

WFWP USA: Five Certificates, One Studio, and the Ripple Effect of Your Support

Katarina Connery
May 23, 2026



When WFWP USA members and donors contributed \$700 toward a sewing program in São Tomé and Príncipe, the goal was straightforward: give women practical skills that could open doors. On April 11, we got a glimpse of just how wide those doors can swing.

The occasion was the 34th anniversary celebration of WFWP's national chapter on the island - a milestone that made the closing ceremony of the sewing course all the more meaningful. Five women received their certificates that day, completing a program that taught them a craft they can use for income, independence, and community.



The graduates also put their work on display: an exhibition of items they made during the course showed the community - and themselves - what they are now capable of creating.

A graduate from a previous cohort stood before the room and described how the skills she learned had led her to open her own studio. That testimony was perhaps the most powerful moment of the day. For the five women who just earned their certificates, she was proof that this wasn't just a class - it was a launching pad.

Why This Matters

In a small island nation like São Tomé and Príncipe, access to vocational training can be transformative. A sewing skill is portable, low-overhead, and immediately marketable. It can mean the difference between financial dependence and running a small business from home. Your dollars didn't just fund a course - they funded a future that one woman is already living.

The event took place in an atmosphere the local chapter described as one of "joy, sharing, and reflection" - fitting, because that is exactly what this kind of investment looks like when it reaches the people it was meant for.

[Schools of Africa](#)



5/23/26 • Administrative Assistant

Five Certificates, One Studio, and the Ripple Effect of Your Support

When WFWP USA members and donors contributed \$700 toward a sewing program in São Tomé and Príncipe, the goal was straightforward: give women practical skills that could open doors. On April 11, we got a glimpse of just how wide those doors can swing.

Read More



4/23/26 • Administrative Assistant

From Mozambique to Rwanda: Education, Opportunity, and Hope in Action

Across Mozambique and Rwanda, education is opening doors and hope is taking root. Thanks to donor support through the Schools of Africa Project, students are gaining access to quality education, and young women are being empowered to shape their futures with confidence and purpose.

Read More

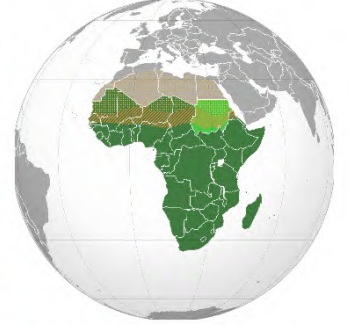


11/19/25 • Administrative Assistant

WFWP USA's First Schools of Africa Service Trip: A Journey of Heart, Hope, and Healing in Rwanda

In November 2025, a group of seven volunteers from WFWP USA traveled across the world to participate in our first-ever Schools of Africa Service Trip—a landmark visit to the New Hope Technical Institute in Kigali, Rwanda. What unfolded over four unforgettable days became far more than a site visit or cultural tour.

Read More



7/1/24 • Katarina Connelly

Summer is Here and the Schools of Africa Continues to Impact Lives

Read More



5/28/24 • Katarina Connelly

Schools of Africa Project Continues to Impact Thousands!

Read More



8/11/23 • WFWP USA

Upgrade with WFWP USA Grant 2023 Schools of Africa Project

Read More



6/26/23 • Andrea Rissanen

Working Together to Raise Funds for the Schools of Africa Project

Read More



1/31/23 • WFWP USA

Support for the Youth of Liberia: Schools of Africa Project

Read More



1/13/23 • WFWP USA

You Made a Difference—Voices of Gratitude from Africa

Read More



11/2/22 • Patricia Fleiselman

Outpouring of Support for WFWP's Schools in Africa

Read More



9/30/22 • Andrea Rissanen and Marianne Goldberg

WFWP Maryland's Teamwork makes the dream work!

Read More



9/11/22 • Fannie Smith

SHINE AFRICA: Schools of Africa Benefit and Cultural Program Reflections and Appreciation

Read More



8/17/22 • Diane Kelalu Hack

"Shine Africa: The power of Education"

Read More



2/24/22 • WFWP USA

WFWP Maine Chapter Takes Initiative to Support School in Guinea-Bissau

Read More



12/9/21 • Myrna Lapres

"Sweet Treats" Northern California's Schools of Africa Fundraiser

Read More



10/28/21 • Andrea Rissanen

Schools of Africa Benefit Yard Sale in Maryland

Read More





10/28/21 • Guest User

Peace Hana School in Liberia thanks WFP USA donors for support

[Read More](#)



10/28/21 • Guest User

Preventing Covid in Rwanda—New Handwashing Station is installed with donations from the WFP Schools of Africa Project

[Read More](#)



3/23/21 • WFP USA

Impacting the lives of students in Africa: The Sun of Mozambique Secondary School thanks WFP-USA donor for support

[Read More](#)



11/9/20 • Patricia Fleischman

WFP Northern California 2020 Annual Benefit for the Schools of Africa Project: "Share the Sweet Things"

[Read More](#)

[Older Posts >](#)

[WFP Leader Resources](#)

[Become a WFP Member](#)

[Contact Us](#)



481 8TH AVE. SUITE 608, NEW YORK, NY 10001 - 1 (212) 302-8837 - INFO@WFPUS
COPYRIGHT © 2024, WOMEN'S FEDERATION FOR WORLD PEACE USA - ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. [PRIVACY POLICY](#)