

Report

March 2024



Friends,

2024 has been so eventful that 2023 already seems quite a while ago. Before I jump to today and my latest trip to Tanzania in March, let me share the good work and accomplishments of last year. I trust that everyone who reads this brief recap will feel the tangible impact of what we do on young people and their communities. We bring knowledge, encouragement, understanding and assistance to a population without resources. For 14 years, this shared humanity has been the agent of change in hundreds of lives. Thank you for making our service possible. Please help to sustain our mission.

*MOIRA MADONIA
and the entire EdPowerment Team*

HIGHER EDUCATION SPONSORSHIPS

Nine (9) of EdPowerment’s sponsored students graduated from colleges, universities or post-graduate studies in 2023, bringing the total of our college and university graduates to 36. Some of these students have been mentored and supported in all ways – financially, emotionally, medically and more – and taught critical life-skills for as many as 12 years!

Eleven (11) students continue their university or college studies while 30 have completed secondary or high school, vocational school or some level of higher-education. Each student has been equipped to rise above the circumstances of his or her birth to seek lives of dignity and possibility.

Here are our 2023 graduates. Their smiles represent their pride and satisfaction in achieving what would once have been considered impossible.



Adelina – BA in Accounting



Flora – BA in Human Resources



Innocent – BA in Accounting



Jenipher – Diploma in Pharmaceutical Studies



Joachim – BS in Electrical Engineering



Joseph – Doctor of Medicine (Medical Deegree)



Samwel – Bachelor of Legal Studies



Suzan – Bachelor of Science with Education



Zawadi – Post Grad Degree in Law Practice

TWO JANETHS

In 2021, EdPowerment shifted its sponsorship focus to students who achieved entry into colleges despite attending remote, underserved government secondary schools, but were unable to continue studies because of family hardships. Two of these students are Janeths. The following photos demonstrate the need that prompts our sponsorships and the remarkable change that they bring.

JANETH G. is now in her final semester of a three-year Diploma in Business. Village authorities informed EdPowerment about her in 2021 when she had been forced to return home after her first semester because of a lack of funds. Last year she was elected to a campus leadership position. She has already secured an internship following her anticipated graduation this fall.



JANETH M could not complete the last year of her Diploma in Community Development without our intervention. This photo shows her home. Currently on a fieldwork assignment, she will graduate this fall.



EARLY DISCOVERY

10 of the 15 “middle school” students recommended to EdPowerment by district educational authorities in 2021 for their potential are continuing their strong performance – 9 have reached secondary school. Home visits and study skills reinforcement enable these young people to achieve grades that will open doors to government colleges after secondary school.



UWAMA WOMEN'S GROUP

2023 began with EdPowerment's support of two local women's small business initiatives centered around the production and sale of liquid and bar soap. We coached, monitored, and provided strategic support for these groups, each consisting of 20 women, many from the Maasai community.

At year end, one group, Uwama (Union of Women in Magadin), was able to distribute profits to each member, critical monies for their children's schools and essentials. EdPowerment is moving forward with this group, providing financial and strategic guidance to sustain their business and help them expand into new local markets.



MALNUTRITION PREVENTION PROGRAM

Working with community health authorities, EdPowerment continues to deliver critical food supplies to families of students officially identified as malnourished. In the case of Agnes, we took steps to provide immediate medical care. As we deliver food, our team strives to teach proper use of these family's resources, however minimal, to support better health and nutrition.



Agnes when we met her

Agnes today

HELPING YOUNG ADULTS TO SUCCEED WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITIES

The SIHA District of Kilimanjaro features a diverse topography from lush forests to dry lands that isolate some villages, while inhibiting simple survival in other, arid villages. Our set of educational interventions seeks to improve the ability of individuals struggling within these villages to secure local income and thereby achieve basic services such as running water, electricity and sanitary conditions in their lives.

At Dahani Secondary School, EdPowerment undertakes both skills seminars each Friday and a Boys and Girls Club on Saturdays. These interventions introduce critical strategies, insights and exposures – practical, as well as academic – that can motivate students and change their perspective on how they can, in fact, seek better futures despite their limited resources.



