



**The School
of St Jude**

Fighting poverty
through education

Annual Report

2017



schoolofstjude.org



Message from our founder, Gemma Sisia

It's been a year of special and unique moments. 15 years on from starting the school in a little village called Moshono, it's incredible and humbling how St Jude's is making its mark so far from home.

We had the privilege of the Commonwealth Games Queen's baton come to the school as it made its way around the world. We welcomed a special visitor, *Instyle* Editor-in-chief, Laura Brown, whose global success didn't stop her from connecting with our story and our students. And one of our Form 4 students, Edgar, was named 2017's International Young Eco-Hero and took home the Children's Climate Prize, travelling all the way to Sweden to collect his award.



In July we witnessed another 133 students graduate from St Jude's. I think it's my favourite time of year, having the chance to be swept along in the joy and hope of so many young people who are excited to continue their journey as leaders outside the school gates.

All of these achievements are only possible because of the incredible St Jude's community. From our staff and school board to our parent committee and students, we are all working together, fighting poverty through education.

As ever, my biggest thanks goes to the good and generous people who sponsor our students' academic scholarships, who give a little when they can, or simply spread the word about St Jude's. Without them, we couldn't do what we do.

Thank you,

- Gemma Sisia, Founding Director



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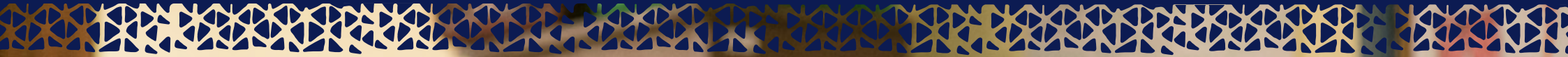
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1.0 Our organisation



1.1 Our vision

Our vision is to educate the future leaders of Tanzania.

1.2 Our mission

The mission of The School of St Jude is to educate disadvantaged, bright students from the Arusha District to become moral and intellectual leaders in their country.

1.3 Our values

Our school values of Respect, Responsibility, Honesty and Kindness, establish the foundation for the success of our students, staff and school community.

1.4 Our history

At 22 years of age Gemma Sisia travelled to Uganda to volunteer as a teacher, where she taught girls maths and sewing. This experience led to a fervent belief that a free, high-quality education should be the right of all children in the world and that education is the strongest weapon in the fight against poverty, corruption and political instability.

In 2002, with the gift of a plot of land, three students, and a volunteer teacher, Gemma founded The School of St Jude in Arusha, Tanzania. We are now one of the largest charitable schools on the African continent.

1.5 Our process

St Jude's offers academic scholarships to students that combine academic promise with a desperately poor background and a great attitude to work.

Our student selection process begins with inviting promising students from the local community for an academic test designed to cover basic learning concepts, reasoning and social and emotional awareness.

Once a child has passed the academic test and they have provided adequate proof of age, we confirm they are from a very poor family or disadvantaged situation by visiting students' homes and assessing their living situation. This way, we ensure only the most in need are accepted.

The process is coordinated with a dedicated team of representatives from the local community who form our Primary School Committee and Secondary School Board and are vital to the selection process.

Each year scholarships are awarded to students entering Standard 1 (Grade 1), Form 1 and Form 5.



1.6 Year in review

Our schools

57%

of our students are female

61

different tribes represented



29,000

meals served per week



1,785

students enrolled

Our supporters

57%

of our sponsors have been supporting us for more than 5 years.

32

countries represented

1,131

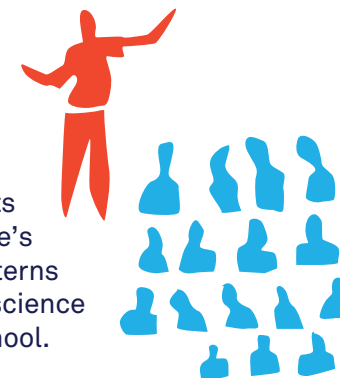
international visitors



Beyond St Jude's

30,000+

government school students have benefited from St Jude's Community Service Year interns teaching key subjects like science and maths in their local school.



181

St Jude's graduates are currently pursuing further education or participating in a Community Service Year Internship.



