

Educating African Girls



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Program Assistant: Christine Poni, Palorinya Camp, Uganda

Tertiary School Scholarship Program

Administrator: Sister Lily Grace Akedi, Comboni Missionary Sisters,
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P.O. Box 5692
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IRS 501 C3 Tax Identification Number: 20-2949247
Web Site: www.dunstanwaifoundation.org

The Wai Foundation's Mission

The mission of the Wai Foundation is to empower African girls through education.

In African countries, as in most of the developing world, education is much more readily available to boys than to girls. Poverty, gender bias, cultural beliefs, as well as fear and instability due to conflict, have meant that most girls, even those with academic promise, are not able to attend school beyond the primary level.



Recognizing this gender gap, The Wai Foundation was founded in 2005 in South Sudan, the birthplace of Dr. Dunstan Wai. Its purpose is to improve the lives and futures of girls in South Sudan and northern Uganda by providing them with the financial and emotional support to continue on to secondary school and beyond.



Their education can then serve as the tool to lift them out of poverty and enable them to realize their potential.

Letter from the DWMCF Chair

Dear Friends of The Wai Foundation,

I am constantly surprised by the resilience of our scholarship recipients in South Sudan and Uganda, where conditions remain extremely chaotic. Both areas continue to experience high COVID infection rates, violence and crime, and food shortages. The secondary school girls have been in and out of school (currently out) due to COVID and, with their boarding schools closed, the girls were forced to return home.

As with last year, this means that over two-thirds of our girls have returned to the refugee camps in northern Uganda, where their families live after fleeing violence in South Sudan. To provide the girls with learning opportunities and close monitoring and mentorship, the Board and our in-country administrators have continued the Special Study Program instituted in 2020 -- hiring traveling tutors, distributing textbooks, solar lamps, battery-operated radios, and supplying much needed personal items.

Amazingly, despite the multiple disruptions in their formal schooling this past year, the results of our secondary-school scholarship recipients' standardized testing actually improved. Our hope is that they will be able to return to their schools in early 2022 and will regain stability and focus on their studies. In the meantime, your generosity will allow us to continue to provide tutoring and mentoring programs in the refugee camps.

Our post-secondary (tertiary) scholarship recipients have had more time in school than the secondary school girls. Through the chaos, these girls continue to pursue their dreams to be nurses, mid-wives, medical technicians, and teachers. Twenty-four young women have already received certificates or diplomas in their fields.

Also this past year, we lost Kim Jaycox, my father and co-founder and former Board Chair of the foundation, to cancer. He left behind a legacy of generosity and a belief in the strength of women and the power of education.

Despite another challenging year, The Wai Foundation has continued to provide stability and educational opportunity for our scholarship recipients. We ask that you support the Foundation so that we can continue to fund the education of as many of these ambitious, hard-working South Sudanese and Ugandan girls and young women as possible.

Nearly every dollar you give goes to someone who is desperately seeking an education and whose talents are urgently needed by her country. Please give as generously as you can.

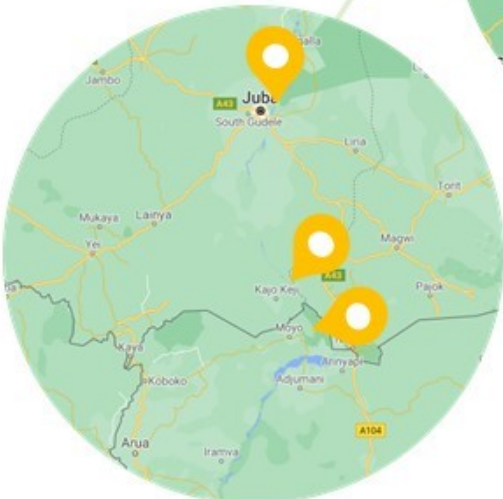
Wishing you all the best,




Tamara Jaycox Kessler,
Chair, Board of Directors



Where the Wai Foundation Works





In 2021, the Wai Foundation awarded scholarships for the first term to 138 recipients to attend six secondary schools in Uganda - 90 South Sudanese and 48 Ugandan girls.

For many students, Covid19 disrupted the academic year. In the first term, the Ugandan government restricted in-person attendance to two classes, Senior 4 and Senior 6, so that they could prepare for their final O-level and A-level exams.

Sister Florence Oryema and her assistants made sure that our senior students reported to school in a timely manner and had the mentoring and support that they needed. As a result, they were able to sit for their exams and all passed, some brilliantly.