MARCH 2024

WE JUST RETURNED FROM TANZANIA AND WANT TO SHARE OUR NEW PROJECT

THE EDPOWERMENT BUSINESS INCUBATION CENTER



EdPowerment staff who lead this consortium of programs

An outgrowth of the Boys and Girls Club at the government Dahani Secondary School, the Center is a major step forward in serving young adults who are not able to pursue higher education.

The Center will house 3 programs, each of which will teach income-producing skills applicable in local villages: carpentry, food snack production and our capstone initiative, **“WINGS FOR CONFIDENT WOMEN”**.

Initially, 4 apprentices have been selected for each category through a process coordinated with Dahani and local ward offices. These apprentices are being instructed in the specific skills of their area, fundamental English, and business basics for a period of 6 months to a year. Once they have successfully completed the program, each will be given an initial package of tools or materials with which they can begin their own entrepreneurship efforts. The Center will provide an ongoing production space for them as scheduling permits. Take a look at Opening Day:



Community & guardians gather



Demonstrating carpentry



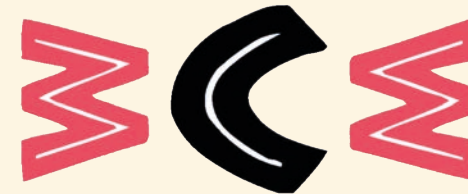
Community education



Sampling our snacks



Demonstrating use of reusable pads



WINGS FOR CONFIDENT WOMEN



Our WINGS apprentices



Our product



WINGS Production

WINGS FOR CONFIDENT WOMEN serves a dual purpose. Not only are young women learning sewing skills to fabricate reusable menstrual pads. EdPowerment is simultaneously introducing the use of these pads at Dahani, followed by other local secondary schools, and then in local markets for sale at an affordable price.

Lack of menstrual supplies and hygiene is a major cause of absenteeism among females in African society. This venture will improve both the performance of females in school, but also their confidence and ability to function unhindered in society. As the pads are introduced in schools, we will be undertaking educational programs for all village women to learn proper self-care during menstruation. WINGS is a promising project that we are developing to positively change the lives of all women in this community.

WAYS TO DONATE

There are many vehicles to support EdPowerment. Donations also may be targeted to specific programs: sponsorships; seminars and trainings; the new Business Incubation Center and WINGS project; UWAMA Women’s Small Business Group; and our malnutrition prevention program.

- Checks can be made out to EdPowerment, Inc. and sent to EdPowerment, P.O. Box 641, Saddle River, NJ 07458
- Visit our website: www.edpowerment.org/support-us/
- Venmo: @EdPowermentTZ
- Zelle: EdPowerment/201-788-1088
- We maintain an account with Morgan Stanley to facilitate gifts of financial assets. These are immediately liquidated for their current value.

Concluding message

The steadfast support of our families, friends, colleagues and those who value our work has enabled EdPowerment to bring positive change and hope for human beings born into harsh and meager circumstances.

Our sponsorship graduates now include three doctors, a lawyer, two employees of global NGOs, accountants in a variety of organizations and teachers. They change the cycle of poverty within their own families and for those with whom they live and work. At the same time, our local initiatives are the starting point that changes the trajectory of so many other lives within their own villages. For every student or community member we help, a new life is possible.



Contact Information

BY PHONE

(U.S.) +1.201.788.1088 • (TZ) +255.752.331.139

BY MAIL

edpowerment@gmail.com • info@edpowermentTZ.org

WEBSITE

www.edpowerment.org

FACEBOOK

[Facebook.com/EdPowerment/](https://www.facebook.com/EdPowerment/)

INSTAGRAM

[Instagram.com/edpowerment](https://www.instagram.com/edpowerment)

EdPowerment, Inc.

IS A REGISTERED U.S. 501C-3, NON-PROFIT EIN #27-2017667

P.O. Box 641, Saddle River, NJ 07458 • P.O. Box 751, Moshi, Tanzania

In Tanzania, EdPowerment partners with Educational Empowerment Organization (EdPowerment), a locally registered NGO