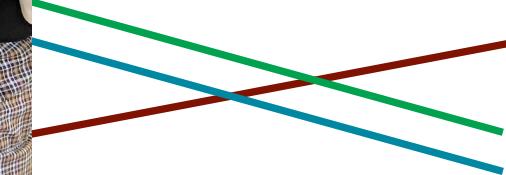




WISER 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

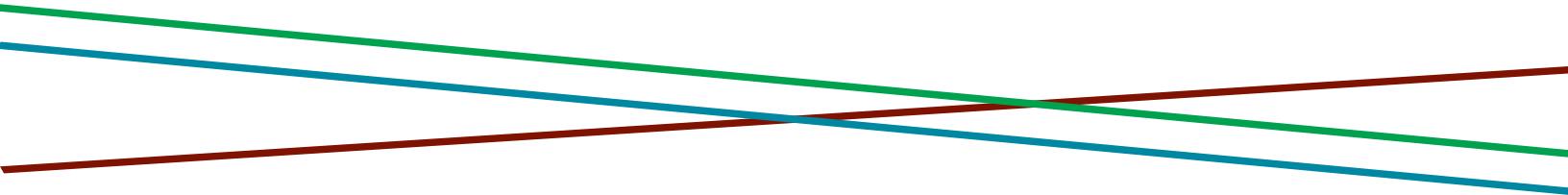




WISER empowers girls in rural Kenya to overcome the barriers that threaten their health, safety, and education. Our flagship program, the WISER Girls Secondary School, provides essential resources, leadership training, psychosocial support, sexual and reproductive health education, and hands-on STEM opportunities to build lasting capacity in Kenyan girls.

Our goal?

To be a hub for excellence and outreach in one of the hardest-to-reach areas of Kenya while creating impact for thousands of girls and their communities.



WISER GIRLS



HIGH SCHOOL

120M P.O.BOX 28
MUHURU BAY
www.wisergirls.org



LETTER FROM WISER LEADERSHIP

WISER's singular commitment to education, which sits at the heart of its identity, drew me in when I joined its board of directors. It did not take long for me to realize that WISER is so much more than an education program.

WISER transforms young women. It empowers girls to become agents of change. Through academic excellence, job readiness, sexual and reproductive health education, and alumnae support, WISER enables young women to move communities forward.

WISER transforms its community. It is a community anchor - providing food, water, healthcare, and clothing to young women who now have every resource they need to thrive. In doing so, these young women give back to their communities by driving economic growth and embodying hope.

WISER transforms perceptions. It is the result of visionary thought, a dedication to excellence, and a culture of innovation that young women are able to live and learn on WISER's campus. There, they are not

burdened by the challenges they face - be it gender-based violence, child pregnancy, HIV, or others. Rather, these young women are transformed into examples of the emotionally strong, academically prepared, economically self-sufficient women they deserve to be.

WISER transforms lives so that young women are ready to deliver on the promise of tomorrow - the promise of what empowered young women can do for their and their community's shared future.

It is this promise that inspires me to serve in the name of the tomorrow that WISER is creating. Thank you for creating that tomorrow with us.

Gratefully,

Hardy Vieux
Board Member
WISER International





LETTER FROM WISER'S STUDENT PRESIDENT - DEBORA

I am humbled to take this opportunity to explain to you how important your support has been to us as WISER girls. Actually, it is more than I can tell, and I still can't comprehend it, but I hope I can provide a small sample.

When I was in primary school, I never had the hope that I could make it to any high school. I know I am not alone in this and that my story is connected to other girls' stories.

Through your support, so many of us can now express ourselves. A pathway has been provided for us. I have finally gotten ample time and a conducive environment to pursue my studies and live my life.

WISER and all those who support it mean a lot to me. I want to urge you to continue supporting this organization and, for that, I will promise to shake the world through the opportunities and values that you have equipped us with.

As I wrote, WISER means more than I can say, but I can sum it all up with this: thank you.

Gratefully,
Debora Auma Okeyo
*WISER Girls Secondary School Class of 2019
Student Body President
(pictured on opposite page)*





CELEBRATING WISER'S NEWEST GRADUATES

For the sixth straight year, in a region where less than 7% of girls finish high school, 100% of WISER students have graduated.

