Literacy to Legacy

Women's Global Education Project
Annual Report 2015
Dear Friends,

This has been an exciting year for Women's Global Education Project! We have made important progress and continue to work towards creating opportunities for young women to pursue education and, in turn, lead more successful and fulfilling lives with the support of their families and communities. WGEP is so grateful for the passionate support we receive from so many people—our friends and family, supporters and sponsors—and it is because of your support that thousands of young women have been able to receive an education, providing new possibilities for them and their families.

Over the past year, WGEP has expanded a new reading initiative in Kenya! Modeled off our successful program in Senegal, we launched Our Sisters Read Kenya, helping students build their skills and confidence in reading and access books through a mobile library to cultivate a life-long love of reading. Our Sisters Read Kenya is providing unprecedented access to story books to thousands of elementary school students, fostering an appreciation of learning that is beginning to spread throughout these students’ families and their communities. It is amazing to see the enthusiasm on students’ faces when they are able to select a book from our library to take home!

Our Sisters Read Senegal has also grown dramatically. Through our partnership with USAID, this year we opened two new library and computer centers in Senegal! These centers provide over 8,000 students across the region access to vital educational materials and technology that they previously lacked. The addition of these centers is creating a focal point and anchor for reading and literacy within the wider community. Community members are also able to make use of these centers and their resources, inspiring an eagerness for education and knowledge that reaches beyond the students to their parents, neighbors, and village leaders.

In addition to these developments, our Sisters to School program continues to assist over a thousand girls with scholarships, helping them to overcome the financial burden of attending school. Through our complementary support programs, community support for women's rights and education continues to gain momentum. We still have a long way to go, with a desire to expand programing to more remote villages where high dropout rates persist. As we expand and reach these young women we look to you for continued support and thanks.

On my trips to Senegal and Kenya, I continue to meet many inspiring and hard-working women who now have new opportunities because of our program. Graduates of our program are enrolling in higher education, inspiring their younger siblings to remain in school and even achieving new careers! We deeply appreciate your commitment to this project and are looking forward to this coming year and what we will accomplish, together.

Yours,

Amy Maglio
Founder & Executive Director
A Real Impact for Real Girls

2015 Scholar Report Card

100% retention rate in both Senegal and Kenya

90% of Kenyan 3rd-year high school scholars earn computer training certificates from a local university

53% of Kenyan high school scholars qualify for university entry compared to 31% nationally

48% of Senegalese high school scholars pass their final exam, compared to 36% nationally

40% of Kenyan high school scholars qualify for public university scholarships due to good grades

2015 WGEP Impact

Access

1,000 SCHOLARS

Success

350 After School Club members
178 Alternative Right of Passage graduates
67 Safe Male Circumcision graduates
60 scholars in Adolescent Health Workshops
22 post secondary scholars

Lasting Change

8,000 community members reached through community outreach
1,350 parents in Adult Literacy classes
78 graduates pursuing post-secondary education for future careers
Fatou
4th grade Senegal scholar

I am proud to say I was the winner at both the 2014 and 2016 reading contests put on by the Our Sisters Read program. I won because I work hard and enjoy reading. Whenever I have free time, my favorite thing to do is read a book. I used to have to read tattered textbooks, but now I can enjoy story books that I borrow from the program library. My advice for fellow students is to work hard, study and devote yourself to your studies.

Fatou is excited about continuing her education and hopes to be a librarian when she grows up.

Nancy
Kenya graduate

My parents taught me the value of hard work and education. Now I help my younger siblings with their studies and encourage them to work hard.

Nancy earned the second-highest grade in her graduating class and qualified for a public university scholarship. She loves reading and math and hopes to continue her education to become an accountant.

Caroline
Kenya graduate

My mother has always told me to put my education first. She and my grandmother supported my studies and acted as role models for me by participating in adult literacy classes to learn to read and write. I am so happy that I have made them proud.

Caroline performed well in school and qualified for a public university scholarship. She hopes to continue her education to become a doctor.

Turning Dreams Into Realities
Our Sisters Read (OSR) Senegal

Librarian Safietou at the new WGEP library in Senegal.

Senegal Ministry of Education and USAID inaugurate WGEP’s new literacy center.

Students gain literacy skills using tablets.

Launched in 2013, in partnership with USAID

This year, one of our proudest achievements was the opening of two new library and computer centers in Senegal. These centers are the first of their kind in the Fatick region of Senegal, offering unprecedented access to books, computers and materials for over 8,000 students from 52 schools in the region. These centers include conference and exposition rooms for the community’s use, making the centers focal points that generate widespread enthusiasm for and commitment to the program.

Focusing on literacy is important because children who have a strong foundation of literacy skills are more likely to succeed throughout their education, break the cycle of poverty and be better equipped to realize their full potential. OSR engages students and the entire community through lending libraries, computer labs, reading competitions, literacy activities, technology and community events.

In partnership with the Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

This year, we launched Our Sisters Read Kenya! Like OSR Senegal, this program aims to advance literacy and promote a lifelong love of reading and learning among primary school students in rural Kenya, particularly girls. The program has received the full and enthusiastic support of Ministry of Education officials, local leaders, parents, teachers, school directors and students!

