



Women: the next emerging market
90% job placement and 5x income increase

The wisest investment

Market-relevant education for the global economy

Non-profit accredited college

Educated women positively impacting our world

2010-2014 **IMPACT REPORT**

**CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS OF
EDUCATING AFRICAN WOMEN**

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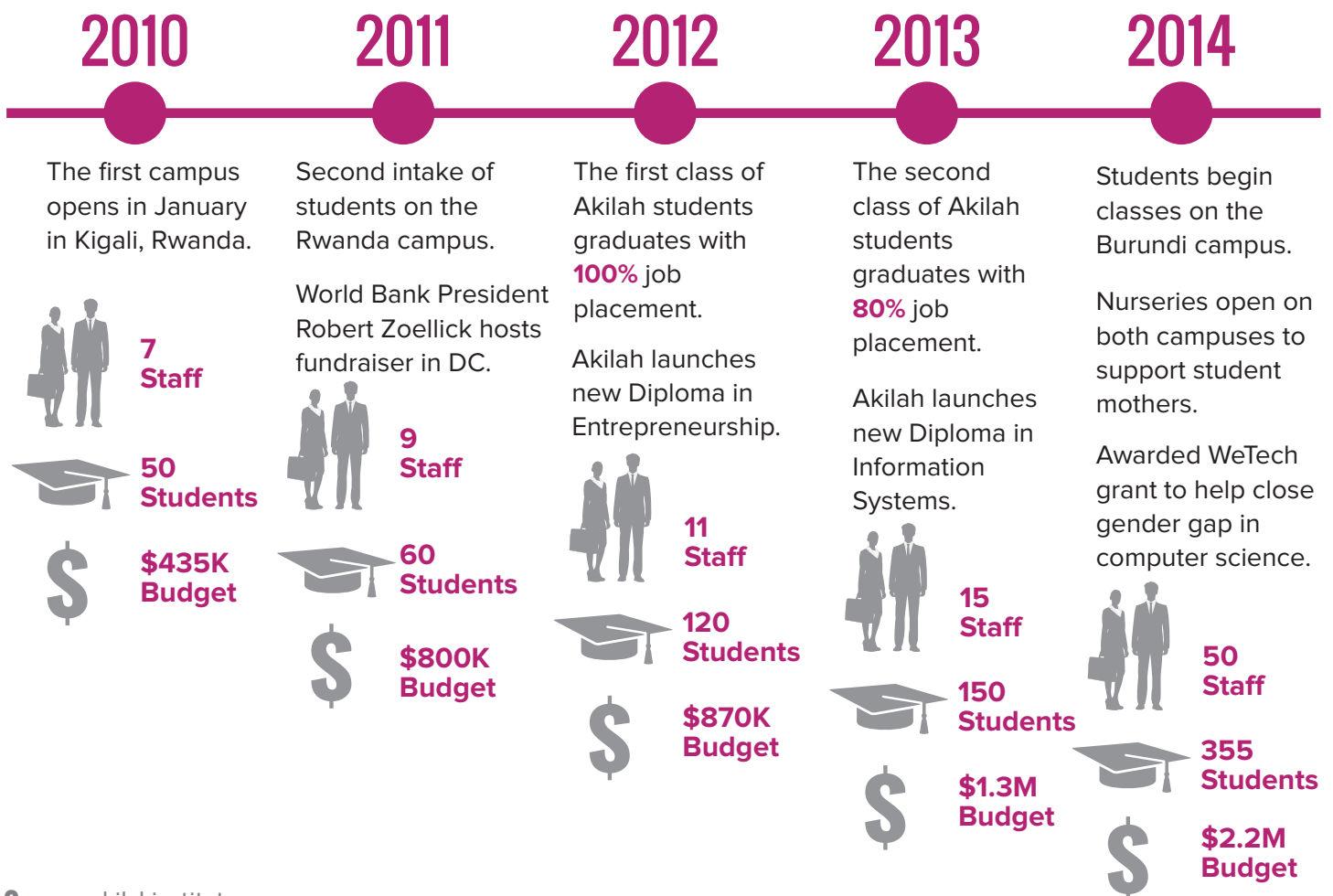
MISSION

The Akilah Institute for Women is a college that offers a unique model of market-relevant education empowering graduates for success in careers and leadership roles.

VISION

Akilah aims to build future generations of women leaders and professionals in East Africa through the development of a network of campuses. Akilah will graduate 1,000 students by the year 2020.

MILESTONES OF SUCCESS



LETTER FROM ELIZABETH AND DAVE: CELEBRATING AKILAH'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY

Dave and I opened Akilah in Rwanda in January 2010. We had no textbooks or computers and only a few thousand dollars in the bank. We didn't know how we would make payroll the next month, but we were steadfast in our goal of revolutionizing higher education and career opportunities for women in Africa.

