



“EDUCATING AFRICAN GIRLS”

**THE WAI FOUNDATION’S
2017 ANNUAL REPORT**



**THE DUNSTAN WAI MEMORIAL CHARITABLE
FOUNDATION - (THE WAI FOUNDATION)**

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Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation
1005 Sherman Court, Great Falls, VA 22066
www.dunstanwaifoundation.org
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Front Page: Arua, Uganda; Group photo of The Wai Foundation Secondary School Scholarship recipients with Sister Lorena, (front right), Rufina Kinyaa (back left) and Betty Sunday (front middle), at a workshop on 'proper study methods'

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

November 2017

Dear Friends,

This year, 2017, has proved to be the most challenging by far in the twelve years that The Wai Foundation has been awarding scholarships to young women in Kajo Keji County, South Sudan and northern Uganda. Before this year, the intense fighting since 2013 between South Sudanese government and opposition forces had never reached as far south as Kajo Keji. As 2017 began, 63 girls were anticipating continuing as Wai scholars in grades S-2 to S-4, and new first-year scholars were about to be selected. That all ended with a crash when the warfare arrived in Kajo Keji in full force.

The immediate effect was a mass evacuation of almost all of the county's population into Uganda, the neighbouring country. Some 97% of the county's population abandoned their homes to seek refuge in the UNHCR camps there. By February 2017, all the schools in Kajo Keji had closed. Towns are now mainly ghost towns.

Since then, our South Sudanese operations have been confined to funding tertiary-level scholars in the capital of Juba, north of Kajo Keji, where life goes on despite rampant inflation, extensive crime, and aggravated food and fuel shortages. In Juba, we are continuing to provide scholarships for eight young women to study at the Health Science Training Institute in Juba. They are assiduously watched over by Lily Grace Akedi of the Comboni Missionary Sisters. Sister Lily is also responsible for the five-other tertiary-level scholars who are studying in Uganda.

But what had become of our secondary-school scholarship program in South Sudan? Incredibly, despite the fact that all of our former scholarship recipients were living in refugee camps in another country, that program is continuing. This is due entirely to our dedicated staff on site, who managed to shift all of our operations to northern Uganda.

Responsible for achieving this amazing relocation is Comboni Missionary Sister Lorena Ortiz, who joined us as our volunteer scholarship administrator in Kajo Keji at the end of last year. Sister Lorena, who also left Kajo Keji in February when their Mission there closed, was able to transfer to another Comboni Mission in Arua, Uganda. She went immediately to work.

Within a matter of weeks, Sister Lorena and two assistants were able to locate all 63 of our continuing S-2 to S-4 scholarship recipients -- no easy task because the refugee families were arriving at different times to different refugee camps. In addition, Sister Lorena identified 22 new girls for approval for scholarships. Altogether, our South-Sudanese refugees chosen for scholarships in Uganda number 85.

But finding scholars was only one of Sister Lorena's responsibilities. Equally important was finding schools to accept these new students. Three schools in Moyo were already hosting 35 Ugandan Wai scholars, and Lorena persuaded them to accept over half of our refugees. She was also able to enlist a government school in close proximity to the refugee camps -- although it was already overcrowded -- to take the remaining students

As a result, we are proud to report that we are currently funding the secondary-school education of 120 South Sudanese and Ugandan girls and the tertiary education of another thirteen-- something resembling a miracle, considering the circumstances.



Sister Lorena Otiz is the current Wai Foundation Secondary School Scholarship Administrator. She also relocated to Uganda to escape the fighting in South Sudan.

Indeed, considering the circumstances, it is no surprise that it has been rough going for our South Sudanese scholars. Not only is the course of studies in Uganda entirely different, but the standards are also much higher than those in South Sudan. Initially, most of our scholars were somewhat overwhelmed -- worried that they wouldn't be able to keep up. Added to those fears were all the difficulties that arose from their brand-new lives as refugees -- impoverished and unable to rely on their families for even the necessities.

Sister Lorena and her assistants have worked hard to provide the support these girls need to stay in school and succeed. With their mentoring and encouragement, the girls took up the challenge, studied hard and by the second term were already showing signs of catching up with their Ugandan classmates. Nineteen of our scholars are set to graduate from secondary school at the end of this year.

The new realities in Uganda have required The Wai Foundation's Board to reassess what additional types of assistance we should be providing to these young women. As a result, in addition to providing the girls' tuition, the Foundation has taken on a role usually left to the students' families -- that of buying basic personal essentials like school uniforms, exercise books, pens and pencils, soap, and sanitary pads. In addition, tuition costs in Uganda are considerably higher than they were in South Sudan.

