



You made it a 60 Minutes to remember

Passionate St Jude's supporters came out in full force to see our appearance on 60 Minutes and share with their fellow Australians what we have built together.

An extra 40,000 people tuned in to see St Jude's profiled on Channel Nine in October, thanks to supporters like you spreading the word to their families, friends and fellow club members.

The story of how our school now educates approximately 1,800 underprivileged students was watched on 887,000 televisions across Australia.

A group of generous St Jude's supporters helped us make the opportunity even bigger by offering to match all donations up to \$150,000 in the days following our appearance on 60 Minutes.

If you donate or start a sponsorship before November 8 the value of your gift will be matched. There's no better time to make an impact!

**Australian viewers can watch 60 Minutes online by going to the following link: bit.ly/2eISPeJ
Find out more about donating today at www.schoolofstjude.org**





We're selecting the very best

Join us as we choose the students who will receive a free, high-quality education

Each year St Jude's begins the long, difficult but very important task of choosing its newest Grade 1 class. This year we did things a little differently, inviting the top 10 students from every local government school to sit our entrance test.

"This change will better allow us to offer the most deserving students and families the chance at a St Jude's education. While I wish we could offer every student in Arusha the chance of a scholarship, this just isn't possible. We felt this change made the whole process fairer," our founder Gemma said.

The nearly 1,000 students who were invited began to arrive bright and early, armed with their invitation letters, pencils and a determination to succeed.

The students first sat a reading test, with those who passed moving onto a written test. The successful students then underwent a documents check to ensure they meet our age and other entry requirements.

Of the nearly 1,000 students who tried only 117 passed this first stage. Those who passed will now undergo our strict poverty assessment. Organised by our Community Relations team, this stage of the process allows us to ensure that every St Jude's scholarship is gifted to a student whose life will change the most.

We can't wait to introduce you to the deserving new students early next year when they begin with us!



We're selecting the very best



Become a sponsor today and educate the next generation of promising Tanzanians. For more information go to www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/sponsor.html





The future's bright for our 2015 graduates!

They've completed their Community Service Year and are off to university

The future is bright for our graduates who chose to participate in the Community Service Year. Many have now been accepted into the top universities and courses in Tanzania. We are so proud to see that their hard work studying has paid off and wanted to share the happy news with you!

The career paths our graduates have chosen will greatly support the future of Tanzania. These include 16 students who will be studying a Doctor of Medicine or other health degrees, one of the Tanzanian Government's national priority subjects. Agriculture, Education, Tourism, Engineering and IT are also on the country's priority list and our list of university acceptances.

Life at university is a big step from Arusha and boarding at St Jude's. Dorice said her family "will cry, but they will be happy for me" when she leaves to study Medicine. The Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences where she will study is in Mwanza; a port city on the shores of Lake Victoria in the north-west of Tanzania. Dorice's new home will be an exciting change from The School of St Jude and Arusha!

Suleiman, alongside Dorice, is one of our future doctors and is already getting used to the idea whilst finishing his last week's volunteering in the St Jude's Visitors department. "People in the office have already started addressing me as Doctor Sule! That would make anyone feel important!"

The graduates have been accepted into some of the top universities in Tanzania, including;

CUHAS – 2
Muhimbili University – 7
University of Dar es Salaam – 23
Ardhi University - 4

They will be studying;
Finance and commerce – 10
Medicine and health – 16
Engineering – 9
Education – 9
Business – 2
Agriculture – 2
Marine Transport - 1

To help St Jude's continue to provide a high quality education, donate today! Go online to www.schoolofstjude.org/support-us/donate.html



Meet our student ambassador Winrose

Meet Winrose, a 2016 graduate, Community Service Year intern and future engineer who will be joining Gemma next year on her Australian tour. This amazing young woman is a shining example of the difference St Jude's can make in a young person's life. We are so excited to introduce you to Winrose and share her inspiring story!

As the daughter of a woman who loved learning, but whose parents couldn't afford to send her to secondary school, Winrose understands the hardship that comes with not having access to education.

Unfortunately this situation is all too common in Tanzania, where 70% of people do not reach secondary school and less than 2% make it to the final two years of school (USAid, 2014). These rates are even lower for girls like Winrose and her mother.

Winrose grew up in the rural village of Mbuguni, where her father worked as a farmer and her mother was a tailor. Unfortunately, her mother passed away when she was in Grade 4 and the responsibility of raising her younger sister and helping her father around the house fell on her shoulders. Many girls in this situation have no choice but to drop out of school, but Winrose was committed to getting the education her mother was never able to receive.

