Harambee

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FUTURE IN OUR HANDS-USA | Fall 2026



FALL 2026 MASTERCLASS

The IMC Masterclass: Our Partnership With Canisius University

The IMC Masterclass, IMC stands for Integrated Marketing Communications, is a class offered at Canisius University that Future In Our Hands-USA has closely worked with over the past few years.

Through the class, students gain hands-on marketing experience while working with a mission-driven organization to impact the world. It's a win-win-win for the students, the organization and the Buffalo community as students enter the workforce with increased career-readiness. This fall, the Masterclass consists of students across various disciplines of Wehle Business School and the School of Communication & Media. Here are some of the professional tasks the students are undertaking this semester:

- Marketing
- Fundraising
- Event Planning
- Creating Brand Recognition
- Social Media Management

The students are happy to be working with Future In Our Hands-USA to make a difference in other people's lives.

Save the Date!

Giving Tuesday
December 1st, 2026
A day of giving, charity, and community for nonprofits.

Student Sponsorships
December 15th, 2026
Sponsors a student's education year

Future Makers Dinner Party
April 16th
FIOHUSA'S annual dinner party to celebrate another year of progress

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Fall 2026 Masterclass



Amelia

Mia McDonnell is an Integrated Marketing and Communication major in her senior year at Canisius University. She is eager to work with FIOH-USA this semester to gain real-world marketing experience, and to contribute to a project that can make a meaningful impact. Outside of class, Mia is a member of the Canisius Women's swim team, a swim coach, and loves to spend time with family and friends.



Brooke

Brooke Wholf is a Marketing student in her junior year at Canisius University. She is eager to work with FIOH-USA this semester to gain professional experience and execute purposeful work. Outside of class, Brooke enjoys going on walks and trying local coffee spots.



Haley

Haley Roberts is a Business major in her junior year at Canisius University. She is eager to work with FIOH-USA this semester to gain hands-on marketing experience and build her creative ideas to support a meaningful mission. Outside of class, Haley loves to travel and enjoys taking nature walks with her dog.



Joey

Joseph Avino is a Management student in his senior year at Canisius University. He is excited to be working with FIOH-USA this semester and is eager to help build a better future for those in Africa. The opportunity to have first-hand experience to develop new skills and insights is important to him. Outside of school, Joseph is a huge sports fan and likes to spend time with family and friends.



Trinity

Trinity deGraffenried is a junior Accounting BS/MBA major at Canisius University. She is excited to be a part of the team, use her current skills to contribute to a meaningful cause, and step outside of her comfort zone to embrace a new experience. Outside of class, she loves indie video games and reading poetry.

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What Is Giving Tuesday?

We are preparing ourselves for Giving Tuesday which is on December 1st this year. But what is Giving Tuesday? It is a day that has been established to give back to others. It was launched in 2012 by Henry Timms, CEO of the Brunswick Group and President of Emeritus, and Asha Curran, CEO of GivingTuesday. They noticed that while there were days established to encourage consumption and materialism, there was no set day to give back to your community. The goal of Giving Tuesday is to encourage volunteerism, philanthropy and sharing resources. It has become a global movement with hundreds of countries participating.

Giving Tuesday isn't just about supporting. It's about community building and connecting people through kindness. Everyone has something they can give whether it is money, food, clothes, or simply their time. The best part of Giving Tuesday being a global effort is that its generosity knows no bounds. We encourage you to contribute to worldwide social efforts, within Buffalo.

So after you fill up on Thanksgiving dinner and celebrate Black Friday and Cyber Monday, consider supporting Future In Our Hands-USA. Donors who give between Nov 1st and Nov 30th will be entered to win an Amazon gift card.

See more about Giving Tuesday on our website: **fiohusa.org**. Thank you in advance for your support.

