



Catholic sisters improve food security in Africa

In Africa, severe food insecurity and undernourishment is on the rise. But, educated sisters are changing that reality for the communities they serve.

It's estimated that 821 million people worldwide are chronically undernourished (UNDP, 2017). This amounts to the suffering of about 11.4% of the world's population. Over 90 million (nearly 11%) of the undernourished are children under five years old.

What's worse? Severe food insecurity and undernourishment in Africa is on the rise. But, educated sisters are changing that reality for the communities they serve. Of the \$16.5+ million that ASEC alumnae have raised for human development projects, sisters have raised over \$1 million specifically for hunger projects in Africa!



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.

Educating a Sister provides food for an entire community

Consider donating to the education of a sister to reduce extreme poverty and food security issues that are plaguing sub-Saharan Africa. When sisters become leaders, entire communities in need benefit from her knowledge.

Donate: asec-sldi.org/donate



SLDI alumna Sr. Stephany is providing hope in rural Ordorme, Ghana, where stunting rates due to malnutrition have reached a staggering 33%. She renovated her congregation's bakery, creating jobs and providing the community with healthy food.



In Malawi, **Sr. Hellen** used the skills she learned in ASEC's SLDI program to reduce malnutrition rates from 10% to 6% in children under five years old.

After completing SLDI and HESA training, **Sr. Teopista** became Bakery Manager at Cabana Sisters' Bread Bakery in Uganda. The bakery supplies 70-80 loaves of bread per day for schools and the local community and employs 30 people.

Inspired by a field trip to a biofarm during her SLDI training, **Sr. Leul** initiated a biogas farm that not only feeds the community but helps to pay teachers salaries so children can go to school!

In South Sudan, SLDI alumna **Sr. Helen** created the Sacred Heart School's Feeding Program for Vulnerable Children in order to improve students' ability to focus, learn and thrive at school.

Read more: asec-sldi.org/hunger