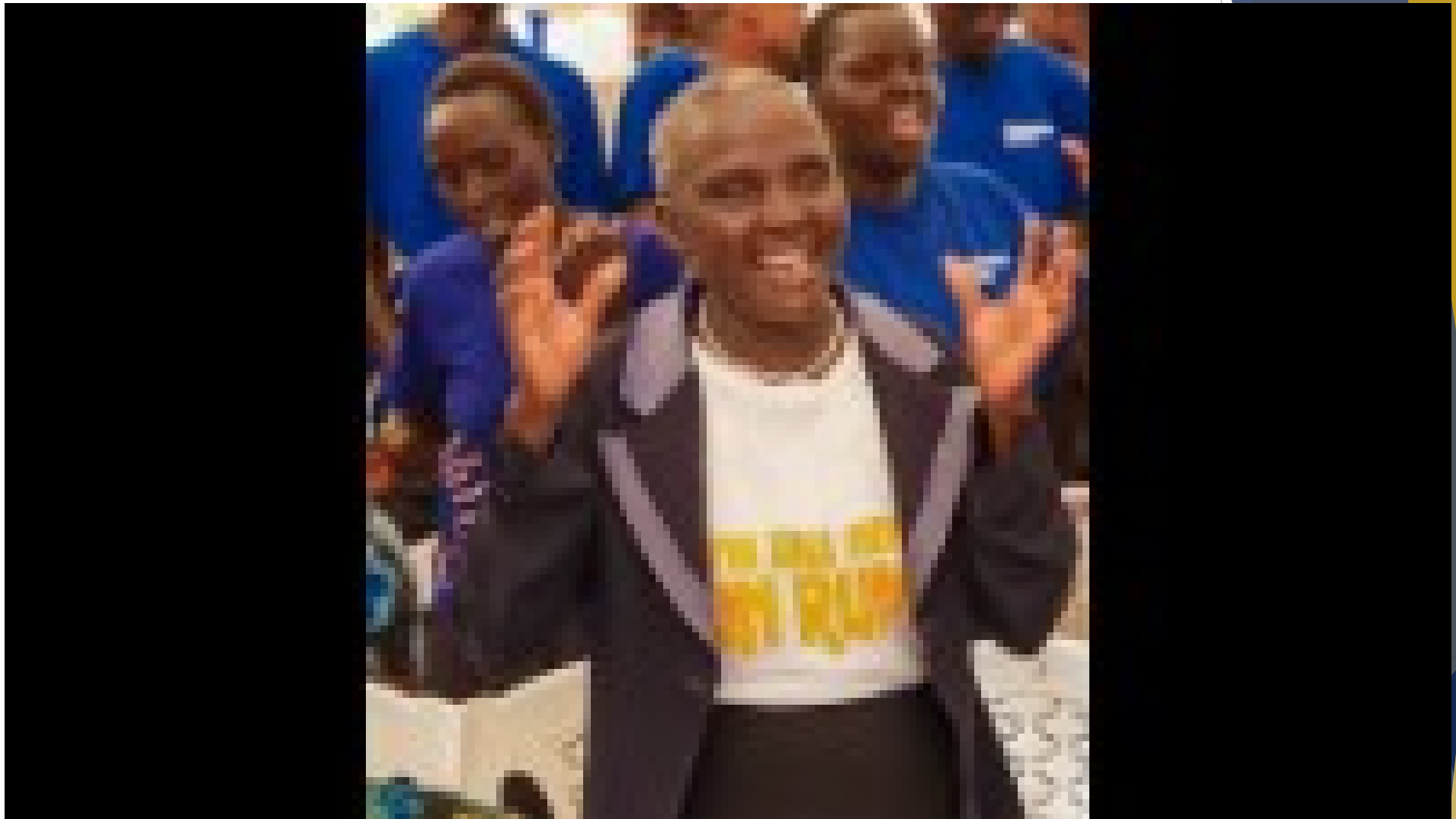
teenage girls drop out of school annually because of pregnancy.