Our community

AU\$4.5 million

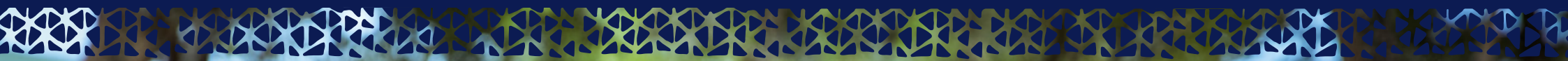
is injected into the Arusha economy each year

6 people

supported by a St Jude's staff members salary



2.0 Our schools





The School of St Jude provides free high-quality education across primary and secondary schools. Our schools and boarding facilities are located across three campuses. At the end of 2017, 1,605 students were enrolled at The School of St Jude. 1,262 students from Standard 5 upwards were housed in boarding.



2.1 Sisia Primary Campus

Moshono village

*Registered with the Tanzanian Ministry of Education.
Certificate no. AR.02/7011*

In 2017, our primary school campus facilitated the education of 752 students. This campus, which was built on land gifted to St Jude's Founding Director, Gemma Sisia, is equipped with modern classrooms for students from Standard 1 to Standard 7 (Grade 1 to Grade 7), three sports fields, a playground, a well-stocked library, two dining and assembly halls and The School of St Jude business administration offices.

2.2 Smith Secondary Campus

Usa River village

Registered with the Tanzanian Ministry of Education. Certificate no. S.4459

During 2017, our secondary school campus was home to 853 students from Form 1 to Form 6. The secondary school campus is equipped with modern classrooms, boarding rooms for all students, science labs, a well-stocked library, sporting fields, a dining hall, an assembly hall and a five-acre vegetable farm.

2.3 Primary boarding campus

Moivaro village

Just a short walk from our Sisia Primary Campus, our primary boarding campus in Moivaro village provides the perfect home away from home for 409 students from Standard 5 to Standard 7 (Grade 5 to Grade 7). This modern boarding campus is equipped with a sporting field, study rooms, a dining and assembly hall, boarding rooms and everything our students need to focus on their life-changing education.



2.4 National Examination Results

Grade 4

- **All students** achieved either an **A or B in the exams.**
- **1st of 80 schools** in the Arumeru district.
- **4th of 436 schools** in the Arusha region.
- **Top 1% of 12,039 schools** in Tanzania.



Grade 7

- **6th of 331 schools** in the Arusha region.
- **Top 1% of 9,736 schools** in Tanzania.



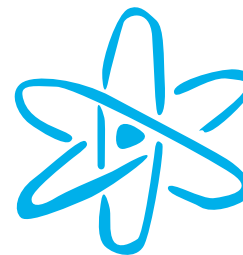
Form 2

- 135 St Jude's students sat the Form 2 National Examinations — **124 earned Division One**, the highest mark available.



Form 4

- St Jude's ranked in the **top 2% of 3,040 schools** in Tanzania in Form 4 National Examinations.
- **Top 1%** in the country **for Physics.**
- **1st of 152 schools** in the region **for Chemistry.**



Form 6

- **More than half** of the 133 students who sat the Form 6 National Examinations achieved either **Division One or Division Two.**
- **Top 1%** in the country **for Physics.**
- Ranked in the **top 13% in Advanced Maths** in the country.



3.0 Our graduates



3.1 Beyond St Jude's

St Jude's is committed to developing community-minded leaders with the skills and attributes to break the cycle of poverty in Tanzania—which is why we created the Beyond St Jude's program for our secondary graduates.

Form 6 graduates who wish to give back in thanks for their free, high-quality education can participate in a year of community service through our Beyond St Jude's program and be supported into higher education.

- In 2017, 116 St Jude's graduates participated in the Community Service Year, the largest group to date.
- 30,000 students across 38 under-resourced government schools have been taught by our Community Service Year Interns since 2015.
- At the end of 2017, there were 65 students attending university as part of the Beyond St Jude's program.
- Beyond St Jude's scholars went to study in Uganda for the first time in 2017.
- Six graduates received international scholarships for studies in the USA, Mauritius, Kenya and Zimbabwe.



