



Sawa

Quarter 3, 2025 Impact Report



The Problem:

In rural Kenya, persistent poverty, limited access to quality education, and systemic barriers disproportionately affect children, youths (especially girls and young women) and families. This results in stagnant literacy and numeracy outcomes, high school dropout rates—especially among girls due to early marriages, pregnancy, and menstruation challenges—and widespread youth unemployment. 35% of young people are unable to secure jobs despite completing basic schooling.

Sawa Africa works in Western Kenya to provide resources and skills for families to thrive in education, community economic development and wellness.

Our Solution

Sawa Approach to the communities we serve is through these 3 areas:



Education



Economic Development



Community Wellness

Sawa Africa works in rural communities of Kisumu and HomaBay County.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

We are filled with gratitude and pride for how far we've come together.

This season has been one of growth, learning, and visible progress toward our year-end goals. Programs across education and youth empowerment have continued to expand, reaching more learners, and young people than ever before.

I have spent the last 9 months learning and strengthening our systems through the Collaborative Initiative at Issroff Family Foundation. I am thankful for our partners at Partners for Equity who made this possible.

Each milestone in this report reflects your steadfast support and the shared belief that transformation happens when we invest in people and communities. With just one quarter left in the year, our team is more energized than ever to finish strong—and to carry this momentum into an even more impactful year ahead.

Thank you for continuing to walk alongside us in this journey of hope and growth.

Dorothy Dulo
Founder & Executive Director



EDUCATION – SOMASAWA

SomaSawa means learn/educate well to thrive. That is the mission of the program, to ensure that learners receive the support they need to thrive in their education journey. We do this by up-skilling teachers using evidence based innovative interventions.

MILESTONES & IMPACT IN SOMASAWA

91%

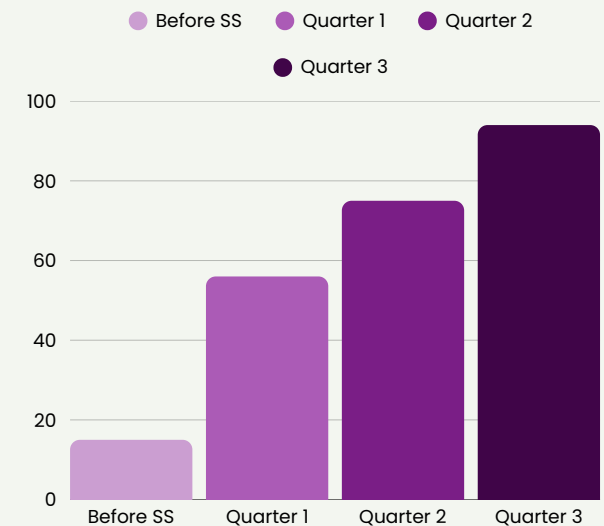
of our learners progressing from at least one level of literacy and numeracy to the next higher level across all program levels. 1342 in ECDE, 749 in Grade 1 and 922 in Grade 3-6 participated.

12 points

Students at SomaSawa supported schools scored an average of 12 points higher in National assessments after 1 year of implementation and continue to improve every year.

99%

punctual attendance by teachers to all classroom sessions to ensure high and consistent outcomes for learners



ECDE Learners progress towards meeting 1st grade nationally required or above competency levels. Learners joining Grade 1 with all required skills and competencies have a higher chance of successfully completing High School.

PROGRAM UPDATE: EDUCATION – SOMASAWA

The SomaSawa Program served a total of 25 schools in Kisumu West and Kisumu East sub-counties. In August, a refresher training was conducted for 50 ECDE teachers to strengthen their instructional skills and enhance classroom delivery.

Learners in ECDE, Grade 1, and upper primary (Grades 3–6) have continued to demonstrate significant improvement in both literacy and numeracy through the SomaSawa Innovation. Additionally, upper primary literacy learners have successfully transitioned to the advanced literacy cycle, reflecting steady academic progress and the program's positive impact on learning outcomes. Learners are able to read their subject text books and story books.

STORIES FROM SOMASAWA

At Robert Ouko School, **teacher Kevin**, who is also a ward coordinator in Otonglo zone, has an older boy who should be in grade 3 but, due to truancy, he's in ECD. Teacher Kevin's **active implantation** of the SomaSawa program has made this **learner to love school** and **improve in school attendance and reading**.

At Omung'i Primary School, **Madam Gladys** has been observing a special learner, Angel. Although Angel has a disability, she is very active. The teacher reports **noticeable improvement** in tAngel, with her **self-confidence growing** each day. Angel is now **able to count** numbers using sticks.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – YOUTH HUB

The Youth Hub provides skill and social entrepreneurship training to youths and young women. At least 85% of youths enrolled in all programs are girls. Graduates are supported to secure jobs or to start social enterprises.

Training offered in the past includes tailoring, photography, videography, Community Health Work, IT, and culinary arts. The Youth Hub also supports our High School and College students with mentoring, scholarships and other needs.

PROGRAM UPDATE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Over the past three months, our focus has been on preparing our 12th-grade students for their upcoming National Exams in November. These exams are a pivotal milestone, determining college admission opportunities for our students. Our students have worked diligently, supported by dedicated teachers and mentors. They approach the exams with confidence in their knowledge, skills, and preparation.

