

JANUARY - DECEMBER 2020

# ASEC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## Evaluation Report



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PREPARED FOR: ASEC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GRANTORS

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ASEC



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@ASECSLDIHESA

# ASEC Scholarship Program

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020  
Evaluation Report

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This report was prepared by the monitoring & evaluation unit within the African Sisters Education Collaborative at Marywood University.

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On the Cover: March 2020 Tanzania ASEC Scholarship Program Orientation

## 3 OBJECTIVES



Provide opportunities for Catholic sisters to obtain secondary education degrees or two-year college diplomas/certificates.



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



Ensure sisters qualify to continue their education after obtaining their secondary school or college diploma/certificate.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED



**302**  
Tanzania



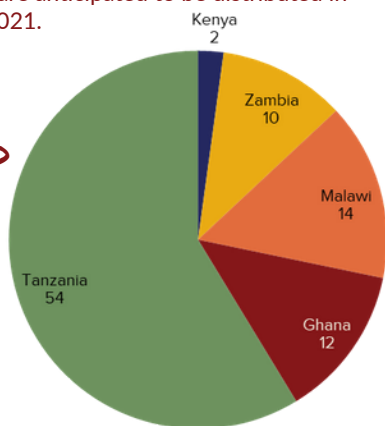
**47**  
Malawi



**47**  
Zambia

A total of 49 Scholarships have been awarded in 2020 (include 4 to Women) all to the Bigwa Secondary School. Due to COVID-19, all other awards have been delayed. 92 first year awards are anticipated to be distributed in the first quarter of 2021.

## ANTICIPATED 2020 AWARDS



## KEY OUTCOME FIGURES

**396**

Total Scholarships Awarded

Top Fields of Study:  
1. Form Level  
2. Education  
3. Medical Sciences

**84**

Congregations Served

Faculty Stipends:  
2 Distributed to the Bigwa Secondary School in Tanzania

**211**

Graduates

Credentials Earned:  
131 Secondary  
66 Diplomas  
14 Certificates

## PROGRAM SUCCESSES

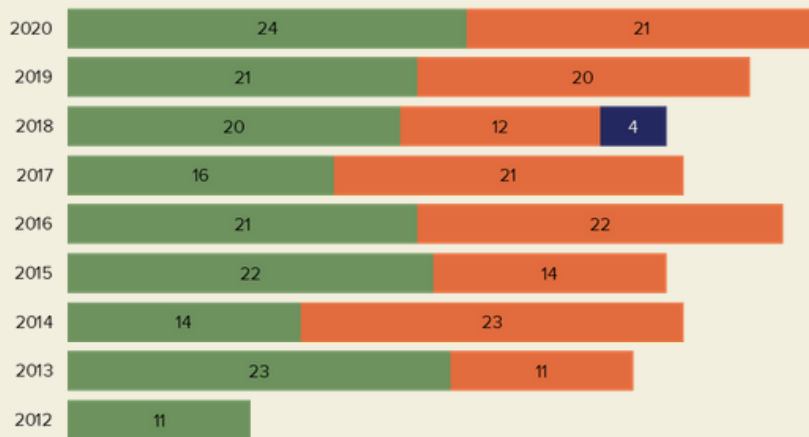
Overall Retention Rate **96.7%** From 2012-2020 the retention rate of scholarship recipients is 97.8%.

Orientation Satisfaction **100%** 100% of sisters (N = 27) in 2020 reported that Orientation met or exceeded their expectations.

Secondary Graduates Division Qualifications **97%** 97% of secondary scholarship recipients (N = 36) have qualified as at least "satisfactory," earning a final division classification of one to four.

Overall Grade Point Average **3.39** Sisters are earning an overall grade point average of 3.39 (N = 21), the equivalent of a B letter grade.

## Bigwa Secondary School Scholarship Recipient Sisters First year awards, second year awards, and withdrawals since 2012.



## PROGRAM GROWTH



Ghana

Expansion to Ghana in 2020 to meet need for secondary and diploma/certificate level education.



Kenya

ASEC Doctoral Scholarship piloted in Kenya in 2020 to promote the achievement of advanced level degrees.

