

Educating

Girls

**Impacting
the
World**



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

This past year has truly been remarkable for women's rights and girls' education. From the popularity of the PBS documentary *Half the Sky*—to the mainstream success of the documentary film *Girl Rising*—to men and boys in rural Senegal and Kenya coming out in support of our programs, there is increasing awareness that education for girls can change the world.


At Women's Global Education Project, we are proud to be part of that change, and proud that you have chosen to support us in this endeavor!

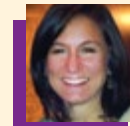
Within the past six months, I had the opportunity to visit both WGEP Senegal and Kenya programs, and I was inspired and humbled by how our amazing girls are changing their world: In Kenya I was able to walk hand-in-hand with 263 brave young women as they publicly took a stand against the practice of female genital mutilation in their communities. In Senegal, I talked with several girls who joined our program in the early days and are now getting ready to enter high school or graduate—bucking the high dropout rates for girls that still plague rural communities there. This kind of impact is only possible because of your steadfast support over the years.

Your generosity has made it possible for WGEP to help more than 700 girls go to school—girls who are defying the prediction that growing up in poverty + their gender puts them at the greatest risk of reaching adulthood without education. Your help makes a different life possible for them.

Though there is still so much work to be done, we know our humble work is having an impact, one girl, one family, one community at a time. Thank you for going on this journey with us!

Yours,


Amy Maglio
Executive Director



Amy Maglio
WGEP Executive Director



Fatou (left), a WGEP middle school scholar in Senegal, wants to emulate the example set by WGEP Partner Adjé Senghor and help girls in her community go to school when she grows up. She is starting now by helping other girls in the program—she tutors WGEP elementary school scholar Yacine so she too can excel in her studies.

Impacting Girls in School

THE NEED:

61 million school-aged kids out of school around the world; half live in sub-Saharan Africa, more than half are girls.

— UNESCO

WGEP provides scholarships and support to girls who would otherwise not have the chance for an education, focusing on marginalized rural areas which tend to fall through the cracks of larger government and NGO initiatives.

THE WGEP IMPACT

- More than 700 girls in school via WGEP scholarships
- Nearly 3,000 WGEP scholarships given to date
- WGEP programs reach 58 schools and 65 villages in rural Senegal and Kenya

The Personal Impact: Aliana, WGEP Kenya Graduate



“Education has changed my life—I can face the world with a lot of confidence and do great things.”

Meet Aliana

Meet Aliana, a very bright and passionate young woman whose family would not have been able to afford to send her to secondary school had it not been for our WGEP Kenya program. Aliana was in our program for four years, excelling in school and graduating. She wanted to go further in her studies but could not afford post-secondary schooling. WGEP Kenya Project Coordinator Aniceta Kiriga helped Aliana apply for and get a scholarship to attend the

Kenya Institution of Studies and Criminal Justice in Meru. Aliana is now studying social work and community development.

“I’ve really been empowered by our program,” Aliana says. “I want to help people overcome their poverty levels. By sharing knowledge, we can improve our living standards.”



Meet Safora

WGEF Senegal scholar Safora has always been a trailblazer. Nearly 10 years ago, she became the first in her family of 12 children to go to school when she joined our Sisters-to-School program. She is a dedicated student who does well in school and earns top grades, and the program provides her with the support she needs to do her best in school. “I want to make a better life for myself and my family,” she says.

Not only did Safora complete primary school, but she is now—against all

the odds stacked against girls in rural villages like hers—about to complete middle school and enter high school.

Safora personally knows the power that education has to change lives, and she wants to make sure other girls in her village have the same chance she has. In addition to her school work, she is now tutoring a WGEF primary school scholar.

Impacting Retention

THE NEED:

Less than half of girls in sub-Saharan Africa complete primary school. The average “school life expectancy” for girls in poor, rural regions of Africa is just 1.9 years.

—Global Campaign for Education

WGEF’s multi-tiered strategy for improving retention helps scholars succeed in school and have the support they need as trailblazers in communities where girls continue to be at high risk for dropping out. We provide tutoring and mentoring support, family outreach, and lending libraries for textbooks, and help communities address practices such as genital cutting and early marriage that contribute to high dropout rates for girls.

THE WGEF IMPACT

- 278 girls in academic tutoring program
- 400 girls in mentoring program
- 90% and above retention rate among WGEF scholars over the past five years

Impacting Attitudes

THE NEED:

“Gender roles are changing, but the change is slow and incremental. Change needs to happen on all levels to take effect: on individual, household and community levels.”

—World Bank

WGEP believes family and community buy-in to be essential not only to our scholars' success, but also to the sustainability and longevity of our programs and impact. We work with parents, siblings, extended family, neighbors, friends, educators, and community leaders to help them be champions in their communities for women and girls.