(Kenya Data and Health Survey, 2014)

70%

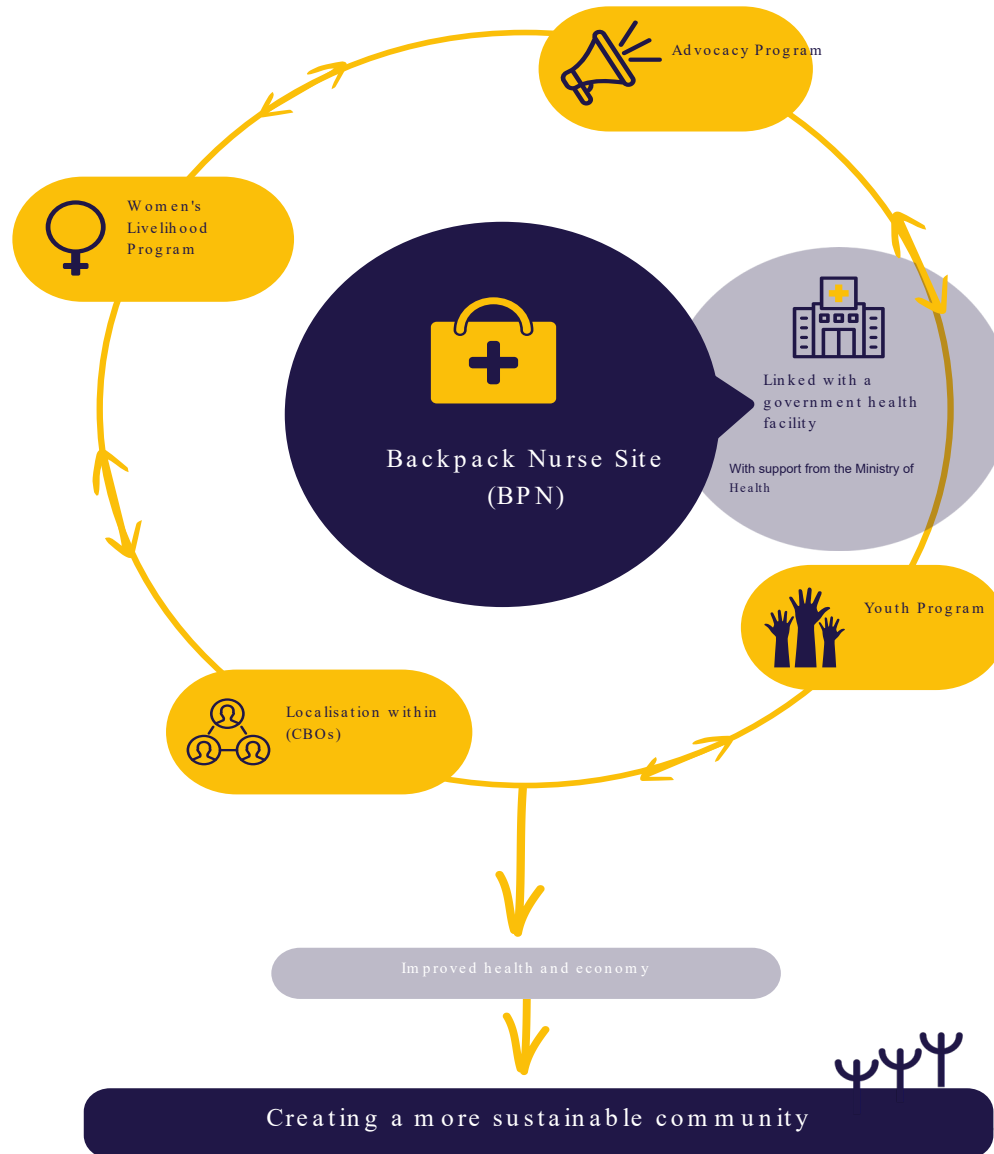
of women and children lack access to appropriate primary healthcare making it the greatest need of women and girls in our community.





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oh_7yw7FNzw&list=PPSV&t=31s

OUR MODEL



HEALTH PROGRAM

- Green Health Centres
- Backpack Nurses Safe spaces

Our greatest challenge is distance to health facilities, poor infrastructure, and lack of information on family planning and maternal health.

1. **Health systems Strengthening** - We train health care workers on administering long acting contraceptives, Emergency Obstetric Neonatal Care and support 112 government health centres in support supervision and data quality assessment.

2. **Community Health Strengthening;**

We take health education, WASH and integrated health services through 60 Backpack nurses approach to hard-to-reach areas through the support of over 2,000 digitized Community Health Promoters.

Services We Offer:

- Family Planning Services
- Ante Natal and Post Natal Care
- HIV testing and Management
- Health Education
- Cervical and Breast Cancer Screening and referral
- Primary Health Care



WOMEN'S LIVELIHOODS

- Economic Empowerment
- Climate Change Mitigation
- Leadership

We run a 3 year integrated curriculum that focuses on improving the economic outcomes for women in rural areas.

