

1. Miriam's Message: Where Justice Feels Like Home

Dear Friends,



Ms. Miriam Wachira

At Justice Nest, we believe that justice is not confined to courtrooms, it lives where people fight to be heard, where families are mended, and where second chances are possible. This month's edition of our newsletter is a celebration of just that.

From the powerful reconciliation between a mother-in-law and her daughter-in-law to the inspiring growth of our Mombasa legal office, now a beacon of hope at Shimo La Tewa Prison, we're witnessing a justice system reimagined through dignity, dialogue, and community action. We meet Sergeant Samuel Wachira,

who stitches futures from fabric and freedom, and we highlight the quiet leadership of Kiki Wachira, whose compassion fuels the heart of our operations.

Each story reminds us that justice isn't only about release, it's about restoration. It's about building lives, nurturing hope, and standing with those who have been unseen for too long.

Thank you for being part of this movement. Your support turns legal aid into lifelines and prisons into places of purpose.

With gratitude,

Miriam Wachira

Founder & Executive Director, Justice Nest

2. Feature Story: The Family Feud, Case of JK and Her Daughter-In Law.

At 67, **JK** is more than a name in a legal file. She's a mother, a widow, and a farmer who grows maize and raises livestock on her small plot of land. She's also a grandmother, a

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neighbour, a woman who has seen too much loss, and still wakes up every day to feed her chickens and tend her crops.



A Depiction of JK and Her Daughter-In-Law

JK alleged that it was the daughter-in-law's turn to fetch firewood and cook for the family. Words became threats. And then, an argument spiraled into accusations. She was arrested together with her daughter-in-law whom she counter-accused after her very own son accused her charged with "*preparation to commit a felony*". The accusation? That she intended to harm her daughter-in-law, allegedly holding a knife during the altercation.

Her future suddenly narrowed to the cold walls of a remand cell.

Then Justice Nest Stepped In

When we met JK through our **Prison Paralegal Program**, we didn't see a criminal. We saw a family at odds. A conflict misunderstood. A system failing to see the humanity behind the charge. *So, we acted.*

Our legal officer initiated **a mediation process**. We spoke to her son. Listened. Encouraged. Explained the toll the process had taken on everyone. Eventually, healing found a voice. He agreed to withdraw the case. JK agreed to withdraw her charges against the daughter-in-law. Both women were released.

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They now continue to live on the same land—not as enemies, but as people who are learning to coexist again.

3. Justice Nest Mombasa: A New Wave of Impact at Shimo La Tewa

In the heart of Mombasa's coastal vibrance and historic legacy, a quiet revolution is taking place behind the walls of Shimo La Tewa Maximum, Medium, and Women's Prisons. Justice Nest has officially spread its wings to the shores of the Indian Ocean, opening offices not just as a physical space, but as a powerful promise: **to walk with the incarcerated, listen deeply, and make justice more human.**

Our presence represents a deeper commitment to restoring dignity, empowering grassroots legal advocates, and transforming the justice landscape from within. The office is already blossoming into a hub of learning, warmth, and advocacy. It supports the day-to-day legal needs of the people inside the prison.

A Bold Beginning at Shimo La Tewa Medium:

