



Wells Mountain Initiative

July 2023

Dear

We are proud to now welcome you as a **WMI Graduate Scholar**. Enjoy this moment of accomplishment! It is well deserved. We call it a "moment" because there is much for you to do once you finish celebrating. Your community and country are in deep need of your valuable skills and your leadership to influence transformational positive change and development. As you take on these challenges, you will be supported by the Wells Mountain Initiative, your fellow student scholars, and graduate scholars.

As a WMI Graduate Scholar, the **Scholar's Journey** continues! The following opportunities have been designed to guide you in developing skills to achieve your lifelong goals and influence transformative positive change in the world:



ACT: Community Development Grant Program

The Community Development Grant program is open exclusively to graduate scholars and provides the opportunity to start or significantly expand a community-based organization (CBO), non-governmental organization (NGO), business, community service project or event. All graduate scholars are eligible to apply for a Seed Grant of up to \$1000. Applications are accepted twice a year in April and October. Upon successful implementation of a Seed Grant, scholars then may be eligible to design a detailed expansion plan and apply for a Growth Grant of up to \$5000 in September.



CONNECT: Dream Big Conference

The Dream Big Conference brings together current student scholars and graduate scholars to learn, network, and create in-country fellowship groups. Conference attendees participate in workshops, panels, team-building exercises, and community service activities. Graduate scholars are eligible to participate in select panel discussions and host workshops. The next WMI Dream Big Conference will take place in Nairobi, Kenya from August 18-22, 2023. We hope that you have registered and look forward to meeting you then!



COLLABORATE: WMI Fellowships

Scholars are encouraged to create strong bonds and assist one another throughout the process of succeeding academically and professionally through the creation of in-country fellowship groups. Fellowship groups are founded by WMI Scholars and have led to the building of support systems that provide networking and mentorship opportunities and very impactful group community service projects and events.



EMPOWER: Global Advisory Board & WMI Academy

The Global Advisory Board was launched in early 2019 and is composed of student and graduate scholars to aid WMI in making decisions and planning for the future. The opportunity to be a board member will challenge and advance your current leadership skills. The application period to join the Global Advisory Board is in February of each year.



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The WMI Online Academy has welcomed three cohorts since its inception in 2020. Participation in the academy is invite only and open to new graduate scholars to further enhance their professional development. Academy participants will actively engage in professional development webinars focused on developing business plans or CBO/NGO organizational plans. The program culminates in an optional pitch presentation competition in which you could win funds to support your business, NGO or CBO idea! Watch for an email this summer to sign up for the WMI Online Academy taking place from October 2 - December 1, 2023.

As a WMI Graduate Scholar, you will now be supported by your **Regional Coordinator** who is a resource to help transform your big dreams into reality!

Please check your email frequently, remain an active contributor to the WMI Student Scholar & Graduate Scholar Facebook Group and update the Regional Coordinator with all employment, notable community service activities, honors, and new educational pursuits. We want to continue to celebrate your hard work!

To continue building your professional network request to join the Wells Mountain Initiative Scholars group on LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13758212/>.

In closing, WMI believes in the power of helping others. We will look for you to rise within your family, your community, nation and within our global organization to continue to use your skills for the betterment of others. **DREAM. PLAN. DO.** There are no limits to what you can accomplish.

Once again, congratulations on your academic success! We look forward to seeing photos of your graduation day!

Sincerely,

Tom Wells
Founder & President

Lisa Meadowcroft
Executive Director

Lisa Wyncoop
Education Manager