The WISER class of 2018 is full of academic high-achievers who have proven that, through hard work and holistic support, girls from Muhuru Bay can compete with anyone in Kenya.

This graduating class boasts not only a 100% graduation rate, but a 100% tertiary education qualifying rate, meaning that every WISER graduate in the class of 2018 will be able to pursue a college or university degree. An incredible 70% of these graduates will receive funding from the Kenyan government, as WISER's latest class qualified for national scholarships at a rate that is more than four times the national average.

National Data WISER Girls

Students qualifying for tertiary education

43%

100%

Students earning government scholarships to attend university

14%

69%

Students earning a "B" average or higher on the national exam

5%

31%





you have the below to
choose from

BEYOND WISER: A GRADUATE'S STORY

"I've gone through a lot. Before I came to WISER, I could not even ask my mother to buy me clothes to wear. But now, I come through my area and people call me 'daktari' (doctor). That's my name."

Jacklyne Atieno entered WISER in 2010 as a partial orphan who had left school to take on childcare duties at home after her father passed. Four years later, she became the first woman in her family to attend a college program when she enrolled in the Medical Laboratory Sciences program at Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC).

Today, she is the only female laboratory technician at one of the largest medical centers in the city of Kisii. Jacklyne has become an admired leader, both in her lab and in her home village.

"I know only one woman from my area doing my kind of work, and she is a volunteer. So, I know people are looking up to me. I know I am someone's hero."

While Jacklyne is breaking barriers in her career, she isn't quite done with schooling just yet. After graduating from KMTC in 2018, Jacklyne has decided to go back to school to become a Clinical Officer; a job that would allow her to diagnose patients and to order medical lab testing, rather than conducting it behind the scenes.

Jacklyne is just one of the WISER alumni who completed college degrees in 2018. We celebrate their hard work, their dedication to serving their communities, and their willingness to step into the spotlight as role models!



NEW FOR 2018:

WISER WATER FOR 15,000 COMMUNITY MEMBERS



For over six years, WISER has been the primary source of clean and filtered water for 5,000 people. In 2018, that number tripled.

Thanks to a partnership with the Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Project (KIWASH), USAID, and the Muhuru Bay Community Water Board, WISER's on-campus water treatment and distribution systems have undergone a major expansion and will now serve up to 15,000 people.

In an area where typhoid and other water-borne diseases are endemic, this is a major development in the fight for clean water access in Muhuru Bay.

This expansion includes the opening of new community water kiosks, the installation of dozens of miles of underground pipes, and the addition of new water treatment tanks on WISER's campus.

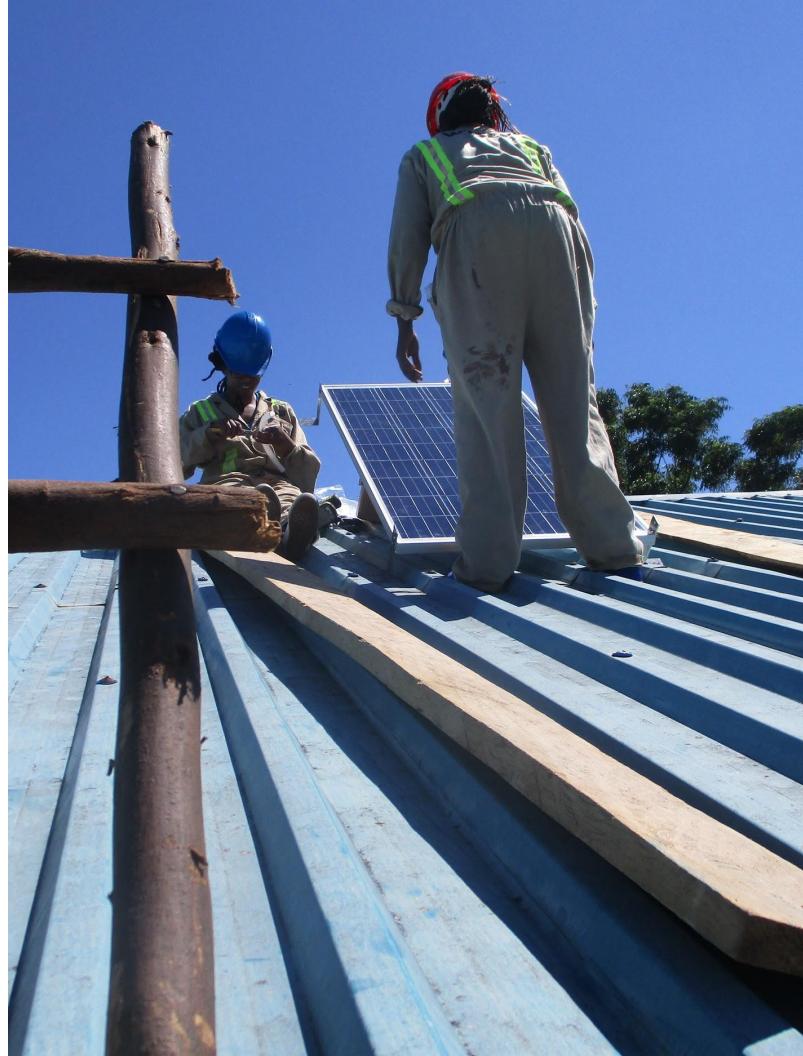
In an effort to make the expanded system more sustainable, WISER's water system has been outfitted with solar-powered pumps and each community kiosk features a mounted solar panel for pumping needs as well.

