



AMERICAN WOMEN FOR
INTERNATIONAL
UNDERSTANDING

Grant Report

2022

Rwanda Children, Rwanda 2022

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Overview

American Women for International Understanding established the micro-grants program in 2008. The program awards grants annually to organizations and projects that support women internationally. The focus of these projects is on one or more of the following topics: health, entrepreneurship, and education.

In 2022, AWIU worked with 14 grantees across the world. Recipients were located in Uganda, Burundi, Haiti, India, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea, and Rwanda. Projects ranged from malnutrition programs, to building classrooms.

Grants ranged from \$1,400–\$3,000. All grantees were required to submit reports at the end of their projects. While some grantees received AWIU grants in the past, many were first-time recipients.

AWIU is proud to support the work of women, women-led organizations, and critical programs that enhance the livelihood of women internationally.

297 women were trained on income generating activities.

20 sewing machines were purchased for girls and women.

125 women received maternal care with additional medical supplies.

40 children and their families received malnutrition support and education.

Alpha Women Empowerment Initiative (AWEI), Uganda

About the Grant

AWIU granted \$1,430 for the purchasing of 50 piglets. The piglets were given to local widows to support income generating activities.

AWEI was able to procure a total of 53 piglets that support 27 women. Since the program ended, a couple of the pigs have become pregnant, increasing the impact of the program and generating revenue for the women.

All participants also received entrepreneurship training, enhancing their ability to care for the piglets and generate income.



Divine Action Rural Development Foundation, Uganda



About the Grant

AWIU awarded \$2000 for 100 women to be trained on making bio briquettes. These briquettes are a low-smoke, high efficiency method to cook. With this funding, Divine Action Rural Development trained the women on making briquettes, constructed the facilities, and acquired the tools they need to prepare the briquettes.

Femmes En Action, Burundi

About the Grant

Femmes En Action was awarded \$2,500 to train 50 women on hairdressing. This skill can be used to create job opportunities and support the community.



Foundation of Women Affected by Conflicts (FOWAC), Uganda



About the Grant

AWIU awarded FOWAC to \$1,900 in 2022 for sewing machines and supplies. These were given to 10 primary schools, to encourage retention of the girl in school. The majority of girls selected for training on the sewing machines were ages 13–18.

The skills taught will help girls repair or mend ripped uniforms. They will also be able to utilize these skills to find professional work in the future. Some of the girls were able to stitch reusable pads for themselves and friends.



Human Organization for People's Enlightenment (HOPE), India

About the Grant

With the AWIU funds, HOPE was able to conduct community meetings, recruit a skilled instructor, purchase materials, and train 20 women on bamboo basket weaving. Each beneficiary is now able to make and sell 2 baskets a week, or an income of Rs. 500 weekly.



Ivory Coast Mothers and Children, Ivory Coast



About the Grant

Ivory Coast Mothers and Children received a grant of \$1700 from AWIU. They were able to use these funds to complete the roof, ceiling and floor for a vaccination center. The vaccination center is now fully equipped to provide a safe and clean environment for babies and children to receive vaccines.



Plavio Uganda, Uganda

About the Grant

The tailoring training project supported by the \$2000 grant from American Women for International Understanding (AWIU) allowed for the purchasing of 10 sewing machines and training twenty teen mothers and school dropouts in cloth making, menstrual hygiene management and entrepreneurial skills training. This tailoring training started in August 2022 and it will end in January 2023. The trainees will be awarded certificates of completion and startup materials.



Prince and Princess Academy, Ghana

About the Grant

Prince and Princess Academy provides low-cost primary education for 134 students. AWIU has given three grants to the academy over the past four years. The first grant, in 2019, was to fund school restrooms. In 2021, AWIU awarded a second grant, to begin the construction of three additional classrooms. The third, just this year, was to finish the classrooms. The 2022 grant provided materials and construction for three classrooms, allowing for 90 more children to attend the school.



Rwanda Children, Rwanda



About the Grant

At the beginning of the month of June 2022, Rwanda Children started the 6th intake in the Fighting against Malnutrition program. The program worked with 40 children who had complications caused by malnutrition. They were met with medical support and education sessions to improve nutrition knowledge with the parents and children. The children were monitored to see if nutrition improved as a result of the program.



Second Mile Haiti, Haiti



About the Grant

During the course of this project, the Maternity Center remained open 24/7 to provide maternal and newborn healthcare to women in Northern Haiti and their families. A team of highly-trained Midwives and Nurses were available at all hours of the day and night to attend to women during labor and birth and to evaluate women who were experiencing emergency symptoms.

During the period of June 1st – October 31st, the Midwives at Second Mile Haiti attended the

births of 125 pregnant women in Saint Raphaël, Haiti.

During their pregnancies each of these women attended prenatal care appointments at the Second Mile Maternity Center where they received routine prenatal testing and monitoring in accordance with the WHO recommendations for Antenatal Care.

Women who chose to give birth to their babies at the Second Mile Haiti Maternity Center were met with respectful care, routine monitoring of vital signs and fetal heart tones, and 24 hours or more of postpartum care and breastfeeding support following their birth. In several cases, the midwives responded with life-saving assistance for both women and their newborns such as in the case of postpartum hemorrhage, preeclampsia, and newborn respiratory complications.

In order to prepare for and respond to these emergencies Second Mile Haiti purchased 4 fetal dopplers for monitoring fetal heart rates, 2 Hemocue Hemoglobin analyzers for diagnosing anemia, 150 receiving blankets for warming and drying newborns, and medications to prevent and treat hemorrhage, high blood pressure, preeclampsia, anemia, and infection.

The Needy Today, Sierra Leone

About the Grant

Following the procurement of computers and establishment of the computer school in April, 2022, 50 of the most vulnerable young women and girls were recruited for the computer training program. Ten beneficiaries were trained every month for a period of five months and exams were conducted in the sixth month.

The project provided skill training on computers (introduction to computers, Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint) and basic training on gender issue and personal safety in the workplace to the 50 beneficiaries who are between 18–32 years old. The organization is now working to connect them with jobs in the sector. Subsequently, The Needy Today will also continue to make computer training services available to the remaining members.



Women Arises Association (WAA), Uganda

About the Grant

Women Arises Association (WAA) is a community based organization in Wakiso district, Uganda. WAA received a grant of \$1500 from AWIU to implement a project for providing 10,000 liter water tank for Bwatale community hospital to ensure availability of clean water at the hospital. The tank was built with the assistance of volunteers and community members.



Women Force Organization Guinea (Force des femmes Guinée), Guinea



About the Grant

On the 15th of August, 2022, Women Force Organization Guinea launched a Sewing/Fashion program for girls. Presently 25 students are registered, with a target of 50 students attending at the end of the month. These trainings are expected to last three years and every year an additional 50 students will be trained.

Women Force Organization Guinea is now working towards the establishment of the Local Soap Production.