



Women's Global Education Project

2016 Annual Report



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ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Text by

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Photos by

Amy Maglio, Lily Messih, Kirsten Turpel



Dear Friends,

This past year has been truly wonderful for Women's Global Education Project. We continue to implement and grow successful programs, helping more girls achieve their dreams of gaining an education and leading more successful and fulfilling lives with the support of their families and communities. It is only with the continuing support of our friends and family, supporters and sponsors, that WGEP is able to instill lasting change for thousands of deserving, passionate and driven young women, their families and communities. None of this would be possible without your passion and support.

In 2016, Women's Global grew *Our Sisters Read* in Kenya, expanding from the initial target of four schools to twenty-one schools. Replicating the success of OSR Senegal, we provided our partner schools in Kenya with a mobile library designed to encourage students to read beyond their school work, fostering a habit and love of learning. Community members were invited to take part in this initiative, inspiring a broader change in attitudes in favor of education and learning.

2016 saw quite a few inspiring success stories that reinforce our determination to continue providing quality education resources to more students across Kenya and Senegal. In this annual report, you can learn more about Sadio, a *Sisters to School* Senegal scholar who excelle, winning first place in a national essay contest. In Kenya, despite an overhaul and restructuring of the educational system which made exams more difficult, we are very pleased to announce that 100% of our students passed their final exam. Throughout this report, you will learn about the immense challenges our scholars overcome in order to succeed in school and beyond.

Through varied programs and a holistic approach to education, WGEP is not only enabling girls to go to school but working to help them stay there. It is a combination of scholarships, health education, adult literacy, community involvement and after-school support which allows for more girls to achieve their full academic potential. On my trips to Senegal and Kenya, I am always fortunate to witness the real-world impact that WGEP's partners have thanks to your fervent support.

We are deeply grateful for all your amazing support and partnership as we continue to change lives. Each success story has a large and deep impact on the community: graduates of WGEP's programs are enrolling in higher education, inspiring their siblings and other children to stay in school, providing new opportunities for themselves and their loved ones. Thank you.

Yours,



Amy Maglio
Founder & Executive Director



WGEP at a Glance: 2016

Reach



Results

13,983 reading materials

12,138 students borrow books

4,100 solar lanterns

1,181 women in literacy classes

864 scholarships

600 students in workshops

198 girls say “no” to FGM/C

142 teachers trained

engage & encourage students to read

improve reading skills & create love of reading

increase time children can read

increase independence & support for their childrens’ education

enable girls to graduate & reach their full potential

build self-confidence & life skills

create healthy & empoweredd adolescent girls

motivate students & improve reading skills



Changing the Landscape of Rural Education

When students are encouraged and motivated to read, have access to reading materials and families value education a strong culture of reading is the result. WGEP, in collaboration with local Senegalese partner, Femmes Plus, is changing the landscape of rural education by creating a strong culture of reading through Our Sisters Read, an early grade reading program funded by USAID.

Through the creation of two library computer centers in rural Senegal, OSR has provided unprecedented access to books and technology, inspiring students and parents alike. In a place where books are sparse, hundreds of students line up weekly to visit the centers, participate in innovative reading activities, borrow books and use the computers. Often walking several miles in the heat to these centers, over 900 children visit these facilities each month. All of these students come on their own time and not as part of organized school visits, which demonstrates the high level of enthusiasm and motivation that these children have for the OSR program activities.



Recognizing that families play an important part in their children's education, OSR works to engage family members by offering community activities at the centers including adult literacy classes, health and safety lectures, film festivals, and reading competitions. These events are open to all community members, and have played an important role in transforming these facilities into civic centers that instill great pride and a deepened sense of community among the people in the region.

OSR's program activities reach over 12,000 children and 10,000 community members in Senegal's rural Fatick region.

WGEP Graduates: Where are they now?

Together with our local partner organizations in Senegal and Kenya, WGEP selects girls to receive scholarships who do not have the opportunity to attend school or who are at severe risk of dropping out early. Girls' high non-attendance and drop-out rates are due to a variety of factors including: lack of family funds, bias in favor of boys, long travel distances to school, difficulty passing exams, illness, menstruation, and traditional cultural practices such as early marriage and FGM/C. All of these barriers must be overcome for girls to remain in school and eventually graduate! 52% of girls drop out before reaching the 9th grade! (UNESCO)

WGEP's comprehensive support to each girl in the scholarship program breaks down barriers to help more girls succeed in school and beyond.

