

Women's Global Education Project

Focus On Impact

KENYA

LESS THAN HALF
TO FGM
Educated Women
TO BE SUBJECTED

A GIRL THAT FINISHES
PRIMARY SCHOOL IS
1/2
AS LIKELY TO BECOME
INFECTED WITH
HIV/AIDS



**KENYA
WOMEN'S
GLOBAL
EDUCATION
PROJECT**



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INCREASES HER WAGES

10-20%

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**KENYA
SENEGAL**

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KENYA

SENEGAL



Women's Global Education Project was founded on the idea that everyone is entitled to an education, regardless of gender or economic status.

WGEP believes that universal education, gender equality and empowerment of women are critical to a society's development. Our mission is to provide access to education for women and girls, and to develop training programs that empower them to build better lives and foster equitable communities.



WGEP Sisters-to-School Senegal scholars

Letter From The Executive Director

Dear Friends,

2010 was a dream come true for WGEP in many ways.

First, the girls in our program celebrated many successes. I am extremely proud that WGEP is not only reaching more and more girls in the remote, rural regions of Senegal and Kenya, but that these girls are staying in school and doing well there. 2010 was the fourth year in a row that over 90 percent of our scholars remained in school; 30 percent of them placed in the top five of their class! With so many pressures to drop out, it is no accident that these girls are succeeding against all odds: it is the result of their hard work, the support of their families, and our comprehensive programs.

Second, WGEP was recognized by both the international community and the private sector for our work in girls' education. We were invited to be a "Best Practices" presenter at the UN conference on girls' education in Dakar, Senegal, last year where I had the honor of helping draft the UN declaration on girls' education. Additionally, WGEP was selected as the face of girls' education for the 2010 Neutrogena-GlobalGiving "Wave for Change" campaign, with WGEP receiving 70 percent of the vote in a national Facebook campaign.

Yes, it truly has been an amazing year! Because of your support, our dreams didn't merely stay pipe dreams, but became life-changing realities for girls, their families and their communities.

Because of your support, it is a reality that seven-year-old Diale and Mariama from rural Drame in Senegal became the first girls in their village ever to go to school.

It is a reality for Caroline of Gatunga, Kenya, that she will not have to face female genital mutilation and can instead remain in school this year and continue on to middle school.

Girls like Diale, Mariama, and Caroline can now imagine a new path for themselves and a brighter future.

None of this would have been possible without you! Each one of you has done so much to get us where we are today. Thank you for helping turn our dreams—and the dreams of our girls—into reality.

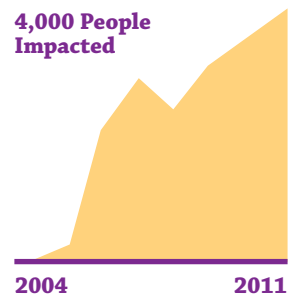
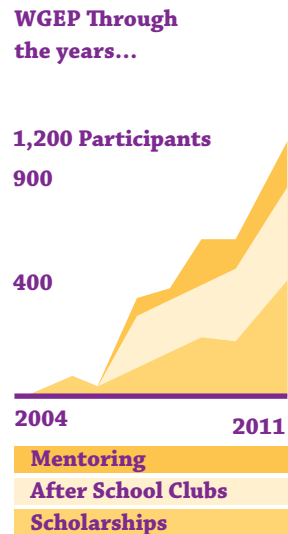
Yours,

Amy Maglio
Executive Director

Focus On Girls

The Girl Effect: the unique potential of six hundred million adolescent girls to end poverty for themselves and the world.

from thegirleffect.org



Focus On Sustainability

WGEP believes that a multi-level strategy is necessary to build a sustainable approach to girls' education. Currently working in rural communities in Senegal and Kenya, WGEP provides:

- ▶ Full scholarships for tuition, school fees, supplies, tutoring, mentoring, and room and board
- ▶ Partial scholarships for girls already enrolled in school to assist with school supplies and after-school tutoring
- ▶ Adult literacy classes to help women support their daughters in school
- ▶ Health education for scholars and their families to prevent health-related absences from school
- ▶ Educators' training to enhance classroom skills and to help educators affect policy at a broader level
- ▶ "Molding clubs" for girls and boys to affect the next generation
- ▶ Community awareness programs and workshops for parents, village leaders and other community members
- ▶ Empowerment programs, including an alternative rite of passage program to combat female genital mutilation, to help girls, women and their families make the most informed choices for their future

What Keeps Girls from School?

