

Justice Nest October 2025 Monthly Newsletter

 **Lighting the Way for Fair Justice**

Issue: JN010

NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON TRIAL ADVOCACY FOR ETHIOPIAN PUBLIC DEFENDERS

21ST - 24TH OCTOBER 2025, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA



Dear Friends,

This October, I basked in the pleasure of being among truly extraordinary people, public defenders. These are individuals who carry an unwavering passion for access to justice for all.

I spent a week in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, training public defenders attached to the Federal Supreme Court. Public defence work isn't glamorous, and it rarely pays well, yet it remains one of the most critical pillars of fair justice. It is the silent safeguard of dignity and due process for those who cannot afford representation.

The faculty from NITA, Jones Day, and DLA Piper poured out knowledge, skills, and wisdom but most of all, inspiration. As I watched them teach and share, I couldn't help but dream of the day we will have a Public Defenders Office in Kenya, a place where justice is not determined by privilege, but by principle.

Until then, we continue our work through Justice Nest, training prison-based paralegals who stand in that gap every day, ensuring that everyone who steps into court can tell their story because only then can a court truly make a fair decision.

We do this work because of you. Your belief in us fuels our vision and keeps justice alive where it's needed most.

As you plan your end-of-year giving, I hope Justice Nest will be on your list. Together, we can keep fairness within reach for all.

With gratitude and purpose,

Miriam Wachira

Founder & Executive Director
Justice Nest

Global Movement of Generosity



"Global Movement of Generosity." 

Your contribution helps restore dignity and freedom to women, youth, and families impacted by injustice. Through bail reductions, legal literacy, digital inclusion, and restorative justice programs, every donation helps turn second chances into lasting change.

This **Giving Tuesday (December 2nd, 2025)** and **End of Year Giving**, Justice Nest invites you, your friends and families to join the global movement of generosity.

When you give where justice restores, you're rebuilding lives, one act of compassion at a time.

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Bridging Justice & Digital Inclusion: Justice Nest Computer Aid



 **Martin Kimani & The Justice Nest Team**

Justice Nest is exploring a partnership with **Computer Aid International** to bridge the gap between **digital inclusion and access to justice**. In recent discussions with **Martin Kimani** from Computer Aid Kenya, both organizations identified opportunities to equip Justice Nest programs with refurbished computers, digital skills training, and tech-enabled hubs for legal literacy and reintegration.

The partnership will envision a future where digital access empowers justice-involved individuals. These are people in the **Prison Paralegal Program** and the **Children & Mothers Diversion & Restorative Justice Program** to have access to justice and rebuild their lives with dignity, knowledge, and opportunity. Together, Justice Nest and Computer Aid aim to make **technology a tool for justice and transformation**.

From the Mothers Diversion Program



 **Justice Nest Legal and Social Work Team with our Clients after a Release**

As we approach **Giving Tuesday**, we're reminded that sometimes, the most powerful form of justice begins with compassion, someone choosing to give.

Eileen (not her real name), a mother of one, found herself imprisoned over a **disputed debt of just Ksh 17,000 (USD 130)**, a small sum that carried devastating consequences. Earning only **Ksh 7,000 a month**, she was forcibly separated from her five-year-old son, her life unraveling under the weight of a system that too often punishes poverty. Her case, built on an incorrect amount owed, revealed the painful truth of how easily marginalized women can be trapped by injustice.

Our legal advocate had reached out to the complainant to negotiate with them, she was amenable to withdrawal the case only after receiving the money, but Eileen could not afford the money. Hence her extended stay in pretrial detention (prison).

"Nili fast siku 3 na nikamwambia Mungu, aki hii kesi, niondolee tu... sijui aje lakini najua utaniokoa,"
("I fasted for three days and told God to help clear the charges... I didn't know how, but I knew He would save me," Eileen shared.)

While appearing in court, a Good Samaritan upon hearing her story, stepped in and **paid off her debt in full**. The charges were dropped, and freedom came, from someone's act of kindness. Later, Eileen learned that her rescuer was none other than her neighbor, a reminder that healing begins when communities care.

