



**MMEG
Annual Report
FY19**

Empowering women

**MARGARET
MCNAMARA**
EDUCATION GRANTS

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Message from the President

Dear Friends of MMEG,

What a terrific year this has been for Margaret McNamara Education Grants! We continue to support extraordinary women in their pursuit of university degrees.

This year we provided US\$293,000 in grants to support 30 deserving and inspiring women – some of whom are showcased in this report.

We strengthened and built relationships with institutions and grantees and were visited by six grantees during the year who testify to the positive impact that we have had in their lives. Please visit our website www.mmeg.org for updated information on grantee visits and activities.

We feel fortunate that our support from donors surpassed our fundraising goal for the year!

Our volunteers and staff work hard throughout the year to raise funds, strengthen partnerships with organizations and alumnae and review applications. Our inaugural training event for the grantee Selection Committee members provided an opportunity for the four committees for -- Latin America, South Africa, US/Canada and Trinity programs-- to harmonize existing processes and systems

Thank you for your commitment to MMEG!

Please donate; volunteer; follow us on social media (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn); visit our website; and shop at the Fair to be held on **November 12, 13 and 14.**

Your support enables us to identify and encourage extraordinary women to improve the well-being of our societies!

Reiko Niimi
President

SUPPORTING WOMEN FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES



Margaret McNamara Education Grants (MMEG) is a volunteer-led public charity established to award education grants to exceptional women from developing countries who are committed to improving the lives of women and children.

MMEG believes that supporting women's education is a critical investment that yields definitively positive outcomes. Our grantees are at least 25 years old and enrolled at accredited universities in the United States and Canada as well as at selected universities in South Africa and Latin America. Application criteria and deadlines are posted on our website www.mmeg.org

MMEG is a 501(c)(3) public charity, founded to recognize Margaret McNamara for her tireless dedication to the education of women and children, before and while her husband, Robert McNamara, was President of the World Bank (1968-1981). This recognition and our 38-year history stand as legacies to her memory and work toward women's empowerment; so does her establishment of the literacy organization, Reading is FUNDamental in 1966 and her receipt of the highest civilian distinction in the United States, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.





■ SUPPORT

This fiscal year, 30 grantees were selected from a pool of some 550 applicants. They were awarded US\$293,000 in grants across North America, Latin America and Africa. The grantees come from 18 countries and their names, respective nationalities, and fields of study follow in this report. To-date the total of education grants provided by MMEG is more than US\$3.6 million for 416 grants.

■ GRANTEES

Grantees are at least 25 years old and enrolled at accredited universities in the United States and Canada as well as at select universities in South Africa and Latin America. They are generally expected to return to a developing country upon completion of their studies. (Application criteria and deadlines are posted on our website mmeg.org.)

150+

VOLUNTEERS

Around 150 MMEG volunteers work all year to support program operations and fundraising activities. We manage the annual solicitation campaign, social media accounts, and databases of donors, alumnae and volunteers.

Our volunteers engage in special events and other fundraising activities, the biggest of which is the annual MMEG Arts & Crafts Fair, which requires months of preparation and organization (and will be held **November 12, 13 & 14** this year).

Some of us sit on the Board of Directors; and others comprise the Selection Committees which review, rank, and recommend grantees for the four programs.

416

GRANTS

MEET SOME FY19 GRANTEES



ANDREA MATAMOROS

Andrea (25) who is working toward a master’s degree in Human Development at FLACSO Argentina, is a legal adviser to female victims of gender-based violence. Her goal is to work in public policy planning to increase gender equality and provide freedom from violence in women’s lives. “Every woman touches my mind and heart,” she says.

MAYRA DIAZ LOPEZ

Mayra (27) is studying for her master’s degree in Production and Operations Management at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. As an industrial engineer, Mayra’s approach to improving the life of women and children in Colombia takes the form of creating micro companies to process a local fruit, araza, into marketable pulp in the marginalized area of Caqueta, Colombia.



