



# EMPOWERED TO EDUCATE ANNUAL REPORT

2021 OVERVIEW & REPORT

# INTRODUCTION

Empowered to Educate was born just two years ago...time is flying! 2021 was quite a busy year, especially for our first ever class of 10 Fellows. We want to take this opportunity to review what we accomplished in the past year.

## OUR MISSION

To empower women with resources and support to become leaders and innovators of education.

## WHAT WE DO

In order to meet our Fellows' unique needs, we offer the following through our 2-year Fellowship program:

1

### Leadership

#### Development -

our Fellows receive training in public speaking, problem-solving, strategic planning, and other leadership skills

2

### Mentoring -

we provide our Fellows with a variety of mentors to guide them in career advancement

3

### Micro-grants -

we support Fellows with small grants to expand and scale-up their programs to have a greater impact

4

### Recognition -

the Fellowship elevates the work of the fellows to local, regional, and national stages

5

### Exposure -

Fellows present their work at national and global conferences and gain access to new networks of strong professionals in their fields

6

### Peer Accountability -

Fellows are paired with Peer Accountability Partners who offer mutual support, affirmation, and guidance





# 2021 OVERVIEW

Our goal for 2021 was to have another great year for the Fellows and WE DID IT! From hosting guest speakers via Zoom, to awarding seed grants for grass roots programs, to entering into new partnerships, to building mutual support between the Fellows, we couldn't be happier with our progress this year.

Other highlights include:

- Launching a successful campaign for women's leadership in conjunction with International Women's Day,
- Developing Peer Accountability Partnerships was key to our success, as Fellows were able to share experiences and collaborate with one another over the course of the year,
- Hosting Indian entrepreneurs of the LedBy program to share expertise
- Moderating mock program pitches to Mentors
- Planning for the first Empowered to Educate National Seminar

All in all, we are thrilled with our accomplishments in 2021! No year is perfect, and Covid continued to inhibit in person meetings, but we feel we achieved our goals and offered our Fellows a truly empowering program. In the following pages, we'll look more closely at progress this year.



# IMPACT AREAS

Our fellows are focused on a variety of impact areas related to girls' education, and each has created her own project in that field.

Here are some examples:

## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

In the Organization for Inclusion and Empowerment), Jennifer provides skills trainings for children with disabilities.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

At Kaya Child Care, Rose provides quality education for the infant children of kayayoo (female head porters).



## TEENAGE PREGNANCY & MOTHERHOOD

At LifeAgain, Saudatu empowers teenage mothers to return to school and provides them with supplies.



## STEM EDUCATION

Agnes founded the Northern Women in Tech (N-WiT) club to encourage STEM education for women in her community.



## LITERACY

Saraswati's organization, The Reading Factory, establishes literacy clubs and public libraries in deprived communities.





# IMPACT AREAS

## GIRLS' EDUCATION



Fatimah leads the Seed of Hope Foundation, which provides educational supplies to rural children and exposes them to modern technology in learning.

Grace created The Bowney Initiative, which offers leadership training, mentorship, and financial support to adolescent girls.



Nimatu founded Hope for That Child, a foundation which provides essential school supplies to vulnerable girls in the Savannah Region.

# LEADERSHIP TRAINING

**2**

**IN-PERSON,  
WEEKEND-LONG  
SEMINARS**

**240**

**HOURS OF  
MENTORING**

**55**

**HOURS OF "ZOOM"  
LEADERSHIP  
TRAINING  
SESSIONS**

## **PERSONAL LEADERSHIP**

- Leading from the Inside Out
- Storytelling & Personal Branding
- Pitching Your Program
- Ethical Leadership

## **SOCIETAL LEADERSHIP**

- Strategic Planning
- Theory of Change/ Log Frames
- International Women's Day: Women in Leadership
- Measuring Change at the Grassroots Level

## **COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP**

- International Fundraising strategies
- Global Dialogue: Entrepreneurship in Action with LedBy India
- Covid-19 Effects in Africa with the Heller School at Brandeis University



# CREATING COMMUNITY IMPACT

**55K**

Our Fellows have impacted the lives of 55,000 people, including infants, adolescents, adults, students, teachers and parents, and their impact continues to grow

In addition to the International Women's Day funds, we provided \$10,000 to our Fellows to support their grassroots programs. Below are examples of how 2 Fellows used their micro-grants:

**\$10K**

**I used my micro-grant to buy 10 computers, build a mobile learning lab, recruit 7 volunteers, and establish a board of advisors**

**With my micro-grant, I added a new play space to my preschool and planted a vegetable garden to supplement the meal plan**



# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

At Empowered to Educate, our all time favorite holiday is International Women's Day. This year, we decided to celebrate by implementing our very first micro-grant program. All Fellows were invited to submit proposals for \$500 micro-grants. The Fellows co-created the proposal and funding criteria and formed the review board, leading to the selection of four proposals.

## THE READING FACTORY: HEAD ABOVE WATER BY SARASWATI ARTHUR



Financial literacy seminars for fish mongers and traders in Kedzi, Keta Municipal Volta Region

## HOPE FOR THAT CHILD: SUPPORTING GIRLS' EDUCATION BY NIMATU SIISU



Launched back to school campaign and organized career guidance counseling sessions for girls in the North Gonja District

## LIFEAGAIN: EMPOWERING 5 TEENAGE MOTHERS BY SAUDATU DANLADI MOHAMMED



Provided school uniforms, exercise books, shoes, sewing materials, and other school supplies to 5 teenage mothers.

## KAYA CHILD CARE: “#CHOOSE TOCHALLENGE THE DEFINITION OF STRENGTH & BEAUTY” BY ROSE DODD



Used professional photography to help poor mothers re-interpret beauty and strength.



# PEER ACCOUNTABILITY PARTNERS

This year, as a strategy to build mutual support between the Fellows, they paired up. Partners check in on each other, offer guidance, listen, and help with problem solving. Here is our Fellows benefitted in their own words:



**"I RECEIVED THE OPPORTUNITY TO WORK ON A PROJECT WHICH ENHANCED MY KNOWLEDGE AND CREATIVITY"**



**"THIS IS A GREAT INITIATIVE...WE ARE VERY OPEN TO DISCUSSING PERSONAL AND ORGANIZATION GROWTH"**

**"I HAVE IMPROVED MY ABILITY TO LISTEN ATTENTIVELY AND GIVE CONSTRUCTIVE FEEDBACK"**



**"I GOT TO HELP WITH NEW PROJECTS AS WELL AS EXPLORE VARIOUS FIELDS IN FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT"**





# FRIENDS, FAMILY, & FUN!





# OUR PARTNERS

**we are happy to be in partnership with...**