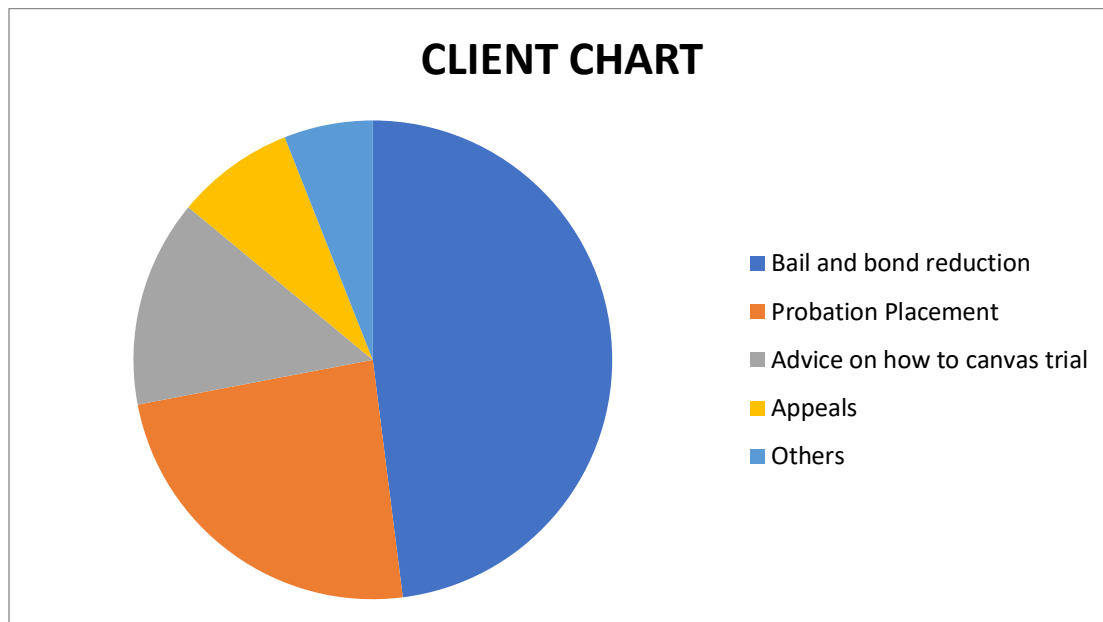
Shimo La Tewa Medium Prison, originally established in 1962 and expanded over the decades, has long been known for its strong focus on rehabilitation through education and industrial training. In January 2025, a new chapter began at the prison with the introduction of **Justice Nest's paralegal training and support program.**

From **January 27th to February 7th**, we conducted **basic paralegal training in criminal law** for **five prison officers and three inmates**, a powerful collaboration that also included Shimo La Tewa Maximum and Women's Prisons. The goal: build internal legal capacity to help inmates understand and navigate their rights, trials, and options.

The paralegal team, led by **CPL Juma Karoyo**, quickly became a beacon of hope inside the prison. From **appeals, bail and bond reductions, probation placement**, and

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diversion applications, to legal guidance on how to **canvas trials**, our team responded to the overwhelming demand with compassion, precision, and persistence.

**Real Results, Real Lives Changed**

Since launching the legal office in the prison, **24 individuals** have been released, each one a testament to the power of access to justice. These are not just case outcomes; they are deeply personal victories. Families reunited. Second chances embraced.

Take **AA** who secured his freedom through a bond application. And **AH**, whose case was withdrawn after a successful diversion request. Each name carries a story of transformation, made possible through legal empowerment.

These stories continue to unfold within the Shimo community, reminding us why our work matters.

Justice Nest: Mombasa OfficeShimo La Tewa Medium Prison Office & Team

Here, **we listen. We don't judge. We act.**

This isn't just a new chapter, it's a **new wave of impact**, powered by the belief that everyone deserves a fair chance and that justice when rooted in empathy and action, can truly change lives.

Karibu Justice Nest Mombasa. Let's make justice feel like home.

4. Sergeant Samuel Irungu Wachira: Captain, Shimo la Tewa Maximum Prison



Senior Sergeant Samuel Wachira crafts freedom through fabric and thread. *Where Thread and Law Intertwine.*

For nine years, his tailoring workshop at Shimo la Tewa Maximum Prison has become a **loom of transformation** - where inmates don't just serve time, but **stitch new destinies.**



Senior Sergeant Samuel Wachira

"A poorly filed appeal is like a crooked seam - it won't hold under pressure".

His Unique Approach:

Economic Justice Through Skill:

- Trains inmates in **marketable tailoring skills**.
- Vocational program graduates **gaining meaningful employment**.
- Created a **prison-to-enterprise pipeline** with local cooperatives.

Legal Empowerment in Action:

As Justice Nest's Team Captain, he bridges **vocational training with legal literacy**:

- Teaches paralegals to "measure" cases as carefully as fabric.
- Uses tailoring analogies to explain legal processes.

In Samuel's workshop, every stitch is a step toward redemption.

 **Learn more about our paralegal program's impact** → www.justicenest.org

5. Spreadsheets, Sambusas & Safari Dreams: Meet Kiki Wachira, the People Whisperer of Justice Nest

If you've ever sent an HR email and lived to smile about it, you probably have Kiki Wachira to thank. Equal parts HR ninja, kitchen connoisseur, and globe-trotting daydreamer, Kiki is the engine that keeps Justice Nest humming smoothly (with just the right hint of sarcasm and sambusa spice).

