

REGIS UNIVERSITY
MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT PRACTICE

July 16, 2024

Dear Denver/Cherry Creek Rotary Foundation:

Thank you for your generous contribution of \$1000, which we have just received, to the Regis University Master of Development Practice (MDP) Rotary Scholarship for Global South Leadership. The Regis MDP is an innovative degree that equips students with the practical tools and mindsets to contribute to the sustainability of our planet and to the health and well-being of communities. Your participation in this collaboration between the Regis MDP and the 5280 Rotary WASH Action Group is allowing a worthy development practitioner from the Global South to get the benefit of advanced skills, mindset and credentials to deepen their impact in serving their community.

Our previous scholarship recipient, Abdul Rashid Wumpini Alhassan, unfortunately did not continue in the MDP program due to work constraints that kept him from fully participating. Nonetheless, we are pleased to share that Jill Ooko is the new recipient of the Rotary Scholarship for Global South Leadership. Jill's connection to Rotary began in 2022 when she volunteered for Sasa Harambee, an NGO in Western Kenya that, in collaboration with Rotary International, has constructed spring protections dispersed across the entire Sigomere Ward. Jill played a vital role in this project by monitoring 52 water spring protections, conducting regular water testing, documenting the results, and communicating the findings to stakeholders.

Jill recently completed her first year in the MDP program. She shared the following thoughts about her experience so far:



"The MDP program has been an eye-opening and transformative experience for me. It has made me realize my intellectual potential and my ability to contribute meaningfully to the world. The educational model is remarkably different from what I was accustomed to in Kenya and the professors are very supportive. Throughout the program, I have learned to integrate practical experience with theoretical knowledge, which has been useful in my career. I now understand that true development involves collaboration and learning to work effectively with others. I have also gained confidence in speaking up during classes, feeling that my contributions are valued and that my peers are genuinely interested in what I have to say."

Jill's commitment to improving her community through leadership, project management and collaboration makes her an excellent embodiment of our common mission and partnership.

Thank you for your contribution to the Rotary Scholarship for Global South Leadership that makes possible Jill Ooko's participation in the Regis MDP. I know we all look forward to following Jill's journey as she grows in her Global South leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nina Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nina Miller, PhD

Director

†5450, of course! My apologies for the typo.