Many factors contribute to girls' non-attendance and high drop-out rates including:

- Lack of resources
- Bias towards boys
- Unaffordable school fees
- Concern for girls' safety
- Dependence on girl labor within the home
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Early marriage
- Undervaluing importance of an education

WGEP Retention Rates

	2007	2008
Senegal	94.6%	91.5%
Kenya	93.3	96.9
	2009	2010
Senegal	93	93
Kenya	96.9	97

Focus On Results

By working with rural girls and women, WGEP is reaching one of the most underserved populations in Sub-Saharan Africa. The communities where we work are on the fringes of society and are among the most vulnerable to famine, drought, and disease. Attendance rates among girls for secondary school in rural Kenya is as low as 11.6 percent; in rural Senegal, it is only 4.9 percent*.

Our impact: WGEP programs train our scholars, their families and communities to battle against the contributing factors that keep girls from attending school.

Since 2004, WGEP has provided more than 1,300 scholarships through our Sisters-to-School Senegal and Sisters-to-School Kenya programs.

More importantly, WGEP scholars are among the best and brightest at their schools. Retention rates among our scholars are well above national norms, and they consistently achieve academically: In 2010, 75 percent of WGEP scholars earned grades that were above-average or average, and 30 percent placed in the *top five* of their class.

Each of these numbers represents a girl whose life has been irrevocably changed because she now has access to education; a family whose hopes for the future are brighter because their daughter is going to school, and a community now invested in education and empowerment for their women and girls.

* Source: UNICEF Division of Policy and Practice, Statistics & Monitoring Section

Making a difference against female genital mutilation



Hayley Webster, WGEP intern since 2008, is currently serving as a public health Peace Corps Volunteer in Kakamega, Western Province, Kenya, about 230 miles from the WGEP site in Tharaka. Hayley spent 10 days in Tharaka in Dec. 2010 to help facilitate our anti-FGM program. She and WGEP Kenya also studied drip irrigation, sack gardening and other income-generating activities for local families to help girls stay in school instead of dropping out to support the family.

In 2010, WGEP’s annual “Circumcision with Words” alternative rite of passage program graduated 75 girls who, with their families, publicly refused the rite of female genital mutilation (FGM). Our program mimics a traditional circumcision ceremony: a four-day “seclusion” for empowerment workshops around health awareness, interpersonal relationships, conflict management, and empowerment for girls, then a big community celebration, but no genital cutting.

Now girls in Tharaka are taking the initiative to refuse FGM, two local churches started their own anti-FGM programs modeled on ours, and men are speaking out against FGM to support women’s rights.

The program has seen great success in the immediate area, and our local partner is hoping to replicate the program in the interior of Tharaka where FGM is still widespread.

Meet Patrick: Patrick was aware of the negative backlash in his community against families who break the deep-seated cultural tradition of FGM. Nevertheless, he sent his daughter to WGEP’s first anti-FGM program in 2007. He was so impressed with what it did for his daughter that he became a trainer in the program and a leading advocate for women’s rights in the community. Now he encourages program participants to study hard and become strong leaders for their communities.

Meet Lucy: After taking part in our 2010 alternative rite of passage program, Lucy became the first girl in her family to refuse FGM and to stay in school instead of getting married as a teenager. Lucy wants to become a teacher and to keep fighting FGM in her community: “I want to make sure there is no circumcision of girls anymore.”

“Circumcision With Words” is sponsored by the Rubens Family Foundation.

Scholars learn to lead...



75 girls and their families say “No!” to FGM at the 2010 ARP program ceremony.

Due to strong academic performance and leadership potential, five Sisters-to-School Senegal scholars were awarded spots in a girls’ leadership summer camp hosted jointly by Peace Corps Senegal and WGEP’s partner organization UDEN.

The goals of the weeklong camp were to provide the girls with self-confidence, an opportunity to gain knowledge and skills, and exposure to new ideas to help them become leaders in their communities.

