

AFRICAN SISTERS EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE (ASEC)

**JULY 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019**  
**PHASE II, YEAR 3**

# **HIGHER EDUCATION FOR SISTERS IN AFRICA**

## **Evaluation Progress Report**



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**PREPARED FOR: THE CONRAD N. HILTON FOUNDATION**  
**GRANTEE: MARYWOOD UNIVERSITY**  
**GRANT NUMBER: 20130041 (PHASE I) & 16584 (PHASE II)**  
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# Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA)

**Phase II, Year 3 July 2018 - June 2019  
Evaluation Progress Report**

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by the Evaluation Unit within the African Sisters Education Collaborative at Marywood University.

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**On the Cover:** Tanzania HESA participants at Mwenge Catholic University's 2018 graduation ceremony.

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# Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) Phase II, Year 3 Program Evaluation Key Outcomes

## 5 OBJECTIVES



Provide opportunities for Catholic sisters to **access & obtain post-secondary education**.



Increase sisters' competencies in their fields, toward **greater effectiveness in their ministries**.



Increase sisters' capacities to **strengthen the sustainability & internal systems of their congregations**.

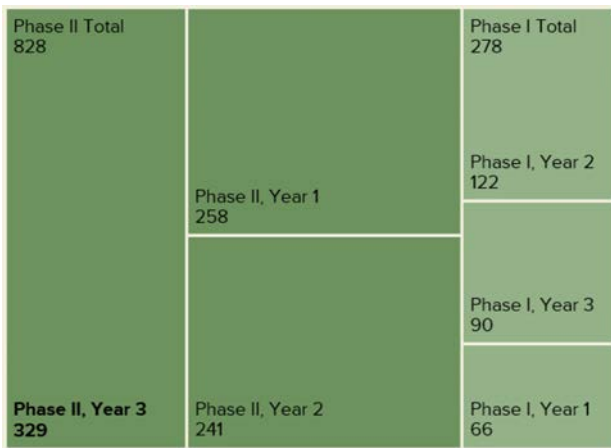


Assist HESA alumnae to use their acquired skills & knowledge to **enhance & sustain their ministries / congregations**.



**Disseminate best practices & learnings** from ASEC & HESA, as well as models of innovative access to education.

A total of **1,106** sisters have been served by the HESA program. Recruitment in Phase II, Year 3 was the largest to date.



In both **Phase I & Phase II**, the majority of HESA sisters are earning bachelor's degrees.



## KEY OUTCOME FIGURES

# 24

Partnerships Maintained

**New Partners '18/'19:**  
Jordan University College  
& Catholic University  
Institute of Buea

# 282

Sisters Have Graduated

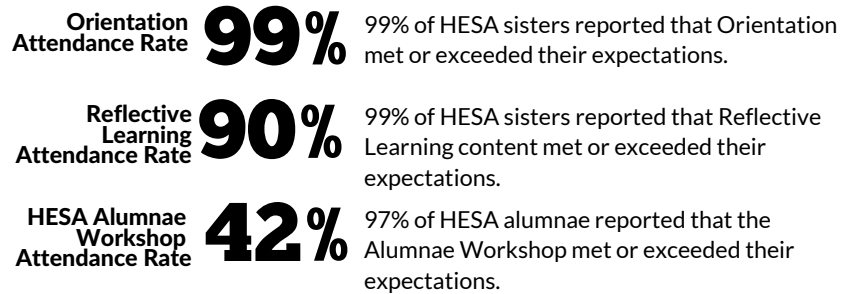
**Honors/Awards:**  
25 1st Class Honors  
35 2nd Class Honors  
4 Other Awards

