

**CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP
PROPOSAL
FOR
MWACHABO RACING
TEAM**



“The only disability in life is a bad attitude”

Scott Hamilton

Living with Disability

Living with disabilities can be challenging. People who do not live with disabilities may have a difficult time understanding the plight of those who do. The personal stories of those living with disabilities can offer a refreshing perspective on the meaning of life and the triumph of enduring an entirely new way of living.

The Story of Matei and Mwaziro.

As Kenya was ushering in a new dawn at the time of independence 52 years ago, a baby boy took in his first breath of life in a desolate house deep in Taita Taveta. Born as a healthy baby, Matei bore the promise of long life full of vigor and resounding success in the eyes of his parents, despite their poverty at the time. However, a missed Polio vaccination appointment sealed his fate to the wheelchair at the tender age of seven.

Exactly 26 years later, a young woman was busy at work with her household chores. Her five-month pregnancy did little to deter her efforts to ensure that her family was well taken care of. In a cruel twist of fate, she slipped and fell on her already bulging belly, totally oblivious of what effect it would have on her unborn baby. Four months later, Mwaziro made his debut on the world stage and grew up as a normal baby would. However, after one year, he missed his walking milestones. A year turned into two, all this time he remained on his fours. After medical intervention, he was diagnosed with *Spina bifida*, which rendered him unable to use his spine for walking.

Mwachabo Racing Team

An offshoot of Mwachabo Persons with Disability Self Help Group, which is an entity committed in empowering persons living with disability, Mwachabo Racing Team was borne out of the need to spread the spirit of self-reliance amongst people with disability. Based in Mwatate Sub County in Taita Taveta County, the undulating hills of Taita offer the perfect environment for training on wheelchairs due to the sudden change in altitude after a few hundred meters.

With the experience of an elite marathoner, Matei guides his young protégé Mwaziro on how to conquer the harsh Taita Hills at least twice a week. Coupled with the fact that they are instrumental members of Mwachabo Self Help group, Matei and Mwaziro continue to be an inspiration to their members and to the society at large due to their determination and their positive spirit to live.



Introducing Matei (on wheelchair) and Mwaziro (on crutches and tri cycle)

The Standard Chartered Marathon Dream

Since 2003 on every last Sunday of October, thousands of Kenyans from all walks of life converge in Nairobi to participate in the Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon, which is held to raise funds to support the eradication of avoidable blindness in Kenya. This year, the marathon will be held on October 25th 2015.

Perhaps oblivious to many able-bodied Kenyans, the marathon also attracts hundreds of disabled participants who seek to put their mark on the event by wheeling for over 42 kilometres, (in case of the Marathon) which is no mean feat.



Wheelchair Race participants starting off in a previous marathon edition

Since March, Matei and Mwaziro have been training to participate in the upcoming marathon. To them, it's not simply about going to Nairobi and having a great time. For them, it's a mission to pass a simple message to their members back at home:

**IT IS
POSSIBLE.**

Having previously represented the country in the 1988 Seoul and 1992 Barcelona Paralympics, Matei is on a personal mission to relive his glory days as he seeks to pass the baton to a younger and more ambitious generation.

In Mwaziro's case, who is currently a Form 3 student in an adult learning programme in Mwatate and aspires to qualify for university in the next two years, participating in the marathon is a statement of intent in terms of achievement in life for him in the future. Apart from aspiring to be a graduate teacher, he hopes to be the voice of the disabled in the County or National legislature in future.

Ways to Support

By supporting Mwachabo Racing Team through your contribution, you will not only be enabling two outstanding individuals fulfill their dream of participating in the Standard Chartered Marathon but also showing your unwavering support in furthering the cause of persons living with disability.

Sponsorships in Kind are **MOST PREFERRED** i.e. direct payment of accommodation in Nairobi, procurement of wheelchairs and transport facilitation from your end. However, the options can be guided by the following packages:

Options for sponsorships:

Safari Package - Kshs 80,000

This sponsorship package will enable the team to do the following:

Return Travel to Nairobi (from Mwatate), Accommodation for 3 nights at Mvuli Hotel, Nairobi West and Wheel Chair purchase for both participants

Wezesha Package – Kshs 120,000

This sponsorship package will enable the team to do the following:

Return Travel to Nairobi (from Mwatate), Accommodation for 4 nights at Mvuli Hotel, Nairobi West and Wheel Chair purchase for both participants and Seed money of Kshs 30,000 for Mwachabo Self Help Group to fast track financial inclusion.

Akiba Package – Kshs 200,000

This sponsorship package will enable the team to do the following:

Return Travel to Nairobi (from Mwatate), Accommodation for 5 nights at Mvuli Hotel, Nairobi West and Wheel Chair purchase for both participants and Seed money of Kshs 50,000 for Mwachabo Self Help Group to fast track financial inclusion.

Sponsor's Benefits

As an initiative supported by the Public Relations Office, Mwatate Sub County, the involvement of the County Government of Taita Taveta is assured. Benefits include:

- A formal sponsorship handover ceremony to the Governor of Taita Taveta, H.E John Mruttu in the County Nairobi Office, with media coverage.
- Special mentions of your support in various media articles in the County and Sub County Web pages, including a press release to the legacy media.
- A Facilitated Quiz session service for your company during your end of year party courtesy of Quiz Masters East Africa.
- The Unique ability to position yourself above your direct competitors with regard to persons living with disability mainstreaming.

Conclusion.

“It isn't the strongest person who wins a race, it is the person who last the longest. Racing wheelchairs is a long endurance contest. You may not be the strongest person on the racecourse, but if you can keep pushing for long periods, you may just find yourself in first place.”

Let us join hands to give Matei and Mwaziro a chance to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others.



To support Mwachabo Racing Team, Contact:

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**“Partner With Us
To See Us Cross
The Finish Line.**

Thank You!”

Matei and Mwaziro