Economic Power:

- business skills
- save and borrow their own money (table banking)

Climate change: mitigation, resilience and adaptation

- water projects - Dew drop
- Permaculture farming
- Health training on family planning and elimination of Gender Based Violence
- **Leadership** - Improve agency



GIRLS FOR LEADERS

- Girls For Leaders - In school program
- Youth Peer Providers

Girls for Leaders program works with 65 schools and over 8,500 girls; in communities with prevalence in Female Genital Cutting and early marriage. This program addresses cultural and logistical impediments to girls' education to increase their probability of staying in school.

We have constructed 3 libraries all as ICT hubs in rural areas.

- Training modules:
- Age appropriate sex education
- Leadership and agency and
- Advocacy



BOYS FOR CHANGE

This program works with over 7,000 boys and men through meaningful engagement in advancing gender equity and equality. The program is necessary not only for the empowerment of women and girls but also to transform the social and gender norms that reinforce patriarchy and inequality that harm women and girls.

The Boys for Change are trained on

- Roles of men in the society
- Menstrual Hygiene and SRHR
- Female Genital Cutting effects and strategies to end retrogressive cultures and support women and girls' empowerment at the community and leadership level.



ADVOCACY

- Eradication of Female Genital Mutilation / Sexual Gender-Based Violence Prevention & Building Sustainable communities
- Localization Within

In Kenya, 4 million girls and women have undergone Female Genital Mutilation. Sadly, many cases are not reported to authorities and few women and girls get justice or receive medical care.

We improve knowledge, duty bearers accountability in public service provision and advocating on critical issues, we work to change the systems and structures that create poverty and violate human rights.

We intentionally work with smaller Community Based Organization to advance and build sustainable communities





2024 IMPACT



57,957

Women accessed
contraceptives
through our health
interventions



16,325

Skilled deliveries
supported



83,529

People accessed
primary healthcare



+6.34

Statistically
significant
improvement in
girls' agency within
10 months



34

Community projects
implemented by duty
bearers after
community dialogues



13%

Increase in savings
by women in saving
groups to USD
15,282

OUR IMPACT 2019 - 2024

253,498 people accessed primary healthcare through the Backpack Nurse Model

250,673 women accessed long-term contraceptives

2,242 babies safely delivered in Dandelion's Medical Centres
68% received post partum contraceptives

65 schools enrolled in Girls for Leaders and Boys for Change clubs

10,000 business started by women in savings groups

80 Community Projects Lobbied and completed



96% school transition rate of girls in 2024 from 45% in 2014 when the project started.



over 250,000 women and youth have received sexual and reproductive health services



over 900,000 people have accessed medical care through Dandelion



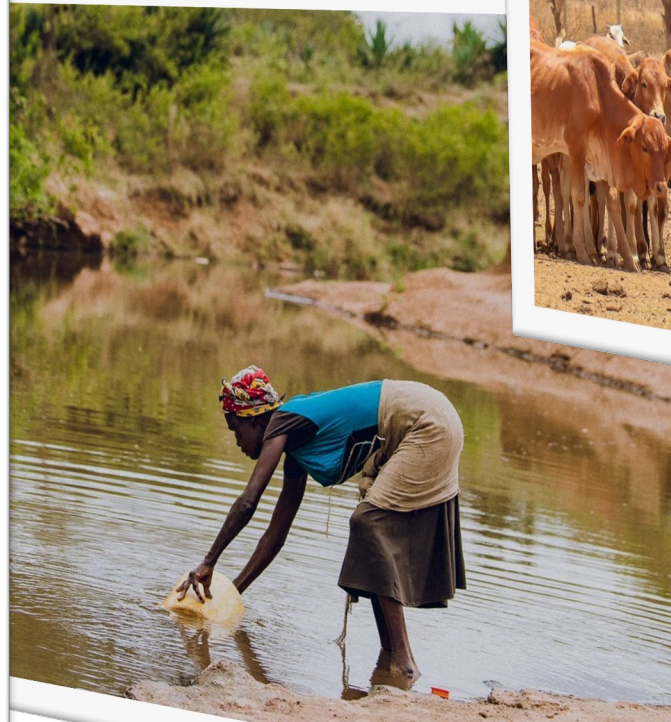
36 villages of intervention declared 100% FGM free