Through this expansion, more families than ever will be able to easily access clean water as WISER continues to serve its surrounding community!



NEW FOR 2018:

SOLAR POWER COMES TO MUHURU BAY



Unreliable electricity can stop dedicated students from studying when the sun goes down. With solar-powered classrooms, this issue will become a thing of the past.

In 2018, WISER partnered with We Care Solar and their We Share Solar program to install solar power units at WISER and in eight other Muhuru Bay schools. The solar units include roof-mounted solar panels and a wall-mounted battery that can power classrooms, recharge a laptop, and even charge mobile devices as well. The units represent the cleanest source of electricity available in all of Muhuru Bay.

In all, the solar units will provide light for eight classrooms, one science lab, and the WISER staff room where evening tutoring sessions take place.

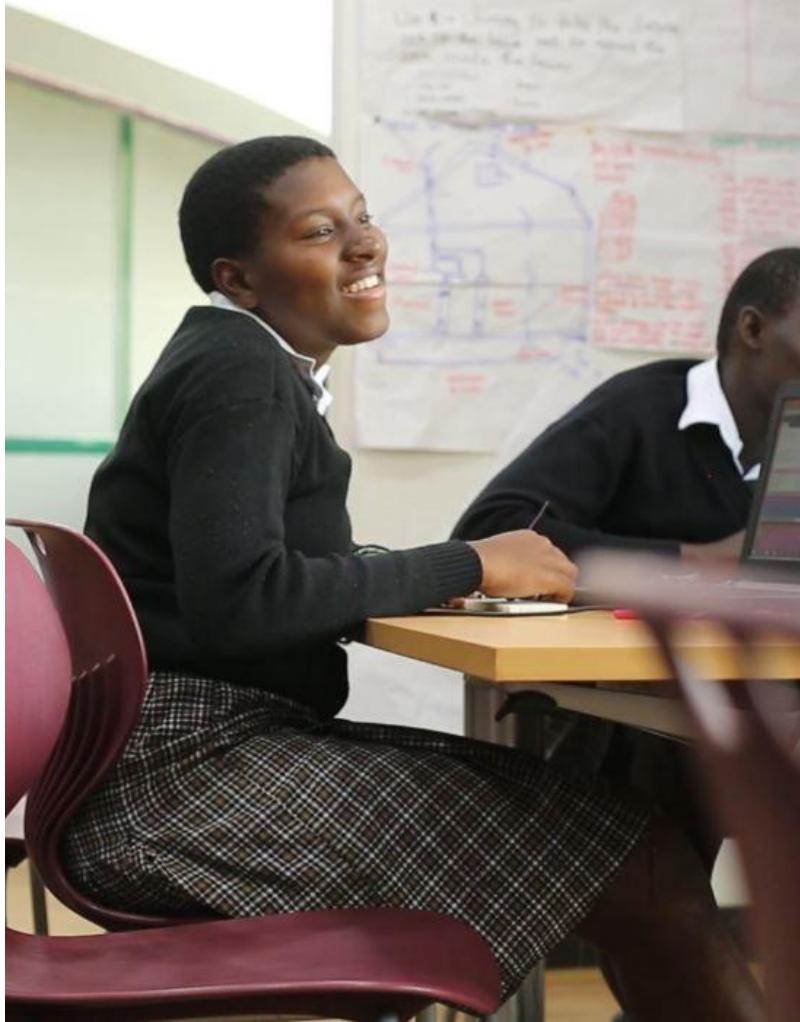
While the impact of the solar units is immense, the installation team for the project made quite an impression as well. Women in Sustainable Energy and Entrepreneurship (WISEE) traveled to WISER to complete the installation and to provide WISER girls with visible female role models in a STEM field.