Fortunately, The Wai Foundation has been able to meet the increased demands on our resources thanks to the generosity of our donors, and to the matching funds supplied by the World Bank for donations made to us through their Community Connections Fund. In addition, we are the grateful beneficiaries of two funds set up in memory of individuals who had been loyal, generous supporters and who sadly passed away this year: Callisto Madavo and Maria-Victoria Lister. Callisto Madavo, who was born in Zimbabwe, was a colleague of Dunstan Wai at the World Bank, where he worked for 35 years, ultimately as an operational Vice President. Maria-Victoria Lister, a native of Argentina, was a Senior Operations Officer for some 27 years at the World Bank. Both of these individuals were notable for their strong commitment to social development and belief in the power of educating girls and young women.

Given our increased costs and the increased demand for our scholarships, we are hopeful that the generosity of our current and new donors will enable us to continue supporting as many of these ambitious, hard-working South Sudanese and Ugandan young women as possible. Nearly every dollar you give to The Wai Foundation goes directly toward a secondary- or tertiary-level scholarship for a young woman -- someone who is desperately seeking an education, and someone whose talents are desperately needed by her country.

Your support is needed now more than ever. Please give as generously as you can.

Sincerely yours,



Edward (Kim) Jaycox, Chair
Board of Directors
The Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation



Sister Lily (right) visiting three tertiary students in Uganda

THE WAI FOUNDATION SECONDARY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Our Local Heroes

In early 2017, when virtually the entire county of Kajo Keji fled the dangerous fighting for the relative safety of the refugee camps in northern Uganda, we at The Wai Foundation feared the worst: that our entire program of secondary-school scholarships was finished. We soon learned, however, that we had badly underestimated the courage and resolution of Sister Lorena Ortiz, the young woman administering our scholarships. It was only because Sister Lorena, with the help of two assistants, took the initiative to locate the missing South-Sudanese scholars, to recruit new girls eligible for scholarships, and to find places in Ugandan schools for them that our program has survived.

Born in Costa Rica, Sister Lorena joined the Comboni Missionary Society in 1995. She has a B.A. in Theology and a Diploma in Gestalt Professional Counselling, making her ideally qualified to deal with the crushing psychological trauma of displacement that the refugee students and their families have experienced this year.

The Wai Foundation Secondary School Scholarship Recipients, Terms, 2 & 3, 2017			
HOST SCHOOLS	Ugandan Students	South Sudanese	Total students
St. Andrew (Uganda)	18	29	47
Metu (Uganda)	15	0	15
Bishop Asili (Uganda)	2	18	20
Itula (Uganda)		37	37
Juba (South Sudan)		1	1
Total	35	85	120



Administrative Assistants Betty Sunday and Rufina Kinyaa, are holding a counseling session with Wai scholarship recipients in St, Andrew secondary school, in Arua, Uganda.

Completing our trio of local heroes are two local women who have been assisting Sister Lorena with her work -- Betty Sunday and Rufina Kinyaa. Betty Sunday is a South Sudanese who fled with the rest of the refugees from Kajo Keji County to northern Uganda. Rufina Kinyaa is a newly recruited assistant from northern Uganda.

It's impossible to overstate the difficulties these women faced in carrying out their responsibilities. Lorena reports that when at one point she was in Kampala to obtain a multi-entry visa, *"people were calling me every morning, day and evening, sometimes the parents, sometimes the girls, other times Rufina, all urgent issues to be handled personally."*

One of their most tough challenges has been adequate, affordable transportation. Lorena and her assistants have needed to travel long distances in their regular visits to monitor the health and academic progress of the girls. For example, Arua, where Lorena stayed when she first moved

Uganda, is more than 170 kilometres away from Moyo, where three of the host schools are located. Public transportation for these trips is either not available or unreliable. One possible means is a “*boda boda*”, (a motorcycle taxi), which is dangerous, provides a terrible ride, and is subject to running out of petrol before you reach your destination.

Hiring a regular taxi, though expensive, has been the only dependable means of getting to the schools to visit the girls. Lorena and Betty Sunday have both just recently moved to locations that are closer to the schools in Moyo and to the refugee camps.

To help these girls make this tough adjustment, Sister Lorena and her assistants met with the girls individually, and whenever possible with their teachers and school administrators, as well as their parents. They also organized day-long workshops in June and July at each of the four secondary schools hosting Wai scholars. At the end of the workshops, they awarded prizes for best and second-best performances during the first term. These workshops were not without their own challenges, however –such as muddy, nearly impassable roads, lack of power and water, and damp firewood for cooking.