Now in its fifth year as an accredited institution of higher learning, Akilah has demonstrated tremendous growth. In 2014 alone, Akilah launched a third diploma program in Information Systems on the Rwanda campus, scaled to neighboring Burundi, and graduated our second class of students.

Of 95 alumnae, 90% were employed within six months of graduation, earning incomes five times higher than the national average. With over 60 employment partners, from local businesses to major international companies, Akilah has solidified its reputation for delivering a unique market-relevant curriculum that prepares young women from a variety of backgrounds to enter directly into professional and leadership roles when they graduate.

Akilah students are breaking through the cultural, social, and economic barriers that hold women back, permanently disrupting the cycle of poverty and creating better, healthier, and more prosperous lives for their families and children.



Elizabeth Dearborn Hughes
CEO & Co-Founder

Dave Hughes
Co-Founder

TWO CAMPUSES



RWANDA
opened
January 2010

BURUNDI
opened
January 2014

3 DIPLOMA PROGRAMS

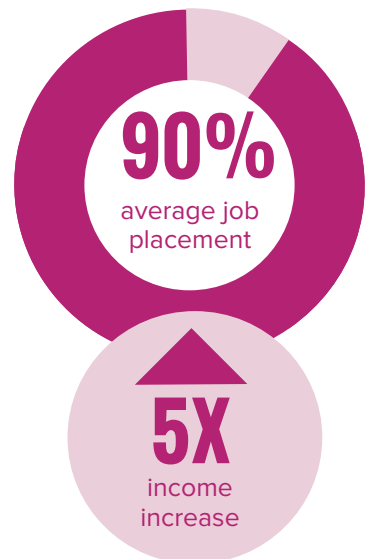
Information Systems
Entrepreneurship
Hospitality Management

95 ALUMNAE

Class of 2012: 39
Class of 2013: 56

2015

56 Staff
550 Students
\$3.2M Budget



THE CHALLENGE

There are very few opportunities for young women in East Africa to gain the skills and education necessary for meaningful employment and financial independence.

85% of women in East Africa still work in subsistence agriculture, living on less than **\$2** per day.

Only **1%** of the population enters college, and less than **1/3** of those are female.

44% of workers require training in basic communication and problem solving.

Rwanda cites a **45%** skills gap in IT-related positions.

Although the economy is growing and jobs are available, students do not gain the necessary skills to succeed in the workplace.



The World Bank found that the greater the number of girls who go to secondary school,



THE OPPORTUNITY

Educating young women is the wisest and most effective investment a developing country can make.

Women reinvest **90%** of their earnings back into their families, compared to **30-40%** for men.

Educated girls are less likely to marry early and **less likely** to contract HIV/AIDS.

Each year of schooling boosts an African woman's wages by **10-20%**.

The World Bank positively correlates women's education with **per capita growth**.

Investing in young women has a multiplier effect on the surrounding community, benefiting not only immediate family but society as a whole.

HIV spreads twice as fast among uneducated girls than among those who have been to school



Each additional year of schooling for girls reduces the infant mortality rate by up to 10%

NEW IN 2014

1 LAUNCH OF AKILAH BURUNDI

At the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative, Akilah partnered with the Segal Family Foundation to scale its academic model to neighboring Burundi. After ten months of intensive preparation and student recruitment, **Akilah Burundi successfully opened in January 2014**. The campus has 147 students and 15 faculty and staff. Akilah Burundi is currently in the final stages of accreditation by the Burundian Ministry of Higher Education.



CLINTON
GLOBAL
INITIATIVE



the kristin linnea skyvarla foundation



2 CAMPUS NURSERIES OPEN FOR STUDENT MOTHERS

The cultural obligations that surround motherhood and marriage do not always favor education. As a women's organization, Akilah firmly believes that **motherhood should never present a barrier to education**. In September, Akilah opened the Goldberg/Seibert nurseries on campuses in Rwanda and Burundi, where student mothers and staff with young children receive free day care.



3 GROWTH OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIPLOMA PROGRAM

More than any other industry, technology is driving East Africa's transformation from an agricultural to a knowledge-based economy. Akilah's Information Systems diploma program, a programming-oriented major with an entrepreneurial approach, was **designed in response to Rwanda's need for trained IT professionals**. Students master the use of world-class software in the fields of sales and marketing, business intelligence, and human resource management, and deepen their practical skills at internships with East African companies. Akilah was awarded the **Women Enhancing Technology (WeTech)** grant, launched at the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative by former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton to help women and girls enter and succeed in technology careers and fuel technological and economic growth.



