Yes, 20 years ago, as Rose Otis recalls fondly, “The idea came to me—born on angel wings”—the idea for a women’s devotional book. Soon the dream grew into a scholarship program for women in college, supported by the devotional book royalties.

Oh, how that dream has grown in 20 years! This February it was a joy to give scholarships to 57 women. In 20 years, a total of 2,037 scholarships have blessed women in 119 countries.

CELEBRATE DREAMS
In this 20th anniversary year, we celebrate—not just one dream, but the dreams of the many Adventist women who struggle to get an education. We celebrate the blessing they are to their churches and communities. We celebrate their service—and the power of a dream.

Friends of the GCWM Women’s Scholarship Program encourage us with their anniversary greetings.

Lilya Wagner, Director, Philanthropic Services, NAD

“As a recipient of an SOS scholarship, I know what it means as a woman who was pursuing a challenging educational goal. I congratulate the Women's Ministries Department for maintaining the women's scholarship program for 20 years. I, and all the women who have been blessed by it, say thank you!”

May-Ellen Colon, Assist. Director, GC Sabbath School/Personal Ministries Dept., and first women’s scholarship recipient

“Educating women is important in overcoming poverty in many countries and a powerful tool in making a change in their lives, their churches and their communities. We thank all of you who during these 20 years have supported us to empower SDA women globally through education, giving them a brighter future.”

Raquel Arrais, Associate Director, GC Women’s Ministries

“Congratulations to Heather-Dawn Small, Raquel Arrais and Carolyn Kujawa on the 20th anniversary of the Women’s Scholarship program/SOS. You have worked hard to fund this program to help our sisters attend college or university. Through higher education, these sisters are a tremendous asset to their families, their communities, and our Church as a whole.”

Ivy Ng, Hope Channel

“The SOS scholarship has been a blessing to women around the world because they feel valued by their church. It empowers them to go for their dreams while fulfilling the work of God. The scholarships benefit these women and help prepare them to spread the gospel.”

Tanya Muganda, GC Children’s Ministry

Chivya in India is recipient No. 2,013

Total amount given since 1993 $911,990

To support SOS

Write for the women’s devotional book

$6,000

1 semester - Univ. Eastern Africa, Baraton

$76,893

Raised in 2012
God became our Father when He created humans in His image. Within His human family is a more immediate family—our global church. Women’s Ministries has been called to serve the sisterhood of the church. We are our sisters’ keepers in such diverse places as Myanmar, Kenya, Chile, and Romania.

A SPECIAL TRAIT
Over and over, when reading about the women helped by SOS, one trait emerges: the women receiving these scholarships are involved in helping ministries. Many are married, caring for their children, as well as orphans and aging parents. In spite of this, these women go beyond their families and glorify God, serving their communities—with health seminars, feeding the homeless, AIDS prevention clinics, orphanage visits, and reconciliation counseling.

NOT JUST ONE
Our scholarships help not just one individual or family but touch many lives. We thank our donors, but we thank our sisters as well and celebrate them—for making the world a better place.

By Ella Rydzewski
SOS volunteer

TO LET YOU KNOW

WHAT IS “SCHOLARSHIPPING OUR SISTERS”?
It’s a volunteer team supporting GC Women’s Ministries Scholarships for Adventist women in college worldwide.

HOW ARE SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS DISTRIBUTED?
Each Division receives the same amount of money. Clearly, in some areas more scholarships can be given because costs are lower.

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