Although lately, Sister Lorena reports, things have been looking up. She says that although “the beginning of the year was a real stress and mess ... now I feel that many things are under control.” She cautions, however, that we will not be able to know how well they perform this year until we receive their report cards at the end of the third term.

THE TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2013, in response to multiple requests from scholarship recipients who were graduating from secondary school, The Wai Foundation began awarding scholarships to selected graduates to attend post-secondary institutions. This year, we are celebrating an increase in the number of our tertiary scholars from eight to thirteen. The young women are being funded for a minimum of three years.

Since its inception, Sister Lily Grace Akedi has taken on the role of Scholarship Administrator for the Foundation's tertiary program. Eight of the young women under her care are in Juba, South Sudan and the other five attend schools in Uganda.

Sister Lily reports that life in Juba for the eight students at the Health Science Training Institute in Juba has been increasingly perilous. Rampant inflation has aggravated food and fuel shortages. She writes that civil servants have gone unpaid for five months, and that "robbery with violence at night has become something normal." The buying power of the local currency has dwindled, rendering it useless.

Especially hard-hit are our third-year finalists, who are expected to be properly equipped for their hospital practicals, a requirement for their diploma in Public Health and Clinical Medicine -- equipment like a blood pressure machine, a stethoscope, and lab coats. So, in addition to their tuition, the Foundation Board has approved funding for these expenses, and has authorized a modest stipend per semester for their personal needs. According to Lily, the psychological impact of the stipend was phenomenal because it removed the threat of the students going hungry.

The Wai Foundation Tertiary Scholarship Recipients, 2017			
HOST SCHOOLS	# 1st year students	# 2nd year students	# 3rd year students
Health Science Training Institute. Juba, South Sudan		5	3
Health Science Training Institute, Arua, Uganda	1	1	1
Makerere Institute for Community Development, Kampala, Uganda	2		

OUR NEW GRADUATES

Despite all of the turmoil, we are proud to announce that four of our scholarship recipients graduated from tertiary-level institutions this year, having been supported by The Wai Foundation since secondary school.

Nukaya Annet Gombura Waigo is our first graduate from the Health Science Training Institute (HSTI) in Juba. On December 16, 2016, she was awarded a Diploma in Clinical Medicine and Public Health. In a long letter of thanks, Nukaya wrote *‘I am glad and extremely excited to express my happiness to you all. ...I always advise my fellow girls to work hard, telling them about how I became successful among the lucky girls who got this help [from] you DWMCF. We have formed our association (the DWMCF alumni), and I am among the advisors. We are praying that God will help us so that we reach our objectives, goals and visions. ‘*

On October 21, 2017, the second of our tertiary-level scholars graduated from Health Science Training Institute Juba. **Juru Jackline Laya** also received a Diploma of Clinical Medicine and Public Health. Sister Lily writes about “the jubilation as those gathered shared in the joys of their daughters and sons [despite] the difficult times they went through.” Jackline graduated at the top of her class of 69 students. Her early life had been arduous, especially after her father was killed in battle in 2012, and her mother abandoned the family. Since then, Jackline has been responsible for the care of her siblings, even after they were displaced to the refugee camps in Uganda. In an appreciation letter from Jackline to the Board, she reveals that “if all goes well, I would like to join the college of medicine in time to come.”

A happy Jackline at her graduation party which was attended by Sister Lily.



Juan Winnie holds the record of having received our support for the longest period of time. We have funded Winnie's studies through secondary school, then for two more years for a diploma in Journalism, and for four years more at Christian University, Mukono, Kampala. On July 7, we received more than enough in return when Winnie graduated from Christian with a B.A. in International Relations and Governance.

Sister Lily, who represented the Foundation at the ceremony reported: *'It was the graduation of a simple poor young woman, whose determination won everyone's heart.'* Raised by a single mother in a small rented room on the outskirts of Kampala, the mother and daughter paid for their upkeep by selling roasted groundnuts in the streets. Tears flowed freely throughout the graduation and a reception organized by her mother's small prayer group. All those who spoke mentioned the suffering and struggle that both mother and daughter had endured.



A moment for smiles for Juan Winnie from Christian University, Mukono, attended by Sister Lily Grace Akedi, her mentor for many years.



Sister Lily (left) and Julia Aluel Mario who credits her success to the counseling she received as a Wai scholar.