THEORY OF CHANGE

THE TARGET STUDENT

Exceptional young East African women who show **PASSION** for the Akilah educational experience, **POTENTIAL** to succeed in the classroom and the workplace, and **FIT** our criteria for academic excellence

THE AKILAH MODEL

MARKET-RELEVANT CURRICULUM

1. Active learning
2. Technology integration
3. Leadership development
4. English immersion
5. Community service
6. Career preparation

PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCIES

Advanced English
IT skills
Business literacy
Workplace readiness

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

Growth mindset • Character
Results orientation • Confidence
Communication • Critical thinking

INDUSTRY-SPECIFIC COMPETENCIES

Technical skills in:
Information Systems
Entrepreneurship
Hospitality Management

SUCCESS CRITERIA

1. At least 80% of alumnae enter into professional careers within 6 months of graduation
2. Job retention tracked at 6 and 12 month intervals
3. Advancement to management roles and income changes tracked on a sampling basis

ULTIMATE GOAL

Akilah builds future generations of women leaders and professionals in East Africa through the development of a network of campuses

OUR **ACADEMIC** MODEL

Akilah's **market-relevant curriculum**, designed in partnership with the private sector, connects young women directly to opportunities in East Africa's growing economy.

1 ACTIVE LEARNING

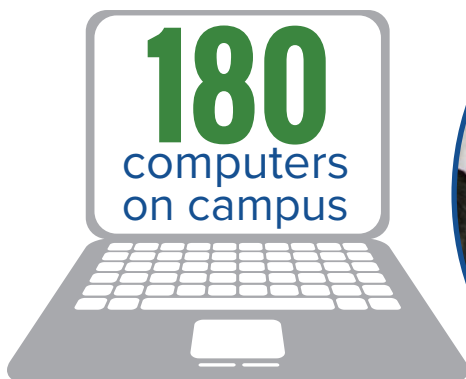
Instructors act as facilitators of students' own discovery process. Group collaboration and class discussions foster critical-thinking and problem-solving skills, mirroring the team-based challenges they will find in the workplace.

2 TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

With one computer for every two students, Akilah technology outpaces other universities in the region. Students submit assignments via email, access readings on Kindles, and use the WiFi-enabled computer lab to research and apply for jobs.

3 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

With 512 hours of leadership instruction and three required leadership courses, students become role models in their community. All students are required to master public speaking during their time at Akilah.



3 leadership courses

covering... Emotional Intelligence
Conflict Resolution
Character Goals
Ethical Leadership
Risk Taking

4 ENGLISH IMMERSION

The increasing integration of the East African Community means that English speakers have a distinct competitive advantage. As an English-only campus, Akilah students learn rapidly through immersion, gaining valuable English skills that lend a significant edge on the job market.

5 SOCIAL CHANGE PROJECTS

Community service forms an integral part of our curriculum, spirit, and mission. Graduating seniors complete field work assignments to identify and address a societal problem. Students learn how to analyze an issue, construct a solution, and mobilize resources to effect sustainable positive change.

6 CAREER PREPARATION

Students complete 200 hours of internship in their industry, gaining hands-on work experience. The Career Office works with students to improve their resumes and prepare for interviews, and liaises with the private sector to identify opportunities for internships and job placement.

Akilah provides an **education** geared toward the **modern economy**.

INFORMATION SYSTEMS DIPLOMA PROGRAM

Technology is changing not only the way Africans communicate with each other, but also how they do business. The increasing penetration of mobile and internet access is bringing **millions of jobs** to the continent.

RWANDA'S VISION 2020

Rwanda aims to become a middle-income country by the year 2020. To achieve this growth, the President of Rwanda is leading the nation to circumvent a laborious industrial revolution and transform directly from subsistence agriculture to a knowledge-based economy. Technology is the chief agent of this economic transformation.

Akilah's **Information Systems major** prepares young women to become programmers and tech leaders. Students learn essential analytical and design skills and master the use of world-class software to solve business problems with an entrepreneurial approach. Leveraging mentor connections in the private sector from their internships, students graduate ready to work as web developers, analysts, and software engineers.

TECH IN AFRICA

- 650 million** mobile phone lines
- 67 million** smartphone users
- 167 million** internet subscribers
- 42%** of Africa's population will be middle class by 2060

WOMEN IN TECH

Fewer than 1% of Rwanda's workers are trained IT professionals.

Women make up 53% of workers, but only 20% of Rwanda's IT staff.

Rwanda cites a **45% skills gap** in IT.

Training more women in IT is not only socially just but **economically necessary**.

INSTITUTE OF
INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION

WeTech™

CISCO™

Workforce
Development
Authority



COURSES INCLUDE

- Discrete Mathematics
- Data Structures and Algorithms
- Enterprise Networking
- Microsoft Access 2013
- MySQL and PHP Programming
- Linux System Administration
- Object Oriented Programming
- Web Design and Development
- Decision Support Systems

ENTREPRENEURSHIP DIPLOMA PROGRAM

East Africa's **rapid economic growth** is creating opportunities to lift millions out of poverty over the next decade. However, the region's rapidly growing workforce also requires the creation of many new businesses.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS JOB CREATION

The private sector is the only institution capable of creating enough jobs to keep pace with East Africa's rapidly growing workforce. The governments of Rwanda and Burundi have embraced policies and programs that facilitate business growth and creation. But businesses can only thrive if they are led by skilled and motivated entrepreneurs. Innovation is needed in businesses of all sizes and levels.

