









2022 ANNUAL REPORT



An Educated Girl will become an Emancipated Woman!

Girl Now, Woman Later

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Introduction for 2022

The Mission

To help girls in Burkina Faso, (a country in West Africa) learn to manage their menstrual cycles, stay in school, and flourish into well-educated women.

Girl Now, Woman later strives to destigmatize the menstrual cycle in Burkina Faso, West Africa, and beyond so girls won't have to skip school while on their periods because of isolation, shame, or period poverty.

Our ultimate goal is to be the go-to place for the mental health needs of individuals, communities, and organizations globally.

2022 At a Glance! - A Letter from our Founder

Dear Friends,

As part of our commitment to you, we're sharing our Annual Report to tell you how much we have accomplished in our fight against period poverty and in encouraging education for girls in Burkina Faso. In 2022, we were proud to be a part of the following projects:

We welcomed two new partner public schools, and provided menstruation health workshops, lunches, and feminine hygienic products to over 350 middle and high schools from underserved areas. We have also provided these services to students whose families are classified as internally displaced persons (IDP) due to the ongoing terrorist insurgency in the remote parts of the country.

As part of GNWL's next strategy, we expect to:

- Increase our target reach to at least **250 additional** girls in 2023, which will double the number of girls we served last year.
- Buy land that will allow us to build the first-ever dedicated space for after-school programs in Burkina Faso. This will be our future hub for teaching girls about menstruation, sexual and reproductive health education, and marketable vocational training for middle and high school girls in underserved communities.
- Continue our ongoing commitment to empower girls not to skip school (often due to period shame), by building two gender-safe/responsive latrines in our partner schools.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we are making a commitment to you, our donors, and future donors to fulfill our mission and to advocate for the inclusion of the girls' male peers and mentors in public schools to help break the shame and silence about menstruation.

As we outlined above, our outreach is growing. We hope that it continues to grow as we embark on this journey with you, our partners. The future for girls in Burkina Faso is bright with the strong foundation that we have built, and the path is clear with our Strategic Plan as the guiding light.

We want to thank you for your support. We are making an exponential impact on the lives of future female leaders in Burkina Faso who are striving for improvement for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Bienvenue Konsimbo, President & CEO

Bienvenue Konsimbo

What We Do

Our organization recognizes the leading forces of gender inequality in Burkina Faso (and in other areas) come from menstruation shaming and a lack of menstrual resources. We understand that in BF, young girls face significant challenges in accessing menstrual resources. During their first menstrual cycle, some girls do not even understand why they are bleeding. We also recognize the social stigmas associated with feminine health. Older girls are often absent from school when they're menstruating due to the limited availability of feminine products in Burkina Faso. These products are not available at the pharmacy or grocery store down the street like in the U.S.

In response to these troubling issues, our organization is committed to building a path to better outcomes for girls in Burkina Faso. We offer:

Tuition Assistance



We have offered two students **tuition assistance** as part of a developing program to aid students with the highest need (a parental hardship) to continue their education.

Mentorship for Girls to Pursue their Education



We reinforce the importance of continuing your education with our girls at every menstrual health workshop. [Visit our YouTube](#) page to see clips from our **SHE SPEAKS** campaign.

Menstrual Education and Products



We also provide access to menstrual resources, (including feminine hygiene products) and menstrual education workshops to ensure that young girls can stay in school, even while they are on their periods.

External Recognition

We earned a 2021 Gold Seal of Transparency with Candid (formally GuideStar)! You can support our work with trust and confidence. [View our Profile](#)



Programs

MENSTRUAL HEALTH EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

At our organization, we are dedicated to addressing the urgent need for menstrual health education in Burkina Faso. We believe that every girl should have access to the resources and information they need to manage their periods with confidence and dignity. Did you know that an estimated 21% of girls in Burkina Faso are absent from school when they have their period? Additionally, 83% of girls participate less in class because of shame and embarrassment about having their period. Absenteeism and low educational engagement are significant barriers to the girls' education and future opportunities.

Can you believe that nine out of every ten girls in Burkina Faso do not understand their first menstrual cycle? This lack of menstrual education may lead them to feel confusion, shame, and fear. That's why we are committed to providing menstrual health workshops to more girls in the future. We believe that by educating and empowering young girls, we can help them navigate school and learn to manage their periods effectively. What can this change? We will begin ending the stigma associated with menstrual health and promote a more equal playing field for girls and boys in their education. It's not too late to make a difference in the lives of these girls, and we invite you to join us in this important mission.

