



The School of St Jude

Fighting poverty
through education



schoolofstjude.org

Annual Report

2016

Message from our founder, Gemma Sisia

Having the chance to reflect on the achievements of another year at St Jude's it's hard to believe that we packed so much in! From setting up a farm at our Smith Secondary Campus and installing solar panels in the boarding houses, to redesigning the St Jude's brand, we are committed to making sure we are in the best possible position to continue long into the future.

After our very first class graduated Form 6 last year and went on to undertake a year's community service, 2016 has been the moment they started their studies at universities across the country. That's one step closer to Tanzania having more doctors, teachers, engineers and leaders to drive change for their country. This year, our graduating class has almost doubled with over 130 successfully completing their education at St Jude's.

Of course, our continued progress could not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our 280+ staff members and the guidance and optimism of the school board and leaders who make sure that we continue to advance and improve, providing the best outcomes we possibly can for our students and graduates.

But my biggest thanks must go to our incredibly generous supporters, who make all this possible.

Thank you!

- Gemma Sisia, Founding Director



Contents

1.0 Our organisation 4

1.1	Our vision	5
1.2	Our mission	5
1.3	Our values	5
1.4	Our history	5
1.5	Our process	6
1.6	Year in review	7

2.0 Our schools 8

2.1	Sisia Primary Campus	9
2.2	Smith Secondary Campus	10
2.3	Primary boarding campus	10
2.4	National Examination Results	11

3.0 Our graduates 13

3.1	Beyond St Jude's	15
-----	------------------	----

4.0 Our people 16

4.1	Academic leaders	18
-----	------------------	----

5.0 Our financials 20

5.1	Spending breakdown	21
5.2	Major projects	22

6.0 Our story 23

6.1	Publicity and promotion	24
6.2	Visitors	26

7.0 Support us 28

7.1	Contacts	29
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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 neediest 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.



1.5 Year in review

Our supporters

4,613

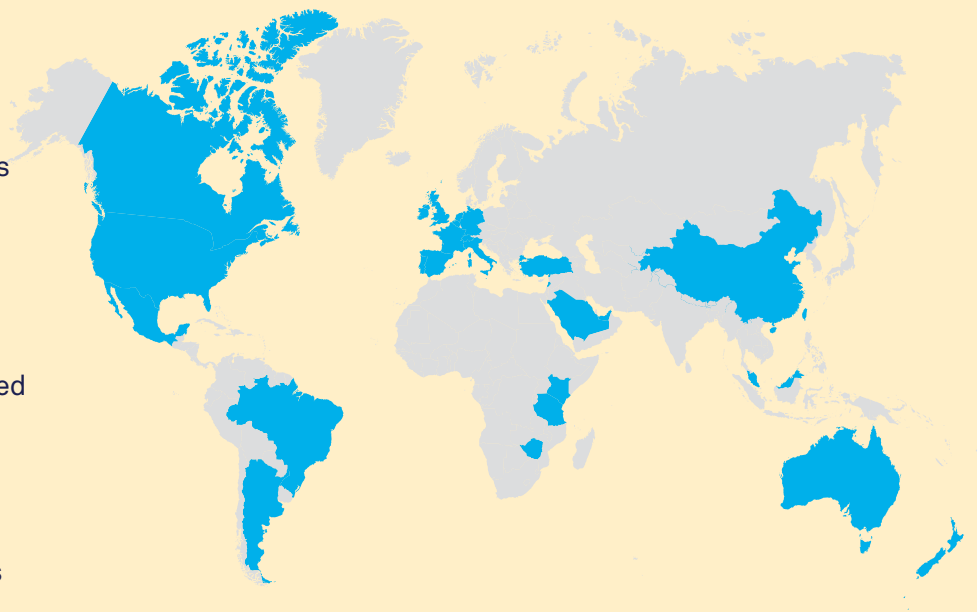
sponsors and donors
fighting poverty

29

countries represented

1,261

international visitors



Our schools



57%

of our students are female

1:16

student to teacher ratio

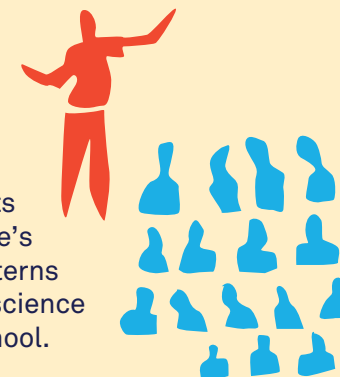
1,914

students enrolled

Beyond St Jude's

10,000+

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



73

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

Our community

AU\$4.9 million

is injected into the Arusha economy each year

93%

of our staff are local Tanzanian / East African





2.0 Our schools





The School of St Jude provides free high-quality education to over 1,800 students each year. Our primary and secondary schools and boarding facilities are located across three campuses. At the beginning of 2016, 1,914 students were enrolled at The School of St Jude. 1,478 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 2016, our primary school campus facilitated the education of 854 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's business administration offices.

