



Learning to Lead

Through education, Catholic sisters are becoming some of the top leaders bringing positive changes throughout Africa.

Catholic nuns in Africa are deeply trusted members of their local communities. They serve where needs are the greatest and address some of the biggest challenges facing African society, including poverty, chronic hunger, disease, ecological degradation and violence.

To advance these efforts, ASEC provides educational opportunities for women religious in Africa. It is through these programs that Catholic sisters can not only serve their communities, but become some of the top leaders bringing positive changes throughout Africa.

Here are just a few sisters who are flourishing in their leadership roles because of the education they've received through ASEC's SLDI and HESA programs.



Alumnae of ASEC's SLDI and HESA programs obtain the skills and credentials needed to advocate for the most vulnerable and persecuted individuals in the communities they serve.

ASEC's **Sisters Leadership Development Initiative (SLDI)** program provides sisters with technology, administration and finance training through one month workshops over three years. Through SLDI, sisters gain the practical skills and confidence to build strong networks and take up leadership roles in their congregations and communities.

ASEC's **Higher Education for Sisters in Africa (HESA)** program provides opportunities for sisters to access diploma, undergraduate and master's level education. HESA is delivered through partnerships with higher education institutions in Africa and online in the USA.

Support sisters taking on leadership roles in their communities

Your donation will help to prepare sisters in Africa to be educated and confident leaders. Donate to the education of a sister today.

Donate: asec-sldi.org/donate



Sr. Adeodata (center) is an alumna of ASEC's SLDI and HESA programs. Now, she's serving as the Treasurer General of the Association of Religious in Uganda (ARU), where she is using the skills she gained through her education as a core administrative team member.

Human Development Impact

Reducing Urban Poverty in Kenya
Srs. Gisele Ndekezi Umurerwa and Lucy Wegoki, FMA

1 POVERTY 4 QUALITY EDUCATION 5 GENDER EQUALITY 8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Graduated: 2018
Tracks: Administration (Sr. Gisele) and Finance (Sr. Lucy)
Project Focus:
→ Microloans for women
→ Small business development
→ Education of at-risk children
Amount: \$23,800 USD
Total Served: 300 women (and their families) over three years

We found [it] necessary to educate the needy, to journey with the parents empowering them and helping them to be protagonists of the education of their children and encouraging them to reach self sustainability. ...the SLDI programs are helping us a lot to improve in our ministries and to serve people with confidence, many changes have happened from when we had chance to attend the course... We are very grateful and happy to improve in our service.

After completing the SLDI program, **Sr. Gisele and Sr. Lucy** successfully acquired a grant to begin a program to empower Kenyan families of children at risk. The program provides women with microloans, a small sum of money lent to a new business. These loans enable the poor to engage in self-employment and income-generating activities.

Since completing her degree, **Sr. Esther** has been promoted to CEO of St. Francis Community Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya. The hospital has seen incredible improvements under Sr. Esther's leadership, including an upgrade in healthcare standards, receiving two new accreditations and the addition of a specialized services wing. She's established new departments, positions and better organizational structure. She's also formed local partnerships that provide her staff with continuing education opportunities.

ASEC's SLDI and HESA programs are preparing Catholic sisters to be leaders in their congregations and communities. Equipped with skills, knowledge and assurance, these sisters are stepping up to solve the toughest societal challenges.

Read more: asec-sldi.org/leaders