STORIES FROM THE YOUTH HUB

Quiet and reserved, yet remarkably focused and bright, Beldine has consistently ranked in the top 10% of her class since Kindergarten. Beyond her academic excellence, she's also a gifted singer who helps lead the girls' choir with confidence and grace. As she prepares for her upcoming exams, Beldine shares,

"I am confident in my work and studies. I have worked hard and I'm ready for the exams. I know God will see me through and help me secure good grades. I want to become a journalist. I am thankful to Sawa Africa for helping me through high school, and to all the donors who give generously to ensure we have a good education. May God bless you."

Beldine represents many other girls that Sawa supports in the Youth Hub program. Her story is a beautiful reminder of what your support makes possible –transforming potential into purpose and dreams into reality.



SAWA UPDATES

MEET UP AT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our Director, Dorothy Dulo, had the opportunity to attend United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York in September.

She was able to:

- Network and seek partnership opportunities with other like minded leaders in the education and social change space.
- Learn from global activists and policy makers about strategies and perspectives on solving complex problems like poverty, education and economic development.
- Attend UNGA side events and network with other donors, government officials, and corporate officials.

We are very grateful and appreciate the support of **Mighty Ally**, who made it possible for our Director to attend UNGA.



Gathering with other leaders in the Issroff Family Foundation Network

SAWA UPDATES

CHALLENGES

Fundraising and budget constraints

We have a financial constraint with a gap of \$50,000. We have launched a targeted year-end fundraising focused on closing this gap.

Program expansion and quality

As we grow our reach to more schools, maintaining high-quality support for teachers and learners remains of high priority. We plan to strengthen partnerships with local education offices to streamline training and monitoring; and invest in additional volunteers and part-time support to fill key program needs during peak periods. And also prioritize data collection and feedback loops to ensure that expansion does not compromise program quality.

SUCCESSES

We have successfully implemented the SomaSawa program in the Early Childhood Development program across all 25 participating centers, strengthening school readiness and improving the competencies of learners transitioning into Grade 1.

We also continued to refine and contextualize our SomaSawa innovation, ensuring that each learning level—ECDE, Grades 1–2, and Grades 3–6—receives tailored literacy and numeracy support that meets their unique needs.

Together, these efforts are helping learners build a strong foundation for lifelong learning and setting them on a path toward long-term academic success



In their own words...

“

I love the afternoon activities in English. They have enabled me to read words and make simple sentences.

”

Natasha, Grade 1 learner at Rweya Primary School



“

My learners enjoy the intervention activities. The interventions have helped me track my learners ability to read, write and solve numeracy problems. There has been a great improvement in my learners . I have adopted the intervention in my normal lessons.

”

Teacher Teresa at Rweya Primary School



“

The intervention has given me an easy time to handle my learners in different levels. My learners enjoy the sessions and I also use them during my classroom lessons enhancing easy content delivery.

”

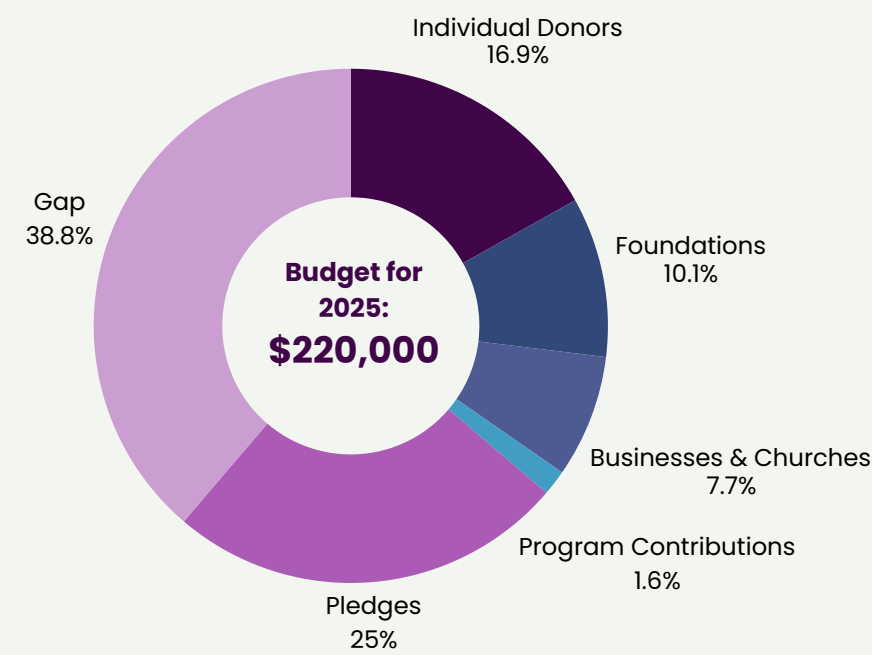
In-school mentor Ochare, Okago Primary School



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Income – \$79,750

for the 9 months ended September 30, 2025
The funding gap for the remainder of 2025 is \$89,240



*Our original budget for 2025 was \$280,000. Based on actual income, we readjusted this to be \$220,000

Expenses

for the 9 months ended September 30, 2025

Education – SomaSawa & LHA	32,532
Economic Development	16,860
Community Wellness	2,681
Program Expenses	52,073
Administrative Expenses	17,401
Fundraising	2,625
TOTAL EXPENSES	72,099

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Donate to **support our teacher training cost** of \$85,000 in 2026.
- We're seeking to **fill our budget gap** for 2025. Our goal is to raise \$50,000
- We'd love you to **share this report** with your networks – it helps raise our profile and grow our organization.

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