THE WGEP IMPACT

2012 Participation in WGEP Community Initiatives

• Parent workshops	1,468
• Community leader meetings	41
• Adult literacy training	150
• Alternative Rite of Passage program	263
• Youth meetings	316
• Community awareness meetings	2,112

It takes a village



Family Support

Meet Awa. Awa's niece lived in a village that didn't have a school. Awa took her in to live with her family so that her niece, a WGEP Senegal scholar, could continue her education at Awa's village school. "It's important my niece learns," Awa says. "I never got the chance to go to school, but I hope she has a better life."



Male Support

In the patriarchal villages where many of our scholars live, the support of male leaders and role models goes a long way in changing long standing attitudes on educating women and girls. Here, a male trainer participates in our Alternative Rite of Passage program, publicly throwing his support behind the fight against female genital cutting in his community.



Community Support

Senegal community radio "Radio Niombato 91.1 FM," based in the Fatick region where we work, has been broadcasting our program activities! Radio Niombato is widely listened to in Fatick, which means the WGEP message is reaching more and more people in the surrounding villages.



Impacting Female Genital Cutting'

In December 2012, WGEP Executive Director Amy Maglio joined 263 girls in Tharaka, Kenya, for our annual Alternative Rite of Passage (ARP) program to support the girls and their families as they publicly said "No!" to genital cutting.



WGEP Kenyan partners Aniceta Kiriga (left) and Rael Wanja (right).

Special thanks to the Rubens Family Foundation, the Nova Catholic Community and all of our generous donors for supporting our Alternative Rite of Passage program. Since its inception, nearly 900 girls have participated in the ARP!

Financial Overview Fiscal Year 2012

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures January–December 2012

Revenue

Foundations	79,750
Business	17,860
Individual	51,273
Events	38,011
In-Kind	15,446
Organizations	3,326
Interest	54
General	125
Total Revenue	\$205,845

Expenditures

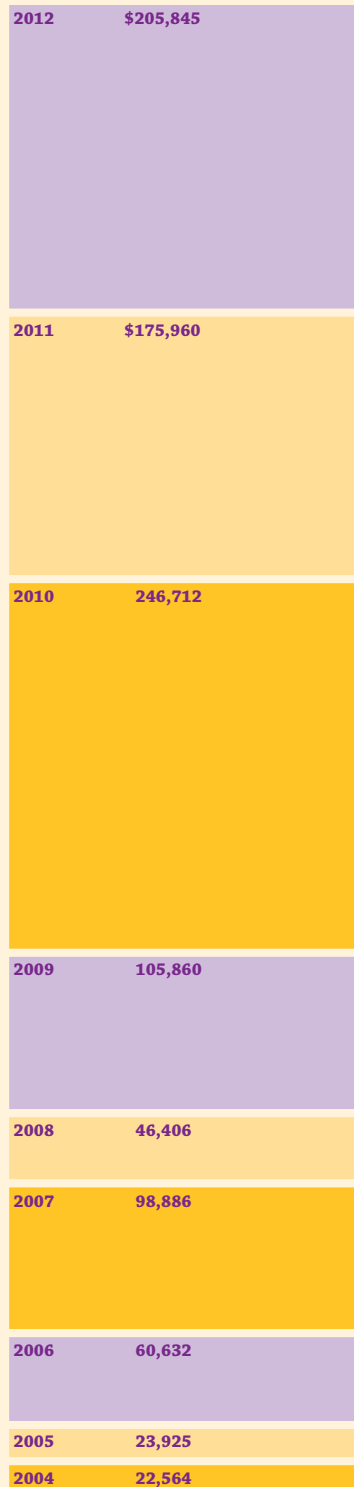
Programs

Senegal & Kenya	176,156
General and Administrative	39,550
Accounting and Bookkeeping	5,805
Consultants / PT Staff	8,563
Fundraising	26,989
In-kind	15,466
Total Expenditures	\$242,695