## Pilot ASEC Doctoral Scholarship Objectives

1. Provide opportunities for Catholic sisters in African countries to access and obtain doctoral-level education credentials.
2. Disseminate knowledge and contribute to the literature on Catholic sisters in Africa.
3. Increase African sisters' competencies and leadership capacities to conduct applied research that informs and enhances their ministries.
4. Increase African sisters' capacity, through applied research, to strengthen their congregations and/or national conferences' ability to respond to emerging global issues.



The ASEC Scholarship 2020 program evaluation outcomes indicate that sisters are earning educational credentials that are relevant to their ministries and needed within the context of their communities. With the obtainment of secondary and two-year college diplomas/certificates, sisters are able to access higher education at the bachelor's degree level. Challenges exist in data management, database development, Orientation attendance, and the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The recruitment and enrollment period for 2020 has been delayed due to lockdown measures related to COVID-19. So far in 2020, the ASEC Scholarship Program has awarded 49 scholarships. Of these awards, 26 were provided to newly enrolled students (including 2 women) and 23 were distributed to returning students (including 2 women), all of which were enrolled at the Bigwa Secondary School at the Form 5 and 6 level in Tanzania. All other awards are pending due to COVID-19 related admission delays.

It is anticipated that in the first quarter of 2021 ASEC scholarships will be awarded to 136 sisters. ASEC has received applications for a total of 92 new first year sisters and plans to award second year scholarships to 44 sisters. This includes 12 first year awards to sisters in Ghana and 2 doctoral pilot scholarship sisters in Kenya.

Analysis of each of the ASEC Scholarship's established program objectives (2020) shows that the program has met or is on track to meet it's anticipated output and outcome measures. For 2020, these objectives include:

## 3 OBJECTIVES



Provide opportunities for **Catholic sisters to obtain secondary education degrees or two-year college diplomas/certificate.**

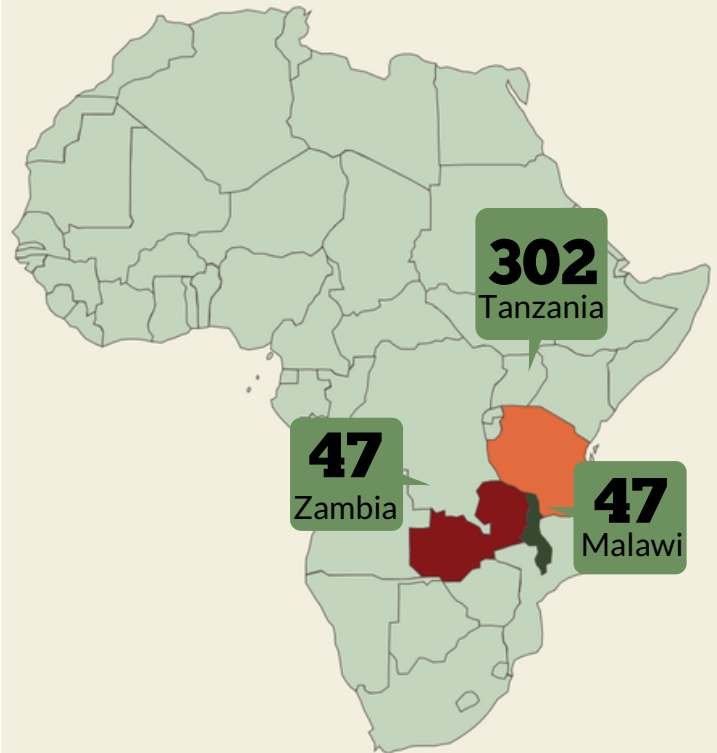


Increase sisters' competencies in their fields, toward **greater effectiveness in their ministries.**

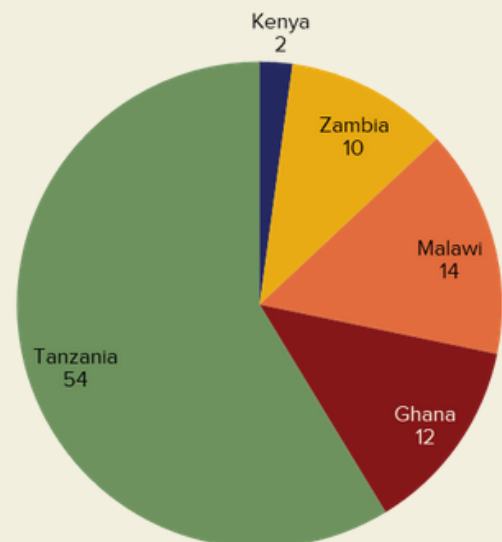


Ensure sisters qualify to **continue their education** after obtaining their secondary school or college diploma/certificate.