A community survey conducted prior to the start of the program found that 72% of our target students completely lacked access to a library. The unprecedented access to books and activities OSR offers is making these children excited about reading and learning. In its first year, OSR Kenya reached 3,700 primary students from 11 schools in the Tharaka region of Kenya. 2,100 books are available for students to select from and solar lanterns are provided so that they can read after dark.
Scholars to Tutors: The Sustainable Impact

Aminata
Former Sisters to School Senegal scholar who is now an Outreach Officer for OSR Senegal

Hi, my name is Aminata and I was a WGEP Sisters to School scholar from 2011–2014. I come from a conservative village and a poor family, but I always worked very hard in school. Then the program came to my aid and took away the heavy burden of school fees. It also gave me supplies and provided me with everything I needed to succeed in school.

I am so happy to be working for the Our Sisters Read program. It has been my dream to help my sisters do well in school and achieve great things.

Fridah
Former Sisters to School Kenya scholar who is now the Outreach Officer for OSR Kenya

Hi, my name is Fridah and I was a Sisters to School Kenya scholar from 2007–2011. After graduating from high school, I went on to receive a teaching degree from Mount Kenya University. I worked for two years as a teacher in another region, but I always wanted to return to Tharaka to assist my own community. I was thrilled when I was invited to interview for the role of OSR Outreach Officer.

Teaching is my passion and I am so happy to be giving back to the program that helped make my dreams come true.

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
January–December 2015

Revenue
- USAID: $463,806
- Foundations & Corporations: $215,498
- Individuals: $19,354
- Events: $122,456
- In-Kind: $120,106

Total Revenue: $941,219

Expenditures
- Programs: $676,993
- General & Administrative: $76,217
- Fundraising: $21,873

Total Expenditures: $775,083

Net assets, end of year = $246,005

Revenue by Year

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
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Breakdown of Expenditures
- Program: 87%
- Administrative: 13%
Supporter Spotlight

Government Awards
United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Corporations, Foundations and Organizations

$20,000 & Above
Chicago Community Trust, Donor Advised Fund
Anonymous
Thanksgiving Fund
The Stone Family Foundation
Weyerhaeuser Family Foundation

$10,000–19,999
The Lohengrin Foundation
Manaaki Foundation

$3,000–$9,999
Earth and Its Peoples Foundation
Rubens Family Foundation

$1,000–$2,999
Country Financial
The Hickey Family Foundation
JRG Capital Partners, LLC
Leinenweber, Baroni & Daffada LLC
Nova Catholic Community
Rotary Club of Oak Park-River Forest
Sandbox Studio, Inc.

$300–$499
Ardelle Baroni Charitable Fund
Amicus Fund, Donor Advised Fund
Community Bank of Oak Park-River Forest
Evanston Community Foundation

$1,000–$4,999
Anonymous
Olive and Well
Otter Box
Power Performance (John Hayley)
Qelasy
Radisson Blu Aqua Hotel
Shedd Aquarium
The Skin Care Company and Spa
Skydeck Chicago
Vertical Endeavors
Vie Restaurant
Whirly Ball
Women and Children First

Matching Gifts
BMO Harris Bank N.A.
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
MacArthur Foundation
Qualcomm Foundation
Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Individuals
Visionary Circle
$10,000 & above
Regina Bowgierd Kulczycki & John Kulczycki
Catherine & Jeff Cappel

Leaders’ Circle
$5,000 –$9,999
Lynn Besser
Regine W. Corrado
Jennifer & Christopher Dunn

Sisters’ Circle
$1,000–$4,999
Anonymous
Kathryn Goetz
Brian Hanson & Karen Alter-Hanson
Deana & Christopher Herrman
Audrey Huizenis
Laura & Eric Jordahl
Juliana Kerr
Norma Maglio
Paul Maglio & Teenie Matlock
Sarah McCarthy & Diarmuid Collins
Sarah Miyata
Jillie Moller
Michele Moore & Family
Katherine & Oliver Nicklin
Marie Olmos
Polly & Ken Rattner
Robin Redmond
Erin Sarofsky
Nancy & John Schuessler
Joan & Bruce Sherman
Adele Simmons
Andrea M. Sreshta
Carol & Scott Webster
Carol Wyant & Craig McGrath
Suzanne and Mike Wychocki

Guardians
$500–$999
John Andresen
Rebecca Armatis-Furr & Jon Furr
Tony Augustine
Ceil Miller Bouchet & Guy Bouchet
Meghan Christopher
Stephanie & Peter Clemson
Dolores Connolly & Dan Casey
Peggy Diamond
Deborah Dranove
Wendy Espeland & Bruce Carruthers
Frank Fletcher
Mimi & Bud Frankel

