

Digital generation. Our generation.

MICROSOFT MENTORS
HELP BRIDGE
THE DIGITAL DIVIDE
IN KENYA

20
22





Rose Kabura Kamau
Daystar University, Bachelor of Science in Nursing
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

Mentorship for me has not only been a life changing experience but also a period of growth in technology, economics, and my social life. It has expanded and sharpened my mind about the world of today. My mentor, Jessica, has helped me understand the survival mechanisms and the discipline one must acquire to sustain oneself and live with others peacefully. I am grateful to be a beneficiary of the Global Give Back Circle.



Jessica Afeku
Sr. Product Marketing Manager — Security

Mentoring Rose has inspired me in ways I could not have fathomed. As a first generation Ghanaian American, Rose unknowingly mentors me—reminding me of our connection to the continent and how important it is to cherish and celebrate our culture. In addition to her enthusiasm and zeal for life, her fearlessness and curiosity intrigues me every time we connect. There is never a topic too big or too small for us to discuss. I can only hope to inspire her as much as she inspires me.

january

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 New Year's Day
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Lohri	14	15
16	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

magdalene



Magdalene Cheptoo
High School, Starehe Girls' Centre

My relationship with Alice Ancel has been an eye opener. The most significant part of it is when she encouraged me to put into writing my reflections, fears, doubts, and goals. This has helped me envision my future and work towards it. It has also helped me to continue journeying forward. She has influenced my increasing love for family and I cherish every moment with them. Alice has inspired me to face my fears, especially academically and strategize how to better my grades. Her mentorship has helped improve my perception of life.



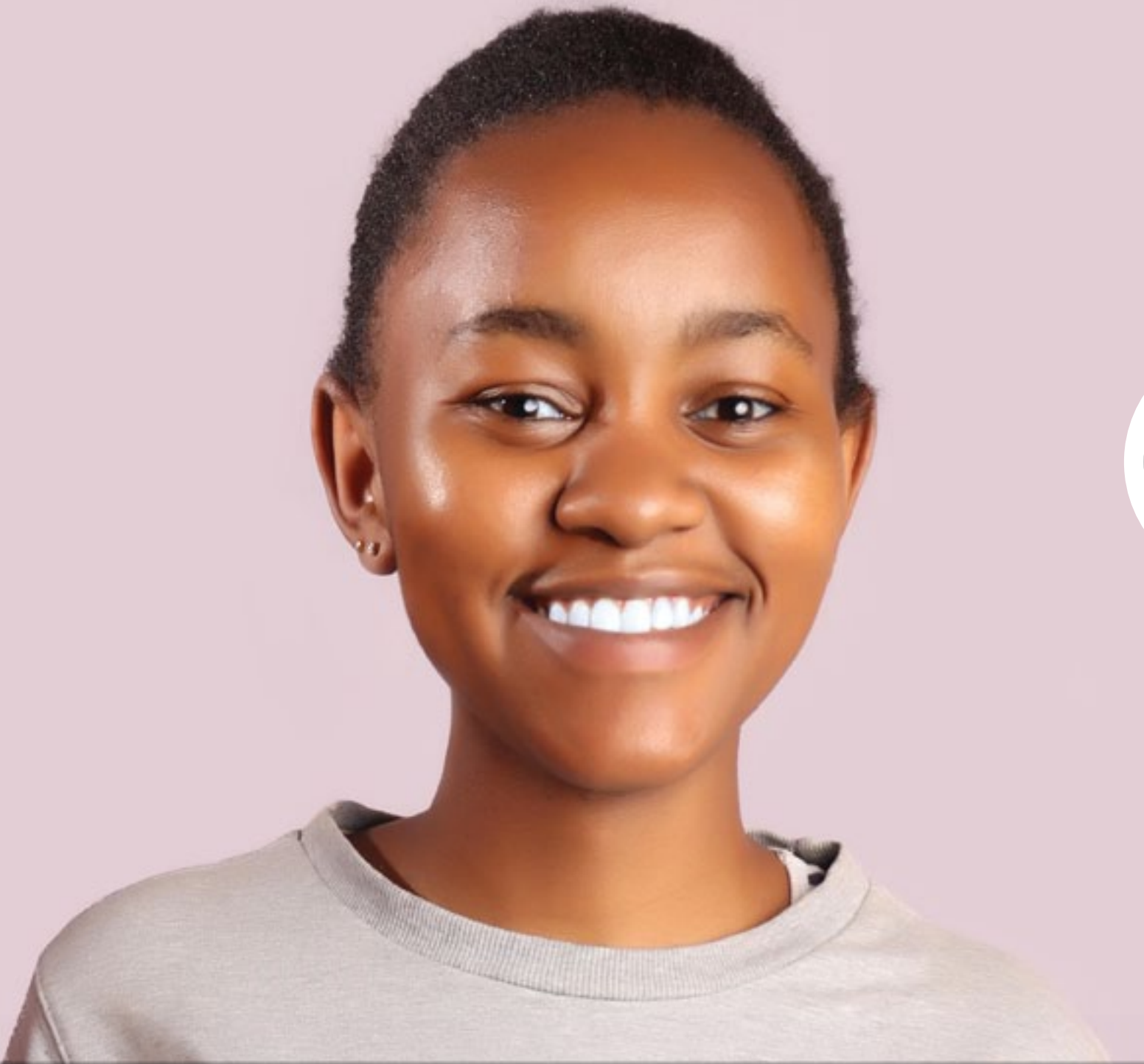
Alice Ancel
Sr. Partner –
Development Manager