## OVERALL COMPLETED ENROLLMENT



## ANTICIPATED 2020 FIRST- YEAR ENROLLMENT



**96.7%**  
Overall Retention  
Rate



**210**  
Graduates

## EVALUATION OUTPUTS + OUTCOMES



# 29

the number of distinct diplomas, certificates, & degrees it is anticipated 2020 1st year recipients will study for



# 100%

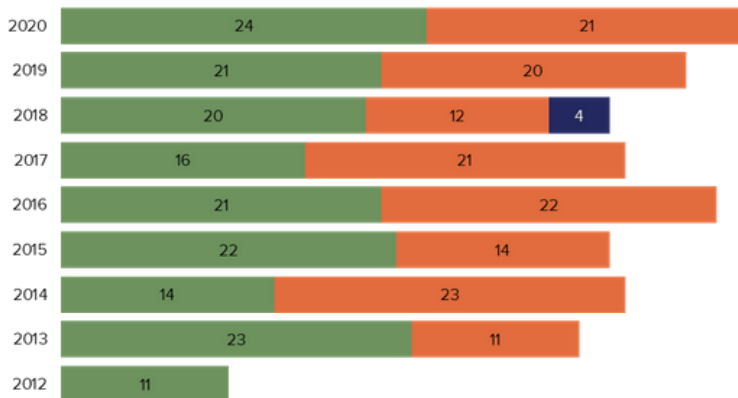
of sisters in 2020 reported that the Orientation met or exceeded their expectations.



# 3.39

Overall Grade Point Average, Letter B Grade (N = 21)

Bigwa Secondary School Scholarship Receipt Sister Sisters  
First year awards, second year awards, and withdrawals since 2012.



35 scholarship recipients have continued their education through the ASEC-HESA Program, with two enrolling in both bachelor's and master's degree programs.

Degree/Diploma Title	# of Scholarship Alumnae
Bachelor of Education	23
Bachelor of Business Administration	4
Diploma in Pharmaceutical Sciences	2
Bachelor in Regional Development Planning	1
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology	1
Bachelor of Laws	1
Diploma in Laboratory Technology	1
Bachelor of Civil Laws	1
Master of Education Management & Planning	1
Master of Arts in Education	1
Master in History	1

The 2019 ASEC Superior Survey provides some insight into the impact of the ASEC Scholarship Program. Superiors were asked if scholarship recipients were applying the knowledge and skills they gained from their education program to benefit their ministry, 100% agreed or strongly agreed (n = 15). Further, 93% of superiors (n = 15) agreed or strongly agreed that they were able to place ASEC Scholarship Program alumnae in positions to better meet the needs of their congregation.

Data collected throughout this year's evaluation indicates that the Scholarship program is on track to meet all program objectives by 2022. Although some program outcomes and outputs require continued monitoring, there is evidence that these will be met by 2022. In 2020 the reach of the Scholarship Program has expanded. The program now serves sisters in Ghana and a Pilot Doctoral Scholarship has been implemented in Kenya. Two sisters have been interviewed and selected to receive that Pilot Doctoral Scholarship. It is hoped these sisters will make a great contributions to the academic literature available on Catholic sisters in Africa. In conclusion, with the completion of the anticipated award distribution in 2021, the ASEC Scholarship Program will successfully achieve its projected output and outcome measures.

### Pursuing Dreams to be a Nurse in Malawi Sr. Catherine Maison, SBMS

**Institution:** Nkhamenya Girls Secondary School  
**Credentials:** Form 3 and Form 4  
**Graduated:** July 2020

Sister Catherine Maison of the Servants of the Blessed Mary Sisters in Malawi was awarded an ASEC Scholarship in 2018 and 2019. Under the ASEC Scholarship Program, Sr. Catherine studied at the Nkhamenya Girls Secondary School at the Form 3 and 4 levels.

Sr. Catherine says that ASEC has helped her to work towards her long term goal to be a nurse and she plans to continue her studies to do so. This is an example of how ASEC's Scholarship Program helps bridge the gap for sisters to achieve their higher education goals.



## ALUMNA SPOTLIGHT