Meet Elosy. She is 18 years old and from the rural village of Kangaru in Kenya. Like many girls, she was at risk of dropping out after finishing her primary education because the closest school was very far away and her family could not afford her travel or lodging expenses. WGEP provided Elosy with a scholarship that enabled her to board at school, purchase school and health supplies and participate in tutoring, mentoring and health education workshops. WGEP helped Elosy stay in school and remain healthy by providing her with the support she needed to succeed.

Elosy performed so well on her final high school exam that she received a full scholarship from the Kenyan government to attend a public university. Elosy is now attending Kirinyaga University and working towards a degree in Commerce.



Elosy, 18, Kenya

“It’s rare that someone can give you something that no one can take away from you. Thank you WGEP!”

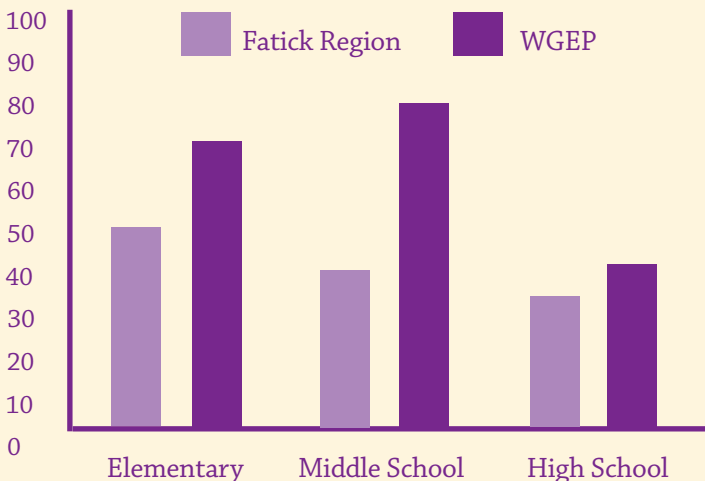


Martha, 19, Senegal

Meet Martha. Martha is 19 years old from the rural village of Toubacouta in Senegal. Martha was at high risk of dropping out of high school. She needed extra academic support and was in danger of failing the final exam required to receive her high school diploma. Martha received a scholarship from WGEP and was provided tutoring support to pass her exam. She passed the exam in 2015, graduated and was admitted to Gaston Berger University, a private university in Senegal!

Since graduating in 2015, Martha has been volunteering for the Our Sisters Read program during her summer break. Martha wanted to give back to WGEP and her community in a meaningful way, so she became an intern for the program, tutoring elementary school students over the summer. Martha hopes to continue her education and ultimately become a Communications Director for an NGO. She hopes to share the message of organizations like WGEP to help more girls like her achieve their dreams.

WGEP Scholars outperform region in grade-level exams:



WGEP Scholar Wins National Essay Contest

Sadio is a WGEP scholar from Sokone, Senegal. In December 2016, she won first place in a national essay contest held in Dakar, Senegal. The contest received more than 1,000 entries from students across the nation.

As a reward for winning first place in the essay contest, Sadio received a laptop computer and a university scholarship!



Sadio with Senegal Project Director Adji Senghor

Like all WGEP beneficiaries, Sadio was awarded an academic scholarship because of her family’s inability to support her in school. Without our support, she likely would have had to drop out of school, as many young women in rural regions must do.

Sadio was also able to utilize WGEP’s Library & Computer Center in Sokone to do research on her essay topic. She received help from our trained staff and was able to use the Center’s computers, internet and other resources to help write her essay.

Community-based Approaches Ensure Local Support



WGEF employs a community-based holistic approach to breaking down barriers that prevent girls from attending and succeeding in school. Our community outreach activities engage thousands of parents, religious and village leaders to promote the benefits of girls' education and to change underlying attitudes to foster more equitable communities. By working with community-based partner organizations, WGEF ensures that our programs are tailored to and led by the communities we serve.

Our community engagement meetings reach thousands of parents annually. Topics range from children's rights to health and conflict management. Another form of parent engagement is our adult literacy classes. In 2016, over 1,000 women participated in WGEF's adult literacy programs. These women learn important life skills such as disease prevention and conflict management in addition to literacy and numeracy. These skills also help them support and encourage their children in school.



Judith has been a Women's Literacy instructor for 10 years.