Magdalene is a bright student who impressed me with her first letter. She is determined to succeed and dedicated to working hard. While supporting her family she focuses on furthering her education to have a successful career. Mentoring Magdalene has inspired me to evaluate my own successes and challenges.

february

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 President's Day	22 Groundhog Day	23	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12

miriam



Miriam woki Kironji
Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture
and Technology, bachelor's degree in
Geospatial Information Science
High School: Kisaruni Secondary School

I am different since meeting my mentor, Christina. She is fully engaged in my development and success. Technology allows us to communicate weekly. We both look forward to sharing our experiences and perspectives. She inspires me to remain focused and pursue my dreams. This mentorship experience is something I hold dear. Christina has shown me that my life has endless possibilities.



Christina Verdurmen
Integrated Marketing Communications Lead,
Xbox Canada @ Microsoft

The highlight of my week is receiving a message from Miriam. My daughter looks forward to my sharing her updates too. While the global pandemic created setbacks and changes for many, Miriam continued to persevere and complete her first year of college. She builds on the strength within herself and her family and has shown me how to appreciate life's experiences. Demonstrating the value of mentorship beyond our relationship, Miriam works with the youth in her own community. She is an exceptional woman who will go far!

march

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 Saint Patrick's Day	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



Dalvin Lukoye
Moi University, Bachelor of Chemical Engineering
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

I was on a journey to become the best version of myself. My mentor, Isa, had a welcoming demeanor and our relationship developed. Thankful for the flexibility of technology, we were able to communicate regularly. Isa encouraged me to ask questions and readily shared her experiences. Learning from Isa's life lessons, I began to shift my perspective and realize that I am in the process of growing into greatness.



Isa Loundon Flaherty
Senior Communications Manager

Dalvin constantly surprises me. We share experiences, ideas, and life events. She is a young woman who knows her own emotional landscape, is not afraid to face challenges, and evolve from them. Dalvin's generous heart encompasses family, community, and people she has never met. While I am helping to provide Dalvin an education for her scientific mind, it is she who is teaching me many things I'd forgotten or never known. I am proud to be on this journey with her.

IT's all about

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Passover begins Good Friday	16
17 Easter	18 Easter Monday	19	20	21	22	23 Passover ends
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2 Eid al-Fitr Labour Day	2 Eid al-Fitr	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7



Faith Nduku
Machakos University,
Bachelor of Education Science
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

Mentorship has been the best and awesome thing to have been involved in. It's through this I have been able to view my life a successful one. I have also learned that the little I have matters for I don't require much wealth for me to help someone else. I will forever be grateful to have met and be matched to my mentor Michelle.



Michelle Chang
Vice President/CO
Modern Work & Security

Mentoring Faith has changed my perspective on life and parenting. A lifelong learner, Faith is transitioning from high school to university with a focus on the sciences and nursing. Through our discussions, I learned how hard it is to navigate the Kenyan educational system. She is so filled with resilience, faith, and strength. She is so well-spoken and has such an admirable desire to work hard to better herself, her family, and her community. Faith's triumphs bring tremendous joy to my family. We hope to meet her one day.

may

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
1	2 Eid al-Fitr begins Labour Day	3 Eid al-Fitr ends	4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7
8 Mother's Day	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day	31	1 Madaraka Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

christine



Christine Kalombo
Chuka University,
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science.
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

Mentorship has been life changing. My mentor, Shweta, helped me understand my worth and value as a woman. Technology is giving me the opportunity to realize the numerous possibilities in this life. There is a scarcity of computer skills in Kenya. Becoming a computer engineer will enable me to find a position in a field that is in high demand that will secure a future for me and my family.