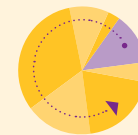
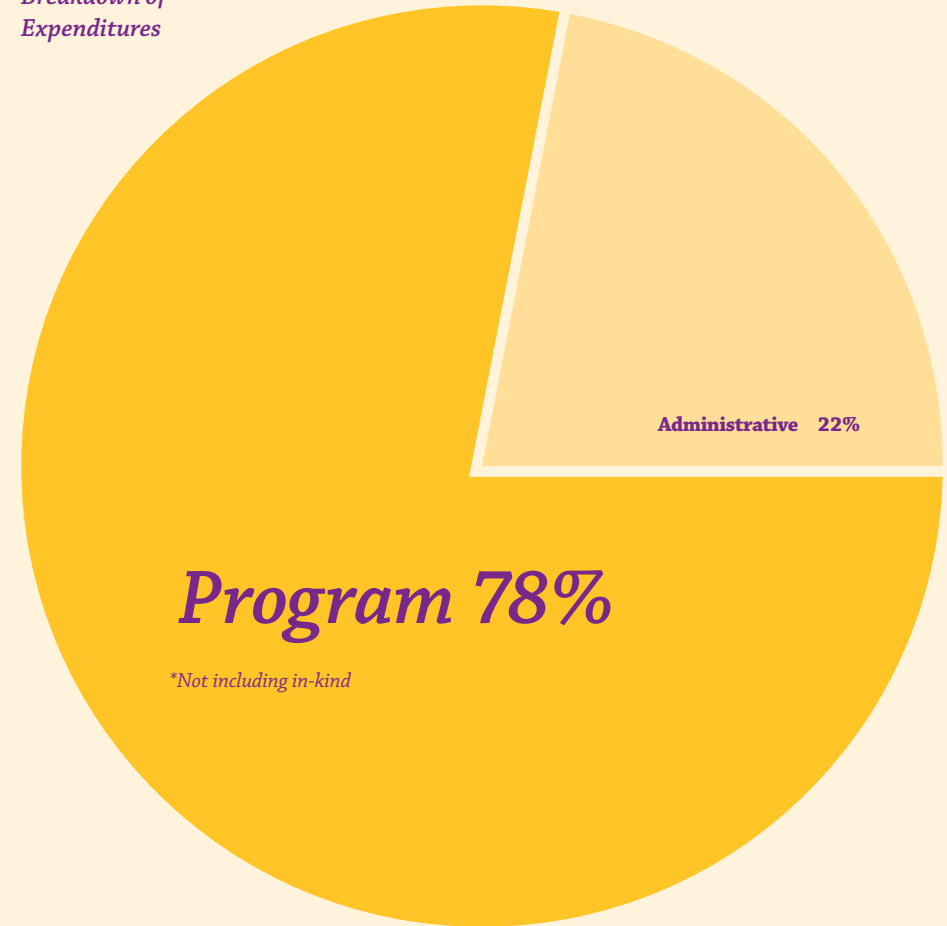
Unrestricted assets at end of 2011 = \$95,339

Net increase (decrease) in assets from
2012 operations = (\$36,850)

Unrestricted assets at end of 2011 = \$58,489

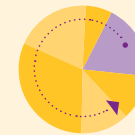


Breakdown of Expenditures



Senegal Program Expenditures

Operations	13%
Flood relief	3%
Partner contribution	10%
Scholarships & tutoring	32%
Mentoring & health	13%
Monitoring & evaluation	5%



Kenya Program Expenditures

Operations	20%
Food relief	7%
Anti-FGM/ ARP	20%
Scholarships & tutoring	33%
Mentoring & health	13%
Community workshops	12%

Thank You, 2012 Donors!

WGEP gratefully acknowledges the many donors and supporters who have joined us in our mission to fight global poverty by educating girls. We are proud to have you as partners in this work!

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ORGANIZATIONS
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\$10,000-\$25,000**

Chicago Community Trust/
Donor Advised Fund

International Foundation
Thanksgiving Fund

\$3,000-\$9,999

Holthues Trust
IBM Corporation
Manaaki Foundation
Motorola Mobility Foundation
Richard H. Driehaus
Charitable Lead Trust
Rubens Family Foundation

\$1,000-2,999

Morgan Design Group
Rotary Club of Oak Park,
River Forest
Sandbox Studio, Inc.

\$500-\$999

Leinenweber, Baroni &
Daffada LLC
Mortgage Resource Group
Nova Catholic Community

\$300-\$499

The Kellcie Fund
Marshall College Preparatory
School
Taylor Wester Enterprises,
Yoga Trek

\$299 and under

Community Bank of Oak Park
River Forest
Hewlett-Packard

Event Support

North Pond Restaurant
Sandbox Studio, Chicago

In Kind Gifts

1154 Lill Studio
Brookfield Zoo Chicago
Zoological Society
Geppetto's Toy Box
Lula Café
MacDaddy Salon
Maya Del Sol
Perennial Virant
Prairie Grass Cafe
Salon Duo Spa
Steve Quick Jewelers
Taylor Wester Enterprises,
Yoga Trek

WBEZ Chicago Public Radio
Vie Restaurant

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AllState Foundation
Global Giving
Motorola Mobility Foundation

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Annual Report 2012: Text by
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Amy Maglio; Photos by Amy
Maglio, Lily Messih, Aniceta
Kiriga, Adji Senghor; Design by
Sandbox Studio, Chicago

***This listing reflects
contributions received between
January and December 2012***





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