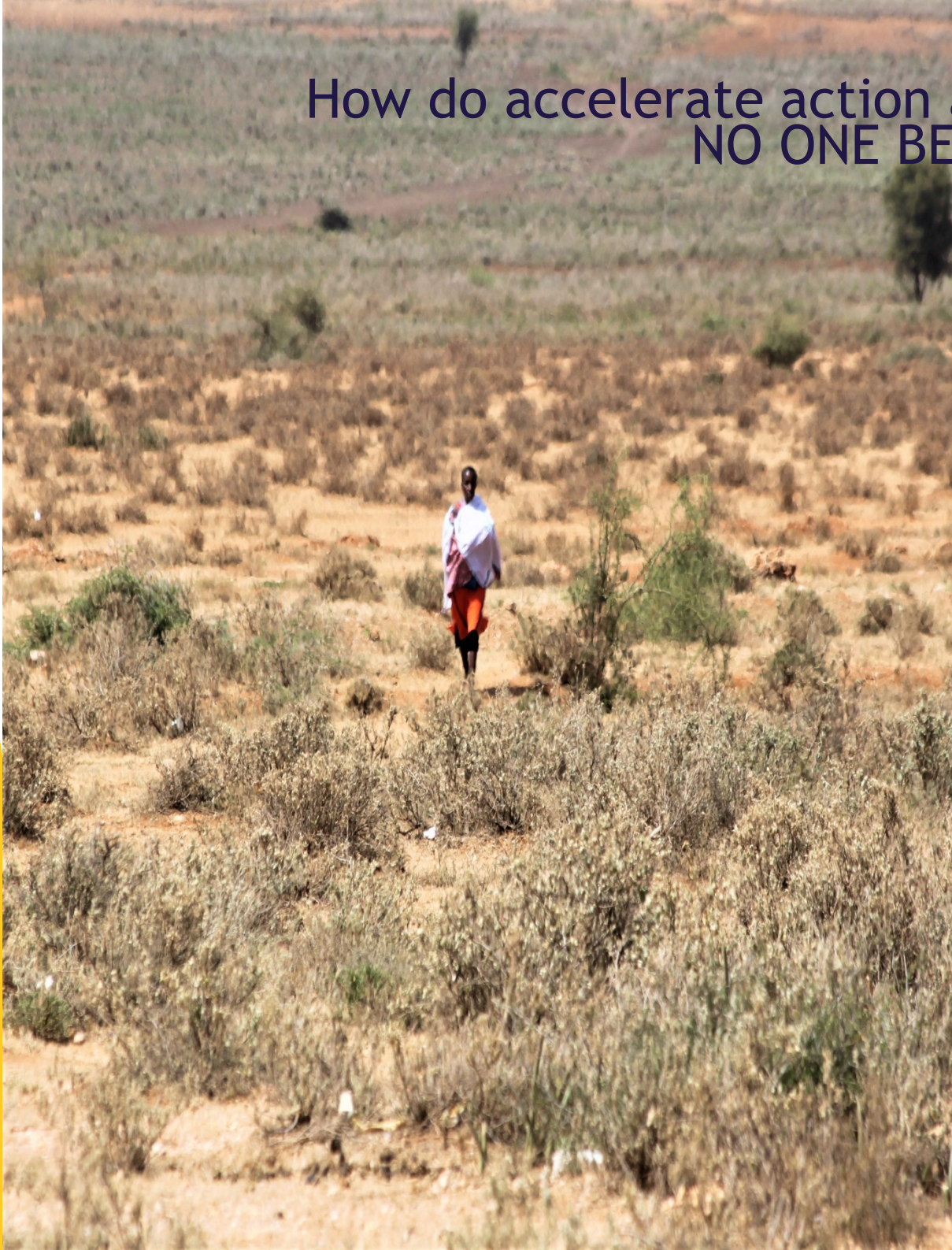
7,005 women in savings groups have doubled their income

Opportunities

- Political - Geo-Political Context
- Cultural impediments
- Human / Financial Resource



How do accelerate action and ensure we leave
NO ONE BEHIND?



LOOKING AHEAD

In the next 3 years, we aim to:

- **Health Systems Strengthening:**

Saturate the current 4 Counties by 70% and scale to new Counties of Laikipia and West Pokot

We will strengthen 200 health facilities through training on provision of contraceptives and emergency obstetric and newborn care to improve reproductive and maternal outcomes and strengthen our 3 Dandelion Medical Centres to continue being centres of excellence.

- **Community Health Strengthening:**

We aim to train 720 Community Advocates, through our **Advocacy Program** – most of whom will be community health promoters and community health committee members on advocacy aiming to influence at least 50 government funded projects at the community.

- **Economic Power**

We aim to train an additional 1,500 community health promoters and 150 Community Health Assistants (supervisors) who will support 100 **Backpack sites** to improve community health reaching 1 million women with contraceptives in 3 years.

The Girls for Leaders Boys for change program will scale to 2 new counties targeting a total of 100 schools in 3 years to improve opportunities for education

We aim to reach 20,000 women with agri-preneurship training through the **Women Livelihood program** to strengthen their resilience to climate change and improving their economic outcomes.