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Brilliance on Our Board



We are proud to say that a board member here at FIOH-USA is officially a Buffalo Black Achiever! Mary Owusu recently won and received the award. She was inducted on October 2nd at the 54th Annual Black Achievers Awards hosted this year at the Buffalo Convention Center. It was a busy and exciting evening including a red carpet ceremony and a dinner for all in attendance. This was a sold out event with nearly a thousand guests. As a part of her induction, her name will be added into the Congressional record alongside past Black Achievers. We are so proud to have her on our board. We know she will continue doing amazing things in the future.

Congratulations To The Graduates

By Louise Heubusch

6 high school and 6 university students graduated in Fall of 2025. Because of our student sponsors support Shem Ogembo, Cynthia Adhiambo, Brayan Omondi Achieng, Kennedy Odhiambo, Norbert Steven and Christine Adhiambo Wandera graduated from high school.

Kisumu 2025 university graduates include Jeremiah Andati from Eldoret Technical Training Institute, Agness Acheiry Okore from Kisumu Polytechnic in Journalism, and Brenda Achiery Otieno from Romaji Institute of Advanced Technology in Supply Chain Management.

Angelic Ark graduates include: Prisca Kangane from Moi University, Deborah Mongini from Rongo University, and Lillian Akingi from Moi University. Congratulations to these hard working teens and young adults.

Thank you to the sponsors who provided tuition (sometime all 8 years of schooling) to allow these students to fulfill their dreams.



FIOH-KENYA SR. LINDA GLAESER CENTRE REPORT JUNE TO AUGUST 2026

Written by Lillian Dajoh, President of FIOH-Kenya

The Sr. Linda Glaeser Centre brought together several community activities allowing community members to access different forms of support while strengthening relationships and collaboration within the community.

1. Stop the spot programme supported 3 schools with sanitary supplies for 2000 girls. This activity encouraged girls to attend school, reduced the stigma related to menstrual hygiene and reduced absenteeism.

2. Student sponsorships provided tuition for 32 students attending high school or college.

3. Community Group Meetings (Men and Women) are held at the centre for a variety of groups who rent chairs for their meetings. Rental money was then used for making chair repairs. Groups held regular meetings, planning sessions, provided training and capacity-building activities, held discussions and consultations, organized group projects and activities, and shared information and experiences. This strengthened the availability of a reliable meeting space, helped groups operate more consistently. and provided them with a safe environment in which members discussed issues affecting their families and community.

4. Library and Learning Services in the centre allowed access to reading materials in a quiet space that especially encouraged use by young people. The library provided reading and literacy development, encouraged completion of homework and promotes independent study. The library is open to the entire community allowing access to the educational and informational resources.

5. COMMUNITY HEALTH SCREENING OUTREACH CLINICS SPONSORED BY WIRED INTERNATIONAL IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KUAP PANDIPIERI provided free medical examinations, malaria and HIV testing kits were donated by the Kenya Ministry of Health, free medications and free chest x-rays. WiRED provided blood pressure machines, thermometers and a pulse oximeter. 8-hour clinics were held by trained community health workers (CHWs) to assist underserved community members who otherwise would have no access to health care. The CHWs also provided community training and referral to resources where they can be treated. In this last quarter, 93 people were treated for minor ailments, and 7 screened patients were referred to hospital for care.

6. Savings and Credit Activities for men and women encouraged financial discipline and economic resilience through micro loan companies.

List	**ACTIVITY**	**TOTAL**
1	Stop the spot (All girls)	2000
2	Student Sponsorships	32
3	Groups using the centre	8
3	Youth participating in activities	123
4	Number of library users	34
5	Health screening clinics	99
6	Number of savings/credit members reached	59



Conclusion: The centre has become an important community resource by providing a shared space for learning, financial empowerment and youth development. The centre's strength lies in bringing these activities together in one accessible location for the community. Continued investment in the centre will therefore have a multiplier effect, supporting not only individual beneficiaries but also families, community groups and the wider community.

Edited by Mary Ellen Dye, Louise Heubusch, and Trinity deGraffenried Full content available upon request

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Out with the Old!

