



Impact Summary 2020

In March of each year, CofS accepts grant applications from organizations working around the world to remove barriers to education for girls and women. The CofS Grants Team reviews and evaluates each application and convenes to determine which organizations will be awarded up to \$10,000 in grant funds.

During the 2020 grant cycle, \$100,00 was awarded to ten deserving organizations. Grant dollars will:

- Help break the cycle of poverty for 55 women pursuing a High School Equivalency education in Nashville, Tennessee through provision of free courses, childcare, meals, transportation, and additional services.
- Provide modern subject-matter and pedagogy training to 60 female science and math teachers from remote and impoverished communities in Tajikistan, increasing the likelihood that female students will stay in school, pursue/excel in these fields, and in the long-term, have access to better-paid jobs and greater economic opportunity.
- Support the launch of a new youth development program curriculum that will empower 500+ indigenous and impoverished Guatemalan girls to persist toward high school graduation, a milestone that will ensure them a life out of poverty.
- Support the distribution of reusable, washable menstrual hygiene kits to 30,000 girls in Ethiopia, increasing school attendance by 24%. This grant will also provide menstrual educational materials to 50,000 boys and girls which will break down misconceptions and cultural myths that lead to societal restrictions on girls and women.
- Support the participation of 50 high school girls in Indianapolis, Indiana in a high-impact, research-based curriculum designed to prepare them for the workforce, post-secondary education, and leadership in their communities through mentorship and hands-on opportunities to explore career options. The program prioritizes serving those who experience barriers to education and career attainment at a higher-than-average rate.
- Fund the latrine construction and community education/de-stigmatization components of a women-run menstrual hygiene project in Uganda that increases girls' ability to attend and participate actively in school.
- Provide room and board as well as social and academic support for 25 rural and nomadic girls while they attend public middle school in a safe and inclusive community at Agadez Learning Center in Niger.
- Support the certification of 72 African organizations to implement a six-month, community classroom that will provide 660 women the skills needed to be economically independent. These women will in turn be able to send their 3,300 children to school and lift their families from poverty.
- Provide college, university or trade school tuition support for Maasai girls in Kenya who have fled Female Genital Mutilation and/or Early Forced Childhood Marriage, affording them the skills to economically thrive and become living proof of the value of educating girls and women.
- Establish a computer center that will serve 50+ girls as well as provide scholarships to eight middle-school girls at the Hamsa Center for Girls Education in Niger.

Additionally, our school build program embarked on 3 projects in 2020 that were interrupted by the global pandemic. All schools on track to be completed as soon as possible.



Impact Summary 2021

In March of each year, CofS accepts grant applications from organizations working on the ground around the world to remove barriers to education for girls and women. The CofS Grants Team reviews and evaluates each application and convenes to determine which organizations will be awarded up to \$10,000 in grant funds.

During the 2021 grant cycle, \$102,600 was awarded to eleven deserving organizations thanks to our generous donors. Grant dollars will:

- Provide 160 women facing extreme poverty in Uganda and Rwanda the knowledge, skills, and tools to start a sustainable micro-business, helping ensure their family's economic stability. This includes training, coaching/mentoring, and start-up capital.
- Fund materials and supplies for a *Dental Surgery Nurse Assistant Training Program*, a one-year training program for 40+ young women in Sri Lanka who will be uplifted from poverty to financial independence.
- Support a program which funds teachers' salaries and provides school supplies, daily meals, and access to clean water for 600 primary school-aged girls in Haiti.
- Support a *Women's Enterprise Training Program*, providing 100 Ugandan women experiencing poverty and oppression with business and vocational training to gain self-sufficiency while also impacting 1,000+ family/community members with their knowledge and skills.
- Support the pilot year of a *Girl Power* program, a comprehensive effort to empower girls and engage a community in Kenya in preventing sexual violence and associated early pregnancy that can keep girls from staying in/succeeding in school.
- Support a *Holistic Education Initiative* which will provide 86 rural adolescent Rwandan girls living in vulnerable circumstances with a comprehensive secondary school scholarship, including tuition, materials, supplies and mentorship.
- Provide funding for wraparound services and family supports for 20 indigenous girls as they transition from primary school to middle school – a time when most girls drop out of the educational system in Guatemala.
- Provide 25 Nepalese girls at-risk of repeating cycles of poverty with the opportunity to stay in school and break the cycle of inequality by funding tuition, uniforms, books, supplies, and transportation.
- Support personnel, equipment, and reusable pad-making supplies as part of a menstrual health management and education program keeping 2,500+ rural Ugandan girls in school.
- Support the *Girls Education Incentive Farming Program* in Ivory Coast, enrolling 15 women in a 6-month farming program and their girl children in a full-time education program.
- Fund the production of menstrual kits at eight sewing cooperatives, providing local women tailors with economic opportunity while keeping 2,600 girls and young women in school in Kenya, Malawi, and Uganda.