Akilah's **Entrepreneurship major** provides an in-depth understanding of business management. Instructors nurture innovation as students learn to make informed business decisions using data analysis, market research, and problem-solving. Students participate in startup competitions and graduate with the global business skills needed to establish their own ventures or scale existing ones by applying an entrepreneurial mindset.

Acton
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS


BABSON


AFRICAN
ENTREPRENEUR
COLLECTIVE

COURSES INCLUDE

- Intro to the Entrepreneurship Process
- Market Research Analysis and Product Design
- Foundations of Management and Entrepreneurship
- Fundamental of Customer Care for Business Growth
- Organization and Financial Management
- Micro and Macroeconomics for Business
- Starting a New Venture: Raising Capital and Marketing
- Writing Your Business Plan
- Entrepreneurship Capstone: Preparing for Business Launch

Only **6-9%** of women in Rwanda currently own a business.



HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT DIPLOMA PROGRAM

With **2.2 million tourists by 2020**, the hospitality industry is Rwanda's highest foreign exchange earner. Burundi plans to follow in the footsteps of Rwanda's success, creating a need for trained hospitality professionals to meet increasing demand.

THE REGION'S HIGHEST-GROWTH SECTOR

A national skills audit found that the current human capacity in the Rwandan hospitality industry is less than 30% of what is needed. In Burundi, only 1.7% of employees in the hospitality industry have received any formal training in tourism. The lack of qualified professionals is a serious barrier to developing this high-growth sector with the potential to employ thousands. It is estimated that nearly 6,000 people must be trained every year to keep up with current industry demand.

Akilah's **Hospitality Management major** emphasizes building strong English communication and customer service skills that are key to employment in the industry. Students master the fundamentals of tourism, lodging, and food and beverage, and strengthen their understanding of hotel management and human resources. Graduates have the necessary skills to move directly into management roles.

Rwanda: 70% skills gap in hospitality and tourism.



Burundi: Only 1.7% of hospitality employees have formal training.

At least **6,000 workers** per year must be trained to meet demand.



JOHNSON & WALES
UNIVERSITY

COURSES INCLUDE

- Intro to Hospitality
- Front Office Operations
- Intro to Travel and Tourism
- Intro to Food and Beverage
- Menu Design and Accounting
- Eco-Tourism and Tour Guiding
- Hospitality Sales and Management
- Customer Care and Guest Services
- Intro to Hotel and Lodging Management
- Essentials of Dining Room and Bar Service



SERENA HOTELS



LEADERSHIP AND CAMPUS LIFE

We expect our graduates to work in the most exciting industries, launch their own enterprises, assume key management positions in local and international businesses, and lead their communities and their country. Our leadership curriculum, after-school clubs, and nurturing campus environment are geared toward developing high standards of character and responsibility.



SOCIAL CHANGE PROJECTS

Each student completes over 80 hours of community service. Social Change Projects have included English lessons for orphans, nutritional health education for mothers, and campaigns for human rights, violence prevention, and family planning.



EXTRACURRICULAR CLUBS

Campus life is busy and vibrant. Students participate in a wide variety of clubs to reinforce class learning, such as IT, Entrepreneurship, Media, and Student Ambassadors. Other choices range from sports and entertainment to prayer and reading.



STUDENT GOVERNMENT

Student leadership plays a critical role in campus operations. Members of student government experience campaigning, leading their peers, and managing responsibility. These young leaders serve as the bridge between the student body and the administration.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Unique among institutions of higher education in East Africa, the Career Office works closely with each student throughout their three years at Akilah. This office supports students as they develop and pursue their career goals, improve their resume and cover letter writing, and prepare for job applications and interviews. The Career Office also works closely with the private sector to create new opportunities for internships and job placement.

YEAR ONE

Akilah helps students prepare for the job application process through mock interviews, resume writing, and public speaking practice.

YEAR TWO

All students are required to complete a two-month internship in their industry to gain on-the-job training before graduation.

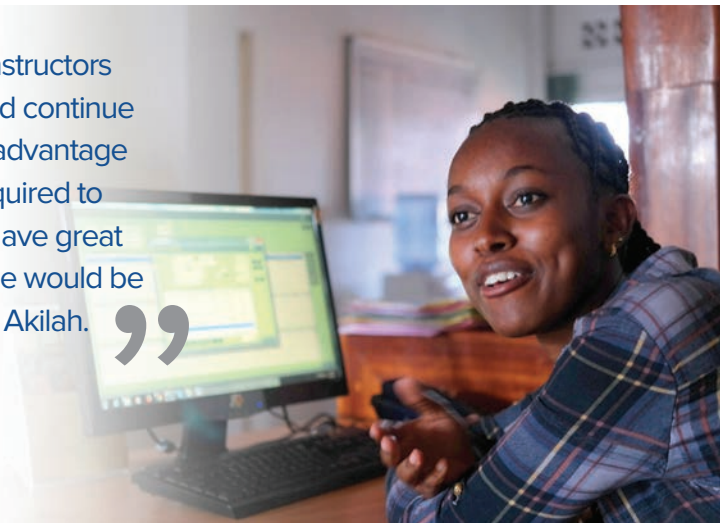
YEAR THREE

Students sit down with the Career Officer to assess their career goals and develop a plan for pursuing job opportunities.