The 2018 installation represents only the beginning of WISER's partnership with We Care Solar and we look forward to announcing further collaborations!



NEW FOR 2018:

**NEW
EXPERIENCES
FOR GIRLS
IN STEM**

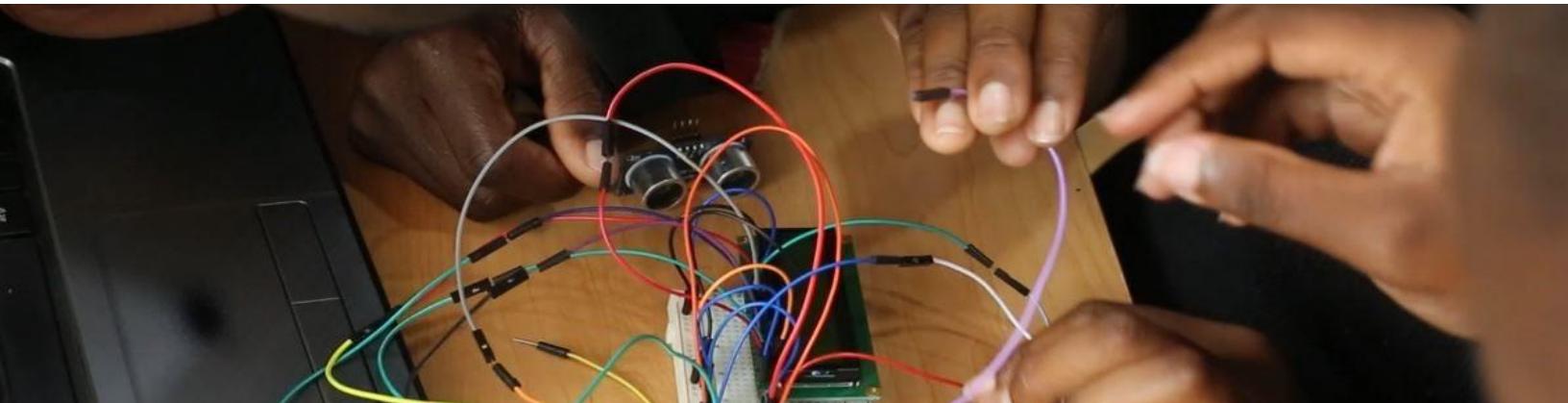


WISER is proud to provide girls with hands-on opportunities in STEM each and every day. But in 2018, we took that a step further thanks to two new STEM-focused partner organizations.

To better prepare alumni for university and the workforce, WISER established a new partnership with Lumen Labs: a social enterprise offering digital literacy development through project-based learning. With Lumen, WISER offered a one-month, intensive training for our most recent alumni. While all WISER students have access to our on-site computer lab, these most recent alumni were too far along in their schooling to benefit from the

installation of our lab. This intensive opportunity with Lumen Labs ensures that our alumni will keep pace with university classmates from more well-resourced regions.

While alumni were engaged with Lumen Labs, our senior-most class of girls traveled to Nairobi to participate in a coding and design bootcamp hosted by AkiraChix: an NGO aiming to develop a successful force of women in tech. Through this bootcamp, WISER girls learned about computer programming, design, robotics, and were able to pitch their own ideas for innovative projects that can be implemented in Muhuru Bay!