The five scholars, Awa Thiam, Ndeye Fatou Diame, Madeleine Sene, Sadio Gueye, and Fatou Ndiaye, exceeded expectations through high levels of participation and met all challenges with determination.

Three teachers from UDEN served as counselors and group leaders, mentoring and leading the girls in group discussions and daily reflections. WGEP’s Senegal program coordinator, Adjì Senghor, also took part in the camp and spoke to the girls about her work and success. Adjì encouraged the girls to set goals for themselves and to continue to work hard.

The camp was a great success, and Peace Corps Senegal is hoping to expand the camp to reach more girls in 2011 with the help of WGEP’s partner UDEN!

Focus On Distinction

In 2010 WGEP was recognized both locally and internationally for our work...

- ▶ The Chicago Foundation for Women named Executive Director Amy Maglio a 2011 Impact Award winner.
- ▶ WGEP’s 2010 annual fundraiser NDAJEE raised a record \$36,000, the most we have ever raised from a single event.
- ▶ Executive Director Amy Maglio and Senegal Project Coordinator Adjì Senghor were presenters at the United Nation Girls’ Education Initiative global conference in Dakar, Senegal.
- ▶ WGEP was selected for Neutrogena’s 2010 “Wave for Change” campaign. The campaign proceeds benefitted WGEP and two other nonprofits, raised awareness for WGEP and our mission through People magazine and MTV.

Focus On People

Aniceta Kiriga is WGEP's Kenya Project Coordinator. This is her story:

I was born on September 20, 1958, in Iruma village in the Mara district. My father died when I was 3 years old and my mother sent me to live with my grandmother. My grandmother sent me to school, and in 1979 I was admitted to university, but was unable to attend because I couldn't pay the fees. That year I married my late husband, and in 1986 we moved to our rural home in Tharaka.

In Tharaka, women are a disadvantaged group. The culture and perceptions of the community emphasize that women are to remain at home, caring for the family. When I first moved there, almost all of the women were illiterate and uneducated. I decided to form a small women's group to boost the financial position of women and provide an opportunity for women in the community to get together and socialize. I had to convince their husbands to allow them to join the group because they were not allowed to leave their homes. Through my position with this group, I was elected as the Meru District Chairlady of the women's national umbrella organization Maendeleo Ya Wanawake Organization (MYWO), which means "development for women" in Swahili.

In 1991, I coordinated MYWO's research on female genital mutilation (FGM) in the Meru district. We found that 70 percent of female residents were subjected to FGM, and 99 percent in Tharaka. However, MYWO's 1993 program to combat FGM was not conducted in Tharaka. So I left the organization to start an anti-FGM project in Tharaka. I often witnessed FGM ceremonies, and once I lent my wheelbarrow to take a girl to the dispensary after her wound became septic. I started discussions with community women every Sunday, and the group grew to 10 women whose daughters had attained the age of circumcision but who did not want to subject them to the practice. My own daughter was this age, and I wanted to create a support system for her. The women were responsible for

Aniceta (left) with Joan Sherman (right), President of WGEP's Board of Directors.



convincing and marshaling support from their husbands and families. From this group, we created Ntanira Na Mugambo, or Circumcision With Words.

Ntanira Na Mugambo conducted our first Alternative Rite of Passage (ARP) ceremony in 1996. It was the first of its kind in Kenya. Our ARP approach was borrowed and replicated in various parts of Kenya and continues to be used as a countermeasure against FGM. In 2006 I was awarded the Head of State Commendation (presidential award) by the President of Kenya in recognition for my work in the development of women.

In addition to FGM, we have identified other problems facing women and girls. In particular, illiteracy and low enrollment rates in school are challenges girls here face on a daily basis. Therefore, we are excited to be partnering with Women's Global Education Project to expand opportunities for education for girls, so that we can inspire our daughters to lead the next generation.