“ Studying at Akilah has helped me so much. My instructors gave me the tools with which to develop skills and continue learning even when I’m done with school. I took advantage of my internship, which all Akilah students are required to complete, and this is what got me my job now. I have great dreams and plans for the future and none of these would be possible without the help I received in my time at Akilah. ”

PROVIDENCE INGABIRE

Class of 2012, Hospitality Management
Manages client itineraries at Primate Safaris



“ I worked in many departments during my internship and my bosses were so impressed by my hard work that they called Akilah to request that I join their staff right after graduating. I have been working here ever since. I was chosen to work on the front desk because I am able to express myself easily to clients. This is a skill I learned at Akilah. ”

NINAH KENYANA

Class of 2012, Hospitality Management
Leads a staff of nine at the Kigali Serena

OUR STUDENTS

66%
lost one or
more parents

64%
from families
of 5+ siblings



“ I want to be an entrepreneur to make technology products and innovate on existing business solutions. My company will play a big role in developing my country, which has placed a great emphasis on becoming the regional IT hub in East Africa. With my success and my leadership position in student government, I will inspire other young women to do what many say can't be done. ”

ASSUMPTA UMWALI IRADUKUNDA
Class of 2015, Entrepreneurship
Former Student Body President

“ Before coming to Akilah, I didn't know how to use my time efficiently, prioritize, and set short- and long-term goals. I use a personal planner every day now. And I enjoy sharing what I learn with others who need it. Akilah is the greatest opportunity that I've had up to this point. I don't think I could fulfill my dreams, or discover my passions, without the empowerment I received at Akilah. ”

NIDA GISELLE IRAGUHA
Class of 2015, Hospitality Management
Former Minister of Health & Environment



“ At first I felt that technology is not a field for a woman. But my interest in IT grew. What interested me most about Akilah was the new program in Information Systems. One of my biggest dreams is to see more girls like me in IT, who then would grow up to be role models for others. Seeing IT growing in Rwanda every day, it's hard to ignore all the possibilities for our future! ”

MARIE AIMEE UMUHOZA
Class of 2016, Information Systems
Current Student Body Vice President



OUR IMPACT

The greatest measure of success is seeing Akilah alumnae enter the workforce equipped with the right skills and set on a professional path that aligns with their career goals.

60+
employment
partners



95
Akilah
alumnae

EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS



90%
job placement
within 6 months
of graduation



5x
higher income
than national
average



2
Clinton Global
Initiative
commitments



TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

Tuition is **\$3,500** per year and includes all class materials, textbooks, lunch, and extracurriculars.

The generosity of our donors covers most of the costs of attending Akilah through the **Student Scholarship Fund**. Students are responsible for paying a small portion of tuition themselves.

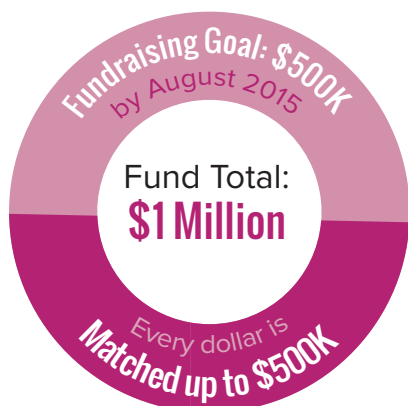
Students who take responsibility for their future by actively investing in their education contribute to a more active and engaged student body. They show up prepared and ready to work hard, because they don't take education for granted.

Students' portion of tuition amounts to just **\$500 per year in Rwanda and \$250 per year in Burundi**. A modest sum, this nonetheless imposes a significant financial burden.

To alleviate this financial stress, the **Tuition Deferment Fund** allows students to attend Akilah now and defer paying up to 70% of tuition until later when they are employed and earning an income.

TUITION DEFERMENT FUND

The TDF is a capital fund where every dollar is matched up to \$1 million total. Akilah must raise \$500K by August 2015 to fully fund the program.



By 2020, the TDF will sustain itself: alumnae make repayments while current students defer.