Reflection from one of our Community Service Year interns

Gift, 2017 Form 6 graduate

Joined St Jude's in Form 5

Gift is one of Beyond St Jude's newest Community Service Year interns, serving his community as an assistant physics teacher at a local government school.

The Beyond St Jude's program is an optional stepping stone for St Jude's graduates. Those who choose to participate demonstrate leadership and generosity as interns in our school's business office, library, boarding houses, Visitor team, entrepreneurial program, or by teaching in under-resourced government schools.

St Jude's students don't take their gift of a free, quality education for granted. Gift is one such graduate, whose sense of service is innate.

"I studied at this government school previously, that's why I enjoy giving back," the aspiring electrical engineer said.

"I joined St Jude's when I was in Form 5. When I was a student at this government school, I taught Form 4s mathematics in my spare time," he explained.

"Volunteering at my old school was what I wanted from the beginning. I decided to use this one year before university."

It takes Gift 45 minutes to walk from his home to work. In total, he's responsible for 182 students; Gift's largest class has 68 pupils in it.

"There are big differences between this school and St Jude's," Gift remarked.

"We only have 43 teachers here, but at St Jude's we have many more and more resources as well. I loved the learning materials. St Jude's really expanded my knowledge."

Gift hopes to nurture as many young scientists as possible during his Community Service Year.

"Sciences are key subjects because, in our country, these are important skills for employment."

"In government schools, we have a lack of science teachers. So, I will use this year to help the students achieve their goals. I know I can't do it 100%, but I know they'll appreciate my efforts," Gift said.

Being a teacher himself has also increased Gift's appreciation for St Jude's staff.

"When I came from a government school to St Jude's, I didn't know much English, which was a problem. During the activities at St Jude's, we learnt how to speak; we had to persevere. We learnt by speaking to our friends and teachers."

"Mr Meshack, a physics, ICT and mathematics teacher, was my favourite. I try to be like him. He encouraged me to face and solve any problem with maths. Because he did well in Form 6, he was counselling us to study. He was trying to help us learn to find resources in books, and how to work hard," Gift said.

Through his giving, Gift's family has also benefitted. One of Gift's current students is his own brother, Loishock!

"It is very nice having my brother as my teacher. I dream of becoming a teacher one day," Loishock said.

Gift is proud to guide his brother through his schooling.

"In the future, I expect I will help my family to achieve a lot," he insisted.



4.0 Our people





4.1 Primary Academic Staff

Primary academic leaders

Pictured top left

George Stephen

Head Teacher - Primary

Jonas Michael

Academic Deputy

Sebastian Gitbang

Discipline Master and Operations Deputy

Reginald Mongi

Welfare Deputy

Sr. Zawadi Syahanga

Head of Boarding



Primary academic staff

Pictured bottom left



4.2 Secondary Academic Staff

Secondary academic leaders

Nzinyangwa Mcharo

Acting Headmaster

Humphrey Nkya

Deputy Headmaster - Core Values and Operations

Allen Rugambwa

Acting Deputy Headmaster - Academics

Lodrick Msaki

Deputy Headmaster - Boarding

Secondary academic staff

Pictured top right

At the end of 2017, 267 full-time staff members were employed across St Jude's campuses.

222 of our staff are Tanzanian, ensuring students receive a high-quality and culturally relevant education that will help them meet the needs of their communities.