The Wai Foundation's Secondary School Scholarship Program

Although the lockdown affected any prolonged in-person study for the other classes, Sister Florence and her assistants managed to ensure that none of our students fell through the cracks. To keep them motivated throughout the year, they were provided with on-site tutoring and any academic materials they might need.

All of the 34 Wai Foundation scholars in class Senior 4 who took their O-Level final exams, (11 are Ugandan and 23 are refugees from South Sudan), have passed. Two of them passed with first grade honors and automatically qualify to pursue their studies at A-Levels next year. The A-Level exam results have not yet been posted, but we are cautiously optimistic that the results will qualify the girls to pursue degree courses at institutions of higher learning.

Two Wai Graduates Receive First Division Honors in their Uganda Certificate of Education

Flavia, a nineteen-year-old from South Sudan, currently lives in a Ugandan refugee camp with her widowed mother, grandmother, and three sisters. Flavia excelled during her first two years at the local secondary school in the camp, which enabled her to join the Wai Foundation scholarship program at St Andrews Secondary School as a boarder. She is pursuing her education in the sciences as a way to lift her and her family out of their current predicament. She intends to get a degree in nursing, a career she considers will enable her to support her family and her community. Flavia passed the 2021 UCE with First Division Honors.



Evaline, an impressively determined young Ugandan, was accepted to the Wai Foundation scholarship program in her first year of high school at St. Andrew's Secondary School. Her strong work ethic has been evident during the school closures and COVID19 lockdown as she travelled weekly from her home to Moyo to borrow textbooks and to meet in study groups with other motivated local students. Evaline wants to pursue a degree in Education. She hopes to become a senior lecturer in a university where she would be able to educate future teachers.

Responding to COVID19: The Special Study Program

When secondary schools were first closed due to covid in March 2020, The Wai Foundation's partners in Uganda responded quickly. Sister Florence Oryema and her assistants, Christine Ponti and Rufina Kinyaa, started study groups with local teachers as tutors. They supplied the girls with books and notebooks along with radios to access Ministry of Education lessons and lanterns for night-time study.

In 2021, the continued threat from covid disrupted the Ugandan Government's plans for reopening schools. Amid the uncertainty, Sister Florence, Christine, and Rufina have been nimble in continuing tutoring classes in April and May and once again in September and October. All the mandated subjects have been covered, providing the girls with the opportunity to have extra coaching in difficult subjects such as math and science.

The records kept of attendance, subjects covered, and marks achieved by the students reflect the interest and appreciation of the girls for the efforts to assist them to be able to complete their secondary schooling.



Ms. Christine, (left), a Field Assistant, chats with Wai scholars following a mentoring session in their refugee camp.

WAI Foundation's Tertiary Scholarship Program

In 2010, under the astute guidance of Sister Lily Grace Akedi, the Foundation began to support selected graduates of secondary schools to pursue advanced studies in institutions of their choice. The results so far have been excellent, despite all the logistical challenges and the chaos from the pandemic.

Tertiary students are enrolled in ten Ugandan schools and three South Sudanese schools. So far, 24 young women have graduated, receiving either a certificate or a higher-level diploma. Currently, 18 students are studying to become nurses, midwives, teachers, lab technicians, nutritionists, clinical officers, and project managers, all fields in which graduates are in demand.

In response to a perceived need to increase employment opportunities, the Foundation is initiating a trial program to fund short-term skills training for secondary-school graduates not pursuing tertiary studies (e.g. in fields such as hair dressing, catering, and tailoring).



Jennifer: A Wai Foundation Tertiary Scholar

Jennifer is a 22-year-old Ugandan. The Wai Foundation has been funding her education since secondary school, when her family could no longer support her. In 2017, the Foundation selected Jennifer to continue her studies as one of our Tertiary scholars, in what she called her “dream course” in nursing. In 2020, she graduated at the top of her class on the Uganda Nursing and Midwives Examinations.

Growing up, Jennifer’s life was very difficult, but not unusual among her peers. Her father died when she was young, and her mother abandoned her. Raised by her grandmother, they could normally only afford to eat one meal a day. Her grandmother encouraged her studies at primary school and she scored highest on her final exams there. When an uncle who initially paid for her to attend secondary school ran out of funds, her grandmother contacted the Wai Foundation.