As a primary school student, she walked 2.5km to school each day, shared a desk with five other students, had no books, no meals and sometimes no teacher, but she was pushed by a desire to make a brighter future for her family.

"Sometimes I got so hungry during the day at school that I developed stomach ulcers," Winrose says. "It was hard to study when there were no teachers and no books."



Winning Winrose: A stunning smile and brains to match.



A new chapter at St Jude's: Winrose in her first year as a St Jude's student.



Taking care of business: Winrose works hard every day during her Community Service Year as part of Beyond St Jude's program.





Meet our student ambassador Winrose

After her father realised he was struggling to take care of Winrose and her younger sister, she moved in with her aunt when she was in Grade 5. It was two years later, when Winrose was in Grade 7, that she first heard about St Jude's. It was the night before our 2009 Form 1 selection day, and at the last minute Winrose was told by one of her friends that she should take the St Jude's selection exam.

"After hearing that I could fulfil my ambition here (at St Jude's), I wanted it with all my heart," Winrose says. "I was worried and so excited at the same time, what if I don't pass and I don't get to come to this beautiful school?"

Winrose passed her selection exams and our poverty assessment, and in 2010 she started Form 1 at our Smith Secondary Campus.

With access to resources such as computers, a timetable filled with Maths and Science subjects, long hours spent reading in the fully stocked library and teachers who helped her to really understand new concepts, Winrose felt for the first time that her dreams were within reach.

"It (St Jude's) has made so much difference, because it gave me the assurance that I could achieve my dream, which I never had before (at my government school)," she says. "At St Jude's I am sure, I know that this is my goal and with this path I can reach it!"

Winrose's dream is to become an engineer. She wants to work to develop industries that will empower Tanzanians to shape their future and end the cycle of poverty. After graduating this May with the highest possible result, it's safe to say she is well on her way to achieving her goal.

Following her graduation, Winrose volunteered to be part of a Community Service Year through the Beyond St Jude's program, to give back to her community and to show appreciation for those who supported her during her time at St Jude's.

"Somebody who didn't know me, they had no idea I existed, but they decided to sponsor me - and I decided that I could help other people also, just the way I was helped," she says.

Winrose started her Community Service in July this year, and for the past four months has been volunteering in our St Jude's Marketing team. See her in action by watching her Winrose Wisdom Wednesday segments.

Interested in helping Winrose and Gemma spread the inspiring story of St Jude's next year? Contact tour organiser, Sarah Henry, to plan an event by emailing australia@schoolofstjude.org





Sponsorship changes at St Jude's

In recent months we have been busy making important changes to our sponsorship program that make the journey even smoother for supporters of our school.

The streamlined sponsorship programs allow sponsors to remain on the journey with their sponsored student without experiencing a price change when their sponsored student reaches boarding.

Under the new sponsorship program there are now just three levels of student sponsorship: sole sponsor, co-sponsor and shared sponsor. The previous structure had four levels, with a price change reflecting a student's move to boarding.

School founder Gemma Sisia said the change made it easier for supporters to stay on the journey with their sponsored student.

She said the prices reflected the balance between covering the cost of a student's St Jude's scholarship at a price sponsors from around the world can afford.

"Sponsors are the backbone of everything we achieve at St Jude's," Gemma said. "When I think about how we've been able to come so far - achieving milestones we couldn't have imagined when we opened our school with just three students 14 years ago - I only have one explanation: our sponsors."

New sponsorship packages			Former sponsorship packages			
						
Sole sponsorship	Co-sponsorship	Shared sponsorship	Student In Boarding Full Sponsorship	Student In Boarding Half Sponsorship	Primary Day Student Full Sponsorship	Primary Day Student Half Sponsorship
The sole sponsor of a St Jude's student, regardless of their grade.	Half the cost of sponsoring a student, regardless of their grade.	Part of the cost of sponsoring a student, regardless of their grade.	The sole sponsor of a student in boarding, from Grade 5 to Form 6.	One of two sponsors of a student in boarding, from Grade 5 to Form 6.	The sole sponsor of a day student, from Grade 1 to Grade 4.	One of two sponsors of a day student, from Grade 1 to Grade 4.
\$240 monthly \$2880 annually	\$120 monthly \$1440 annually	\$60 monthly \$720 annually	\$240 monthly \$2880 annually	\$120 monthly \$1440 annually	\$120 monthly \$1440 annually	\$60 monthly \$720 annually





Alex, far right, stands tall with fellow St Jude's students.

