



# SCHOLARSHIPPING OUR SISTERS

Supporting higher education for Adventist women globally

Vol. 7, No. 1

First quarter 2010

## Meet our sisters

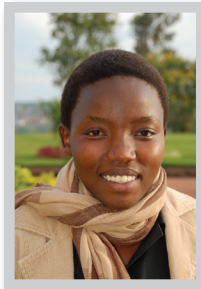
### HARDSHIP AND DETERMINATION IN SUDAN

Separated from their father during wartime, Stella and her 5 siblings were raised by their mother in a refugee camp in south Sudan. Through this hardship, Stella learned to rely on God. The family was reunited only a few years before her father's death in 2007.

It has been hard for Stella to get an education—she completed classes up to the secondary level in a program run by the UN's Refugee Agency. But she has determination. Her pastor is confident "she will do very well if she has the opportunity."

#### Computer Skills for Sudan

Currently studying in Sudan, Stella hopes to study Computer Science at Bugema University in Uganda. She knows computer skills will be invaluable in Sudan.



She also enjoys working with children. When she and her siblings formed a family choir, their evening practice drew neighborhood children. Later storytime was added, and parents thanked her for teaching their children good values. Now the Children's Ministries at her church appreciates Stella.

Without our help, Stella can't continue in college. Your gift will bless Stella and also all those she will help in Sudan.

## INSPIRATION 76 TIMES OVER

"You inspire us." That's the message to 76 women around the world—from GC Women's Scholarship Committee members who read their stories.

**\$44,000 Awarded**

In January, this committee awarded \$44,000 in scholarships to 76 Adventist women attending college, women from places such as Rwanda, Papua New Guinea, Ukraine, Congo and Bulgaria.

#### Amazing Determination

"Habi, Grace, Sharon Rose, Sumithra, what you are accomplishing is amazing! Your determination, leadership, and commitment to family, church, and community are amazing." As committee members read the scholarship requests, they were inspired. Inspired by women such as...

• **Sharon Rose**, at Adventist University of the Philippines, whom a teacher calls "the perfect example of a Christian student." Efficient, dependable, and talented, she sings in the Torch Bearer Chorale, served as music coordinator for youth evangelism in Palanan, and has won poetry and music awards.

• **Sumithra**, a nursing major in India, gets no financial help from her family. Her two brothers and her father are coolies. From a Hindu background, she was baptized while at an

Adventist secondary school, and is now active in the college choir, Sabbath school, and AY. She makes top grades, yet cheerfully "goes the extra mile to help others."

#### Grand Totals

These are just two examples of the dedicated women helped by Women's Ministries scholarships. Since it began in 1991, this program has given nearly \$682,000, helping 1,757 women from 113 countries. Their dedication and determination inspire us. YOUR support of the scholarship program blesses and inspires these women.



## NOW SERVING BOSNIA

It is exciting to hear what our sisters are accomplishing after they graduate. **Maja Topić**, who received a scholarship in 2006, is the newly-elected **Women's Ministries director** for her conference in Banja Luka, Bosnia-Herzegovina. Maja is enthusiastic, eager to develop Women's Ministries because it has never really functioned there before.

Maja is an example of the committed workers the SOS scholarships—with YOUR help—provide for our church.



"I've always believed that one woman's success can only help another woman's success."

Gloria Vanderbilt



# Touched by Kindness

By Raquel Arrais, Associate Director, General Conference Women's Ministries

According to a friend, two things bring people together: a tragedy or a cause. True. Seeing reports of the earthquake in Haiti, we understand that we depend on each other.

Because of the kindness of countless ordinary people united by compassion, the lives of thousands of people hit by the devastation were changed forever.

### To Give Away

Lisa Whelchel spoke for all Christian women when she said, "The Lord has abundantly blessed me all my life. I am not trying to pay Him back for all His wonderful gifts; I just realize that He gave them to me to give away."

### Becoming Blessings

With SOS it is the same. Because of the kindness of many people, 135 lives were touched in 2009. Lives that will be a blessing in their church and communities;



lives that will touch the needy, help the poor, and minister in many corners of the world.

This year let's each make a personal commitment to be a cheerful, generous, courageous giver. We all have been blessed; all of us are called to share those blessings.

### Testimony of Kindness

The young women in this church need your help as they struggle to develop their talents for His service. To each one of you who is a living testimony of kindness, our gratitude for helping answer their prayers.

### Meet our sisters

## Supporting Her College



Nicolette, who is from Haiti, is in her last year of nursing school at Atlantic Union College (AUC). Her goal is to become a nursing instructor so that she will be able to use the talents God has given her.

### Aunt's Loving Care

Nicolette was raised by her aunt who lives in Brooklyn, New York. It was under her loving care that Nicolette learned about Christ and what it means to be a Seventh-day Adventist Christian. Her aunt also helped to finance Nicolette's education, but due to an injury, she is no longer able to.

### Good Recruiter

Those who know Nicolette describe her as "personable, thoughtful, and friendly." When she is not studying, she enjoys helping new students adjust to college life, participating in health fairs, and recruiting new students for AUC. She also enjoys teaching an adult Sabbath School Bible study class at the college church.

A teacher says, "Nicolette will be very successful. Her future is bright." But it would not be so bright without your help.

Please make checks payable to Women's Scholarship Fund.  
Mail to  
Women's Ministries Dept.  
General Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
12501 Old Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20904  
Or call to charge to credit card. 301-680-6608

(Please print all information)

Yes, I want to support the WM Scholarship program with....

My pledge of \_\_\_\_\_ per (year/month)  My gift of \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Charge to my  MasterCard  VISA Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

a monthly gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on the 10th of each month beginning (month/year) \_\_\_\_\_

a one time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) \_\_\_\_\_ This gift is in honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_



This newsletter is published quarterly by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Women's Ministries Department to share news about the women's scholarship program.

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## \$2,000 CHALLENGE MET

December 20 was a day to celebrate. SOS met the \$2,000 Matching Challenge—thanks to your generosity. Your gifts mean a matching \$2,000 for our sisters. Many thanks to all who helped meet this goal!

To support women's scholarships by offering a new challenge, contact us. Challenge us to raise a certain amount to receive your matching gift.



### What Your Gift Can Do

\$30/month: room & board, 1 semester, Thailand

\$15/month: tuition, 1 semester, Bangladesh

\$55/month: costs, 1 year, Madagascar

\$1,000: 1 semester tuition, Russia

\$160: 1 month tuition, Argentina