Financial Overview

Fiscal Year 2010

Statement of Revenue and Expenditures January - December 2010

Revenue

Business Donations	122,806.30
Community Organizations	973.75
Annual Fundraiser	36,692.00
Foundations	58,275.00
Individual Donations	27,965.68

Total Revenue \$246,712.73

Expenditures

Programs	
Senegal	85,126.79
Kenya	28,400.00
Fundraiser	5,368.70
General and Administrative	4,092.33
Accounting and Bookkeeping	3,125.02
Consultants/Staff	26,127.00

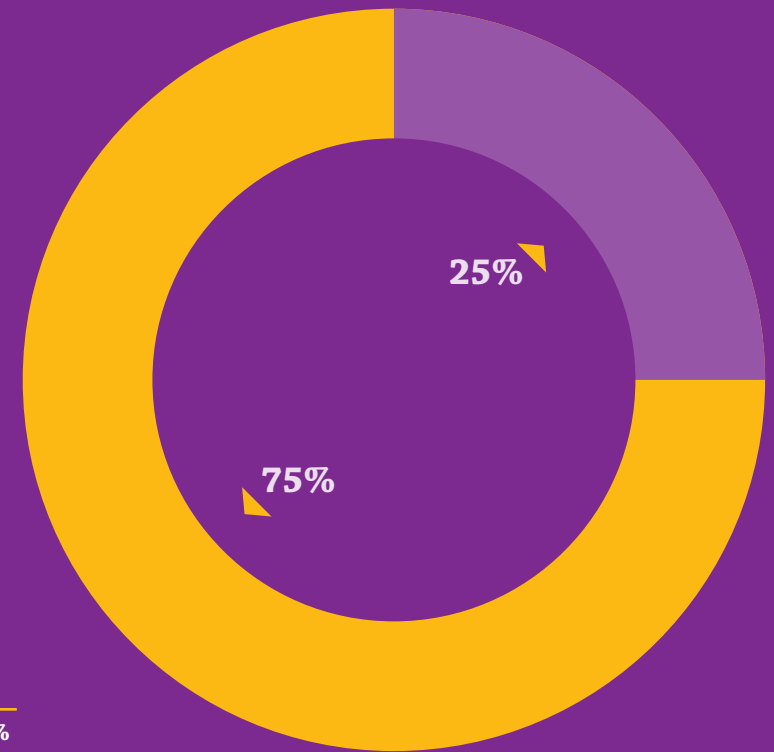
Total Expenditures \$152,239.84

Note: Excess income in our net assets is due to the WGEP Board designating \$40,000 per year for operating expenses over the next three years.

Revenue Generated Over Time

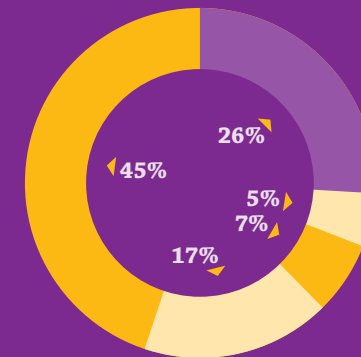
2005	2007	2009
23,925	98,886	105,860

2004	2006	2008	2010
22,564	60,632	46,406	246,712

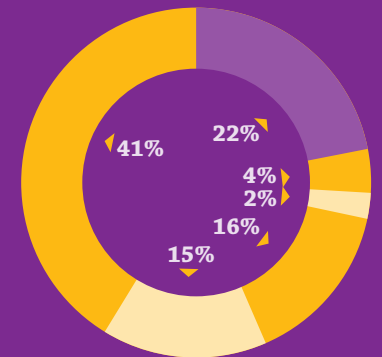
Breakdown of Expenditures

Administrative	25%
Program	75%



Kenya Program Expenditures

Scholarships	45%
Anti-FGM/alternative rite of passage	17%
Parent & community workshops	7%
Mentoring & health education	5%
Administrative	26%



Senegal Program Expenditures

Scholarships	41%
Parent & community workshops	15%
Mentoring & health education	16%
Teacher training	2%
Monitoring & evaluation	4%
Administrative	22%

Thank You, 2010 Donors



**Sisters-to-School
scholars**

Women's Global Education Project 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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Did You Know?

- ▶ *The children of a mother with just one year of education show a 43% decline in malnutrition.*
- ▶ *Educated women are less than half as likely to be subjected to FGM & 4 times as likely to oppose FGM for their daughters.*
- ▶ *A girl that finishes primary school is half as likely to become infected with HIV/AIDS as those who did not finish primary school.*



**Women's Global
Education Project**

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