2.2 Smith Secondary Campus

Usa River village

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

At the beginning of 2016 our secondary school campus was home to 1,060 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 418 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

1st of 81 schools in the Arumeru district.

2nd of 398 schools in the Arusha region.

Top 0.5% of 11,025 schools in Tanzania.



Grade 7

3rd of 61 schools in the Arumeru district.

6th of 331 schools in the Arusha region.

Top 1% of 8,109 schools in Tanzania.



Form 2

152 St Jude's students sat the Form 2 National Examinations — 146 earned Division One, the highest mark available.

The remaining six students earned Division Two.

Form 4

St Jude's ranked in the top 3% out of 3,280 schools in Tanzania in Form 4 National Examinations – and our ICT students ranked 3rd overall in the nation.



Form 6

More than half of the 131 students who sat the Form 6 National Examinations achieved either Division One or Division Two.

Our commerce students ranked 4th in the nation and our accountancy students ranked 6th in the nation.

The class of 2016 was more than twice the size of our inaugural graduate class. While the majority achieved Division One or Two, the school is reflecting on how to better support students and staff to reach the heights of our accomplishments set in 2015.



A photograph of a group of graduates wearing blue caps and yellow stoles. In the foreground, a young woman with long dark hair is smiling and looking towards the camera. She is wearing a blue cap and a yellow stole. Other graduates are visible in the background, some looking down and others looking forward. The text "3.0 Our graduates" is overlaid on the top left of the image.

3.0 Our graduates



Reflection from one of our graduates

Miriam, 2016 Form 6 graduate joined St Jude's in 2003

Miriam is one of many St Jude's graduates who have succeeded beyond the challenges of poverty and benefitted from the support provided by the school. Her success both at St Jude's and after, embodies the future possibilities for our current students.

"So many girls in Tanzania fall into different traps. They are facing so many problems in life and they can't help themselves. So many women miss out on a lot of opportunities because people do not believe in them. I want to be a different woman, I want to show my fellow African women that we can do so many good things.

My mum never had the opportunity to go to secondary school and she has been through a lot of hardship, raising all seven of us (children) by herself. She was struggling hard for us to live a good life and had to fight for us to eat, be dressed and go to school. My scholarship at St Jude's gave everyone hope.

My mum is an amazing, strong woman but looking at what she has been through, I didn't want to live that life. I was the luckiest to come to St Jude's. What I got here I would never get anywhere else in Tanzania. I have seen what my little brothers have been going through (in government schools), and sometimes they can't even get books. My school time at St Jude's has been like heaven, which is something so many people don't get from their school.

Ten years from today, I'll be a lawyer, a designer, a performer, a wonderful mother and an amazing wife. I'll be an inspirational woman."

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.

.....

In mid-2016, 50 of the 61 inaugural St Jude's graduates completed their Community Service Year. Many of these graduates volunteered as teachers in severely under-resourced government schools where they helped more than 10,000 students.

.....

Upon completion of their Community Service Year, all Beyond St Jude's participants were accepted into higher education courses. Amazingly, the largest cohort opted to study medicine a much-needed career in Tanzania.

.....

Seven St Jude's graduates were accepted into Tanzania's top medical school and one graduate even earned a scholarship to study at Stanford University in America.



4.0 Our people





Academic staff members from Smith Secondary Campus

At the end of 2016, 286 full-time staff members were employed across St Jude's campuses.

More than 93% of our staff are locally hired and all 131 of our academic staff are Tanzanian, ensuring students receive a high-quality and culturally relevant education that will help them meet the needs of their communities.



4.1 Academic leaders

Academic Manager

Nestory Msoffe embodies the passion and determination of the 131 academic staff who have dedicated their careers to educating the future leaders of Tanzania at St Jude's.

Joining our school as a Kiswahili teacher in 2004, Mr Msoffe's passion for addressing the education needs of Tanzania has seen him serve St Jude's in a number of key roles.