NEW FOR 2018:

PARTNERING FOR COLLECTIVE IMPACT



We believe that collaboration is an essential component of generating impact. So in 2018, WISER joined two exciting new efforts bringing together the world's most effective actors in girls empowerment.

On International Day of the Girl, we announced our membership in the Obama Foundation's Girls Opportunity Alliance Network. This network aims to highlight the work being done around the world to empower adolescent girls through education and WISER was proud to be one of the first organizations to join this newly-launched effort!

While joining organizations from around the globe is key to understanding how we can improve our efforts, WISER will always be grounded first and foremost in community-led development.

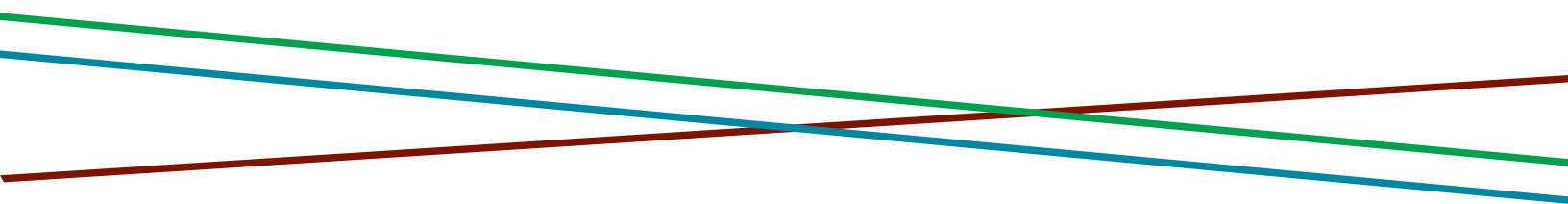
That's why we joined AMPLIFY: a new collective of community-driven organizations designing a community-based alternative to traditional scale while remaining focused on building agency in girls. As a founding partner of AMPLIFY, WISER will be engaged in collaborative learning with 18 other organizations while also participating in the design of a new method for measuring girls' agency.



UNPRECEDENTED OUTCOMES FOR THE HARDEST-TO-REACH GIRLS

Since 2010, WISER has demonstrated its effectiveness year-in and year-out through sustained and ever-expanding impact.

From 2016 to 2020, we will be working hard to grow our total program reach from 5,000 to 18,000 people. While undergoing this significant growth, we continue to produce high quality outcomes for health and education both on the campus of the WISER Girls Secondary School and in the community of Muhuru Bay.



On top of this, WISER has become the single largest distributor of clean and treated water in Muhuru Bay and continues to bring valuable resources and partnerships to actors working throughout the region. And best of all? We've generated these outcomes while remaining committed to programs that are girl-led, locally-based, and holistic in nature.

As we celebrate eight years since the WISER Girls Secondary School campus first opened in Muhuru Bay, we invite you to learn more about what WISER has made possible for girls and their communities since our journey first began.

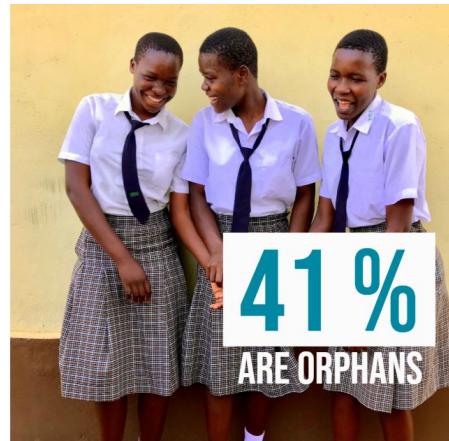
EVERY GIRL EDUCATED

Throughout Kenya, retention of girls through both primary and secondary school remains a substantial challenge. In WISER's region, only 7% of girls will successfully complete secondary school despite gender parity at earlier levels. In this context, WISER is proud to have six classes with 100% graduation rates, creating the largest cohort of high school educated women in the region.

For nine years, WISER has maintained a 0% dropout rate, even among the 3% of our students who are young mothers. We believe that every girl, regardless of circumstance, deserves a clear path to an education.