RENATA BARRIERE

Renata (28) of El Salvador, is studying for a master’s degree in Public Policy at Universidad Catolica del Peru. She was ‘moved to become an architect with a social conscience’ and has worked to improve the lives of vulnerable communities by building emergency housing and supportive infrastructure in Peru.





ASHA ASOKAN

Asha (38) from India is pursuing a master's degree in International Community Development at Duke University. She worked in South Sudan as a child protection officer and focuses on bringing women and young people into the decision-making peace process in conflict-affected countries. Asha is the grantee named in recognition of the Bank-Fund Staff Federal Credit Union's support to MMEG.

HANNAH ODURO-OBENG

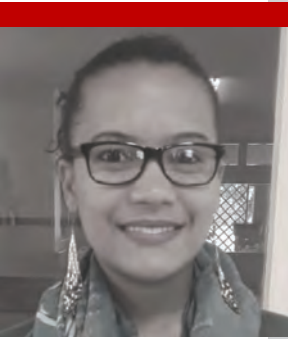
At the University of Manitoba, Hannah (34) focuses her PhD work on fighting malnutrition by identifying ways to enrich cereal grains and optimize cooking methods to maximize food's nutritional value. She plans to develop cooking and training programs in nutrition for women and children in her home country, Ghana.



MARY KATSUIIME

Mary (26) of Uganda is studying Medical Virology at the University of Stellenbosch, South Africa. Her research on HIV in early-treated children will affect communities and improve the lives of vulnerable population groups--mainly children with HIV and women and children susceptible to other infectious diseases. Mary plans to use her grant for student "survival"--to cover basic costs such as food and housing as well as to support research.





SAMANTHA ADAMS

Samantha (31) of South Africa is an occupational therapist who is studying for her master's degree in Global Health at the University of Stellenbosch in order to provide more support to women, particularly mothers of kids with intellectual disabilities, so that employment opportunities and outcomes are enhanced for those children.

KIONNA BUSH

At Trinity Washington University in DC, Kionna (31) is undertaking a degree in Health Services. While pursuing her career in health care as a full-time student, Kionna works in administration at a local church, volunteers, and is raising three children. Kionna's goal is to continue work in healthcare advocacy and close the communication gap that exists between health care practitioners and female patients.



MARWA RAMADAN

Marwa (31) of Egypt is working on a PhD in Public Health at Johns Hopkins University to study the effect of conflict on reproductive, maternal, and newborn health. Her dissertation is on reproductive, maternal and newborn health indicators in conflict situations and developing appropriate humanitarian interventions.



MMEG GRANTEES IN FY19

Name	Nationality	Degree	Field of Study
Latin America Program			
Andrea A. Matamoros Carbajal	El Salvador	Master's	Human Development
Erika Leguizamón Suarez	Colombia	Master's	Social Anthropology
Mayra Steffani Diaz Lopez	Colombia	Master's	Economics
Sindy Castillo Alvarez de Juárez	Guatemala	Master's	Public Policy
Montserrat Valdivia Ramirez	Mexico	Master's	Public Policy-Migration
Natalie Fabiola Garin Vega	Peru	Master's	Public Policy
Renata Barriere Garcia	El Salvador	Master's	Social Management
Yina Rivera	Peru	Doctorate	Educational Anthropology
Alma Angelica Cortés Lezama	Mexico	Doctorate	Culture & Fine Arts / Graphic Design
Rosa Ajtún Canel	Guatemala	Master's	Childhood& Adolescent Development
South Africa Program			
Aline Aurore Niyibizi	Rwanda	Master's	Obstetrics and Gynecology
Chipo Mushota Nkhata	Zambia	Doctorate	Human Rights Law
Elizabeth Anokyeaa Sarfo	Ghana	Doctorate	Psychology
Jessica Jeanne Tyrrell	South Africa	Master's	Environmental Humanities
Mary Grace Kato Katusiime	Uganda	Doctorate	Medical Virology
Nina Callaghan	South Africa	Master's	Sustainable Development
Priscilla Isabel Maliwichi	Malawi	Doctorate	Health Information Systems
Regina Esinam Abotsi	Ghana	Doctorate	Medical Microbiology
Samantha Adams	South Africa	Master's	Global Health
US-Canada Program			
Oluwakemi Amodu	Nigeria	Doctorate	Nursing/Women's Health
Asha Asokan*	India	Master's	International Community Development
Tegemea Mwalingo	Tanzania	Doctorate	Medicine/Nursing
Miryam Nacimiento	Peru	Doctorate	Cultural Anthropology
Onyenefu Obekpa	Nigeria	Doctorate	Public Health
Hannah Oduro-Obeng	Ghana	Doctorate	Agriculture
Marwa Ramadan	Egypt	Doctorate	Public Health
Sofia Salas	Colombia	Master's	Public Administration
Glorieuse Uwizeye	Rwanda	Doctorate	Medicine/Nursing
Trinity Program			
Kionna de Amaya	USA	Bachelor's	Health Services with Sociology Minor
Elisia George*	St. Lucia	Bachelor's	Nursing