THANK YOU

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STORY OF IMPACT

From Tradition Birth Attendant to Companion: Lucy Meja's Journey of Change



For over 40 years, Lucy Meja worked as a traditional birth attendant, delivering babies at home and practicing Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)—a deeply rooted tradition in her community. However, after training with Dandelion Africa, she gained a new perspective on the dangers of both home deliveries and FGM. Understanding the risks, Lucy made a life-changing decision: she stopped performing FGM and began accompanying pregnant women to seek skilled care at hospitals for safer deliveries.

Today, Lucy is a passionate advocate against FGM in Narok, actively educating her community about its devastating consequences, including childbirth complications, school dropouts, and forced early marriages. Her dedication has helped protect many girls and promote safer childbirth practices. She now works closely with local leaders, health workers, and other community members to sensitize families, mentor young girls, and support alternative rites of passage that uphold cultural identity without harm.

Beyond advocacy, Lucy has joined forces with other women to form Nabosho, a women-led group that empowers its members through table banking, enabling them to save, borrow, and invest in small businesses, improving financial security for their families. With a loan, Lucy started a bead-making business, which now provides her with a steady income, further strengthening her independence and resilience.

IMPACT STORY

Janet Jematia

The top student at Vanessa Grant Girls School in 2024

Growing up in a humble home with a single mother, I faced numerous challenges, but I never let those challenges define me. After performing well at Kipsyenan Primary School, I was fortunate enough to receive a scholarship from Dandelion Africa, which opened the doors for me to join Vanessa Grant Girls School (VGGS). This scholarship became a turning point in my life, giving me the resources, mentorship, and support I needed to pursue my dreams.

At VGGS, I made sure to make the most of the opportunity. Despite struggling with my eyesight, I pushed through and became the top student from Form 1 to Form 4. The scholarship not only covered my tuition but also empowered me to take control of my own future. I embraced every challenge, and in 2024, my hard work culminated in a B+ in the KCSE exams. I now hope to join university and pursue my dream of studying Electrical Engineering.





IMPACT STORY

Felicia Jepkemoi

Student Peer Educator Kipsyenan Comprehensive School

Joining the Girls for Leaders, Boys for Change club at Kipsyenan Comprehensive School two years ago transformed my life. I was a shy, quiet student who struggled to speak in front of teachers and fellow classmates.

The turning point came during the Student Peer Educator training, where I learned the importance of using my voice to advocate for change. The training introduced me to the club's curriculum and an advocacy toolkit, equipping me with skills to articulate our needs and approach leaders confidently.

The skills I gained didn't just impact my leadership abilities, they improved my academics too. I became more organized and focused through creation of a personal timetable, which helped me rise to the top of my class. More importantly, I grew in self-awareness and confidence. Now, I can stand in front of an audience and speak without fear.

A highlight of my journey was attending the Young Voices Summit last November. Standing before duty bearers and leaders, I presented the challenges my school faces, including the need for a science laboratory. Though I was nervous, the support from Dandelion Africa and my peers gave me the courage to speak clearly and passionately. That moment showed me how powerful my voice could be in creating change.

Through the club, I've also trained other students, inspiring them to find their voices and advocate for themselves. What inspires me most is the transformation of girls at our school. Thanks to Dandelion Africa's support, including menstrual hygiene education and sanitary pad provision, more girls are excelling academically. Today, most of the top students in our school are girls, and I am proud to be part of this remarkable journey.

IMPACT STORY

Brenda Kibon, is a **Community Health Promoter (CHP)** from
Sakoda Unit, Nakuru

“For over three years, I have been at the forefront of improving the health and well-being of my community as a Community Health Promoter (CHP). My work involves visiting households, guiding families on health improvement and disease prevention, delivering health promotion messages, treating common ailments, and establishing protocols for Community-Based Maternal and Newborn Health. It fills me with pride to see the impact of my efforts—thanks to my referrals, many women have accessed skilled, safe deliveries and quality maternal care, significantly reducing health risks for mothers and their babies.

My journey with Dandelion Africa’s Women Livelihood Program has been life-changing. As a member of the Techkaa Sarambei Women Group, I have gained valuable skills such as financial planning, record-keeping, and starting an income-generating business, enabling me to achieve economic independence.

Having a stable livelihood has been crucial for sustaining my role as a CHP. While volunteering in health promotion is fulfilling, it comes with challenges, including financial strain. My business income helps support my family and enables me to continue volunteering without the constant worry of making ends meet. It has also given me the confidence to inspire other women in my community, proving that economic empowerment and community service can go hand in hand. ”