Local Leaders Create Sustainable Impact

“ This program is inspiring others to get involved and advocate for change. ”



Janice Karimi
WGEP Graduate & Mentor



Nicholas Nyaga
Mentor & Community Activist

“ I want to give back to my community in a sustainable and meaningful way. ”



Sarah Karegi
WGEP Graduate & Outreach Officer

Statement of Revenue & Expenditures

January-December 2016

Revenue

USAID	\$570,967
Foundations & Corporations	\$175,600
Individuals	\$14,358
Events	\$140,844
In-Kind	\$16,439
Total Revenue	\$918,208

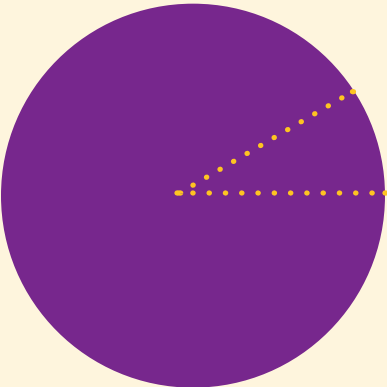
Expenditures

Programs	\$776,961
General & Administrative	\$59,729
Fundraising	\$50,634
Total Expenditures	\$887,324

Net assets, end of year = \$276,889

Program 88%

Administrative 12%



2016	\$918,208
2015	\$941,219
2014	\$540,589
2013	\$289,147
2012	\$205,845
2011	\$175,960
2010	\$246,712
2009	\$105,860
2008	\$46,406
2007	\$98,886

Supporter Spotlight 2016

Thank you!

GOVERNMENT AWARDS

United States Agency for
International Development
(USAID)

CORPORATIONS, FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Grants & Contributions \$20,000 & Above

Anonymous
Chicago Community
Trust, Donor Advised
Fund
The Stone Family
Foundation
Thanksgiving Fund
Weyerhaeuser Family
Foundation

\$10,000-\$19,999

The Lohengrin Foundation
Manaaki Foundation

\$3,000-\$9,999

Earth and Its People
Foundation, Donor
Advised Fund
Rubens Family Foundation

\$1,000-\$2,999

Jameson Development LLC
Leinenweber, Baroni &

Daffada LLC
Nova Catholic Community
The Philip J. And Carol J.
Lyons Foundation
Rotary Club of Oak Park-
River Forest
Sandbox Studio, Inc.

\$300-\$999

Ardelle Baroni Charitable
Fund, Donor Advised
Fund
Amicus Fund, Donor
Advised Fund
First United Methodist
Church
JRG Capital Partners, LLC
Mortgage Resource Group

\$299 & Under

AmazonSmile Foundation
Bright Funds Foundation
iGive
Martin J. and Susan B.
Kozak Fund, Donor
Advised Fund
North Shore Country Day
School

In Kind Gifts

Art Institute of Chicago
Bangle Stacker
Brookfield Zoo

Catch 35
Chicago Council on Global
Affairs
Chicago Cubs
Cooper's Hawk
DH Enterprises LLC
Disney
The Field Museum
Frame Warehouse
The Gage
Go Cycle Fitness
MacDaddy Salon
Museum of Contemporary
Art Chicago
Nellcôte Restaurant
North Pond Restaurant
Oceanique
Olive & Well
Red Orchid Theatre
Shedd Aquarium
Skydeck Chicago
Vertical Endeavors
Yogaview

Matching Gifts

Bank of America Charitable
Foundation
BMO Harris Bank N.A.
Bright Funds Foundation
CaringCrowd
Illinois Tool Works
Foundation
Leo Burnett Company
Charitable Foundation
Qualcomm Foundation
Silicon Valley Community
Foundation
Unum Group

INDIVIDUALS

Visionary Circle

\$10,000 & above

Anonymous
Catherine & Jeff Cappel
Sarah Miyata & Stephen
Weber

Leaders' Circle

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Lynn Besser
Regine W. Corrado
Jennifer & Christopher
Dunn

Sisters' Circle

\$1,000–\$4,999

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Donna Cook & Matt
Maciejewski
Daphne & John
Cunningham
Laura Derks
April & Paul Donnellan
Deborah Dranove
Elizabeth & Lincoln Ellis
Kathryn Goetz
Deana & Christopher
Herrman
Laura & Eric Jordahl
Suzanne & Daniel Kanter
Jennifer Kenoian
Pascale Kichler
Paul Maglio & Teenie
Matlock
Sarah McCarthy &
Diarmaid Collins
Julie Moller
Michele Moore & Family
Katherine & Oliver Nicklin
Mary O'Donnell & Ben
Orzeske
Marie & Jorge Olmos
Julie Stagliano
Bill Taylor
Carol Wyant & Craig
McGrath
Suzanne & Mike Wychocki