325

GIRLS JOINED WISER AS
FULL-TIME STUDENTS
2010-2018



0%

DROPOUT RATE AT WISER
GIRLS SECONDARY SCHOOL

VS

59%

DROPOUT RATE FOR GIRLS
ACROSS KENYA

IN 2018, WISER'S PRE-18 PREGNANCY RATE WAS
88% LOWER THAN THE PRE-18 PREGNANCY RATE
ACROSS ALL OF KENYA

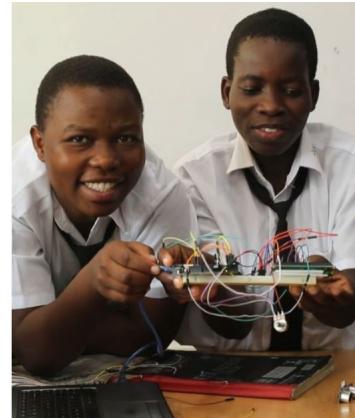
“ People said, ‘this girl will not make it.’ But that’s not what they think of me now.

- Margaret, Class of 2013

And at WISER, a path to education never means simply getting a diploma. The WISER Girls Secondary School is a top-performing institute of academic excellence with resources on-par with many Kenyan universities. In 2018, a WISER team finished in the top 5 at the regional level of the Kenya Science & Engineering Fair and a second team of WISER girls were named national finalists in the 2018 Innovate Kenya competition. When it came time for these students to sit for their national exams, they scored highly enough to earn government scholarships at a rate that is more than four times the national average. With the right opportunities, anything is possible for these ambitious and brilliant young women.

1 IN 5

WISER STUDENTS WORKS ON AN AWARD-WINNING SCIENCE FAIR PROJECT BY THE TIME SHE GRADUATES



93%
OF WISER ALUMNI GO ON TO COLLEGE

VS
3%
OF GIRLS THROUGHOUT THE REGION

EVERY GIRL HEALTHY

WISER's holistic health program removes the most common wellness-related barriers to girls' success. We remove the worries over healthcare costs and accessibility by guaranteeing full healthcare coverage and access to care for all of our students.

Of course, prevention plays a key role in keeping girls healthy. To reduce the incidence of malaria, typhoid, and HIV/AIDS, all diseases that are prevalent in Muhuru Bay, WISER provides every student with essential medicines, treated mosquito nets, clean water, and free HIV testing and counselling.

267,300

DAYS OF FULL HEALTHCARE
COVERAGE PROVIDED
TO WISER STUDENTS



50%

REDUCTION IN RISK OF
MALARIA

100%

OF WISER GIRLS HAVE
ACCESS TO HIV TESTING
AND COUNSELLING

“Here in Muhuru Bay, we are the school which is providing SRH to people. There is no other school that can do that.

- Beatrice, Class of 2018

Prevention is the bedrock of WISER's fastest-growing program, our sexual and reproductive health (SRH) training. WISER's SRH has reached over 2,500 youth and the number of beneficiaries that we train annually is now fifteen times higher than it was when the outreach first began.

The demand for SRH information in Muhuru Bay is high, and our girl-led sessions allow us to meet this need while placing young women at the center of a community-requested solution. Our students are able to practice critical leadership skills while reinforcing their own SRH knowledge through teaching.

**OVER
2,500
YOUTH HAVE RECEIVED
SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE
HEALTH TRAINING
FROM WISER**



1600%
**INCREASE IN YOUTH
PARTICIPATION IN SEXUAL
AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
SESSIONS 2016-2018**



EVERY GIRL WITH THE RESOURCES SHE NEEDS TO THRIVE

Before a WISER girl sits in a classroom, leads an SRH training, or designs a STEM project, her journey begins by having her most essential needs met. Every girl at WISER is given the vital resources necessary to her success including nutritious meals, school supplies, hygiene products, housing, and more.

Systemic poverty in rural Kenya prevents thousands of girls from succeeding in school each and every day. By alleviating the stressors associated with obtaining the bare essentials, we open up the opportunity for girls to commit their time and ingenuity to self-development.

