

## The “Be a Partner Be EDOU Ambassador” Campaign

*Come, let's transform lives together*

### About us

Education & Development Opportunity – Uganda (EDOU) is a charity incorporated and operating in Uganda since 2009. Founded by award-winning women’s rights campaigner<sup>i</sup>, Brian Mutebi, EDOU’s mission is to transform lives. We award education scholarships to orphaned and vulnerable children, and empower and advocate for the rights and wellbeing of girls and women. Our work is deeply rooted in our strong conviction in engaging key actors in policy and decision making, taking up the case of strangers, being a father to the fatherless and upholding man’s primary responsibility of serving humanity, which gives us and our partners opportunity to transform lives.

### Access to Education in Uganda: *Conceiving the Dream*

“Orphaned at 10 and brought up by my peasant grandmother, I nearly dropped out of school when my grandmother could no longer afford the cost of my education. Along this difficult journey, however, I met Good Samaritans who held my hand up. Thanks to their support through school, I became the first graduate in my village in 2007! My journey of grace had made me understand everyone needs a hand extended to them so they could realise their dreams. I wanted to do something that would make a real difference in the lives of people. I conceived a Dream. It was a joyful burden on my heart – joyful because the thought of transforming lives was pleasant to the mind yet a burden because I didn’t know how it would turn into a life-transforming reality. A pen and paper, I had; I wrote down my dream. Convinced that education is key to transforming lives, in 2012, I sold my land worth \$1,500 and started the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund<sup>ii</sup> for girls at-risk, violence survivors and orphans.”

### Our Impact: *Her Story*

The Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund has provided scholarships to **40 girls and 10 boys** in primary and secondary schools<sup>iii</sup> and at university. Our goal is to provide opportunities to primarily girls to **flourish** by ending child marriage in Uganda where 40% of girls are married off underage.

**Lisa**, 25, lived with her mother, a single mother who struggled to take care of her and her 3 siblings. Her father abandoned them in a rented house in a Kampala slum. “Knowing that my mother could not afford to pay for my university education, I looked up for scholarships. There is no single lead that I did not follow but all in vain. I had lost all hope until the opportunity came through the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship Fund. I have never been so excited,” Lisa said. In 2015, Lisa, a GBV survivor, was the first university recipient of the Brian Mutebi Dream scholarship<sup>iv</sup>. In January 2020, she graduated from Makerere University with a Bachelor of Laws. She wants to defend poor women in courts of law.

*The World Bank estimates that Uganda could save up to USD3 billion by 2030 if child marriages were eliminated, and the country’s productivity would be much higher if girls delayed marriage to the 20s and acquired a skill and worked\*.*

**Margaret** is a 20-year-old who was at risk of being married off after she and her three brothers dropped out of school for lack of school fees. Her parents are peasants in rural Uganda, and her mother was

terminally ill for two years, which drained the meagre family incomes. “The piece of land we leased from a neighbour was too small to farm to get school fees. My relatives suggested to my parents that I should be married off saying that it was a waste of money in the first place to take me to school that far. Luckily, I got a scholarship from Education & Development Opportunity - Uganda; it was God-sent! Now I have a bright future ahead of me,” she said. Margaret was awarded the Brian Mutebi Dream Scholarship in 2019, and in 2021 excelled in her end-of-high-school exams. She is set to join university in 2022.

*In Uganda, one in four girls aged 15-19 years is either pregnant or had a baby. Only one in 10 girls is able to return to school after giving birth but married off where they face a higher risk of domestic violence<sup>vi</sup>.*

### **Be a Partner, Be EDOU Ambassador:** *Connect Willing Hearts to the Need*

In 2019, we marked 10 years of transforming lives in Uganda<sup>vii</sup>. The task however is too big to handle singlehandedly. The “Be a Partner Be EDOU Ambassador” Campaign seeks to mobilize partners in individuals and institutions to share in our Dream of transforming lives in Uganda. A Partner is he who donates to the Fund through which scholarships are awarded and *Girls Dreams Labs* are facilitated. Ambassadors share this cause with people in their networks and urge them to support our work. Ambassadors connect willing hearts to the area of practical need.