He has been Headmaster of our primary and secondary schools, helped establish the Beyond St Jude's program and in 2016, became St Jude's Academic Manager.

"As a Tanzanian youth, I so much desired to emulate leaders like our first president, the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and the late Nelson Mandela, especially in fighting for the suffering and underprivileged populations," Mr Msoffe says.

"That is why St Jude's was the right place to exercise my longtime dream of serving the needy."

In his role as Academic Manager, Mr Msoffe oversees all academic operations and ensures our students are receiving the high-quality education they need to become future leaders of Tanzania.

"What we hope to achieve is excellent academic performance so our students can achieve their dreams and make this world a better place to live in."





Primary school academic leaders

George Stephen

Head Teacher

Jonas Michael

Academic Master

Sebastian Gitbang

Discipline Master

Reginald Mongi

Welfare Deputy

Secondary school academic leaders

Adam Myombe

Headmaster

John Frank

Academic Master

Nzinyangwa Mcharo

Academic Coordinator

Pendo Jeremiah

*Curriculum Registrar
and Girls' Welfare Deputy*





5.0 Our financials

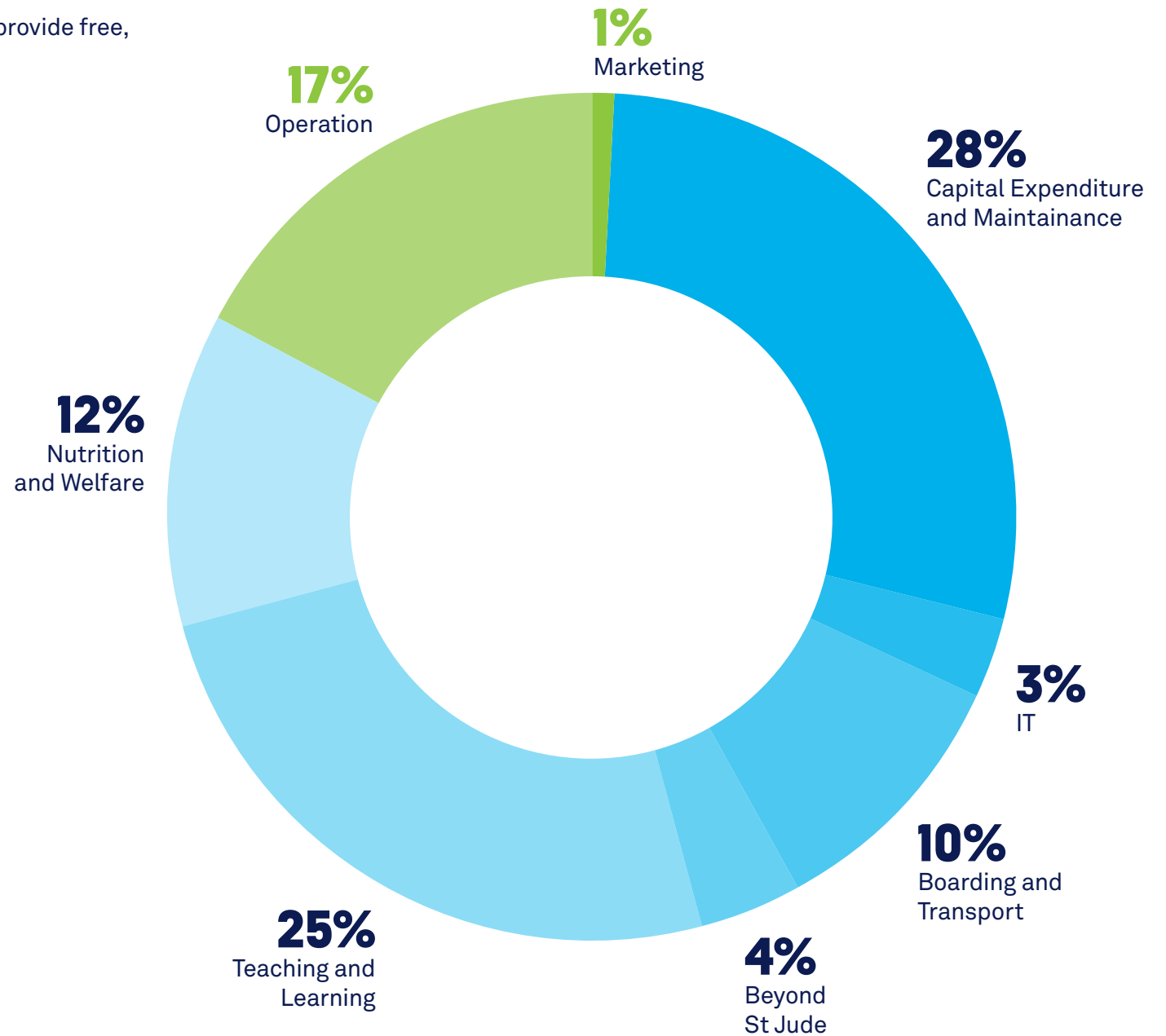
In 2016, The School of St Jude injected AU\$4.9 million into our local economy through purchasing and wages.