With over seven years of experience turning chaos into structure across manufacturing floors and microfinance corridors, Kiki has mastered the delicate art of making people feel seen *and* filling out their timesheets on time. Think of her as the human Google Calendar,

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with empathy. Kiki now lends her strategic brilliance to Justice making sure our paralegals thrive in their work.



Ms Kiki Wachira



Not Sambusas: Kiki is a gourmet chef

From onboarding new legal minds to making sure they have the tools, tea, and trauma-informed support they need; Kiki is the invisible hand behind the courage at Justice Nest. She designs systems, policies, and (sometimes snacks) that keep our paralegals and staff energized and our operations running smoother than a bail hearing on a good day. She's the kind of manager who believes an empowered paralegal is a powerful force, and who isn't above dangling a ripe avocado to ensure timesheets arrive on time.

But behind the impressive titles and carefully colour-coded KPIs is a woman who will debate you on the perfect pilau recipe, pack a suitcase faster than you can say "boarding pass," and laugh hard enough to make HR policies bend. (But never break, she's very clear about that.)

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Kiki's secret sauce? She believes in people, not just processes. She's the reason performance reviews at Justice Nest feel more like pep talks and less like sentencing hearings. She listens, she mentors, and occasionally, she bribes you with avocados to get your appraisal in on time.

Her motto? Borrowed from Ralph Waldo Emerson: **"The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honourable, to be compassionate."** (And maybe also to find cheap flights and the best Nyama Choma on the way.)

When she's not building fairer workplaces or fine-tuning compensation strategies that make sense, you'll find her plotting her next getaway, passport in hand, laughter in her eyes, and probably a thermos (oops sorry a "Stanley Cup", not thermos) of tea in her bag. Kiki doesn't just manage people, she empowers them, plate by plate, policy by policy, punchline by punchline.

Here's to the HR hero who proves every day that justice isn't just a court outcome, sometimes, it's also found in how you treat people at work.

6. Gratitude That Moves Mountains: Celebrating YOU, Our Champions!

To every person who shared a story, donated a care package, liked, commented, reposted, or simply stood with us during our **Mother's Day campaign**, *thank you*.

You helped us honour and uplift mothers who are often overlooked — women raising children through systems of injustice, poverty, displacement, or pain. Because of you, we were able to reach incredible mothers and children in the Justice Nest community with dignity, support, and joy.

Your generosity reminded us that justice isn't just about laws and courts, it's also about *love in action*. And this May, you showed up with love.

From all of us at Justice Nest: **Thank you for making this Mother's Day truly powerful.**



January-May 2025 Impact Overview

Program	Trained	Clients Served	Clients Releases	Children Reunited
Clients served by paralegals	-	472	78	-
Mothers Diversion Program	-	19	4	12
Paralegals	33	-	-	-

7. Quick Reads Section & Features

Title	Link
The Kunguro & Mururu Stories: Inside a Borstal's Journey of Redemption- Kiki Wachira	[Read More]
A Letter, A Care Package, and the Question That Shattered Us	[Read More]
Star Newspaper Feature Story	[Read More]
KBC Good Morning Kenya Show: Impact of Imprisoned Mothers on Their Children	[Read More]

Visit www.justicenest.org/donate to show your love.

8. Upcoming Events /Announcements

Trial Advocacy Training- 23rd June -27 June 2025.

In partnership with Jones Day and National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA) USA, we will conduct a week-long intensive Trial Advocacy training for our paralegals and pro bono advocates at Shimo la Tewa prison in Mombasa, Kenya.



9. Join the Movement

- **To Show Your Love Visit:**

- M-Pesa Paybill **4699532** (Acc: Your Name).
- Website: Paypal, credit card through: **www.justicenest.org/donate**

- **Subscribe to Our Newsletter** for updates on our work, inspiring stories, and opportunities to support justice and equity.

- **Follow Us on Social Media:**

- LinkedIn: [Justice Nest](#)
- Facebook: [Justice Nest](#)
- Youtube: [Justice Nest](#)
- Threads: [@thejusticenest](#)
- X (Twitter): [@justiceNest](#)
- Tiktok: [Justicenest1](#)
- Instagram: [@JusticeNest](#)

Thank you for standing with us as we fight for justice, dignity, and hope.