We seek Partners and Ambassadors in the United States, Canada, Germany, United Kingdom, Norway, Sweden, Finland, The Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Australia, New Zealand, Poland, Denmark, Italy, Ireland, France, Poland, Estonia, Hungary, Georgia, Portugal, Luxemburg, South Korea and Japan. Ambassadors will assist:

- Contact individuals, families, churches, philanthropists and urge them to donate to the charity.
- Engage the media (mainstream and social) and leverage its power to promote the charity.
- Organize fundraising events in their counties, cities, states or countries.
- Seek corporate sponsorships through Corporate Social Responsibility.
- Connect platforms where scholarship recipients can share their stories to a global audience.
- Incorporate the charity in their respective states or countries.
- Organize the Uganda-Charity Tours where Partners and Ambassadors will annually visit Uganda to experience firsthand how their donations are transforming lives.

Partners and Ambassadors will be recognized on various platforms including the EDOU’s Wall of Good Samaritans, documentaries, newspaper articles, reports and events including the annual International Day of the Girl Child (October 11) and the Day of the African Child (June 16).

### **Where Donations Go**

- Award scholarship to girls at-risk, violence survivors and orphans in secondary schools and at university. Sponsoring a student in secondary school is at \$1500 per year, while sponsoring a student at university doing an arts course is \$2,000 and \$2,500 for science-based courses per year. The scholarships cover tuition, scholarship materials, meals and accommodation, and functional fees such as ICT and research fees. Scholarships take 70% of donations.
- We provide services to girls and communities in effort to end child marriage, teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence. We hold community meetings with parents, caretakers

and community gatekeepers, and through convenings otherwise known as *Girl Dreams Labs*, offer career guidance, build girls' esteem, awareness, menstruation hygiene management, among others, reaching out to more students than the number of scholarship recipients. Community meetings and *Girls Dreams Labs* take 20% of the donations.

- Administration expenses include office rent, electricity and water bills, staff salaries and volunteer facilitation, which take 10% of the donations.

## Knowledge Management

We apply a robust knowledge management framework involving documentation of performance, rapporteur of *Girls Dreams Lab* sessions and narrative documentation of project activities, experiences of participants, challenges, impact, key learnings and best practices, and share reports with partners. We utilise the media – both mainstream and social<sup>viii</sup> to share the impact of our work, with due consideration of the rights to privacy of beneficiaries, according to our Child Protection Policy.

## Management and Governance

EDOU is governed by a Board of Directors, comprised of the charity's founding directors. The Board is advised by the Advisory Council comprised of experienced professionals in management, finance and development work. The Board supervises the Management Team headed by the Executive Director. To ensure that we live to the promise of being good stewards of peoples' generosity, generally accepted accounting principles are followed, in accordance with our core values of Accountability and Integrity. EDOU's books of accounts are audited by independent external auditors who are given autonomy to exercise their duties and express professional opinion on the financial statement of the organization. Audit reports are shared with our partners.

## Make Your Donation

Account Name: Education & Development Opportunity – Uganda | Account No. 02032160000

Sort Code: 13 02 47 | Swift code: AFRIUGKA | Bank of Africa Uganda Limited, Equatoria Branch.

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<sup>i</sup> From the jaws of poverty to a women's rights campaigner <https://bit.ly/2IdwjpI>

<sup>ii</sup> The man who sold his land to educate women <http://bit.ly/1t6upiA>

<sup>iii</sup> Mutebi Plans to Change Uganda One Child at a Time <https://bit.ly/3xxDMtP>

<sup>iv</sup> "I had no hope for university education" <http://bit.ly/29QJBZw>

<sup>v</sup> Ending child marriages could generate \$3 billion for Uganda <https://bit.ly/3kSqMtK>

<sup>vi</sup> Uganda Health Demographic Survey 2016 <https://bit.ly/3taafoK>

<sup>vii</sup> 10 years of transforming lives in Uganda <https://edouganda.org/our-impact>

<sup>viii</sup> Facebook [www.facebook.com/DreamEDOU](http://www.facebook.com/DreamEDOU); Twitter @DreamEDOU