* In FY19, Asha Asokan received the Bank-Fund Staff Federal Credit Union grant, and Elisia George received the IMF Giving Together grant.



MARGARET
MCNAMARA
EDUCATION GRANTS

International
Arts & Crafts

FAIR

November
12, 13, 14 2019
10 am - 5pm

World Bank
Main Complex
1818 H St NW
Washington DC



WORLD BANK
FAMILY NETWORK



Open to the public with Photo ID

MMEG ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

MMEG's hallmark fundraising and awareness-building activity is the annual MMEG Arts & Crafts Fair. Staged in November to provide shoppers with an early and ready source of holiday gifts, the Fair provides three full days of opportunity to shop the wares of 57 vendors whose goods include clothing, handcrafted jewelry, decorative items, artisanal food items, and bath and beauty products.



Bargain hunters can find treasures at the MMEG White Elephant table where gently-used decorative, household, jewelry and clothing items are sold.

The annual Fair, held at the World Bank's Main Complex, requires months of preparation and the involvement of some 110 volunteers to stage, run, and dismantle. The monies raised through sales at the Fair underwrite some five to nine grants every year.

SAVE THE DATE!

Please plan shopping at the Fair on **November 12, 13 or 14** this year, and do contact us at if you would like to volunteer or have items to donate!



SPECIAL EVENTS: MMEG GRANTEES WORK FOR PEACE

PEACEBUILDERS IN CONFLICT ZONES



Singmila Shimrah
Karen Mathiasen
Lima Ahmad

In April, MMEG hosted an alumnae discussion on “Why We Need Women Peacebuilders in Conflict Zones” featuring recent grantees, Lima Ahmad and Singmila Shimrah. Both women work to create and sustain peace in conflict-afflicted communities in their home regions (respectively, Afghanistan and Nagaland).

Moderated by Karen Mathiasen, a former U.S. Executive Director of the World Bank Group, the discussion focused on the profoundly positive influence of women in the peace-building process; when women are involved, peace tends to persist 30% longer.

Lima, an FY18 MMEG grantee said that the impetus for her studies comes from having lost some 50 friends and relatives in conflict in Afghanistan.

WHEN WOMEN ARE INVOLVED, PEACE TENDS TO PERSIST 30 % LONGER.

She has worked to systematically involve Afghani women in the peace process, on land reform issues and in improving the prison system for females. Her goal is to ensure that security and peace-building efforts include women at the bargaining table, not as token participants “at the door, doing security.” Lima is currently in a PhD program in International Relations and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School, Tufts University.



Asha Asokan,
MMEG FY19 grantee

Singmila, who received a MMEG grant in FY17, spoke about how her job as a social worker led her away from the medical career her family wished for her, into her passionate involvement in peacebuilding and support for Naga women. Singmila is in a doctoral program at George Mason University for International Relations and Diplomacy; she is specializing in conflict analysis and resolution, especially as it relates to Naga women’s participation in conflict resolution to enable more durable peace in South Asia.