Sorry, wrong address. We've changed our web address!! Our website— futureinourhandsusa.org— is now fiohusa.org! We've updated the web address, look, and content on FIOH-USA's official website. Along with the new edition of the Harambee, videos, FAQs, information on our four sustainable pillars, current project information and more have been added to the website. There is so much to learn from our website, so go check it out! Use your phone's camera to scan the QR code to the right or search for fiohusa.org to go to our website.

In with the New!

Looking for feel-good content? Our new website isn't the only thing to be excited about. FIOH-USA is now on TikTok! Go follow us @futureinourhands_usa for event announcements, organization information, and impact-focused content. For people who are considering a donation, we encourage you to learn what FIOH-USA is all about. For current donors, we encourage you to follow us on TikTok to see the impact your donation has made in people's daily lives. Either way, you can see the benefit of our efforts for yourself. Haven't donated before? Use the new website by clicking the button in the top right corner.

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LINET ALUMA PARTICIPATES IN ECHO CONFERENCE



Linet Aluma, our FIOH-Angelic Ark partner from Kisii, Kenya was supported with help from our donors to attend the "best practices" conference held in Ethiopia in June of this year. Conference topics included ecologically sound farming techniques, use of fertilizers, planting herbs and vegetables with seeds specific to climate and soil types, and water conservation.

After Linet first attended the ECHO conference in 2023, she prepared a Black Fly proposal that was then funded. A screened shed with shelves for resting the black flies was built. The flies lay eggs, the eggs become maggots and eventually some of the maggots become flies. Most of the maggots are collected and dried for chicken feed. The waste from the flies and maggots is collected and used for fertilizer. This self-sustaining project continues during the summer months and has been extremely successful.

We are waiting for the next proposal that Linet will "hatch up" for a project from the information she learned this year. Linet also plans to share the knowledge she gained with our FIOH-Kenya partners in Kisumu, Kenya.

Future In Our Hands-USA is a 501c3, tax exempt organization. FIOH-USA funds social and economic projects that foster human dignity and sustainable development in East Africa. We have close and personal relationships with those we serve.

Donations in Memory of and in Honor of



In Memory of

Katherine Gutheil by Louise Heubusch
Celeste Kersten by Louise Heubusch
Ida McPhee by Louise Heubusch
MaryJo Calucci by Louise Heubusch
Lambert deGraffenried by Alicia deGraffenried

Please consider a donation to FIOH-USA in honor of or in memory of your loved ones.

GOT CANS? Drop them off at XTRA Dime Back



Western New York locals can bring redeemable cans and bottles to 1041 Englewood Avenue, Kenmore, New York to Xtra Dime Back and donate your returns to #67, Future in Our Hands - USA. This charitable-oriented company supports many organizations in their efforts to obtain monies for their organization. Bring your cans and bottles in now and designate #67 for Future in Our Hands - USA as your donation of choice. Thank you.

XTRA DIME BACK
1041 ENGLEWOOD AVE.
KENMORE, NEW YORK
TELL THEM THE CANS ARE FOR #67 FUTURE IN OUR HANDS



Donating to FIOH-USA has never been easier

You can donate from anywhere, any time, with these 2 secure and simple options:

Donate online: Visit fiohusa.org > click donate > that's it!

Donate by mail: Mail donations to:
FIOH-USA
% Mary Ellen Dye
88 Huntington Court
Williamsville, NY 14221

100% of your donation goes to our projects. Thank you for your generosity.

Let's get social >>>

Do you know the best place to get updates, stories and pictures of the impact your donation is making? Our Facebook and Instagram pages! If you're not already following us on Facebook and Instagram, Here's how.

Facebook: **Either** log into Facebook and use the search icon to search for "fiohusa" OR click here to go directly to facebook.com/fiohusa. **Then click the LIKE button.**

Instagram: Either log into Instagram and use the search icon to search for "fiohusa" OR click here to go directly to instagram.com/fiohusa. **Then click the FOLLOW button.**

DONATE ONLINE NOW

Click here and receive the joy of helping others! It's safe and secure.