Jennifer wrote to us: *“I thank all the coordinators for their mentorship to become what I am. I won’t give up with life because I know through the support of the Foundation, I can achieve my goals. My future is to be a champion and to change the story of my life and those who need my support. I want to give back to the community and the needy upon successful completion of my professional preparation.”*

Keeping In Close Touch In Juba

Ibrahim Wani, a member since 2016 of the Wai Foundation's Board of Directors, is proving to be an incredibly valuable asset to us during this ongoing pandemic. Wani is a Ugandan-born American who has retired from a career at the United Nations where he headed a mission in South Sudan investigating human rights abuses. He has spent the past few months working as a consultant for a non-profit in Juba, South Sudan's capital. While there, to our great benefit, he has been able to keep in close touch during his off hours with the Foundation's tertiary-level scholars. Our administrator in Juba, Sister Lily Grace Akedi, reports that Wani is such a regular attendee at her weekly mentoring sessions with the young women that they have taken to calling him "uncle."

"My visits with Lily and the young women are often the highlights of my Saturdays," Wani reported during a recent Zoom call with the Board. *"The girls are ambitious and thoroughly engaged in their studies, and so grateful for the Foundation's support. Most are coping with difficult living situations with relatives and working part-time in addition to attending school. Not to mention trying to manage their finances when bus fare can be \$9 at the beginning of the day and \$60 at that day's end."*

Under these circumstances, Wani says, *"Sister Lily is a lifeline to the students, a constant source of support and encouragement. It's hard to fathom how anyone could keep our program going during these difficult times, especially with the corona virus unchecked, but Sister Lily is doing just that. I'm privileged to be able to watch her and our students in action."*



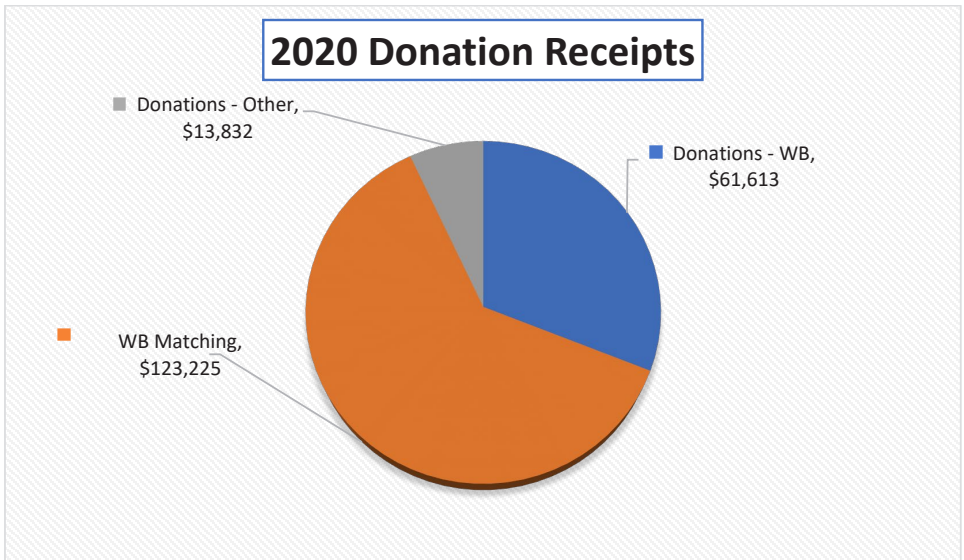
Board member Ibrahim Wani, on the move during a visit with Sister Lily (far left) and our tertiary-level scholars in Juba, South Sudan

Notes From the DWMCF Treasurer

Overall, our assessment is the Wai Foundation's program is doing well in a difficult, rapidly changing situation. The 2020 financials were audited by the firm of PT CPAs, PLLC in Raleigh, NC. They provided an unqualified opinion that our financials were "free of any misrepresentations. In addition, the financial records had been maintained in accordance with the standard of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles."

INCOME FOR 2020

In 2020, total donations received were \$198,670 from 117 individual donors, of whom over 50% are generously matched at 200% by the World Bank Group (WB). This WB 2020 match was double the match of previous years, resulting in 2020 donations that were over \$61,766 (45%) higher than 2019 donations of \$138,905. The increased match by the World Bank accounts for almost 100% of this growth.