Another of our secondary-school graduates, **Julia Aluel Mario**, has succeeded in graduating from a tertiary-level school – without our funding, but thanks, she says, to the mentoring she received from Sisters Caterina and Lily. When she graduated from high school, Julia was married off by her uncles. Undeterred, she convinced her husband to let her go on to school to become a nurse. She has received a diploma in midwifery and is now back practicing her craft in her home community

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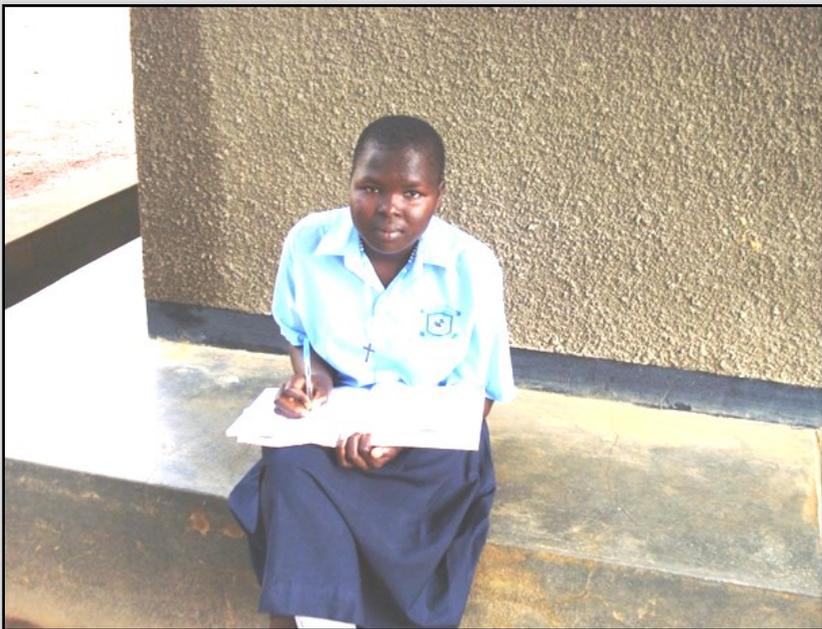
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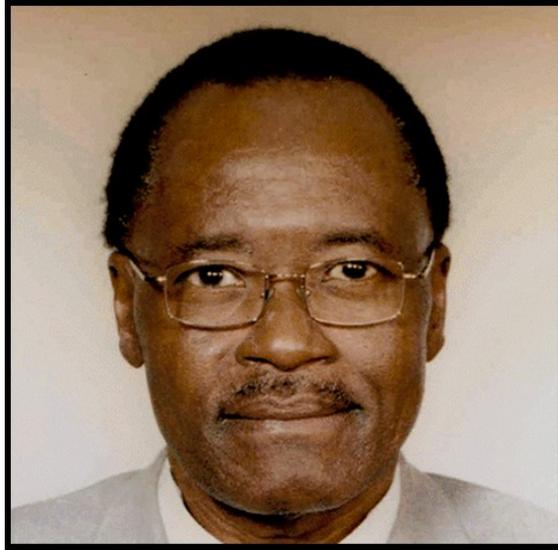
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The criteria for funding by the Wai Foundation Scholarship Program are need and performance. Once accepted to the program, students work hard at their studies. They believe, as we do, that education is the key to success.

ABOUT DUNSTAN WAI



1947 - 2005

The Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation, (DWMCF), also known as *The Wai Foundation*, was founded in memory of Dr. Dunstan Wai, in accordance with his conviction that education is the key to success and to his commitment to empower the poor through education. His relentless hard work gave him an opportunity to study at some of the best universities in Africa, Europe and the United States, funded at every stage by academic scholarships.

Dunstan Wai was a native son of Kajo-Keji County, South Sudan. He came from a large family; his father was a small businessman, his grandfather a paramount chief.

In 1964, to escape the ongoing civil war in the Sudan, he and some members of his family fled to Uganda as refugees. It is a tragedy that more than fifty years later, history is repeating itself and once again South Sudanese citizens, including our scholarship recipients, have been forced by conflict to flee en masse to Uganda and other neighboring countries as refugees.

The life of a refugee youth was arduous and bleak, but Dunstan was driven and focused on education as a means of uplifting himself and carving out a brighter future. His hard work was rewarded, he excelled in his studies and was able to entirely finance his education through consecutive scholarships at secondary, tertiary and postgraduate levels. He attended Makerere University, Kampala for a year before joining Oxford University in England for his bachelors degree. He then proceeded to the U.S to study for his PhD at Harvard University.