St Jude's staff

Pictured bottom right

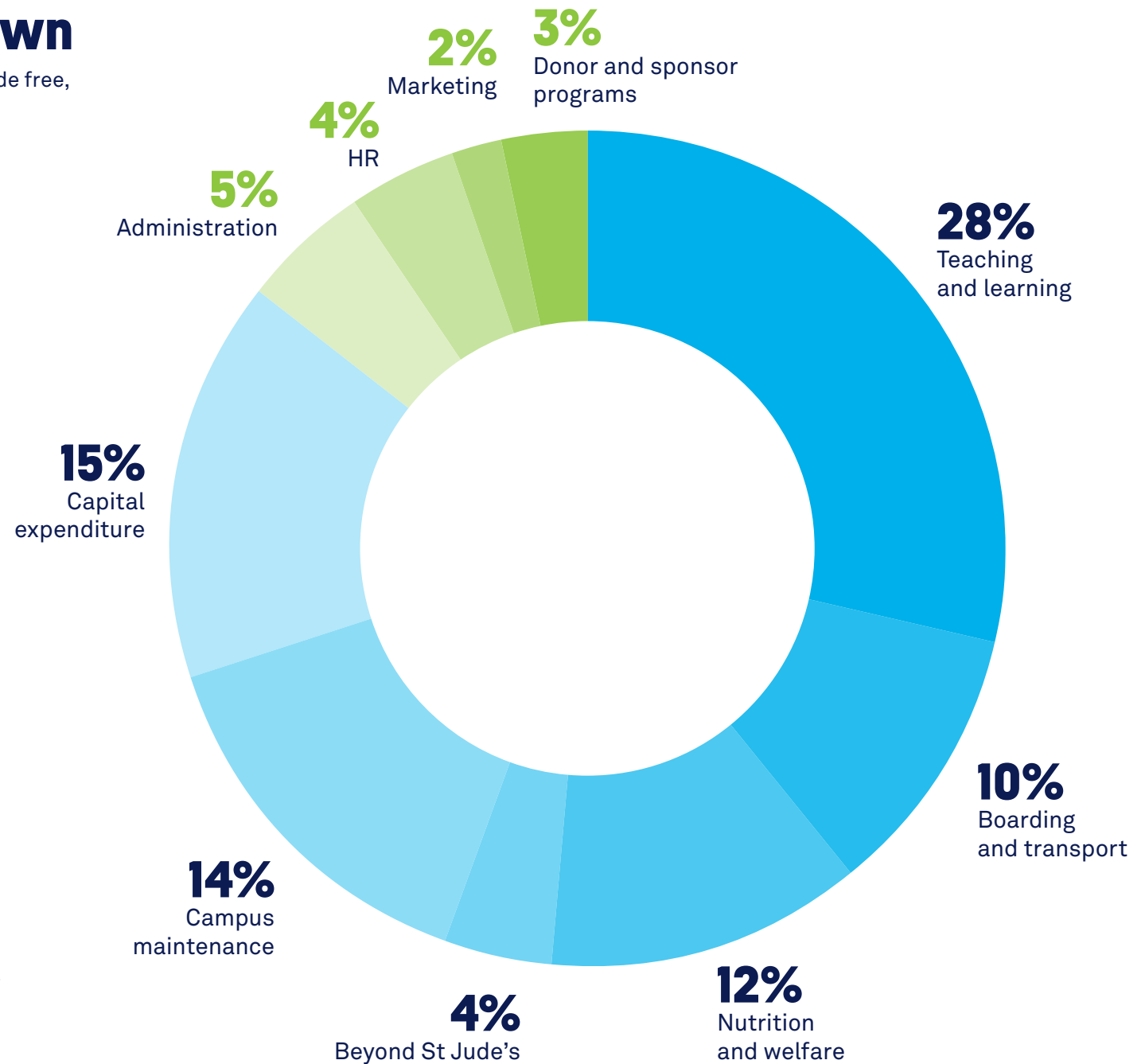


5.0 Our financials



5.1 Spending breakdown

In 2017 it cost 7.4 billion Tanzanian shillings to provide free, high-quality education to our students.



In 2017, The School of St Jude injected AU\$4.5 million into our local economy through purchasing and wages.

On average, our staff salaries support an additional six family members and cover school fees for two children. That's 1,700 family members and 570 sets of school fees.

6.0 Our supporters



6.1 Super Supporters

This year, we cast the spotlight on a few super supporters, 'Fighting Poverty Through Education' in creative and exciting ways!

Miles Of Love

Students and staff at St Aloysius College in Adelaide strapped on their sneakers to raise over \$5000 for our school.

Funds raised from the Walkathon and Mercy Day Carnival will be put to good use, servicing and maintaining a St Jude's bus for an entire year.

"As a Mercy school, a commitment to justice is at the heart of all we do," Principal, Paddy McEvoy, said. "St Jude's mission to 'Fight Poverty Through Education,' makes it a true work of mercy in our world."

Year 12 students Maddie, Clare, Dimiti and Anna went the extra mile, making and selling blue and yellow ribbons to their peers.