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.



5.1 Spending breakdown

In 2016 it cost 8.1 billion Tanzanian shillings to provide free, high-quality education to our students.



5.2 Major projects

This year, we continued our push towards a more sustainable future while improving the existing infrastructure across our campuses.

Smith Secondary Campus farm

This farm will help provide our students with nutritious fruits and vegetables whilst also offering hands-on experience in agriculture, a major industry in Tanzania.

Solar water heater program

Supporters of St Jude's helped us install solar water heaters at our primary and secondary boarding campuses, ensuring our boarding students had access to hot water and reducing costs and reliance on non-renewable energy. This solar water heater program is part of an ongoing push towards sustainability across the entire St Jude's organisation.

Laptop replacement program

In an effort to cut down on electricity consumption, we began replacing all desktop computers with energy-efficient laptops, reducing electricity consumption and reliance on generators.

New 60-seat bus

Our fleet of St Jude's buses grew to 22 with the addition of a new 60-seat bus that helped transport students efficiently and safely to and from school.

St Jude's brand refresh

The talented and generous team at Seesaw Studio in Melbourne, Australia, donated their time and skills to provide The School of St Jude with a pro-bono refresh of our branding and visual identity.



The School of St Jude





6.0 Our story

2016 was a landmark year for sharing the story of The School of St Jude throughout the world.





6.1 Publicity and promotion

60 Minutes profile

In October, a team from Australia's 60 Minutes current affairs program visited The School of St Jude and produced a segment that was seen on more than 800,000 television sets across Australia.





2016 publicity tour

For the first time, St Jude's Founding Director, Gemma Sisia was joined by one of our graduates on her fundraising tour of Australia. In live presentations throughout Australia, as well as television appearances on ABC News Breakfast and Sky News Australia, 2015 graduate Dorice shared her story of how St Jude's helped her family escape poverty.



Rebel Wilson

St Jude's Ambassador and long-standing sponsor, Rebel Wilson, promoted the mission and vision of the school to more than two million followers and fans in 2016 through her growing profile and influence on social media.

6.2 Visitors

Our supporters continue to visit Arusha each year and see St Jude's mission in action. In 2016, 1,185 people from around the world visited our campuses.



A group of nine generous fundraisers with yLead, a youth leadership organisation that has supported St Jude's for many years, visited our school to see firsthand how their efforts are helping students in Tanzania.

January



The connection between Strathcona Baptist Girls Grammar School and St Jude's grew stronger in 2016 as 12 students and two staff shared life and laughs with our school community.

March



St Joseph's College in Sydney became the first boys' school to visit St Jude's. Eighteen students and three staff took part in a range of educational and recreational activities that included a friendly inter-school touch rugby game.

April



Forty sponsors from around the world visited St Jude's to see their sponsored students reach the milestone of Form 6 Graduation.

May



A group of 21 students from Moreton Bay Boys College in Brisbane stopped by our school to meet our students and find out more about St Jude's.

Newly appointed Australian High Commissioner to Kenya, John Feakes, whose responsibilities extend to Tanzania, visited St Jude's to meet our students and see the life changing opportunities created by Australian generosity.

July



Our students celebrated the repeat visits of 12 students and three staff from Methodist Ladies' College in Melbourne as well 15 students and two staff from Pymble Ladies' College in Sydney.

September



Our school proudly welcomed a group from St Vincent's College in Sydney, the alma mater of St Jude's Founding Director, Gemma Sisia. 16 students and two staff ended the year with fond memories and a little Swahili.

A group of 42 generous young Australians, who raised money through the Global Immersion program, visited St Jude's to meet the students they had raised money to support.

December





7.0 Support us

Whether you sponsor, donate
or spread the word—thank you!

Together we are fighting
poverty through education.





7.1 Contact Us

Events and fundraising

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Donations

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Rotary

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Call Tanzania

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To share in the good news find us on social media



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



schoolofstjude.org



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