Dunstan spent the bulk of his professional life at the World Bank, working in the Africa Region, in the field of development and capacity building. During his career, he was committed to the vision of sustainable development in Africa and passionate about bringing people together to forge decision making forums and institutions that embraced inclusivity and forward thinking.

Throughout his life, he never forgot that he owed his achievements to all the support and mentoring that he received along the way. Education gave him the foundation to pursue his goals and aspirations and enabled him to develop into a man with a strong voice, capable of deeply impacting and inspiring others. We honor his memory and his life-long passion for mentoring, teaching and nurturing self-determination and self-esteem in others through the Wai Foundation Scholarships, to empower and uplift girls with the gift of education.

2017 NOTES FROM THE TREASURER

The Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation continues to grow financially, as reflected in our income statement and balance sheet on the next page. The balance sheet is strong with a cash balance of \$187,514, of which approximately \$124,500 is committed to cover the costs until graduation of girls currently under scholarship.

In 2016, our income, which comes primarily from individual donors, was \$78,056, an increase of 7% from 2015. Thanks in part to two new memorial funds set up in memory of deceased former contributors, our income has increased this year as of September 30, 2017 to \$86,376.

In 2016, grants to our scholarship recipients were \$30,000. To date in 2017, grant expenses have risen to \$55,000. This \$25,000 increase is the result of higher expenses in the costs of tuition and increased support expenses in Uganda, where most of our students have been forced to go to school due to the continuing crisis in South Sudan.

The financials were audited by the audit firm of PT CPAs, PLLC in Raleigh, NC. They provided us with an unqualified opinion stating that the financials were "free of any misrepresentations. In addition, the financial records had been maintained in accordance with the standards of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP)."

Our goal for 2018 is to continue to support 120 girls in secondary school and, if possible, to increase, or even to double, our scholarships to post-secondary young women. Given the increasing costs of supporting these 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

Financial Highlights

Income Statement	Year Ending					As of
	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	9/30/2017
Income						
Net Contributions	43,814	41,010	20,290	72,750	78,056	86,360
Investment Income	327	371	111	18	22	16
Total Income	44,141	41,381	20,401	72,768	78,078	86,376

Expenses						
Grant	29,250	33,000	46,600	30,000	30,000	55,000
Admin Expenses	11,942	10,684	11,149	8,246	5,427	5,453
Total Expenses	41,192	43,684	57,749	38,246	35,427	60,453
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	2,949	(2,303)	(37,348)	34,522	42,651	25,923

Balance Sheet	Year Ending					As of
	12/31/2012	12/31/2013	12/31/2014	12/31/2015	12/31/2016	9/30/2017
Assets						
Current Asset - Cash at Bank	116,043	121,387	84,039	118,940	161,212	187,514
Other Current Assets	9,230					
Total Asset	125,273	121,387	84,039	118,940	161,212	187,514
Total Liabilities & Reserves						
Total Liabilities & Reserves	125,273	121,387	84,039	118,940	161,212	187,514*

* Of this total of \$187,514, approximately \$124,500 is committed to covering the educational expenses of current scholarship students through their eventual graduations.

THE WAI FOUNDATION: EDUCATING AFRICAN GIRLS:

The Wai Foundation is almost entirely a volunteer operation, managed by a Board of Directors based in Washington, DC. In South Sudan and Uganda, the program is administered by efficient, dedicated nuns affiliated with the Comboni Missionary Society based in Juba and Nairobi.

The Foundation receives its funding from friends, colleagues, and well-wishers who share in our mission of empowering African girls through their education. Our donors understand how difficult it is for girls who come from countries like South Sudan and Uganda to enroll, attend, or complete school.

Our scholarship recipients are full of gratitude for the Foundation's support, as shown in the picture on the cover. With your help, we can continue to keep them and other scholarship recipients joyful and optimistic about their future.

Please join us in our vital work.



Tertiary students at Health Science Training Institute in Juba, South Sudan at a counselling session with the Wai Foundation Scholarship Administrator.

THE WAI 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:
- \$400 (tuition for one girl for one year
- \$800 for two girls for one year
- \$ (other amount) to the Dunstan Wai Memorial Charitable Foundation.

Credit card donations through PayPal is available on our website at www.dunstanwaifoundation.org.

Checks or money order should be made out to DWMCF and mailed to 1005 Sherman Court, Great Falls, Virginia 22066.

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