

# The Represent Foundation



# 2023 Annual Report

January 11, 2024

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## Our Mission

The Represent Foundation aims to increase access to higher education for students from Malawi. We do this through a combination of mentoring, advocacy, and financial support. We believe that representation from diverse backgrounds enriches the college experience for all.

## Progress

### Fundraising and Disbursement

In 2023, we raised \$12,089.60 and disbursed \$5,481.12 to nine students at six schools.

- \$5,000 Beacom Family Foundation Grant
- \$6,000 Cambridge Charitable Foundation Grant
- \$900.29 from a partnership with Eliza Buckman at Melaleuca Wellness
- \$175 from individual donors
- \$14.31 through sales of *Lucky: An African Student, An American Dream, and a Long Bike Ride*. (Half the proceeds of each sale, \$1.64–\$1.71, go to the Foundation.)

### Milestones

- Doubled our fundraising outcomes, including two major grants and a recurring donor.
- Recruited seven new Represent Scholars.
- Established a partnership with Peace Corps Malawi to aid in recruitment efforts.
- Completed a Monitoring & Evaluation report to gauge the efficacy of our program.
- Established a social media presence on four platforms.

## Outcomes

Through full and partial scholarships, as well as stipends for school supplies, we helped nine students pursue tertiary education for a year.



**Mervis  
Chiotha**

Mzuzu University  
B.A., Communication  
Studies



**Edward  
Matchaya**

Livingstonia University  
B.S., Food Security &  
Nutrition



**Mary  
Makwani**

Don Bosco Youth Technical  
Institute  
Carpentry & Joinery



**Landas  
Wilson**

Lilongwe University of  
Agriculture and Natural  
Resources (LUANAR)  
B.S., Agricultural Extension



**Ralph  
Chitemango**

LUANAR  
B.S., Horticulture &  
Landscaping



**Charles  
Raja**

LUANAR  
B.S., Communications &  
Journalism



**Jack  
Chanza**

Catholic University of  
Malawi  
Diploma, Statistics



**Ibra  
Sipolo**

Malawi University of Science  
& Technology  
B.S., Chemical Engineering



**Alex  
Makuluni**

LUANAR  
B.S., Horticulture &  
Landscaping Design



In June, Founder Brooke Marshall visited Malawi and met with Peace Corps Malawi Country Director Amber Lucero-Dwyer and Associate Director of Education Michael Kumwenda to tell them about The Represent Foundation. They established a partnership between the two organizations. Peace Corps Volunteers will now serve as our primary recruitment pipeline, giving us a broader reach within Malawi.

Brooke Marshall and Michael Kumwenda outside the Peace Corps office.

Brooke also got to meet with some of the current Represent Scholars – after all, it’s much more meaningful to connect with people face-to-face rather than over WhatsApp.



Left: Brooke and Ibra Sipolo outside Chikweo Community Day Secondary School.

Right: Jack Chanza, Brooke, and Alex Makuluni outside African Heritage in Zomba.

Finally, Brooke had a chance to speak with students at Chikweo CDSS, where she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer English teacher from 2013–2015. She told them about The Represent Foundation and encouraged them to apply.



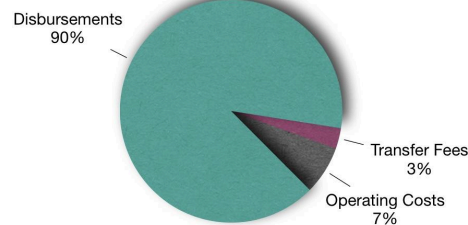
On the digital side, representfoundation.org had 668 unique visitors, a 126% increase from the previous year, and a total of 725 visits, a 120% increase from 2022. We also established our social media presence; our Facebook page has 1 follower, Instagram 13, X 21, and LinkedIn 48.

## Financials

Money In	
Grants	\$11,000
Donations	\$1,075
Sales of <i>Lucky</i>	\$14
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$12,090</b>

Year-End Balance	
Starting Balance	\$5,856
Money In	\$12,090
Money Out	\$6,092
<b>Year-End Balance</b>	<b>\$11,854</b>

Money Out	
Disbursements	\$5,481
Transfer Fees	\$181
Operating Costs	\$430
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$6,092</b>



## 2024 Goals

- Partner with an American university to create a scholarship program for two Malawian students to attend for at least one year.
- Update representfoundation.org to look more modern and professional.
- Grow our social media presence; get at least 100 followers on each platform.

## Acknowledgements

The Represent Foundation wishes to thank the Cambridge-Smith Family Foundation, the Beacom Family Foundation, Eliza Buckman/Melaleuca, Kimberley Ladue, Laura Stipanowich, and Allison S. for their generous support. Thanks also to everyone who bought a copy of *Lucky*. Very special thanks to Doug Black, who gamely spent two nights in a Malawian village and one night in the bush, rode public transportation and village bikes, and ate nsima (with a fork).