Singmila Shimrah,
MMEG FY17 grantee

Also attending the discussion was Asha Asokan, a newly-minted, FY19 grant recipient studying conflict resolution at Duke University.

GRANTEE VISIT

VALERIA NEH ANGU (FY18)

MMEG was delighted to welcome visits and interact with grantees over the fiscal year. In April, Valeria Neh Angu came to Washington DC. A native of Cameroon, Valeria received a MMEG grant in 2018 to complete her master’s degree in Health Science, specializing in Community and Global Health at Clark University in Massachusetts.



Valeria Neh Angu, MMEG FY18 grantee

Valeria's story is one of overcoming family antipathy toward education for women, and a lack of resources in putting herself through college (including roadside doughnut selling). She then worked in community and livelihood development with Heifer International and a local activist group -- Women in Action Against Gender-based Violence.

Valeria decided to pursue her passion and work in the broader area of global health and women's empowerment and marshalled resources (such as our grant) to pursue higher education. Please visit www.mmeg.org under News to read more about Valeria's journey and her high hopes for her two daughters.

GRANTEE VISIT

VIDA YAKONG (FY09)

Vida Yakong included MMEG in a North America visit and recounted her success in founding Project Ghana Rural Opportunities for Women (GROW) in the north of her country. It is a nonprofit focusing on maternal and child health in rural settings and building educational and economic capacity for rural women.

When asked why they were not accessing health clinics, the women in northern Ghana told Vida that poverty was the main impediment. These women believed that microloans, plows, goats, grinding mills, water barrels, mosquito nets, and donkeys would help build self-sufficiency.

GROW tries to supply these simple goods and services and uses community-based strategies for poverty alleviation and women's empowerment.



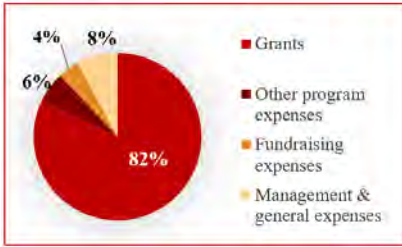
Vida Yakong,
MMEG FY09 grantee

It also establishes and runs vocational and literacy programs, supports schools, and provides medical clinics and nurses' accommodations. MMEG awarded Vida a grant in 2009 while she was studying medical anthropology at University of British Columbia, Okanagan campus.

She is now the Head of Department of Midwifery at the School of Allied Health Sciences at University for Development Studies in Ghana.

MMEG FACTS AND FIGURES

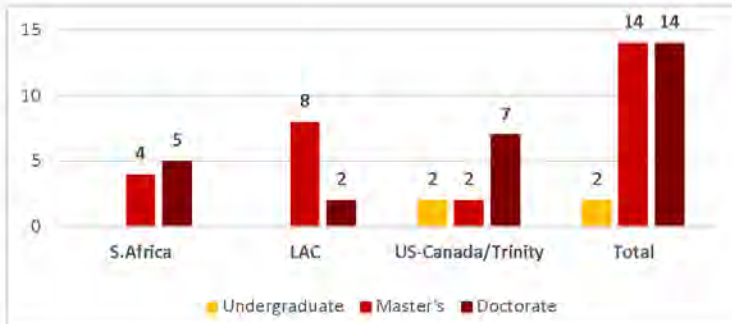
Grants and other expenses



Distribution of grants

Programs	Amount (US\$)
US/Canada (9 grants)	135,000
South Africa (9 grants)	63,000
Latin America (10 grants)	70,000
Trinity (2 grants)	15,000
Total	283,000

MMEG grantees by degree



Of the FY19 MMEG cohort of 30, two grantees are studying for their bachelor's degrees, fourteen for their master's degrees, and fourteen are pursuing doctoral studies.