By 2020, Akilah will graduate 1,000 students. **100%** of those students **need financial aid.**



STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP FUND



Mentor Scholarship

Daily lunch

\$50/month or \$600/year



Champion Scholarship

Academic materials

\$100/month or \$1.2K/year



Ambassador Scholarship

1 year at Akilah

\$250/month or \$3K/year



Benefactor Scholarship

3 years at Akilah

\$750/month or \$9K/year

- ✓ Enables students to attend Akilah now and pay later.
- ✓ Locally-tailored, interest-free, and based on social collateral.
- ✓ Young women gain exposure to credit and financial products.
- ✓ Dependable flow of annual repayment protects Akilah's financial stability.
- ✓ Makes education affordable for young women of all backgrounds.

PLAN FOR SCALE

Akilah's plan for scale will not only broaden our impact by creating new opportunities for young women to access higher education across East Africa, but also contribute to the financial sustainability of the organization by generating unrestricted revenue.

1 SECONDARY-LEVEL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Akilah will establish partnerships with secondary schools to offer after-school learning modules. This will provide younger students the opportunity to develop leadership, English communication, and technology skills that are critical to success in the rapidly developing East African economy. While some students will feed into the Institute, the program would still add tremendous value to those who continue to the national university system or enter directly into the workforce.

3 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION

Akilah is in a unique position to leverage its faculty, curriculum, and facilities to offer customized training programs to current and new private sector partners. Akilah will offer evening and weekend courses on subjects such as management, public speaking, business English, and leadership. Faculty can use existing curriculum modules and earn additional income through these programs.

AKILAH GET HIRED! NET

Millions of jobs are coming to Africa in the next ten years. Akilah Net is an online career coach for the modern workforce that will change the way job seekers prepare, search, and connect with employers, and how companies identify and attract top talent. Complementing the Institute's mission to educate and empower female leaders, Akilah Net is a platform for young Africans - both men and women - seeking advice, guidance, and insider info on how to prepare for the job market and launch their careers.

Akilah Net is already **live at www.akilah.net**! In mid-2015, Akilah Net will introduce an **online job board**.

Planned Feature Enhancements

- Job search and filtering functionality
- Applicant tracking software
- Skills assessments and email-based courses
- Online talent coach and resume review

2 REGIONAL EXPANSION

We have developed the curriculum and materials necessary to support turnkey expansion of all aspects of the Akilah model. Our next step is to conduct feasibility studies to identify our third expansion market and make provisions to open a new campus. Akilah's vision is to continue scaling our core three-year program by building a network of campuses, customizing our curriculum for local needs and graduating 1,000 students by 2020.

4 ONLINE EDUCATION AT AKILAH NET

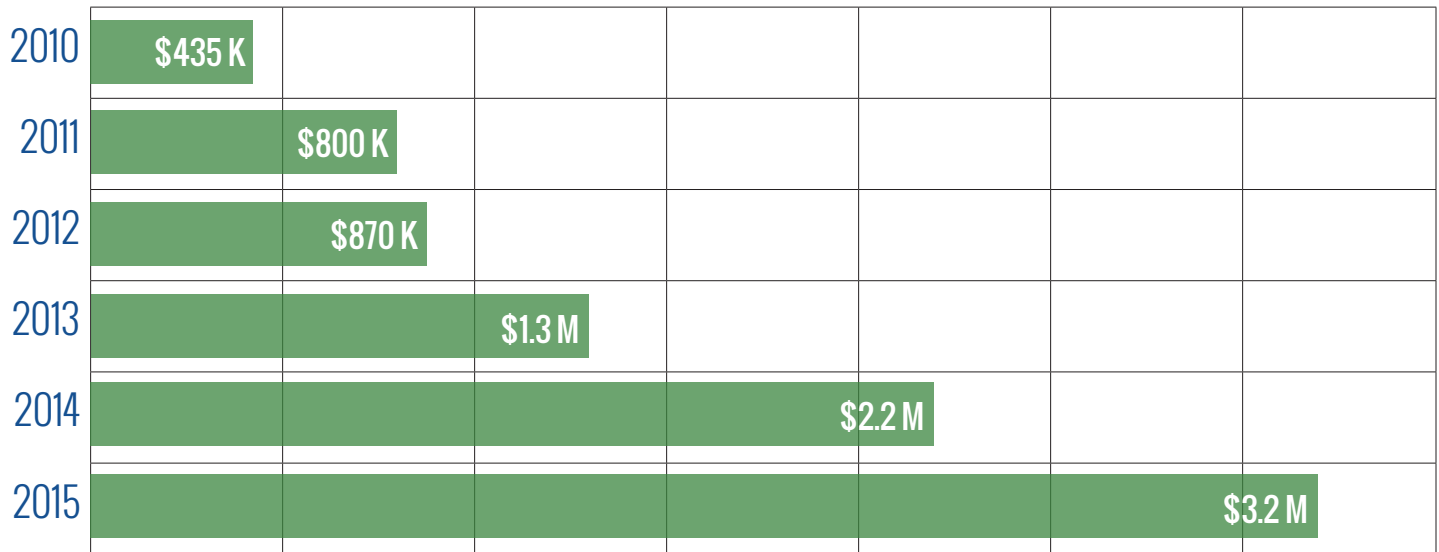
The launch of Akilah Net offers a unique opportunity to share Akilah's curriculum with individuals who cannot pursue a full-time education, or with working professionals who want to improve their skills. Low-tech, email-based courses make it easy for students to read on their phones with limited data usage. Users can sign up to start the course and receive the academic content, suggested readings, and activities at any time.