2020 EXPENSES

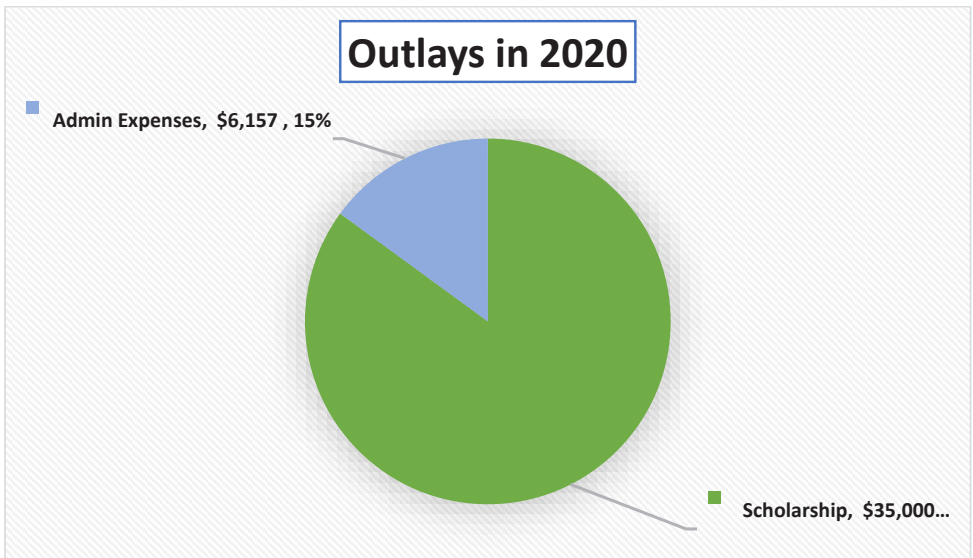
Secondary schools in Uganda, where most of our students have relocated over the past four years due to the continuing crisis in South Sudan, were closed for most of the year due to Covid-19 pandemic.

These closures and our subsequent reduced expenditures on secondary-school scholarships have meant that our overall 2020 expenditures of \$41,157 were approximately 54% less than the 2019 expenditures of \$75,989. Of note is that we have continued to support our students while they are out of school with a

Notes From the DWMCF Treasurer

special tutoring and mentoring program Our administrative expenses related to accounting, auditing and supplies at \$6,157, were about 92% of the previous years expense of \$6,650.

These amazing results are due to our reliance in our operations on a hard-working volunteer Board of Directors and the invaluable contributions from the Comboni Sisters in South Sudan and the Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Uganda.



STRATEGY/LOOKING AHEAD

We continue to be committed to the education and welfare of African women, in South Sudan and Uganda. We have continued to see school closures in 2021, and continue to assist our students while they are out of school.

Our goal for 2022 is to continue supporting 140 girls in secondary school and 20 girls in post-secondary school. We are working on expanding our scholarships for post-secondary programs which will result in increased program expenses

Given the increasing cost of supporting the girls in a constantly challenging environment, we continue to need your help in carrying out this mission and hope you will donate generously.

John Nderitu, Treasurer
The Wai Foundation

Wai Foundation Donors

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*Contributions matched by the World Bank Community Connections Fund

Wai Foundation Donors

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Dunstan Wai (1947-2005)



Dunstan
Wai
Memorial
Charitable
Foundation

The Wai Foundation was founded in memory of Dunstan Mogga Wai and his deep-seated commitment to empower poor people through education. No one could be a better role model for success through education than Dunstan Wai himself. Born in Kajo Keji, Sudan his family fled to Uganda to escape the civil war in the Sudan. As a young student and a refugee, Dunstan did not have many options other than to work hard in his studies, gaining scholarships to finance his education. These provided him an opportunity to study at some of the best universities in Africa, Europe and the United States. After attending Makerere University, Kampala, he went on to study at Oxford University. Another scholarship to Harvard helped earn him his Ph.D. Dunstan spent the bulk of his professional life at the World Bank where he made lasting contributions in areas of development. His career reflected his deep knowledge, love and passion for Africa and his wish to improve the lot of his people. Dunstan never forgot that he owed his achievements to all the support and mentoring that he got along the way. Education enabled him to achieve his goals and made him a true inspiration to those who knew him.

The Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation: Educating African Girls

If you are able to support us, your donation will improve the lives of girls in South Sudan and northern Uganda and empower them to strive for a better future.

The Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation is a 501(c)(3) Organization under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code, Tax ID No. 20-2949247. Contributions to the Foundation are fully deductible to the extent allowed by U.S. law.