Stanford calling: Alex's story

Twelve years ago Alex sat a test that would change his life and put him on the journey out of extreme poverty in Tanzania and into one of the world's most sought-after universities, Stanford. In this essay, Alex remembers the day he sat the test for a St Jude's scholarship and outlines his hopes.

The blazing equatorial sun beat down on the massive crowd in the street. The air was full of dust and the smell of sweat as the multitude of seven-year-old children tried to get near the small entrance gate to the school. My mother was far behind me when I finally reached it. The school askari (gateman) grabbed my shirt, pulled me through the small opening and placed me at the end of a long line. I could barely see the other end of the line where sat a young, neatly dressed white lady with a couple of small books on her lap.

Eventually it was my turn; the lady handed me a basic English reading book. I took a deep breath, and slowly read aloud the opening paragraph. When finished, I looked up and the woman's smile told me that I could now move on to take the math test, which was quite easy. When I came back out of the school gate, my waiting Mama could tell from my face that I had passed the entrance tests.

Thousands of bright Tanzanian youth from very humble backgrounds have passed through this same screening process for entry into The School of St Jude every year for the past 13 years. With admission highly selective I am proud to say that I recently became a member of its very first graduating class. St Jude's provides free, quality education to about 1,800 students. This privilege was a great relief for my single parent mother of

10 children – which may seem a large family, but for my Maasai tribe, it is very normal. Maasai children are often negatively stereotyped as being uneducated, having a future of grazing cattle instead of attending school, and looked down upon for wearing our unique and traditional dress.

But at St Jude's, it was different. Our tribe had acceptance and positive recognition, and we were encouraged to openly sing and teach other students and visitors Maasai songs and do our traditional dances in school assemblies. With the vision of creating future leaders of Tanzania, St Jude's tries to unleash the potential of every student, beyond cultural beliefs and financial status, with a special emphasis on actively serving the community we have come from.

Most young people here are not as fortunate as I to attend a good school; their only option is overcrowded government schools with limited teachers and resources. Volunteer teaching in local government schools was an every weekend priority for me during my time at St Jude's. I particularly loved teaching sciences and Math, helping students to understand complex formulas.

No matter where my future leads me, my St Jude's experience has taught me the importance of accepting all cultures and traditions. But it has also given me the skills to conquer challenges, turning them into stepping stones to bring positive change. As a result of my St Jude's education, I am even more aware today that my greatest challenge is ahead in bringing about positive future change for other young Tanzanians.





C'est la vie for Naomi!

Our new Marketing manager Naomi Hockins is so proud to work at St Jude's she sat down with EthicalJobs.com to tell them all about it. Here's an excerpt from their interview:

So how did you find out about St Jude's?

My husband, who is also a journalist, and I were looking for new experiences along the lines of what EthicalJobs.com.au promotes. I can't recall where we first became aware of the website, but we had signed up to the mailing list and this was where he noticed advertisements for multiple jobs at St Jude's (lucky for us!).

Tell us about The School of St Jude - and what first attracted you to it when you saw the ad on EthicalJobs.com.au.

The School of St Jude provides a free high-quality education to more than 1,800 bright students from the poorest families in the Tanzanian region of Arusha. I'm a big believer in empowering people and there's no better way to do that than education.

When we saw the job ads for St Jude's, it looked like an interesting opportunity to travel and work somewhere we could both benefit from and genuinely help. We had to seriously consider the

loss in wages (we receive a stipend here), but in the end we just decided that we're never going to regret spending a year helping kids in Africa.

And we were right. Not only is Tanzania an amazing country, working at the school is the most fulfilling job I've ever had and we're expecting our first baby in a couple of weeks. It's turned out to be a good move.

And what does your work as Media Relations Officer at The School of St Jude involve?

My first year here entailed plenty of brainstorming and writing for our monthly newsletter, online blog, and internal and external communications. Seeking subjects, topics and information gave me the perfect reason to really get to know people, get to the heart of what this amazing school is all about and show supporters the impact they're making here.

My husband Joe and I originally signed on for a year, and enjoyed it so much we have since signed on for an additional one!

Go online to see the full interview at www.ethicaljobs.com.au/blog/its-the-most-fulfilling-job-ive-ever-had-journalist-naomi-hockins-shares-how-she-ended-up-working-with-kids-in-tanzania