"We feel proud to know that the money raised will go directly to where it is needed!"

The young leaders raised \$210, which will provide seven St Jude's students with a year's worth of fruit – it doesn't get much sweeter than that!

Tech Won, Thanks To TechOne!

TechnologyOne employees from across the globe banded together to raise an amazing \$40,700 for our school!

A number of fundraisers were held throughout the year, and corporate donors were inspired by the school's story at TechnologyOne's annual December Fundraising Appeal auction and their Evolve Conference.

All money raised from these events was generously matched \$3 for \$1 by TechnologyOne. Thanks to their efforts, we are able to upgrade our servers and update a computer lab of laptops with the latest licensing of Windows and Microsoft Office.

Three cheers for Executive Chairman, Adrian Di Marco and TechnologyOne supporters, who are powering our students education and helping them stay connected!

Big Art From A Huge Heart

A visit to The School of St Jude in February 2016 inspired Gerrit Faber to use his awesome artistry as a way of raising funds. Gerrit is the father of past St Jude's volunteer, Thomas.

Gerrit hosted an exhibition of his portraits in December, titled 'Sterke Mannen – Strong Men'.

"Thomas spoke on the night and sparked everyone's interest in the way St Jude's changes childrens' lives with education. The event was a great success!" Gerrit said.

Each painting was whisked off the wall and \$1,500 was raised – enough to provide a classroom with internet for a year and fund our security for a quarter.

We thank these two 'sterke mannen' and all our supporters in Amsterdam for their generous contribution!



Annual Report 2017



6.2 Visitors

Our supporters continue to visit Arusha each year and see St Jude's mission in action. In 2017, 1,131 people from around the world visited our campuses.

St Jude's is *InStyle*

Laura Brown's visit to St Jude's has a life-changing impact

When Laura Brown and Gemma Sisia were growing up as farmers' daughters in country New South Wales, it's unlikely either could have predicted where their lives would lead.

Both women were motivated by a sense of intrigue and adventure to seek challenges and opportunities.

"For me, it was big dreams and curiosity! You just have to turn up. I wouldn't be able to live with myself if I didn't try," Laura said.

Laura Brown is an international publishing icon, fashioning the runway as *InStyle* Magazine's Editor-In-Chief.

Gemma Sisia, Founder of The School of St Jude, provides a free, quality education to 1,800 of Tanzania's brightest and most disadvantaged children.

Both women are fiercely passionate about their work, securing their status as Aussie powerhouses making a global impact.

This month, they've joined forces to fight poverty through education. Laura literally swept our students off their feet when she visited St Jude's in late July 2017, and couldn't resist signing up to sponsor an academic scholarship for two of Tanzania's youngest leaders.

"We can thank Liam Bartlett from 60 Minutes Australia for introducing me to Gemma!" Laura said.

"I told him I was going to Tanzania on vacation and he told me about her and the school. It was fate."

"What most impressed me about St Jude's is how incredible the mission is and how effective the team are at achieving it."

"I also love the Australian animals on the school's walls, obviously."

Laura now supports the education of two girls at St Jude's; Alice in Standard 3 (Grade 3) at Sisia Primary, and Hadija in Form 1 (Grade 8) at Smith Secondary Campus.

"It's so wonderful to have the support of a successful international leader like Laura. She shows our female students they can achieve anything they set their mind and heart to," Gemma insisted.

In July, Laura's warm and engaging presence lit up the playground and entertained swathes of excited St Jude's students.

"I loved meeting two spunky young boys in Grade 3 named Saad and Yusuph. They were so funny and told me not to give away any answers [in class]!"

"I just couldn't not sponsor. You have to help where you can, and this is so immediate and tangible. I love being able to track how a student grows. I'm thrilled to be able to contribute anything at all."

Her advice to Alice and Hadija?

"Absorb everything you can, learn everything you can, meet everyone you can."

"I feel passionately about supporting the education of children in Tanzania, because they should have the same opportunities as anyone."

Education should be an equal playing field, globally and economically," Laura said.



7.0 Support us



7.1 Contact Us

Events and fundraising

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schoolofstjudetz@gmail.com

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To find out more and make a contribution
to our school head to our website at
www.schoolofstjude.org





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