801,900

**MEALS PROVIDED TO
GIRLS SINCE 2010**



2,310

**TEXTBOOKS PROVIDED
TO GIRLS SINCE 2010**

“ I did not have the stresses of supplies, food, or school fees. I was not chased away for not having resources. I was prepared.

- Jacklyne, Class of 2013

Of all the core resources that WISER provides for girls, none may be more important than menstrual hygiene products. When a girl cannot manage her period, she can miss critical class time, face severe stigma, or risk infection via the use of non-sanitary products to manage bleeding.

Starting in 2018, WISER began offering girls not only free menstrual products, but their choice of preferred product - either sanitary pads or menstrual cups. Since our campus opened in 2010, WISER has provided nearly 10,000 pads to girls in an effort to guarantee that no girl misses school due to her period.

80,080
**SCHOOL DAYS SAVED
THROUGH WISER'S SANITARY
PAD DISTRIBUTION**



100%
**OF WISER GIRLS HAVE THEIR
CHOICE OF MENSTRUAL
HYGIENE PRODUCT**

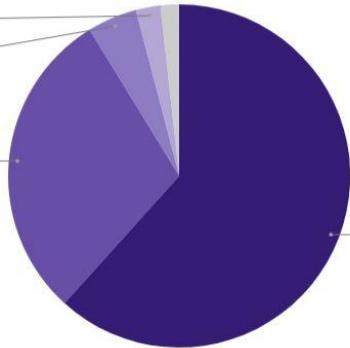


FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY 2018

REVENUE SOURCES

Student Fees
2.3%
Partner Schools
4.7%

Individual Donations
29.5%



2018 SOURCES OF REVENUE

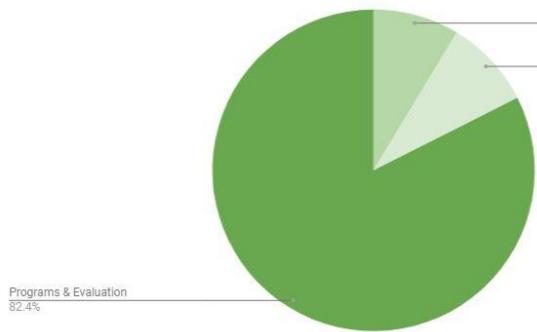
FOUNDATION & CORPORATE GRANTS	\$435,248	61.7%
INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS	\$208,048	29.5%
PARTNER SCHOOLS	\$33,090	4.7%
STUDENT FEES	\$16,383	2.3%
OTHER INCOME	\$12,494	1.8%

TOTAL: \$705,263

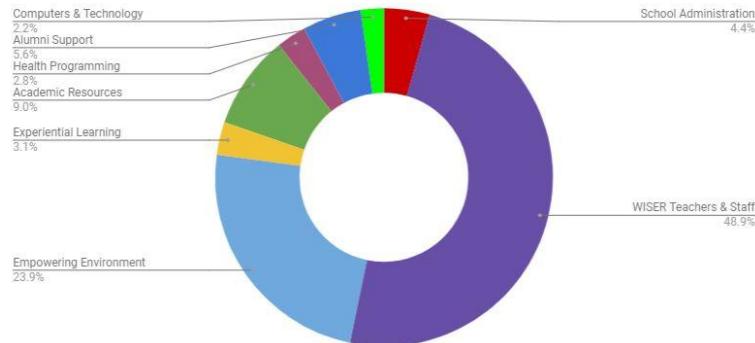
WISER is committed to high standards of financial transparency and accountability. The finances in this report represent the revenue and expenses for WISER in the United States and Kenya during our most recent fiscal year from January 1 to Dec 31, 2018.

Additional information, including WISER International's latest 990, can be obtained on Guidestar using EIN 27-3367993 or by contacting Executive Director Zack Fowler at zack.fowler@wisergirls.org.

EXPENSES



WISER Girls Program Expenses



2018 EXPENSES

OPERATIONS & ADMINISTRATION	\$58,366	8.6%
FUNDRAISING & MARKETING	\$60,166	8.9%
PROGRAMS & EVALUATION	\$556,696	82.4%

TOTAL: \$675,228

Please note that this report does not reflect revenue or expenses for DukeEngage, a partnership with Duke University. The program is fully-funded by Duke, but funds for the program are managed by WISER International.