Partners
$300–$499
Joyce & Sam Berngard
Daniela Bovio & Michael Schwager
Carol Beth Conklin
Andrew Dykens
Genna Erickson
Jan House
Janet Johnson
Jed & Marsha Lynn Jacobson
Geraldine Joyce
Pascale Kichler
Alexandra Konarski
Eliisa Lynch
Gail & Fred Manning
Mihir Mehta
Gay Ann Milano
Eileen Molony
Katie O’Brien
Suzanne & Martin Whitfield
Elizabeth Yacullo
Janice Zaepf

Supporters
$100–$299
Sonya Anderson
Joan Angarola
Peter & Elena Baroni
Mike Basile
Ronda Billig & Philip Boffey
Shawnda Bolon-Wilde
Kathleen Brady
Bennie Brennan
Jana Burke
Megan & Craig Chesney
Diane C. Ciril
Nina Clark
Stephanie Lee Cormier
Amanda Couture Miller & Christopher Miller
Keary Cragan
Nancy Cunniff & Alan Zunamom
Colleen Day
Martine Derom & William Warren
Valerie & Gregg Dixon
Vicki E. & Richard G. Dufour
Elizabeth & Lincoln Ellis
Amal Essayad
Anne-Marie Evans
Rachel & Zachary Fardon
Elizabeth Ferruelo
Margaret & Robert Fisher
Marybeth & Edward Fitch
Bob Flannery
Adena L. Flippin
Leah & David Flueck
Arlene Freedman
Ana Garcia-Doyle
Tasha & Scott Gelling
Francois Ghesquiere
Robert P. Glick
Kathy Graham

Gail & Al Tangora
Marsha Thersen
Sharon Walker
Suzanne & Martin Whitfield
Elizabeth Yacullo
Janice Zaepf
Friends $99 & Under

Karla Allen
Sara Alshubically
Elise Annunziata
Jennifer Arnold
Tiphanie & Jeremy Babinet
Matt Banack
Nina Basso
Teresa Beem
Ariana Bennett
Paul Berghoff
Sara Blair
Devin Bokaer
Marianna Brady
James Breymaier &
Bharathi Jayaram
Benjamin Brichta
Merry Brownlow
Dan Bruce
Thierry Callier
The Carter Family
Danita Cherney
J.N. and S.F. Christy
Andrea Clardy
Blanche & Ronald Clark
Elizabeth Cohen
Candace Corr
Julia Cuc
Ann Maureen Cullinan
Vicki Devine
Marjorie DiMeo
Jeffrey Dobrinsky

Cecelia Downs &
Dennis Temple
Gretchener Fisher
Brian & Barbara Fontanella
Jennifer & Robert Fox
Eric & Brandy Frank
Charles & Nadine Gelman
Corey Goodwin
Rachel Greenhoe
Douglas Harrison
Rita Hays
Josephine Jane Hegarty
Chatigny Imburgia
Molly Jones
Anna Jung
Sue L. Keihias
Cheryl King
Natalie Labun
Robert Langdon
Natalie Laudadio
Sarah Laven
Terry Leight
Morgan Leinberry
Tina Leopardo
Judith & Theodore Lewis
Laura Lyes
Brian Lombardo
Edward Maass
Meghan MacNaughton
Miliko Makirinne
Stephanie Mansour
Elizabeth P. Martin
Kristen Martin
Marissa Martin
Deirdre McCarrick
Sean McGuire
Allison Mead
Michael Meissner
Joseph Miser
Tuny Mokrauer &
Dan Madden
Becky Moore
Anna Morris
Dickronouli Nichols
Tate Nudo
Karalyn O’Brien
Molly O’Donnell
Katie Ott

Caroline Page
Marcelo Pappas
Chris Patel
Deborah Plager &
 Alexander Kamilewicz
Erin Plummer
Tracy Quattrocki & Neal Brady
Mary H Richgels
Carol J Ring
Jonathan Rosanoski
Linda & Steven Rotunno
Dylan Salisbury
Helen Schaeffer
Janis R. Schmalz
Deborah Schocket
Marily Schontal
Renee Schor
Linda Schurman
Nancy & Jim Scott
Carol Seeley
Susan Sensemann
Marianne Seye-Precetti
William & Elizabeth Sharpe
Margaret Sheridan
Judy H. Sherr
Corly & Bill Siegfriedt
Emily Smith
Haris Sofradzija
Ann & Brian Spittle
Kay Sprinkel Grace
Donna Sproston
Elliot Steen
Krisina S. St. Pierre
Michael Swaine
Karen Tardy
Stephanie Templin Ashford
Terry Tennes
Cindy Ternes-Snydacker
Emily Thomas
Jennifer & Eduardo Torres
Erika Torvik
Kristen Turpel
Thomas Tyler
Virginia Ubik
Holly Ulasevich
Girish Vedpathak
Michelle de Vlam
Lynn Voss

In Kind Gifts
Lynn Besser
Jim Bingen
Pat Dorgan, PGA Professional
Leah Goldman & Neal Swire
Nancy Horn
Erin Jameson & Art Wisehart
Juliana Kerr
Gustavo Mendoza
Jennifer McNulty
Lynn Parr
Joan & Bruce Sherman
Lawrence Sherman
Julie Stagliano
Alice Willard

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