Recent Headlines

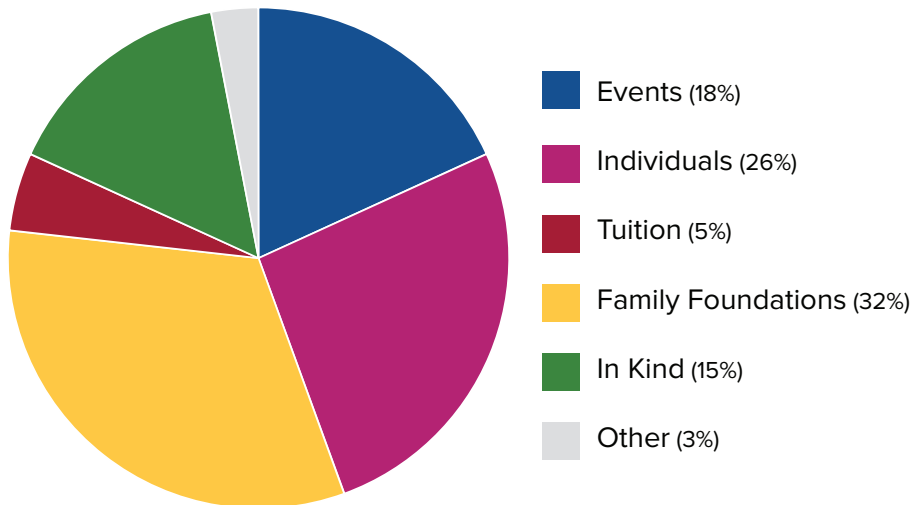
- Data Experts Apply Here: 6 Jobs for Research Pros
- Balancing Motherhood and Career: We Asked 5 Mothers How They Do It
- When Less Equals More: Introducing the Sachet Economy
- Get Ahead! 4 Ways to Make the Case for a Higher Salary and Bigger Title

FINANCIALS AND OPERATING BUDGET

ANNUAL EXPENSES



SOURCES OF FUNDING



Fundraising costs are covered by specific pledges, so that **100%** of your donations go directly to campus programs.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Now that students have access to reliable loan financing through the Tuition Deferment Fund, we will adopt a sliding tuition model. **By 2025, up to 40% of campus operating costs will come from tuition revenue.** The sliding scale of tuition that is more in line with our current student demographics will improve Akilah's long-term financial stability. Of course, the organization will continue to rely on foundations and donors to support the remaining costs through our Student Scholarship Fund and other philanthropic gifts.