Shweta Sangani
Sr Program Manager
Microsoft

The first thing I noticed about Christine was her confidence. Christine made good use of our time, focusing on career choices that would lead to success. Over the course of our relationship, mentorship turned to friendship. We are friends who share our experiences and learn from each other. As Christine focuses on becoming a computer engineer, she is an inspiration to the women and girls around her, setting an example of what is possible.

June

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
29	30 Memorial Day	31	1 Madaraka Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Father's Day Juneteenth Day	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9

faith



Faith Boigo
KCA University,
Bachelor of Science in Applied Computing
High School: St Elizabeth High School

Regardless of our title or years of experience we can learn from each other. Through mentorship and by being open to learn, we can reach our ultimate potential. Technology is at its best when it comes to bringing people together. My mentor is a brain to pick, an ear to listen and a push in the right direction regardless of my geographical location.



Wairimu Gachara
Customer Success Manager,
Microsoft Tech for Social Impact Africa

Faith is independent, smart and a joy to interact with. She has a particular calmness about her and takes time to think through her actions and decisions. I can immediately tell she will be successful as a leader in our society. When I look at Faith, I see a successful young woman striving for excellence. Her boldness reflects back on me, reminding me to always be a professional and to seek greatness.

july

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4 Independence Day	5	6	7	8	9 Eid al-Adha
10 Eid al-Adha	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

melvin



Melvin Akuku Isenya
University of Nairobi,
Bachelor of Economics and Statistics
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

My relationship with Emily is a blessing. Today's technology allows us to have frequent interactions. With her guidance, I am consciously practicing self-awareness. Learning to evaluate and align my passions and goals, I am working harder both academically and strengthening my personal relationships. I have been matched with an amazing human being.



Emily Rose Coates
Cybersecurity Analyst

Melvin has her own way of seeing the world. It is filled with curiosity, kindness, and love. Together, we're striving to make her world a reality. A young woman with opinions and passions, she articulates with confidence and without fear. Continuing her studies, she feels empowered to fulfill her goals and aspirations as she manifests a successful future. Melvin has shown me that no matter where you are, no matter the diversity you face, you can live with curiosity, kindness and love.

tsngne
august

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

kavulani



Kavulani Ashney Isavwa
Kenyatta University,
Bachelor of Civil Engineering
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

My relationship with my mentor has been life changing. With Jaciguara's guidance, I have been able to grow as a modern woman. She has shared her life lessons. Showing her support, she has connected me to resources and helped me work on my weaknesses. I am resourceful and planning for the future. My mentor has empowered me and provided me with a vision of what is possible.



Jaciguara Santos Shibao
Partner Development Director
Microsoft Latin America

It is inspiring to see my mentee grow and overcome her challenges. Connecting during the Pandemic, we shared our perspectives on managing our feelings while dealing with uncertainty. Focusing on her education, Kavulani had the strength to continue to move forward. Amazed at our similarities and learning from our differences, we enjoy discussing each other's cultural celebrations and our love of books. It is a joy to encourage Kavulani's dreams and aspirations.

September

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Rosh Hashanah begins	26	27 Rosh Hashanah ends	28	29	30	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8

cynthia



Cynthia Makhoha

In memory of Cynthia who fell victim to gender-based Violence in October 2021.

Look at that vibrant, kind face! I was so fortunate to have been her mentor. She was very concerned about doing well in school and focusing, and she enjoyed many hobbies, like cooking, too. She last wrote to me just a few days before the break, and I was looking forward to replying and finding out about her time with family.

Although Cynthia attended school in Nairobi at Kibera Girls Soccer Academy (KGSA), her people are from the western part of Kenya. It was an amazing moment when Cynthia and I uncovered that we had common roots as descendants of the Luhya people of western Kenya. It was such a treasure to bond over common beginnings.

Cynthia was an important person. And no murderer can diminish her light. We are motivated to make her shine even more brightly as we speak out against Gender-Based Violence in her memory.



