$100,000 Grant from Barr Foundation

In August, the Barr Foundation awarded Educate! with a $100,000 grant! The generous funding will provide us with resources to effectively evaluate the impact of our work in Uganda to develop young leaders and entrepreneurs. The grant will also provide funds for us to pilot a revised version of our program in 15 new schools. In addition, the United Nations International Labour Organisation (ILO) is designing a gold-standard impact evaluation and cost-benefit analysis that will analyze the impact of Educate!.

The evaluations of the Barr Foundation and ILO will help us maximize impact and prove to the greater world community the results of our work.

Innovations for Poverty Action Partnership

This summer, Educate!’s Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) team partnered with a researcher from Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA). IPA, founded by Yale Economics Professor Dean Karlan, is a nonprofit dedicated to discovering what works to help the world’s poor, and provides hands-on assistance to bring successful programs to scale.

While IPA has historically worked with larger NGOs, we were fortunate to be included in a pilot project intended to build the capacity of smaller-scale NGOs. IPA’s partnership helped us dig deep and answer the most relevant questions to improve our work.

In 2012, Educate! will officially launch its new M&E system and continue to work with IPA to offer insights to other NGOs interested in growing their M&E systems.

Support Our Scholars Today!

Support our Scholars today and help us reach our goal of raising $250,000 in 2011.

$35 supports an Educate! Scholar through Educate!’s program for a month
$140 supports an Educate! Scholar for a trimester
$420 supports an Educate! Scholar for a year
$840 puts a Scholar through the entire two-year program

Thanks to several major investors who will fully cover Educate!’s fundraising and management costs in 2012, 100% of your investment will go to developing our Scholars into leaders and entrepreneurs.

For more information or to support our Scholars today visit: www.experienceeducate.org annualball
Investor Visit 2011!

This summer, Educate! was fortunate to have 12 devoted investors visit Uganda, including Jim Smith, David Tice, Debby Farrington and the Schutter Family. They spent time visiting Educate! Scholars, leading beneficial sessions for our team based on their expertise, and seeing first hand the amazing impact Scholars are making in communities across Uganda. Most visitors even found time for a short safari. These visitors affirmed how important it is to have investors visit to truly understand the extent to which Scholars have been transformed and are changing their communities. Do you want to join us for Investor Visit 2012? Please email maya@experienceeducate.org for more information.

A Scholar in the News!

Educate! Alum Wins $20,000 and Major Prize

We are excited to announce that George William Bakka was just awarded $20,000 for placing 1st Runner Up in the inaugural Anzisha Prize Competition for his business Angels Finance Cooperation (AFC).

The Anzisha Prize, sponsored by African Leadership Academy (ALA), is the premier award for young African entrepreneurial leaders ages 15 to 20, who have developed and implemented innovative solutions to challenges facing their communities. The eight finalists, selected from 180 young entrepreneurs in 22 African countries, won an all-expenses paid trip to South Africa to be part of a week-long entrepreneurship workshop at the ALA campus outside Johannesburg. The three grand prize winners (including George), were selected from these finalists, and will receive a grant to take their projects to new heights.

About George’s Enterprise: AFC provides a supportive environment for youth to start entrepreneurial ventures to lift themselves out of poverty. Currently AFC works with a variety of businesses including a wine manufacturers, a soap company that produces low cost hygienic soap, an energy saving stove business, a groundnut processing company, and a business aiming to increase access to electricity through biomass processing.

The Problem: In Uganda less than 20 percent of businesses last beyond their first few years. George believes this is linked to the nation’s failure to provide an environment that cultivates enterprising people and prepares them to build sustainable commercial ventures.

The Solution: George’s enterprise (which he developed as an Educate! Scholar) works to stimulate and support local ventures by providing training, mentorship, and access to capital to youth with bright ideas. AFC began with a micro-credit program, which provided start-up capital of $50 to young people with good business plans, and has expanded to provide holistic support services to young entrepreneurs. AFC has made such an impact that it will be used as a model in other developing countries to help eradicate poverty and stimulate local economies.

George embodies Exponential Empowerment: once empowered, Educate! Scholars go on to positively impact many others. We can’t wait to hear about the impact AFC continues to make!

Nuru demonstrates the potential of the next generation and illustrates the power of Educate!’s work. Several of Nuru’s friends didn’t have the opportunity to go to school and in order to make money ended up resorting to prostitution in local bars. Bothered by the lack of dignity she saw in her peers, Nuru decided to take action.

Dedicated to making a positive impact, Nuru motivated 14 prostitutes from her community to make fashionable clothes, which they sold to earn a much needed income. Nuru didn’t stop there. Together these young women organized a fashion show to promote their clothing line and formed a savings group with hopes that in the future they can become their own bosses. With the guidance of her Educate! Mentor, Nuru has positively transformed the course of many young women and the ripple she has created will be seen for generations to come.

Nuru hopes these young women are inspired to create their own businesses and that she can continue to empower girls that have been exposed to prostitution.