# 46

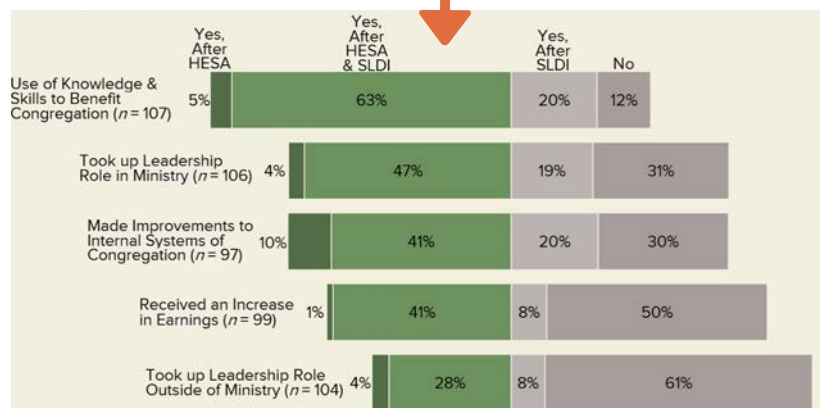
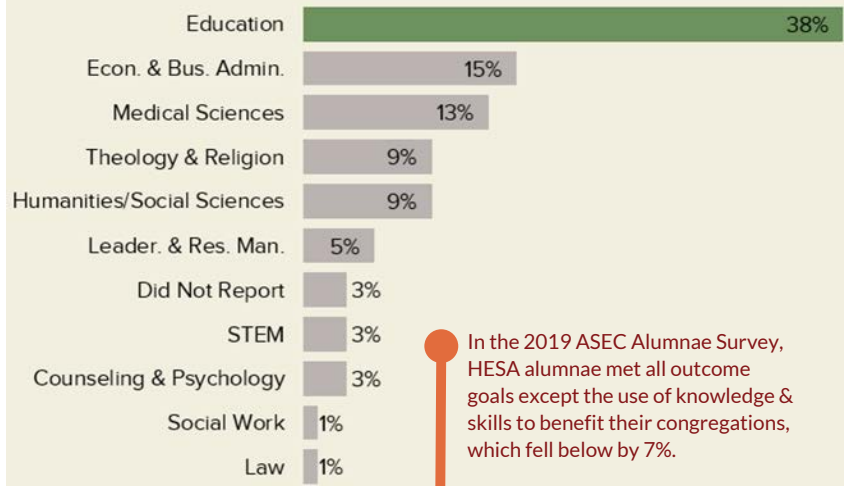
Sisters Have Withdrawn

**Top 3 Reasons:**  
1. Institutional Request  
2. Left Congregation  
3. Personal Issues

## WORKSHOP SUCCESSES



The field of **education** is by far the most popular amongst HESA sisters.



# Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) Phase II, Year 3 Executive Summary

At the conclusion of Phase II, Year 3 of the Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA) program, evaluation outcomes indicate that sisters are earning diplomas/ degrees that are relevant to their ministries and needed within the context of their communities. With increased educational credentials, HESA alumnae report positive impacts on their ministries, congregations, and human development. Challenges continue to exist in organizational infrastructure, data management, academic dishonesty, and textbook/ accomodation funding.

HESA has grown to serve 1,106 sisters (both Phase I and II) from 230 congregations since its inception in 2012. This year alone, 329 sisters were recruited and joined the program, the largest recruitment year to date. Of the 1,106 total sisters served by the program, 778 are currently enrolled online or onsite at 24 partner higher education institutions (HEIs) and 282 have graduated from the program. In total, 46 sisters have withdrawn from the program, indicating an overall retention rate of 95.8%.

Analysis of each of HESA's established program objectives (Phase I and II) shows that the program has met or is on track to meet it's anticipated output and outcome measures. For Phase II, these objectives include:

## 5 OBJECTIVES



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Increase sisters' competencies in their fields, toward **greater effectiveness in their ministries**.



Increase sisters' capacities to **strengthen the sustainability & internal systems of their congregations**.

