

SAM Elimu Foundation

2026

Term 1 Report

IMPACT

SAM Elimu is supporting **182 children** directly.

The LEWA Education program is working with **8 children** funded by SAM Elimu.

SAM Elimu by the Numbers

Level	Students
Primary	10
High School	52
Tertiary	120
Total	182
Alumni	229
LEWA	8
TOTAL	419

Term 1 Highlights

At the beginning of the 2026 academic year, we successfully provided support to help our beneficiaries continue their education: 10 in primary school, 52 in secondary school, 120 in tertiary institutions, and 8 through the Lewa Education Program under SAM Elimu. We also provided a range of non-financial support throughout the term, helping ensure a smooth and well-supported transition back to school.

School Visits

We carried out school visits to assess both the academic progress and personal development of 52 secondary school students and 76 tertiary students. These engagements provided valuable opportunities to connect with the students, monitor their performance, offer encouragement, and gain a deeper understanding of the challenges they face. Through these visits, we identified areas requiring additional academic or personal support while reinforcing the importance of discipline, goal-setting, and overall well-being.



Student Enrichment

Tertiary Induction

In March, we held an induction session for students transitioning to the tertiary level, introducing them to SAM Elimu's mission, values, expectations, and support systems. The session prepared students for both the academic and personal demands of tertiary education through mentorship, guidance, and interactive discussions. Parents were also included in the conference to help them better understand the program expectations and work closely with SAM Elimu in supporting the students' success.



Career Conference

In April, we held a Career Week for our Form Four beneficiaries to help them prepare for their KCSE examinations and start thinking about their future academic and career paths.

The program brought together students from our partner high schools for a week of career guidance, mentorship, and personal development. Through the sessions, students gained a better understanding of how their academic performance can shape university opportunities and future career choices.



Career Guidance & Placement

Students took part in engaging mentorship and learning sessions led by professionals from different career fields, who shared practical advice about career options, subject requirements, and what it takes to succeed in different professions.

Representatives from the Kenya Universities and Colleges Central Placement Service guided students through university and college placement processes and course requirements.

Academic Preparation for KCSE

The week included interactive sessions on study skills, exam strategies, and time management to help students prepare for the KCSE.

Students joined a virtual session with Dr. Peter Linneman, who encouraged them to stay disciplined, resilient, and focused on their goals.

Mentorship & Inspiration

Our students transitioning to the tertiary level returned as mentors to share their personal journeys, lessons, and encouragement.

Their presence created a relatable and supportive space where students could openly ask questions, learn from one another, and feel motivated about their future.

Alumni Enrichment

Monthly Meetings and Zoom Conversations

This term featured productive monthly meetings on a wide variety of topics.

- **Vision Board and Personal Development Plan:** *Eugene Okanda*, a certified leadership coach, conducted a workshop on vision board and personal development planning for our staff and students.
- **Academic Planner:** *Dr. Peter Linnaman* explained and discussed the academic planner, a tool designed to help students organize and track their academic progress throughout their studies.
- **Professional CV Writing:** *Dr. Peter Linnaman* guided the beneficiaries through writing and refining their CVs.
- **The Corporate Executive:** *Tyler Blair*, a former corporate lawyer and current law school career advisor, shared his career journey and insights about the legal profession and opportunities in this field.
- **Life and Career Choices:** *Christine Kwak* shared her journey from being born in Korea to becoming a successful real estate entrepreneur.
- **Career Mapping, Managing Pressure and Expectations:** *Doug Linneman* shared his career path, emphasizing the importance of creating a roadmap for future career goals. He encouraged beneficiaries to think about their long-term aspirations and to take courses that align with their career objectives.
- **AI as a Life Skill:** *Anjur Banerjee and Shreyas Narayan* discussed the evolution of AI, its differences from machine learning, and practical uses across various fields, including research, writing, coding, and visual generation.

SAM Elimu Charity



We are very excited to announce that long time SAM Elimu supporter, Christine Kwak, has joined the U.S. Board. Christine's passion for our mission shines through, and we look forward to welcoming her back to Kenya for her third visit this August.

Contact Us

Office Address

1001 Chestnut Street
Suite 101
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Email Address

info@samelimucharity.org

Visit us at samelimucharity.org as we share more insights, accomplishments, and interactions with the children.

Follow us!



Student Spotlight

ANN ALILA



Through weekly meetings, I grew socially, learned the art of budgeting and aligning my finances to fit my needs and handle emergencies. At a personal level, through continuous mentorship, self-awareness, and personal development, my confidence and decision-making abilities have

been strengthened. Today, when I look at myself, I see the testimony of a young girl whose dreams could have faded far in the village but instead rose again. I now see a graduate, a symbol of strength, resilience, and hope, and living proof that kindness, consistency, and support can transform a life forever.

JOHN ELIMLIM



I am a fourth-year student at Laikipia University pursuing Education. The SAM Elimu team has been remarkable throughout my journey. Knowing that they are just a call away has made it easy to reach out whenever needed. Their culture of kindness and respect

has significantly boosted my confidence. Through the Wednesday interactive sessions, I have gained valuable skills in CV creation using Canva, and I now have an updated professional CV. I have also learned how to build a LinkedIn profile, prepare for interviews, improve communication skills, develop leadership abilities, and grow my networking skills, among many others. These skills have had a lasting positive impact on my life.

JOY GACHERI



SAM Elimu has supported me since 2022 when I joined Kabarak University to pursue a bachelor's degree in education. The monthly meetings have played a great role in my personal growth, general knowledge, and career development. They have broadened my thinking and

understanding in various aspects of life, including academics, social, and professional development. This has greatly prepared me for future transitions as I prepare for a career after graduation.

JOHN KAIYO



I am a graduate from Kirinyaga University, where I pursued a Bachelor of Economics and Statistics. SAM Elimu has had such an impact on my life by giving me opportunities. The

weekly meetings have truly improved my confidence, and I now feel more equipped and informed about the current revolutions in AI and digital skills. I cannot wait to advance further and continue learning.

MILICENT KANANA



I joined SAM Elimu in 2021, just as I was about to begin my high school journey in Form One. SAM Elimu has shaped me into the person I am today. The conferences and mentorship

sessions opened my mind and helped me discover my potential. I learned that I can be a leader, that my voice matters, and that I can confidently speak in front of others. I was also given the opportunity to mentor my brothers and sisters in Form Four, which allowed me to share my story and experiences with them. Through the virtues I acquired, I was able to confidently lead my juniors and step up whenever they needed help.

FRANCIS LOBUN



During my journey to becoming the Chairperson of the Peer Educators Club, I was greatly empowered by the SAM ELIMU training programs, where I learned that leadership begins with courage, preparation, confidence, and belief in oneself. SAM Elimu taught me the

importance of self-confidence, preparation, active participation, resilience, and consistency. They showed me that leadership is about not only popularity or alliances, but also about authenticity, discipline, and the willingness to step forward when opportunities arise. I also learned the importance of personal branding and understanding my value and purpose.