MEET THE WISER TEAM

WISER International Leadership and Staff



Sherryl Broverman, PhD
Founder & Chair



Carrie Arndt
Board Secretary



Joseph Sanginiti
Board Treasurer



Steve Tremitiere
Board Member



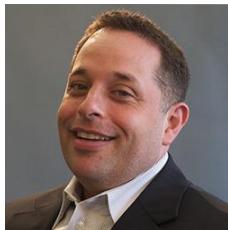
Sara Benjamin Neelon, PhD
Board Member



Frances Woodard
Board Member



Hardy Vieux, JD
Board Member



Michael Schreiber
Board Member



Zack Fowler
Executive Director

WISER Girls Secondary School Leadership



Dorcas Oyugi, HSC
Principal



Violet Singoei
Deputy Principal



Kennedy Mikula
Director of Studies



Cyrus Oroni
Games Master & Faculty



Philes M bunza
Lead Teacher for
2018 WISER Graduates



Nipher Okemwa
Guidance and
Counselling Faculty



Judy Nyandwaro
Finance Administrator

A Note

WISER's impact would not be possible without our 37 administrators, faculty, and support staff at the WISER Girls Secondary School in Muhuru Bay.

This is an inspiring, dedicated, and talented team working tirelessly to lift up girls and their communities!

OUR MOST GENEROUS WISER CHAMPIONS

WISER Donor Club members represent the wonderful people who value and invest in our high-impact work. We are honored to recognize their part in the WISER Family!

Change Agents Circle | \$150,000+ lifetime

Donald Lee Sheppard

WISER Mentors Society | \$10,000+ in 2018

Bobby Goodlatte

WISER Scholars Society | \$1,000-\$9,999 in 2018

Alex & Molly McCarthy | Amy & Zach Mulert | Chris Fletcher | Dallas McCall

Eric Wetlaufer | Fred Paulenich | Ingeborg Srenger | Jennifer & Carl Harris

Lauren Meyerholz | Marc Micek | Margaret MacMillan | Mary Lovejoy

Melissa Katz | Michael Whelan | Nathan Mecham | Sandie Anderson

Thomas Gunnarsson | Veronica Moreno | The Vora Family | Zoe Mishkin

OUR 2018 AWARDS & ACCOLADES



One of Only Two Nonprofits Chosen for the GlobalGiving Girl Fund in Back-to-Back Years



Designated a Top-Ranked Organization on GlobalGiving.org



Designated a Highly Effective Organization on GlobalGiving.org



WISER Girls Named National Finalists in 2018 Innovate Kenya Competition



Chosen for Membership in the Inaugural Cohort of the Girls Opportunity Alliance

ONE FINAL NOTE

Anyone who has spent more than a few days on WISER's campus in Muhuru Bay has likely heard a certain phrase from our always-brilliant and inspiring leader, Principal Dorcas Oyugi:

*Success comes from being in the **right place**, at the **right time**, doing the **right thing**, in the **right manner**.*

This mantra echoes in the ears of all WISER girls several times a week - before morning classes, after leading a community program - nearly any activity seems to be the right time and place to remind everyone of this virtue.

But while this lesson is meant for students, it has come to carry a larger meaning. It is, in many ways, a reflection of the foundational beliefs and strategies that have brought WISER its unprecedented success.

Go to where your community partners ask you to be and you will be in the right place. Provide hands-on support when it's requested and independence when it is not and you'll be moving at the right time. Create environments

and opportunities that remove barriers for girls and their communities and you'll be doing the right thing. And do all of this while taking a holistic approach that emphasizes that no girl is in too remote of an area or too difficult of a situation to be beyond empowerment and you'll be acting in the right manner.

A WISER manner.

Acting in this manner takes a gifted team, strong partnerships, and plenty of support from all around the world. To those who have been a part of that support or are looking to join us in these efforts, thank you. We are profoundly grateful to continuously find you in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing, in the right manner as a part of the Global WISER Family.

With gratitude,
Zack Fowler
Executive Director
WISER International







www.wisergirls.org