These grantees are working and studying in diverse fields, the majority of which are clustered around health and medicine such as nursing, psychology, medical virology, human development, occupational therapy, and public health. Another cluster of grantees are in the social sciences, pursuing degrees in public policy, educational anthropology and social development.

Others are working on degrees in agriculture and environmental studies.

The MMEG partnership with Trinity Washington University addresses the financial needs of women students in the Washington DC neighborhood of the MMEG secretariat, and does not have nationality requirements. These grantees are not expected to work directly in a developing country upon graduation. The most important criterion for their selection is their past, present, and future commitment to working on behalf of women and children.

MMEG FINANCING

	FY18*	FY19*
	(\$ thousand)	
Revenue and Contributions		
Cash donations	128	139
Special fund-raising events	70	66
In-kind contributions	96	64
Net investment income	142	33
Disposal of assets	(6)	-
Total revenues and support	430	302
Expenses (including in-kind)		
Grants expenses	370	316
Fundraising expenses	61	49
General and administrative	70	45
Total expenses	501	410
	(71)	(108)
Change in net assets		
Net assets at the beginning of year	2,151	2,080
Net assets at the end of year	2,080	1,973
of which: Operating reserve	400	400
Development reserve	40	40

MMEG financing comes from a large base of individual donors, small family foundations, and corporate donors. In addition to the significant amount of time contributed by volunteers, MMEG received \$269,000 in cash donations, in-kind support, and revenue from the annual Arts & Crafts Fair in fiscal 2019. A total of \$283,000 was awarded to 30 grantees, constituting 82% of total cash expenditures.

*The MMEG fiscal year begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.

Unrestricted net assets stood at \$1.97 million at the end of the year, of which \$440,000 comprises reserves.

Non-monetary (in-kind) contributions added \$64,153 and include office space, communications, printing, administrative and event support from the World Bank Group and pro-bono legal advice from WilmerHale.

MMEG also benefits from the significant amounts of time contributed by more than 150 volunteers in managing and implementing its programs.

Full audited financial statements are available upon request.

PARTNERSHIPS AND SPECIAL THANKS

This year, MMEG continued to work with key partners for support and grantee recruitment. Board members met with Sarah Archer, the Director of Fundraising of Stellenbosch University during her tour of the United States to raise the profile of the South African college and better establish alumni networks. Archer's visit was reciprocated by one of our Board members, Madeleine de Kock, who visited all of the universities partnering with us in our South Africa program (the Universities of Cape Town, Pretoria and the Witwatersrand and Stellenbosch). In Washington, Board members visited faculty and administration of Trinity Washington University to enhance existing ties and promote MMEG to matriculating students.

During the year, MMEG Board members also strengthened ties and coordinated efforts with the InterAmerican Development Bank (IDB), through both the IDB Family Association and Credit Union. When the IDBFA members learned about our four programs, grant monies awarded annually, and fund-raising activities, they took a keen interest in MMEG and offered financial support.

IDBFA board members joined us to hear the presentation of our Latin America Program Selection



Committee and pledged to fund a grant with MMEG as their social welfare cause for the year. The IDBFA sponsored a luncheon for members at their Bethesda location with 2017 Grantee Mariela Escobedo who introduced MMEG to the IDBFA by recounting her own experience. Having believed that she would never be able to finish high school, Mariela overcame cultural and funding barriers to get where she is today, pursuing a PhD degree in Education. Her studies focus on the barriers to the involvement of indigenous women in higher education in Mexico.

The IDBFA sponsored a second lunch at IDB headquarters in downtown DC to support MMEG. In concert with Guckenheimer Food Service providers, this Peruvian-themed lunch generated an overwhelmingly generous response from IDB staffers. More than three hundred meals were served, with proceeds benefiting the funding of a MMEG grant.

