

Alliance for African Assistance – Kenya (AAA-K)

Alliance for African Assistance - San Diego

Mr Walter Lam CEO of Alliance for African Assistance USA identified the need to assist refugees in Kenya. In 2019, he identified a vibrant group of board members and appointed Ms Krupa Acharya as the Country Representative for AAA – Kenya.

AAA-Kenya's focus is to work with multiple and diverse Non-Profit Organizations. Our objective is to provide complimentary services identified by the various country directors of existing NGO's within and around the country.

We aim to direct all our efforts to serve the 'Youth' who are refugees, internally displaced people (IDP's) and Kenyans. Currently Kenya is host to refugees, asylum seekers, and IDP's from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan, Somalia, Congo and Burundi at the Dadaab 218,873 people, Kakuma and Kalobeyei over 188,816 people and Urban camps in all the major cities of Kenya with 80,750 people. In addition, Kenya has an over 75% 'Youth' population which is between the age of 18 – 35 years graduates, jobless and or aspiring entrepreneurs. The young women and men, some of whom are 'Youth' leaders face high risks and need our support to channel their energy to serve their communities.

Alliance for African Assistance – Kenya's team (AAA-K)

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2019 we strategically embarked on identifying the gaps and needs of the 'Youth' with assistance from UNHCR and GIZ. We adopted the approach of Focused Group Sessions to identify the gaps and needs and embarked on a series of customized training sessions.

Team at AAA - Kenya

Our Team of CEO, Country Representative, Program Coordinator and Board Members



Dipti Fernandes – CEO AAA-Kenya

Dipti's career started in tertiary education to manpower and capacity building of personnel and organizations. Through recruitment, training and management consultancy at **Cresco Skills Development Ltd** her passion is to 'Develop People'. Believing that every individual has an inherent capacity to either enter the world of work or become an entrepreneur. Her passion stems from the philosophy of 'Work Integrated Learning, Student Centred Learning, Teaching the Practice of Management through case pedagogy, and ISO standards.

Previously, she has served both in the tertiary education sector at the **Australian Studies Institute and United States International University – Africa**. She pioneered the **1st international conference in 2018 titled ‘Igniting the employment revolution in East Africa’** in collaboration with high level delegates from the South African Society for Cooperative Education - SASCE, Policy Makers from the Ministry of Higher Education – Kenya and South Africa, USIU-Africa and Kenyan counterparts. She holds a MBA from USIU and has continuously applied various professional qualifications from, Gordon Institute of Business Schools – SA, AUSI, Bureau Veritas and the South African Institute for Objects Conservation – SA. She is a friend of the Rotary Club of Nairobi and a member of the Kenya Quilt Guild and SA Guild of Objects Restorers and Conservators.

Krupa Acharya – Country Representative



Krupa transferred from AAA – San Diego to establish the AAA – K’s chapter in 2019. She is a program manager with experience in non-profit organizations both locally and internationally. She brought her expertise in organizing fund raising and writing grants. Hands on experience in implementing programs related to gender-based-violence, youth issues in underserved communities. Member of technical working groups – NGO’s, donor meetings, local businesses and relevant government agencies in California to assist refugees with employment opportunities.

Her love and passion to serve humanity in Afghanistan, together with international experience from Wilson Fish in fund raising, networking and establishing working relationships with ‘Youth’ Initiatives in Kenya. She has built a working partner relationship with UNHCR and GIZ. Successfully launched the various projects detailed below. Her background is in social science and holds a master’s degree form American University in International Service with a focus on International Development, Youth Development within the space of Non – Profit Management and organizational development. Krupa is multi-talented with a bachelor’s degree in Business administration with a focus on computer information systems, web design and computer programming.



Cleophas Kipruto – Program Coordinator - AAA – Kenya

Jenna Lochoff – Intern – American University



Hermela Amdeta – Intern – American University

Hermela Amdeta is an intern for AAA-K for the Spring 2021 semester. She is currently a student finishing her final semester at American University in Washington, DC. At American, she is studying to receive a Bachelor of Arts degree in public health with a minor in health promotion. Her interests lie in minority health, social & behavioural health, and community health and interventions. She has held internship positions where she was able to work both on the local and national levels. These positions allowed her to work on web-based health promotion programs, to work directly with refugees, and to communicate with major research institutions across the United States. She hopes to use these experiences to be able to contribute to sustainable community-based interventions in the future.

