



AWEF

AFRICAN
WOMEN'S
EDUCATION
FUND
SUMMER, 2022

In 2021 we were able to offer full scholarships to 127 girls. THANK YOU ALL!

**“IF YOU
EDUCATE A
WOMAN,
YOU EDUCATE
A NATION.”**

African proverb

AWEF, which began in 2004, is rooted in the belief that the education of girls and women is a powerful antidote to the cycle of poverty, ignorance and violence that has increasingly engulfed so many parts of our world.

AWEF provides secondary education to girls and young women in Angola, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe who are poor but who have shown academic promise and a desire to complete their education.

At AWEF every dollar donated goes directly to the education of young women. Since its inception the AWEF voluntary Board of Directors has donated all operating expenses.

Send donations to AWEF, 104 Grand Street, Croton-on-Hudson, NY 10520 or to be added to our e-mail or postal mail list, please go to info@awef.org. (If we can contact you by email, that saves us mailing costs).

Highlight on Angola

AWEF IS CURRENTLY SUPPORTING 20 Angolan students. In the coming academic year 2022-2023, we are upping that number to 27. We maintain an ongoing dialogue with the students, through phone calls, note writing, pictures, music and dance videos, and report cards. I traveled to Angola in 2019, met the students and visited their schools. Most of the students are studying either nursing or teacher preparation for the elementary schools. Given the dearth of professionals, most are expected to get a job in their field after graduation from high school. This significantly elevates their status both economically and socially, opening up opportunities not dreamed of before. The students are deeply appreciative of the support AWEF has given over the last few years.

A Brief History of Education in Angola

ANGOLA WAS A COLONY of Portugal between 1575 and 1975. The Portuguese colonial policy did not favor education for the ordinary African citizens of Angola. Most of the education was left to religious institutions focusing on the Portuguese settlers and a small number of Africans.

At the time of the independence in 1975 there was a massive exodus of skilled Portuguese workers, including teachers and, because the colonial state had failed to adequately develop local educational systems, few Angolans were available to take the place of educators.

After independence, an effort was made to educate the population. However, almost three decades of civil war have taken a toll on Angola's educational system. In the early 21st century, some four-fifths of all schools in the country were thought to be deserted or destroyed, and the vast majority of Angolan children were not able to attend classes. An acute shortage of teachers, the lack of even the most basic teaching materials, the fact that most schools were closed for long periods because of political agitation, and the recruitment of child soldiers



into the armed forces had a great impact on Angola's literacy. Since the end of the conflict in 2002, an effort has been made to construct more schools and increase the training and number of teachers in the country. Still, Angola's literacy rate is lower than that of most neighboring countries, despite dramatic improvement during the last quarter of the 20th century. According to UNESCO, it is estimated that Angola has an adult literacy rate of 66.03%. While the male literacy rate is 79.97%, for females it is only 53.41%. AWEF's mission is to empower girls by helping them to get an education that will change not only their lives, but

the lives of their families and those around them. With your help, we can bring this gift to many!

Our First Angolan Graduate!

CAROLINA ASSUNÇÃO TCHIVELA is graduating from high school, majoring in education. Although she would be qualified to teach elementary school with her high school diploma, she is hoping to pursue her graduate degree in education at a public university.

— Dr. Connie DePinho

Carolina, AWEF's first Angolan graduate.

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 awef.org](http://www.awef.org).

We thank all who have so graciously contributed their time, talent and resources in support of our mission to educate young women in Africa. With small efforts such as ours we are contributing to making a better life for African women, their families and communities. AWEF is a 501(c) (3), tax-exempt organization. [www. awef.org](http://www.awef.org).

THE UNITED NATIONS HAS DESIGNATED OCTOBER 11 THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD. YOU SEE HOW MUCH STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE FOR GIRLS IN AFRICA. PLEASE HELP AWEF HELP THE GIRLS.

Our New Students!

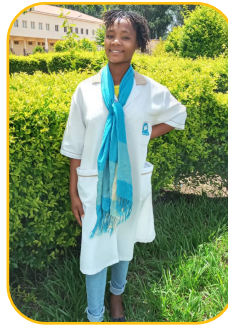
OUR NEW STUDENTS are ready to go! Here are some of the students at the Primary Teacher Preparation School of Vavayela that AWEF will be supporting for the year 2022-23. We wish them every success!



Teresa Wambo



Isolda Malaquias



Domingas Cameia



Edna Wety



Inês Bokila



Laurinda Gomes

Thank You Notes From Angola

Below is just a sampling of updates and expressions of thanks from our students in Angola:

My name is Vilma Victor de Castro. I am 18 years old, and I am taking a general nursing course. I am writing this letter in order to thank you for the benefit you have provided me with, contributing to my academic training. I want to thank you for both the big and the small gestures you have made me. My deep gratitude goes to you who

encourage me to go further and never fall into the temptation of giving up. However, giving thanks is the least we can do when someone improves our lives. Lastly, my objective is to repay you with my dedication to my studies.

My thanks go to all the members of the AWEF foundation who have done a lot for me ,and I will be grateful for the rest of my life. Finally, I want to thank you once again for this great blessing and for the strength you have given me to move forward.

Thank you aEmiliana

I'm Helena Ana Paz Daniel, a student of the General Nursing Course. I have now completed 3 years of study and next year I will be a finalist.

Firstly I thank God, secondly I thank Dr. Connie, as well as all the members of AWEF for granting me a scholarship. I sincerely thank you for your help, as life in Angola is increasingly difficult. I pray to God for your intentions and those of your families.

*With esteemed consideration,
 Leni*

I thank you for the scholarship, which I had the opportunity to be part of, because it has been a great help in my academic studies. It has helped in the realization of my dreams, which is to finish my English language course.

It's a lot of love for you to help others. Words are not enough to express my gratitude. May God compensate you for the good that you have done.

*My many thanks!
 Joaquina Catumbo Tchippingue*

Angélica Câmia Yambi is speaking to you here. I come through this means to thank you once again for the money that is helping me and helping the other sisters in the African continent.

I sincerely thank you knowing that you struggle day and night to work to help our African continent, especially we Angolans.

Save the Date! Join us for AWEF's Educate a Nation fundraiser on Friday, September 16, 7:00-10:00 pm. Come enjoy live music, light appetizers, beer & wine at the Hudson Clubhouse at Half Moon Bay, 80 Half Moon Bay Drive, Croton on Hudson, NY 10520