THE AKILAH TEAM



ELIZABETH DEARBORN HUGHES
Co-founder & CEO



KAREN SHERMAN
Executive Director

RWANDA



ALINE KABANDA
Country Director



ANASTASIA UGLOVA
Communications Director &
VP, Akilah Net



DANIEL HANYURWIMFURA
Finance Director



DANIEL NAMANYA
Academic Dean



JESSICA CYAMATARE
Admissions Director



JULIAN NYAGAHIMA
Student Affairs Director



LISA DOHERTY
Academic Director



SOLANGE U MULISA
Deputy Country Director

RWANDA FACULTY

ALAIN MAJYAMBIERE, Information Systems Instructor

DIEUDONNE UWASE, Mathematics Instructor

FAUSTINE SORONCHO, Information Systems Program Manager

JACQUELINE SEMAKULA, Business Instructor

JANICE NDEGWA, Leadership Instructor

LYDIA TUMUHAIRWE, English Instructor

MIKE SSEMPA, Mathematics Instructor

MOSES SENYONJO, Entrepreneurship Instructor

PATRICK OCHWO, English Instructor

PAUL SWAGA, English Instructor

ROBERT HAGUMA, Leadership Instructor

SAMIAH MILLYCENT, English Instructor

STANLEY MUKASA, Entrepreneurship Instructor

STELLA WAYIANZUVUKO, English Instructor

TERRY KIBUI, Hospitality Management Instructor

RWANDA ADMINISTRATION

ALICE UMUHIRE, Nursery Caretaker

ARIANE KAREGIRE, Admissions Officer

ASHLEY HOLLISTER, Monitoring & Evaluation Officer

ERNESTINE MUKANGEZE, Academic Assistant

ESTHER BUGAIGA, Recruitment & Operations Officer

NADINE NIYITEGEKA, Development & Recruitment Associate

NATHALIE BIGIMBA, Information Systems Officer

JACQUELINE UWAMAHORO, Custodian

RITAH TUSABE GASANA, Career Development Officer

TRIPHINE MUREKATETE, Office Assistant

YVONNE MUTONI, Campus Support Staff

BURUNDI



CARRIE ELLETT
Country Director



ANGE KAMIKAZI
Admissions Manager



ENOCH SSEMUWEMBA
Academic Manager



LYSETTE MUNEZERO
Operations Manager

UNITED STATES



NEIL PHARAOH
Capital & Growth Director



MERRIN JENKINS
Strategic Partnerships Manager



CONNOR MARTINI
Development & Operations
Coordinator



NATALIE MUNDY
Special Projects Associate

BURUNDI FACULTY

CARINE BUYOYA, Leadership Instructor

DAVID ORINDA, Hospitality Management
Instructor

ELIZABETH KIRABO, English Instructor

FRANCINE MUHIMPUNDU, Teaching Fellow

NADIA NINTUNZE, Entrepreneurship Program
Manager

SAUL KAMUKAMA, English Instructor

BURUNDI ADMINISTRATION

ALENE KAZE, Program Assistant

ANNA STRIZICH, Special Projects Manager

DESIRE NIYONSABA, Campus Support Staff

TEESA BAHANA, Communications Associate

GAELLA KANEZA, Student Affairs Associate

PACIFIQUE NDABARINZE, Admissions Associate

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RICK DANIELS, Faculty, Johnson & Wales
University

THERESA HAVELL, President & CEO, Havell
Capital Management, LLC

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JACQUI SEBAGENI, Director & Founder, Thousand Hills Expeditions

JEAN LUC MIRAVUMBA, Marketing Director, Dubai World

Dr. Jolly Mazimhaka, Director of Academic Quality Assurance, Kigali Institute of Science and Technology and President, Rotary Club of Kigali

PASTOR PHILBERT KALISA, Executive Director, REACH

ROSETTE RUGAMBA, former Deputy CEO of Tourism and Conversation, Rwanda Development Board

SHIRLEY RANDALL, Director, Centre for Gender, Culture, and Development

SOLOMON ADEDE, Chief Operating Officer, New Century Development

WANINI GICHUKI, Director, Creative Communications

INTERNATIONAL

BETTY CASTOR, Former President, University of South Florida

CARTER PAGE, CEO, Global Energy Capital

CHRIS CLOUD, Cloud Advisors

FRAN PASTORE, President, Women's Business Development Council

JIM DAVIS, Holland & Knight, Former Member of Congress

KATHLEEN MATTHEWS, Executive Vice-President, Marriott International

MARK CAMPANALE, Advisor, Halloran Philanthropies

MICHAELA WALSH, Founder, Women's World Banking and Global Student Leadership

SONDRA MYERS, Professor, University of Scranton

BURUNDI

CLAUDE NIKONDEHA, Director, Communities of Hope Kazoza Microfinance

CONSOLATA NDAYISHIMIYE, Former President, Burundi Chamber of Commerce

INÈS MUTABAZI, General Manager, Roca Golf Hotel

DR. JOSEPH BIGIRUMWAMI, Former Professor and Deputy Director, National University

LYDIA MUTEKANO, Owner, Geny's Beach & Café

SAMANTHA SHAZA, Founder & Managing Director, Fer-AI

SCHOLASTIQUE MPEMGEKEZE, Deputy Representative, FAWE and Advisor, Office of Statistics and Planification, Ministry of Education

SPOTLIGHT ON BURUNDI

The civil war in Burundi ended in 2005, leaving a population without access to education and opportunities to rebuild what was destroyed. Burundi today remains the fourth poorest country in world according to the World Bank.

Akilah was approached by the government of Burundi in 2011 to open a campus in the nation's capital and play a key part in the nation's strategy for women's education and development. Slowly emerging and stabilizing, Burundi now faces an urgent need for qualified professionals to create job opportunities, develop the nascent private sector, and attract new tourism and investment to the country.

IN THE MEDIA



In 2014, Akilah released a music video to celebrate the opening of our Burundi campus. “Happy Burundi” was a public relations success: the video is frequently seen playing in cafes, generating viral attention for tourism and Akilah programming.

Watch the video: akilahinstitute.org/happy

HAPPY BURUNDI (Official)
TheAkilahInstitute

marie claire **Newsweek** theguardian nbc msnbc philly.com



“That ‘life-changing’ school is the Akilah Institute for Women, which was founded in 2010 as a college where women could obtain a market-relevant education in entrepreneurship, information systems, and hospitality management.”

-The Washington Post



70

media mentions

88

blog posts on website

5,668

Facebook likes

1,802

Twitter followers

409

LinkedIn followers



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[/user/theakilahinstitute](https://www.youtube.com/user/theakilahinstitute)



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