

# Wezesha Vijana Program *(Empower Ourselves)*

## Girls' Advancement and Boy Inclusion

Girls' education is one of the most cost-effective strategies for promoting development and economic growth. However, multiple factors impede girls from receiving the education they need.

### CHALLENGES

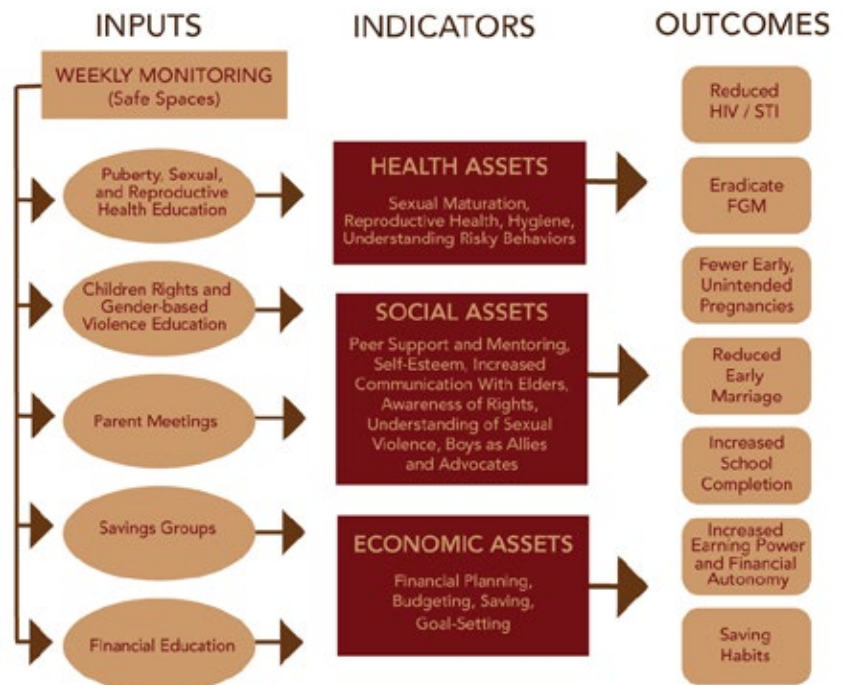
- Girls are more at risk of dropping out of school than boys, and are less likely to advance to secondary school.
- Girls are more likely to encounter sexual violence.
- Girls are more often subjected to cultural traditions around early marriage, and practices like female genital mutilation that still exist in some areas.
- Girls lack the proper knowledge about puberty, pregnancy, and personal rights that lead them to immediately opt out of school once these issues arise.

### EDUCATE

We have impacted nearly 125,000 girls who are less likely to leave school and become victims of early marriage and gender-based violence. Our partnerships with Girls Opportunity Alliance, P&G, Girls Not Brides, Kenya Red Cross, and Community-based organizations focus on a multi-effort approach that reaches out to adolescent girls, their mothers, and male peers to educate them on their rights, reproductive health, financial literacy, and personal safety.

### EMPOWER

Our mother-daughter intervention model improves community support to keep girls in school longer while promoting improved long-term health outcomes. Girls serve as peer facilitators, which increases their confidence and multiplies their impact as they share their knowledge with mothers, sisters, and peers. Already, our data and stories demonstrate a direct impact on healthier choices, improved school attendance, and academic performance.



All programming includes community support, parental engagement, peer mentoring, and boy inclusion.

### AWARDS & RECOGNITION



Attended the Girls Opportunity Alliance, Obama Foundation Leadership Summit



Participated in the Brookings Institution's GIRL CHARGE project \*concluded 2019



We joined Girls Not Brides, a global partnership seeking to end child marriage!



UN Girls Education Initiative Award for promising practice



Anne Kiloku, Named Outstanding Woman of Likipia Country, Kenya



WWSF Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life



Educating Children | Transforming Worlds

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NAROK, KENYA | ARUSHA, TANZANIA | KASSANDA, UGANDA | LIVERMORE, CA

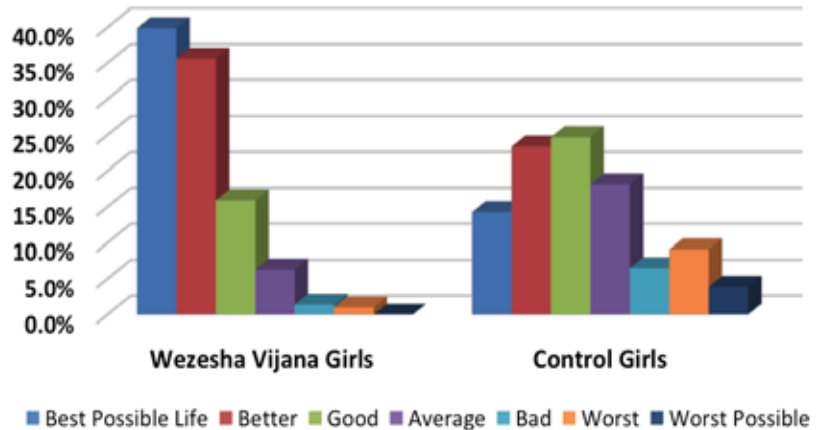
# IMPACT & INVESTMENT

Year	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Wezesha Vijana Program (Girls' Advancement)	+50,000	+82,000	+89,000	+95,000	+115,000
Youth Schools/Communities	+50	+80	+90	+95	+100



## Cantril's Ladder of Life Scale

208 randomly-selected project participants and 78 control group subjects



## IMPACT

**Wezesha Vijana**  
(Adolescent Girls' Advancement)

**138,000**

Lives Impacted Through 2020



School Attendance

**UP 78%**



Boys Accepting Girls as Leaders

**UP 75%**



Confidence to Lead

**UP 61%**



Pregnancy Dropout

**DOWN 95%**



Academic Performance

**UP 37%**



Transition to Secondary School

**UP 80%**

## Advocating for Girls' Rights

Judica's Journey, Tanzania

At age 14, Judica was slated for female genital mutilation (FGM) and early marriage. An Asante Africa Foundation scholarship enabled her to escape that path and continue her education. She learned to believe in herself and is now a role model in her community, empowered to fight against harmful cultural norms. With her support and entrepreneurial coaching, her father obtained sobriety and started a brick business. Judica now has her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education and advocates against FGM and child marriage.



"I now have the confidence to stand up for my rights, and I know how to take care of my body. I can teach the other girls in my community."  
~ Carol, Kenya