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\$500–\$999

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Rosa Castellano
Wendy Espeland & Bruce
Carruthers

Meredith Farster
Frank Fletcher
Werner Huget
Audrey Huzenis
Nancy Juda & Jens
Brasch
Catherine Kallal &
Maurice Lemon
Juliana Kerr
Mary Klonowski & Paul
Kahan
Daniel Morris
Howard Raik
Thais & Robert Reid
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Nancy & John Schuessler
Adele Simmons
Dina Smeltz
Gail & Al Tangora
Holly Wainwright
Carol & Scott Webster

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Rachel Bronson
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Rita Hays
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 Greenbaum & David
 Greenbaum
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 Jacobson
 Maureen Meyer

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 Teri Miller
 Cindy Milojevic
 Larry & Carole Mitchener
 Soade M'Lissa
 Catherine Nardi
 Daba Ndong
 Isobel Neal
 Kay Pesek Nixon
 Anne Nicklin & Kpoene
 Kofi-Nicklin
 Edith Njuguna
 Deanna Nord Nogel
 Tate Nudo
 Angela Oetjens
 Clarisse Perrette
 Florence Playner
 Erin Plummer
 Amy Pojman
 Julie Pouilly
 Myra & Kevin Price
 Jane & David Radvan
 Mary Richgels
 Lisa Roberts
 Matt Rose
 Barbara Rose & Neil Peck
 Arlen & Elaine Rubin
 Thierry Sarr
 James Scher
 Jill & Michael Schield
 Jenny Schmeissing &
 John Rice
 Mary Schmit
 Marilyn Schonthal
 Christie Schuessler
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 Lawrence Sherman
 Sherry Siegel
 Gail M. Silver
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 Nathaniel Spiller
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 Winona Watson
 Alison & Kevin Welch
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 Judi Zink
 Tom Zink
 Alan Zunamon & Nancy
 Cunniff

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\$99 & under

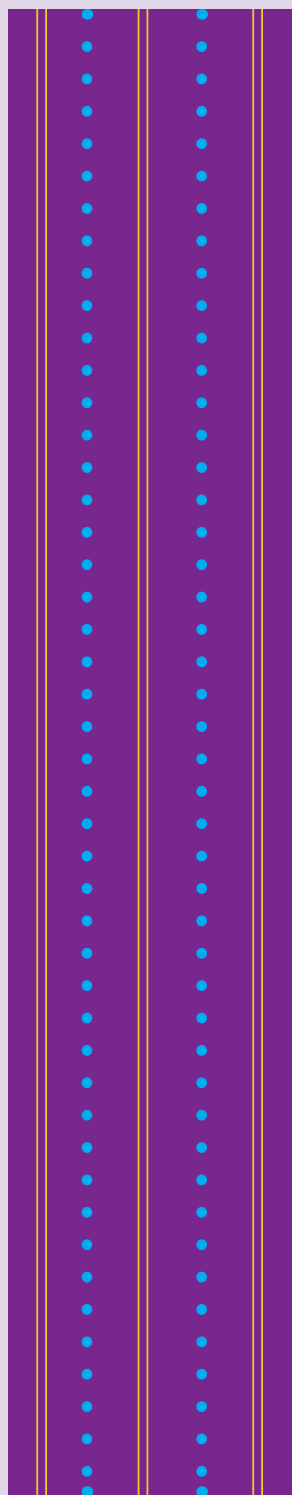
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 Katherine Bailey
 Megan Ballard
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 Macedo
 Nina Bassole
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 Elliot Stein
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 Anda & Zoltan Sztankay
 Karen Tardy
 Terry Tennes
 Cindy Ternes-Snydacker
 Melissa Trinley
 Kirsten Turpel
 Lynn Voss
 Nancy Wallace
 Eva Garcia Zarzuela
 Tami Zezulka

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 Corinna Button
 Kate Conroy
 Nancy Horn
 Audrey Huzenis
 Erin Jameson & Art
 Wisehart
 Marie & Jorge Olmos
 Elizabeth & William Sharpe
 Lauren Wiczorek





Women's Global
Education Project

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