Educate! supporters Linda and Skylar Schutter, Educate! Scholar Lillian Aroi Olok, and her cousin Constance Alowich. Uganda, Summer 2011.

Jane was inspired to become a leader and social entrepreneur in her community by starting several successful initiatives. During school break, Jane set up a garden which harvested 150,000 Uganda Shillings (Approx. $50). She reinvested this money by purchasing coffee seeds from farmers and selling the seeds to coffee processors. With the remaining money, Jane started a grocery stall selling oil and tomatoes. The daily income Jane receives from her stall allows her to pay for her basic needs so that her parents only have to worry about her school fees.

Motivated by Jane’s determination, youth in Jane’s community approached her for mentorship. Jane now leads a group of youth that started an energy efficient stove business to prevent deforestation in the Bulambuli district of eastern Uganda. The rate of deforestation in this area due to population growth, has led to devastating mudslides leaving hundreds of people homeless. Jane’s initiative has contributed to a brighter future for the devastated region.

In August, Jane also helped youth launch a savings circle. By leading youth in her community and teaching them concepts she learned from Educate!, Jane embodies Educate!’s core value: Exponential Empowerment.

Educate! Alum Wins $20,000 and Major Prize

We are excited to announce that George William Bakka was just awarded $20,000 for placing 1st Runner Up in the inaugural Anzisha Prize Competition for his business Angels Finance Cooperation (AFC).

The Anzisha Prize, sponsored by African Leadership Academy (ALA), is the premier award for young African entrepreneurial leaders ages 15 to 20, who have developed and implemented innovative solutions to challenges facing their communities. The eight finalists, selected from 180 young entrepreneurs in 22 African countries, won an all-expenses paid trip to South Africa to be part of a week-long entrepreneurship workshop at the ALA campus outside Johannesburg. The three grand prize winners (including George), were selected from these finalists, and will receive a grant to take their projects to new heights.

About George’s Enterprise: AFC provides a supportive environment for youth to start entrepreneurial ventures to lift themselves out of poverty. Currently AFC works with a variety of businesses including a wine manufacturers, a soap company that produces low cost hygienic soap, an energy saving stove business, a groundnut processing company, and a business aiming to increase access to electricity through biomass processing.

The Problem: In Uganda less than 20 percent of businesses last beyond their first few years. George believes this is linked to the nation’s failure to provide an environment that cultivates enterprising people and prepares them to build sustainable commercial ventures.

The Solution: George’s enterprise (which he developed as an Educate! Scholar) works to stimulate and support local ventures by providing training, mentorship, and access to capital to youth with bright ideas. AFC began with a micro-credit program, which provided start-up capital of $50 to young people with good business plans, and has expanded to provide holistic support services to young entrepreneurs. AFC has made such an impact that it will be used as a model in other developing countries to help eradicate poverty and stimulate local economies.

George embodies Exponential Empowerment: once empowered, Educate! Scholars go on to positively impact many others. We can’t wait to hear about the impact AFC continues to make!

Nuru demonstrates the potential of the next generation and illustrates the power of Educate!’s work. Several of Nuru’s friends didn’t have the opportunity to go to school and in order to make money ended up resorting to prostitution in local bars. Bothered by the lack of dignity she saw in her peers, Nuru decided to take action.

Dedicated to making a positive impact, Nuru motivated 14 prostitutes from her community to make fashionable clothes, which they sold to earn a much needed income. Nuru didn’t stop there. Together these young women organized a fashion show to promote their clothing line and formed a savings group with hopes that in the future they can become their own bosses. With the guidance of her Educate! Mentor, Nuru has positively transformed the course of many young women and the ripple she has created will be seen for generations to come.

Nuru hopes these young women are inspired to create their own businesses and that she can continue to empower girls that have been exposed to prostitution.

Educate! supporters Linda and Skylar Schutter, Educate! Scholar Lillian Aroi Olok, and her cousin Constance Alowich. Uganda, Summer 2011.

Jane was inspired to become a leader and social entrepreneur in her community by starting several successful initiatives. During school break, Jane set up a garden which harvested 150,000 Uganda Shillings (Approx. $50). She reinvested this money by purchasing coffee seeds from farmers and selling the seeds to coffee processors. With the remaining money, Jane started a grocery stall selling oil and tomatoes. The daily income Jane receives from her stall allows her to pay for her basic needs so that her parents only have to worry about her school fees.

Motivated by Jane’s determination, youth in Jane’s community approached her for mentorship. Jane now leads a group of youth that started an energy efficient stove business to prevent deforestation in the Bulambuli district of eastern Uganda. The rate of deforestation in this area due to population growth, has led to devastating mudslides leaving hundreds of people homeless. Jane’s initiative has contributed to a brighter future for the devastated region.

In August, Jane also helped youth launch a savings circle. By leading youth in her community and teaching them concepts she learned from Educate!, Jane embodies Educate!’s core value: Exponential Empowerment.