Additionally, in 2021, our school build program will fund the construction of **six** schools in two countries – Malawi and Guatemala.



Impact Summary 2023

In March of each year, the Circle of Sisterhood (CofS) accepts applications for funding from organizations working on the ground around the world to remove barriers to education for girls and women. The CofS Grants Team reviews and evaluates each application and convenes to determine which organizations will be awarded up to \$10,000.

During the 2023 grant cycle, \$120,000 was awarded to thirteen deserving organizations thanks to our generous donors. Donations to CofS in 2023 have:

- Provided 90 impoverished Nepali girls - at risk of being trafficked, enslaved, or forced to marry - the life-changing opportunity to be safe and stay in school by paying their tuition fees, offering supplemental classes and tutoring, and funding the costs of school supplies (textbooks, backpacks, uniforms, etc.) for one year.
- Supported teacher training, educational supplies, and menstrual health management components of a program at two resource-poor schools in Kenya, directly supporting 8 female teachers and 456 girls, empowering them to stay in school, stand up for their rights, and become confident agents of change.
- Supported 650 rural girls' pursuit of a quality primary education through funding teacher salaries, education expenses, malnutrition prevention, and health education in Haiti.
- Supported a high-impact, year-long program of designed to support up to 100 U.S. high school girls' achievement of education and professional success by enhancing their leadership skills, college preparedness, and career development.
- Supported 400 students in Togo, mostly women, as they move from complete illiteracy to proficiency in reading, writing and simple math, thereby changing their futures and the futures of their children and community.
- Supported an empowerment program of an organization working in Kenya to reduce gender-based violence and unplanned teen pregnancies that can keep girls from staying in/succeeding in school by providing weekly sessions for 400 students, monthly workshops for 200 parents, and a public advocacy campaign.
- Provided 22 financially disadvantaged and at-risk girls in Nepal with access to primary and secondary education, opportunities to pursue technical training, preventative and emergency healthcare and access to support and mentoring programs.
- Provided 230 impoverished immigrant and minority women in New Jersey with daily English language instruction to help them secure economic stability for themselves and their families and become fully integrated members of the American community.
- Supported a program that will equip 380 women from eight rural communities in Sierra Leone with financial literacy, life skills, business and entrepreneurship skills training and the tools to use their voice within their households and communities.
- Supported a program in Niger that will partially fund 16 middle-school girls' education (tuition scholarships and tutoring) for one year and will fully funding the construction of a latrine at their school.
- Directly supported ten female college students' expenses - including tuition, housing, books, school supplies, supplementary classes, clothes, food, transportation, healthcare, hygiene supplies, and cultural programming - as they combat India's caste, class, and gender norms in pursuit of higher education.
- Funded the production of menstrual kits at three sewing cooperatives, providing 18 women tailors with economic opportunity while keeping 2,000 girls and young women in school in Malawi.
- Funded the development and implementation of life skills, mental health, reproductive rights, mentoring, and parental education programming for 22 graduates and 45 current students as they pursue post-secondary education after escaping the traditions of female genital mutilation and early forced childhood marriage.

Additionally, in 2023, our school build program will fund the construction of two schools in Guatemala.



Impact Summary 2024

In March of each year, the Circle of Sisterhood (CofS) accepts applications for funding from organizations working around the world to remove barriers to education for girls and women. The CofS Grants Review Team evaluates each application and convenes to determine which organizations will be awarded up to \$10,000.

During the 2024 grant cycle, \$120,000 was awarded to thirteen deserving organizations thanks to our generous donors. Donations to CofS in 2024 will:

- Fund the establishment and operation of four community-based educational centers/classrooms for approximately 120 children, primarily girls, from northern Afghanistan who are currently out of school.
- Support construction of a vocational training center and the establishment of four, women-owned small businesses to provide educational and vocational training for twenty girls ages 12-15. The goal is to create local economic opportunities that reduce child marriage and risky urban migration in Ghana.
- Support 260 girls aged 6-18 from rural, marginalized communities who are attending the Kaliyachak Girls' Learning Centre in India, empowering them through education, vocational training and opportunities for artisan enterprises and employment.
- Provide six months of vocational education and holistic support services to fifty survivors of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence as well as high-risk women and girls in India.
- Support a Child Centered Network Center where 26 girls will receive academic support (tuition, uniforms, supplies) and have their most vital needs met (medical, dental, mental health support, counseling support, meals) breaking the cycle of poverty for the girls, their families, and their communities and opening the path for safer and more gender-equal communities in Ethiopia.
- Support a professional development program for fifteen local, indigenous secondary school teachers who provide holistic education and a safe, empowering school environment for 100 girls in Guatemala.
- Empower three hundred girls and their families from forty-two rural communities in Guatemala through socioemotional education, vocal empowerment training, individual mentorship, leadership training, and health and nutrition services, increasing school retention and ensuring their education and future success is a family commitment.
- Provide tuition, textbooks, and all vocational training materials for one year for seventy-five girls aged 12-21 who have survived human trafficking and sexual abuse, empowering them to re-enter mainstream society with dignity & hope in India.
- Fund teacher salaries and supplies for an after-school program providing 150 girls living in extreme poverty with academic support and holistic, wrap-around services, including essential physical and mental health services in Nepal.
- Provide 5,000 girls the education and products needed to safely and confidently manage their menstrual cycles – breaking down barriers to education and helping them reach their full potential in Uganda.
- Protect seventy vulnerable Afghan girls from child marriage and provide livelihoods for five female teachers denied the right to work by supporting the operation of covert schools and the dissemination of materials for home-based learning.
- Fund a twelve-month program in Sierra Leone that covers seventy-five girls' school expenses and provides holistic support, life skills training and social enterprise education for most of these students.

Additionally in 2024, three school builds were funded in Nicaragua and Senegal by CofS campus partners.



Impact Summary 2025

Each March, the Circle of Sisterhood (CofS) invites organizations working around the world to apply for funding to help eliminate barriers to education for girls and women. The CofS Grants Review Team carefully evaluates each application and meets to select recipients, awarding grants of up to \$10,000 to the most mission-aligned initiatives.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, the Circle of Sisterhood awarded \$80,000 to deserving organizations during the 2025 grant cycle. Contributions have helped us continue this vital work by:

- Supporting a program that helps keep 1,151 Guatemalan students—877 of them girls—in school through a comprehensive approach that includes academic support, individualized follow-up, social services, and personal development opportunities. The Circle of Sisterhood grant will provide full support for eight girls in the program.
- Funding the participation of twenty girls and their mothers in a transformative program in Ethiopia that provides access to education, nutrition, school supplies, life skills, entrepreneurial training, and economic opportunities—empowering families and breaking the cycle of poverty.
- Supporting the holistic education of 203 Kenyan girls in grades 7–12 at an all-girls’ boarding high school, where health and leadership development are integrated with STEM, arts and culture, and critical thinking. This program not only equips students with essential skills but also protects them from female genital mutilation and child marriage—breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty and gender discrimination.
- Supporting one hundred vulnerable 12th-grade girls in Cambodia through a program that empowers students from marginalized communities to stay in school. By providing scholarships, school supplies, tutoring, food, housing, transportation, and mentorship, the program helps these girls complete their secondary education—breaking cycles of poverty and gender inequality.
- In South Sudan, providing fifty female primary-level teachers with access to high school education, formal teacher training, and a pathway to a sustainable government salary—all within just two years. This initiative enhances their job security, strengthens their literacy and teaching skills, and increases female representation in classrooms across the country.
- Supporting nine sewing cooperatives in Kenya, Malawi, and Uganda by providing materials to produce 2,000 menstrual hygiene kits. Each kit includes reusable, washable menstrual pads, a pad carrier, a waterproof bag for used pads, and a cotton bag for storage. This initiative enables 2,000 girls to continue their education without interruption and empowers forty female tailors with a sustainable source of income to support their families.
- Supporting 170 Indigenous Guatemalan women and adolescent learners who have been excluded from traditional education through an accelerated learning program. This initiative offers essential educational resources and wraparound support—including free childcare and access to mental health services—enabling participants to quickly earn their diplomas and re-enter pathways to economic mobility.
- In Afghanistan, where the crisis facing girls and women is unprecedented and girls cannot attend school beyond the sixth grade, this grant is providing 150 Afghan girls with access to education through underground schools, providing teacher stipends, safe learning spaces in private homes, and essential school supplies, ensuring they receive quality academic instruction and a supportive community that fosters resilience, knowledge, and hope for a future beyond oppression.

In addition, with full funding from two dedicated campus partners, two new schools will soon rise in Malawi and Senegal—structures designed to foster learning and growth for generations to come.