FRIENDS OF MMEG

In addition to the many volunteers whose contribution of time is invaluable, and the generous donors who choose to remain Anonymous, we would like to acknowledge and thank the following who supported MMEG with direct contributions over the fiscal year:

BENEFACTORS

Ted Ahlers and Barbara Ormond
Bank Fund Staff Federal Credit
Union
John Blaxall
Brigid Holleran
Lori and Ozgur Karaosmanoglu
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Margaret Mendelsohn
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IN MEMORY OF

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Retha de Kock
WilmerHale -- Barbara Kirschten Esq.
World Bank Group
World Bank Family Network (WBFN)
Yuka Shikina

In addition to these partnerships, MMEG gives special thanks for support of our Annual Fundraising Campaign to the...

- WBG Community Outreach Program and Community Connections Campaign
- IMF Giving Together Program
- Bank-Fund Staff Federal Credit Union

and, for ongoing support throughout the year, to...

- WBFN Executive Committee and volunteers
- WBFN staff-Catherine M. Mathieu, Mimi Besha, and Paul Corsi



MMEG FY13 grantees

GRANTEES' UNIVERSITIES IN FY19

Our congratulations to the universities that have our grantees as registered students this year. MMEG grantees are furthering their education in 17 universities located on three continents.

USA -Canada and Trinity Programs

City University of New York
Duke University
Harvard University
Johns Hopkins University
Trinity Washington University
University of Alberta
University of Illinois at Chicago
University of Manitoba
University of Massachusetts at Amherst
University of Texas

Latin America Program

FLACSO*, Argentina
Universidad Catolica del Peru
Universidad Iberoamericana
Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Universidad Rafael Landivar

South Africa Program

Stellenbosch University
University of Cape Town

*Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales



Ly Thuy Vi, MMEG FY18 grantee

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Claudia Gualteros (Colombia)

Coordinator:

Pelin Tekneci (Turkey)

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT MMEG?

Make a direct contribution

Your support enables us to make a difference in the lives of grantees! Become or continue being a friend of MMEG in at least one of the following ways.

- By **check**, payable to “MMEG” and mail to: MMEG 1818 H Street NW, MSN J2-202 Washington D.C. 20433 USA.
- **Electronic donation** options: Venmo to MMEG; Paypal to <mmeg@worldbank.org>
- By **credit card**, on our website: mmeg.org/donate/
- You can also name MMEG as a beneficiary of your estate or life insurance policy.

Donate through CCC or Giving Together Program

Staff and retirees can donate through the World Bank Community Connections Campaign or the IMF Giving Together Program.

Donate through AmazonSmile

When you shop through Amazon, use AmazonSmile (<https://smile.amazon.com/>) and designate Margaret McNamara Education Grants as the charitable organization of your choice. At no extra cost to you, 0.5% of your purchase will benefit us.



Give us your foreign coins!

In concert with the Bank-Fund Staff Federal Credit Union, we continue to collect surplus foreign coins.

Please donate your foreign coins in MMEG boxes located in all BFSFCU branches. This year we received approximately US\$2,400 from donated foreign coins and currency--every little bit adds up to increased capacity for MMEG grants!



Follow us on social media!

Our volunteer communications team has greatly amplified our presence on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Use these platforms to keep abreast of MMEG grantees and events!



VOLUNTEERING

OPPORTUNITIES AT MMEG



MMEG Arts & Crafts Fair



Grantee selection committees



Media and data management teams





Margaret McNamara Education Grants is a volunteer-led public charity. We rely on the generosity of volunteers to raise funds for grants and to run the four successful programs that benefits some 30 grantees each year.

We need donations for the MMEG 'white elephant' and gourmet tables at the annual Arts & Crafts Fair, and volunteers to help us during the days of the Fair.

We also need volunteers to read grantee applications on our selection committees; to work year-round on our media or data management teams; and to champion us by helping to spread the word about our mission, our work and our fabulous grantees. (For more information, visit [www.mmeg.org/volunteering/.](http://www.mmeg.org/volunteering/))



**Thank you for
supporting
Extraordinary
Women!**

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