AAA – Kenya Board Members

David Hasties

Joyce Klu – Chairperson at AAA - Kenya



Joyce Klu is a Kenyan national and the current chair of Alliance for African Assistance-Kenya. She is also the former secretary of the Rotary club of Nairobi-Gigiri 2018-2019. She has a master's degree in chemical engineering. Her career encompasses consultancy, design and social entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa. Her

expertise is in water, sanitation and waste management.

Joyce is an independent environmental consultant and has provided consultancy services for various organisations including the World Bank, UN-Habitat, GIZ, WasteAware, Resources and Waste Advisory Group, among others. Additionally, she is the founder and CEO of Mobile Alert Toilets, a social business that provides safe sanitation for the poor and vulnerable in the urban slums of Kenya.



Monica Kinyua has been instrumental in providing training on Peace Building and Dialogue. She is the founding member of Child Peace Initiative. She is a Rotary Ambassadorial scholar with a master's degree in Peace Studies from the University of San Diego. Her undergraduate degree in Social Ministry which enabled her to develop her peace building skills as a consultant with Caritas Marsabit and Maralal working with the Pokot, Samburu, Turkana, Gabra, Boran and Rendile pastoral communities in Kenya.



Dr Joseph Nyanchama, Director of Dreaan Africa Forum Ltd. He envisions transforming followers into leaders and subsequently into agents of change. His mission is to transform the latent energy in Kenyan people and others in the rest of the world into active energy to enable them to live a fulfilled life.

Doctorate in Humanity, MBA in Finance and Banking, BE , a Professional Accountant and Member of the Institute of Certified Public Accountant of Kenya (ICPAK), member of the Institute of Directors (Kenya), a Professional Public Secretary (CPS), a Certified Trainer, a Certified Integrity Assurance Officer, has been a lecturer at Moi Institute of Technology, has been a part-time lecturer at both Kenya Polytechnic and University of Nairobi, a Motivational Speaker, director Alliance for Africa Assistance (Kenya), former Investment Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Kenya Pipeline Pension Schemes among other responsibilities.

He has authored and published over sixty articles in various journals and magazines on 'Character Development', 'Ethics & Integrity', 'Personal Development, Leadership and

Governance. In addition, Joseph has facilitated in many seminars and conferences similar topics.

What AAA – Kenya does?

AAA – Kenya's focus is to provide support and complimentary capacity building services. Under the dedicated stewardship of Ms Krupa Acharya and our working partners – we identified 'Youth Leaders' amongst refugees, IDP's and Young Kenyans for physical and on-line trainings, events, seminars' and workshops. Below is a brief on our activities:

- **'Capacity Building Training'** Initially, the organization started by providing Software App training to the youth and through that the participants were able to design mobile app. During COVID-19 there was a lot of job redundancy and the organization were able to provide online zoom capacity building training to the youth. Trainings such a CV Writing, Entrepreneurship, Social Innovation and Technology, Social Media, Meditation and taking care of one's self during COVID-19 and many more trainings. Additionally, the team in collaboration with the UNHCR organized events such as International Youth Day, World Mental Health Day, International Peace Day, and International Day of People with Disabilities.
- **'Peace Building and Conflict Dialogue'** despite the Covid-19 Pandemic. We have trained 30 participants on what it means to be the creators of Peace with its multi-faceted complex circumstances and issues.
- **'Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support (MHPSS)** as working partner with the UNHCR and other refugee implementing partners. This initiative has now partnered with the Ministry of Health – Kenya. The Government of Kenya is keen to focus on Refugees, IDP's and Kenyan Youth specifically on 'Psychology First Aid, Quality Rights and Suicide Prevention' under the banner of MHPSS.
- **Solar cookers – supplied to refugees managed by UNHCR** to learn the power of our sun, use cookers built on the ground, and enjoy nutritious food without the burden of additional costs.
- **Regular training sessions on seeking and securing employment.** 2021 February we launched a 4-part 90-minute comprehensive training on 'Personal Branding'. This will enable a pilot group of learners to develop their Unique Personal Brands leading up to effective preparedness to apply for employment or seek funding for a unique entrepreneurial potential. Going forward will pave the way for adopting and harnessing the Work Integrated Learning Model developed by University of Cincinnati.