Now free, Eileen is receiving **psychosocial support from Justice Nest**, helping her rebuild her life and restore her dignity. Her story shows why **giving matters**, why your contribution this Giving Tuesday can change the course of a life.

When you generously give and show your care, you make it possible for women like Eileen to find hope again, to reunite with their children, rebuild their lives, and rise to gain justice.



From the Prison Paralegal Program



 **Justice Nest Officer Paralegal Pc Brown with his Client**

At **Shimo La Tewa Prison**, Justice Nest's paralegal team continues to make real change through our Prison Paralegal Program.

This month, we're celebrating freedom of 28 people,

Meet Katua(not his real name), who had been held under bond he couldn't afford. With guidance from our paralegal team, his bond was reduced, and within days, Katua walked free, reunited with his family and ready to rebuild his life again.

He's one among many of our success stories this month, 28 to be precise. Four others from Mtwapa, **H.N., B.D., D.N., and C.N.**, were also released after our intervention led to fairer bail terms.

Each story is a reminder that we are a bridge, one built on humanity, hope, and second chances.

reminding us that justice
comes when it meets
compassion.

💛 *Every life restored reminds
us why we do what we do,
advancing a fair, family-centric
and accessible justice in Kenya.*

[Read more on our success stories →](#)



Volunteer Spotlight: Diana Gakinya



📸: **Ms. Diana Gakinya**

Diana Gakinya radiates calm confidence and quiet rebellion, our legal volunteer-lawyer who's here to change things, with humor in tow. Her passion for law was sparked when she helped reunite a parent and child, realizing that *justice can heal*.

She jokes that her life would be a Netflix series titled "Objection, Poverty!", as justice isn't always glamorous. Sometimes it's long hours, mountains of research, and clients breathing down your neck, all powered by a cuppa of caffeine and conviction.

Now awaiting her admission to the bar, Diana jokes that her first celebratory act will be to simply, to: "Get. A. Stamp!!!" she claims small victories are the loudest proof of persistence.

Driven by a mission to make justice empowering, Diana champions youth and women, helping them reclaim their voices and rewrite their stories. Her imagined superhero name, *The Impact Catalyst*, fits perfectly, a lady turning challenges into opportunities, one act of kindness at a time (and likely rocking a braided-hair-themed suit).

A mentor to young changemakers and a dreamer of equal playing field for the youth, Diana walks her justice journey with heels, humor, and hope.

Welcome to Justice Nest Family, Diana!

👉 Get to know them all on our website. <https://justicenest.org/team>



January - October 2025 Impact Overview



🙏 With Gratitude

As we close October and begin a new month starts, we're deeply grateful to our team, partners, donors, volunteers, and paralegals who make justice restorative. 🌱

Your support has reunited families, freed women, and restored dignity to hundreds.

This **Giving Tuesday (December 2nd, 2025)**, join us to **#GlobalMovementofGenerosity** and help more women, children and imprisoned individuals find justice, freedom, hope, and second chances.

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🎉 Upcoming Events: Anniversary Celebration 🎉



:Justice Nest Launch

Date: 5th December, 2025.

Theme: Celebrating & Fueling Impact.

We're thrilled to announce that **Justice Nest will mark its first anniversary on 5th December 2025!** 🧡

In just one year, we've seen compassion turn into action and advocacy into transformation. Together, we've **trained 33 paralegals, served 975 clients, and supported 179 releases** through our **Prison Paralegal Program**.

Through our **Children & Mothers Diversion and Restorative Justice Program, 67+ mothers** have been enrolled, **33+ released**, and **70+ children reunited**, bringing the total to **282 lives directly impacted**. 🌱

As we count down to this special day, we celebrate every story of dignity restored and justice reimaged. Stay tuned as we reflect, celebrate, and share how you can continue to **fuel impact where justice restores**.

You might also like:

Justice Nest restores rather than punishes by diverting mothers and children from

Justice Nest exists to address the overuse of imprisonment, long pretrial detentions, and

prison, empowering families, and equipping inmates with legal skills to access justice and rebuild lives.

[Our Focus Areas →](#)

lack of legal access that tear families apart and leave vulnerable children and the poor without justice.

[Why We Exist →](#)

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