Khetiwe Chitewere

If Cynthia Makhoha could provide her own narrative she would say her mentor, Khetiwe, was a friend that she trusted and helped her through important life decisions. Her school tells us that she was growing in confidence as her communication skills were flourishing and she was emboldened to reach for her dreams.

October

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2	3	4 Yom Kippur begins	5 Yom Kippur ends	6	7	8
9	10 Indigenous Peoples' Day Utamaduni Day	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20 Mashujaa Day	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4	5

adelide



Adelide Apiyo
Starehe Girls Centre

Mentorship for me has been a blessing. I am so grateful. Funmi has been a friend and my guide especially during the hard times and challenging situations that I have undergone. I love how she loves me and always finds time to engage with me through her busy schedule. I look forward to learning more from her.



Funmi Omoliki
Sr. Azure Data & AI Specialist

Adelide is a strong, determined young lady. Her curiosity and dedication to growth is inspiring. I was inspired to join GGBC when I attended a call on the organization and learned about the impact being made across the world. Being a mentor to Adelide has made me review and harness new shareable lessons from my experiences growing up in Nigeria to working at Microsoft US. It has been a pleasure knowing Adelide. I look forward to seeing her grow beyond her dreams.

November

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
30	31 Halloween	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Election Day	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
28	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

irene



Irene Wambui Ngigi
Kenyatta University,
Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance
High School: Starehe Girls' Centre

Molly is my role model. She is a lifelong learner and inspires me to work hard each day to become an influential person in society. Technology has had a profound impact on our mentorship. Using chat apps, we meet and talk several times a month. Molly encouraged me to take on-line courses. I have learned useful skills that are helping me prepare for my future. With Molly as my mentor, I feel supported, focused, and knowledgeable.



Molly O'Donnell
Director, Storytelling & Experiences
Customer Engagement Team (CET); Microsoft

Irene is an intelligent, committed college student. She is super focused on her goals, such as owning a car one day! She continually wants to know how she can be better, more successful, and learn from me and others. She has a grateful spirit and her upbeat communications leave me energized. One of my great joys in life is to spark energy in others. While I was eager to give in this relationship, what surprised me, is how much more I am getting from my mentee.

december

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Jamhuri Day	13	14	15	16	17
18 Chanukah begins	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day (Canada) Chanukah ends	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5	6	7

notes

JAN 2023	FEB 2023	MAR 2023	APR 2023
SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa
1234567	1234	1234	1
891011121314	567891011	567891011	2345678
15161718192021	12131415161718	12131415161718	9101112131415
22232425262728	19202122232425	19202122232425	16171819202122
293031	262728	262728293031	2324252627282930
MAY 2023	JUN 2023	JUL 2023	AUG 2023
SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa
123456	123	1	12345
78910111213	45678910	2345678	6789101112
14151617181920	11121314151617	9101112131415	13141516171819
21222324252627	18192021222324	16171819202122	20212223242526
28293031	252627282930	232425262728293031	2728293031
SEP 2023	OCT 2023	NOV 2023	DEC 2023
SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa	SuMoTuWeThFrSa
12	1234567	1234	12
3456789	891011121314	567891011	3456789
10111213141516	15161718192021	12131415161718	10111213141516
17181920212223	22232425262728	19202122232425	17181920212223
24252627282930	293031	2627282930	2425262728293031



GLOBAL GIVE BACK CIRCLE

Thank you for supporting Global Give Back Circle. From the very beginning our belief was that everyone, all over the world, wants to give back. Giving back is not just meant for people of privilege, it is quite the opposite. When it comes to giving back, we are all privileged.

We also believed that there were women in the world who wanted to give back in time and talent as mentors but needed a structure to be able to do this in a country which was oceans away. The Internet has flattened the world and today a woman sitting in her office in Seattle, New York, or Chicago, can mentor a girl in some of the world's most remote areas, via email, Skype, WhatsApp, Teams, and other communication platforms. There are now over 2,000 mentors in the Global Give Back Circle.

In East Africa, Global Give Back Circle is implemented by a team of alumina — empowered young women who at one time 'were that girl'. In addition, the program's beneficiaries are now stepping up to be benefactors and mentor the next generation of girls. As we enter our 16th year, Global Give Back Circle is coming full circle as we exercise the privilege of giving back.

Thank you again and have a spectacular 2022!

Sincerely,

The Global Give Back Circle Team

globalgivebackcircle.org

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