- Yes, I would like to contribute:
- \$500 (tuition for one girl for one year)
- \$1,000 (for one tertiary-level scholarship)
- (Other amount) to the Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation
\$ _____

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www.dunstanwaifoundation.org / www.dwmcf.org

Checks or money orders should be made out to DWMCF and mailed to:
P.O. Box 5692, Washington DC 20016-5692

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Board Updates



Joseph M. Wambia, Board Member Emeritus. It is with great regret that the Foundation's Board of Directors accepted the resignation of one of our founding members, Joseph (Joe) Wambia, effective July, 2021. Joe began his extensive career in international development as an economics professor at Nairobi University, then joined the World Bank staff from 1979 to 2005. During his 26 years working at the World Bank, Joe became a close friend and colleague of Dunstan Wai. Upon Dunstan's untimely death in 2005, Joe joined with other colleagues and Dunstan's wife Nyakwea to set up the Wai Foundation in his memory. Joe's expertise in finance and international development has been an enormous asset to the Wai Foundation from its inception. He served skilfully as the Board's first Treasurer from 2005 until 2014. After the World Bank, he was founder and Chief Investment Officer of Wambia Capital (an Investment Advisory Firm), was employed at Linkage Emerging Markets Capital Partners (a Hedge Fund focused on Emerging Markets), and at AECOM as Managing Director, Finance, Global Programs. His keen insights and steady hand as a Board member will be sorely missed.



Our New Board Member: Harriet Nannyonjo. It's hard to imagine a person with better qualifications to join The Wai Foundation's Board of Directors. On December 1, 2021, we welcomed Harriet Nannyonjo, a Senior Education Specialist at the World Bank. Harriet holds a PhD in Education from the University College Cork, Ireland. With over 20 years experience, Harriet has led education projects and analytical work in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Middle East and North Africa. Passionate about education for all, Harriet championed and managed World Bank education projects, resulting in a significant increase in enrollment at both primary and secondary education in Uganda. Her inside knowledge of Uganda has already proved invaluable in helping us meet the challenges to our secondary-school students in Uganda during the pandemic. It is a privilege to have her enthusiasm and acumen on our Board of Directors.

Tributes to Kim Jaycox, 1938-2021

The Wai Foundation incurred a momentous loss this year with the death of Edward (Kim) Jaycox on March 1, 2021. Kim and others founded the Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation in 2005, in response to the premature death of Dr. Dunstan Wai, a friend and World Bank colleague from South Sudan. He led its Board of Directors until his retirement in 2020. Among the many tributes to Kim that we received were these.

From Jim Adams, World Bank colleague and Wai Foundation Board Member, sent to Kim a few weeks before his death

Your determined focus [at the World Bank] on engaging African capacity and pursuing economic reform remains central to everything the Bank has accomplished in the region.... At the Wai Foundation, your leadership has obviously been critical to the education of almost a generation of East African girls, mostly from South Sudan. By remembering Dunstan Wai in such a tangible way, you have made another real contribution to Africa.

From Inder Sud, President of the 1818 Alumni Society at the World Bank:

Kim was a legend at the World Bank, but I believe also in the development community-at-large...He deserves our special gratitude for his numerous accomplishments in his 32-year career at the Bank. Most notable among them are his outstanding leadership on fighting poverty, his championing of Africa's development, and his pioneering role on addressing urban poverty as major goals of the Bank's agenda.

From Daniel Ritchie, Secretary of the Foundation's Board of Directors:

It was my pleasure to have known and worked with Kim for more than 50 years...[While at the Foundation], I will always remember fondly visiting Kajo Keji together several years ago, crossing the Nile in a putt-putt ferry boat, spending three nights in a convent at the Comboni School with Sister Lily and the two sister subordinates, standing in a square about two feet wide to pick up Wi-Fi from Uganda....He made the world a better place by his presence and we will always feel blessed for having been his friend.



Excerpts from a poem composed by Sister Lily Grace Akedi and sent to Kim from Juba three months prior to his death:

OUR HERO KIM EDWARD

*He stands out in stature,
He is a man of character.
Humility, integrity, self giving his ingredients
Who could match him?
That is our Hero....*

*Papa Kim who could liken to you?
You wiped our tears, raised us up.
Calmed our fears, gave us hope.
We owe our smiles to you papa,
You are indeed our Hero....*



Kim on site in Kajo Keji, South Sudan



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