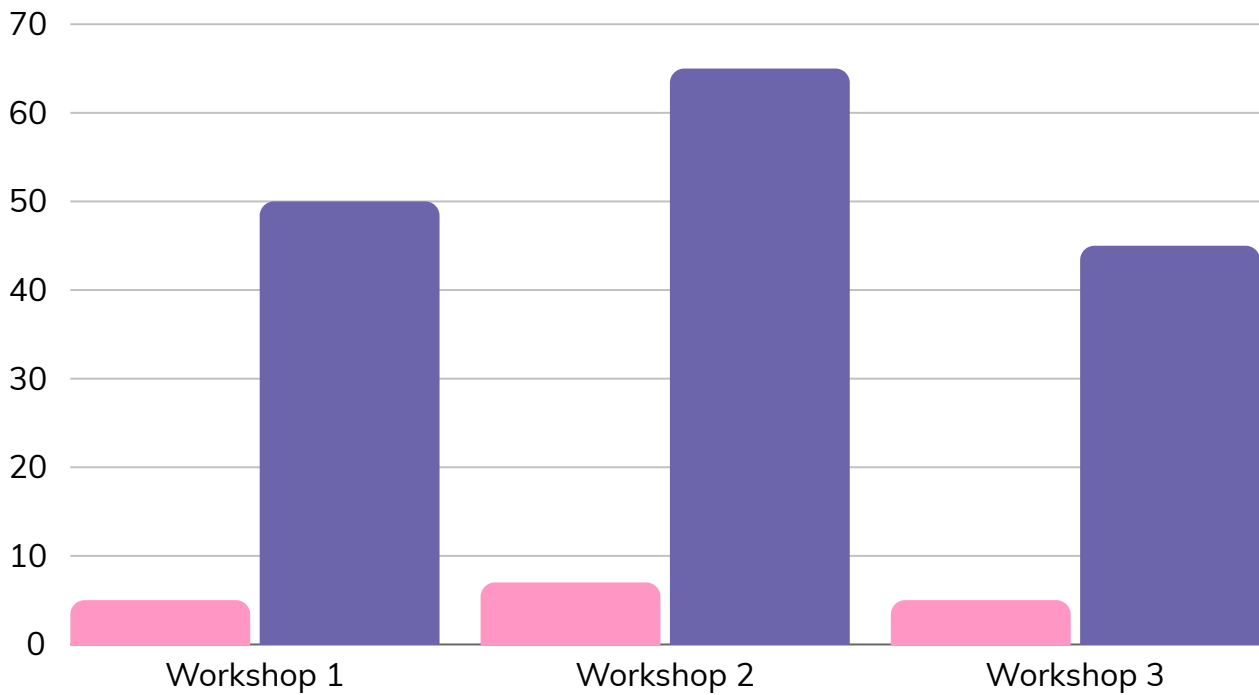
SHE SPEAKS CAMPAIGN

Our organization is proud to support the **She Speaks Campaign**, a motivational platform designed specifically for high school girls to be inspired, discuss, and share their experiences and ambitions. We recognize that young girls face unique challenges when it comes to pursuing their dreams, and we believe that by providing a safe and supportive space for them to speak their minds and share their stories, we can help them overcome these obstacles. **She Speaks Campaign** is a powerful tool for empowering girls, promoting gender equality, and fostering a sense of

community among young women. Through this platform, girls can find inspiration, support, and encouragement from coaches, and role models, helping them to build the confidence and resilience they need to succeed in school and beyond. We are honored to be a part of this important initiative and look forward to seeing the impact it has on the lives of high school girls in Burkina Faso.

Impact: Number of Girls Aware of Periods

Before and After Workshops



We're actively raising awareness that public schools in Burkina Faso need more education about girls' menstruation. We are including boys in the conversation to end the social stigma that boys can wrongly have about girls, such as the assumption that women are unclean when menstruating. In 2022, we provided three menstruation health workshops to more than 150 girls. Over 90% of these participants were not aware of menstrual health or received education about the topic. At these events, we provided over 200 feminine hygiene products and lunches.

Our Girls Share

OUR GIRLS SHARE: November 2022 Menstrual Health Education Workshop in Gounghin Nord C. School. View our promo video at youtu.be/dbjVfHQC334?feature=shared

Leadership & Governance



Bienvenue Konsimbo

Founder

My (period) experience: When I saw the blood on my panties, I became scared. I thought that I would die. However, my mom responded with just 3 things:

- I was now becoming a woman
- I would have something called a “period” and I will have to wear a pad to protect myself
- I should stay away from boys

I didn't question those three things.

Now, I would.

Board of Trustees:

- Bienvenue Konsimbo
- Dr. Suzanne Ondrus
- Tabatha Ward
- Simone Bado

Advisory Council:

- Boundaogo Aisseta
- Rose Mason

Volunteers:

- Emily Hockett (Content Manager)
- Kelly Lauturner (Fundraising)

Revenue and Expenses

- 80% of our expenses are program expenses.
- 99% of our donations came from individual donors and corporations.
- Our Assets as of January 1, 2022: **\$3,000**
- Our Assets as of December 31, 2022: **\$2,500**
- Revenue in 2022: **\$1,588**
 - **\$1,188** from contributions, gifts and grants.
 - **\$400** from membership dues & assessments.
- Fiscal Year Budget (July 2021 - June 2022):
 - **\$75** - printing, publications and postage.
 - **\$575** - advertising and promotions
 - **\$68** - direct fundraising.
 - **\$1,125** - menstrual health workshops.

DONORS:

Individual Donors - Under \$500

- Sarah Caldwell
- Sarah Hine
- Safia Johnsonay
- Kelly Lauturner
- Fanta Tembely-Diarra
- Judith Silue
- PayPal Giving Funds

Individual Donors - \$500 - \$1,000

- Bienvenue Konsimbo
- Tabatha Ward
- Jennifer Wilen

In-Kind Donations

- Google Ads
- Salesforce

Goals and Plans for 2023:

- Secure foundation grants and corporate support.
- Secure endowment money & partners for expert support/leadership development.
- Organize 3 additional Menstruation Health Workshops (MHW) to reach 250 more schoolgirls.
- Acquire a piece of land to build our after-school educational center.
- Build 2 gender-safe/responsive latrines in our partner schools.
- Providing adequate sanitation and privacy so girls can improve their school access, attendance, and retention.



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Contact Us

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