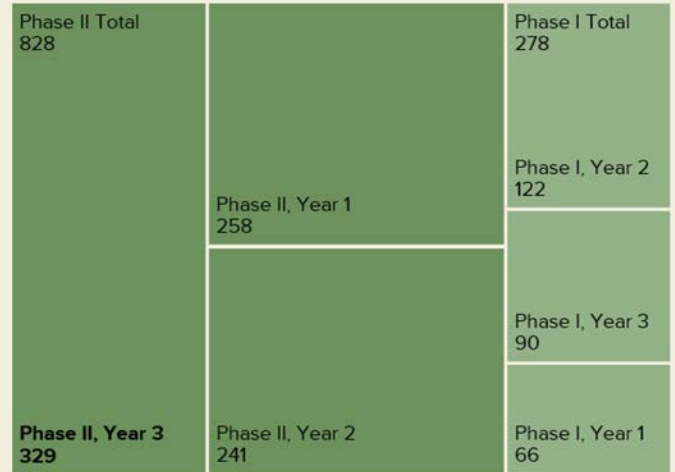


Assist HESA alumnae to use their acquired skills & knowledge to **enhance & sustain their ministries / congregations**.



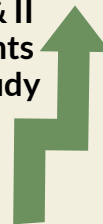
**Disseminate best practices** & learnings from ASEC & HESA, as well as models of innovative access to education.

A total of **1,106** sisters have been served by the HESA program. Recruitment in Phase II, Year 3 was the largest to date.



### Phase I & II Enrollments Levels of Study

198 Masters  
716 Bachelors  
192 Diplomas



**95.8%**

Overall Retention Rate

**99%**

of students in Phase II, Year 3 reported that Orientation content met or exceeded their expectations.

**100%**


of Model A students report feeling comfortable taking online courses.

**42%**

of HESA graduates attended the 2019 ASEC Alumnae Workshops.


### PHASE II, YEAR 3 WORKSHOPS

14 Orientations held in 9 countries 

13 Reflective Learning Workshops held in 9 countries 

10 ASEC Alumnae Workshops held in 10 countries 

1 Online Instructor Workshop 

1 HESA Partners Conference 



## HESA IMPACT ON ALUMNAE

**100%**

gained specific skills from participating in the HESA program, that they otherwise would not have achieved

**100%**

feel more confident as a result of participating in the HESA program

**99%**

used the knowledge and skills they gained from the HESA program to benefit their ministry

**68%**

used the knowledge and skills they gained from the HESA program to benefit their congregation

**61%**

indicate that participating in the HESA program improved their ability to mobilize local resources

**51%**

took up a leadership role in their ministry

**42%**

received an increase in earnings after completing the HESA program

Data regarding the impact of the HESA program was gathered during Phase II, Year 3 using the End of Experience Assessment, the 2019 ASEC Alumnae Survey, site visits to the ministries of HESA alumnae, and focus groups at the 2019 HESA Partners Conference. These tools, among others, have assisted in capturing the impact of the program at the ministerial, congregational, and human development levels. They have also informed program delivery and have resulted in several program adjustments to address challenges. This grant year, adjustments have included - the creation of an informational evaluation video, collection of data regarding sisters' academic awards and final research contributions, the addition of four new partnerships, and allocation of study supply stipends at Reflective Learning Workshops. With these adjustments, it is anticipated that the long-term desired impact of the HESA program will continue to be realized and HESA participants will ultimately strengthen the sustainability and systems of their congregations and positively impact human development through their various ministries.



**900+**  
people served  
through  
HESA alumnae  
funded projects



**60+**  
academic awards  
or honors received  
80% of HESA students  
average an A or B  
letter grade



**70+**  
research  
contributions  
related to Catholic  
sisters in Africa

### Protecting Vulnerable Children in Kenya Sr. Delvin Chebukwa Mukhwana, DHM



**Institution:** Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya  
**Credentials:** Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences; Masters in Development Studies  
**Graduated:** May 2016 (Bachelor's); Currently Enrolled (Master's)

In September 2018, Sr. Delvin was promoted to direct the Association of Sisterhoods of Kenya (AOSK)'s Catholic Care for Children in Kenya (CCCK), "a program that seeks to safeguard and promote quality care for vulnerable children by adopting care reforms in family and community-based care, in line with the social teachings of the Catholic Church." In this position, she has facilitated the development of a child protection policy to ensure "a conducive, safe, and enabling environment." The policy was officially implemented on July 6, 2019.

## ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT