

ScholarShop Africa

Year 4 2019-2020

Resumption of ScholarShop during civil unrest....



Picture: Jelanie Sule working his first nightshift during his internship. Jelanie is one of eight ScholarShop scholars who were able to continue their education after being relocated. Jelanie chose to become a nurse and took 1st amongst his peers.

Oooof, what a whirlwind the past two years have been. From the start of a civil war to the worst pandemic in a century, ScholarShop Africa, has made many changes to keep up with the new normal. With all things in life, however, one must persevere and keep putting one foot in front of the other. No matter how hard, small, or painful that step may be forward progress is essential. In 2018, as a cause of civil unrest, ScholarShop Africa had to make the difficult decision to halt operations. Going to the drawing board the program was re-envisioned and in August 2019 we rolled out two new programs. One still in Cameroon working with Internally Displaced Persons (IDPS) helping them continue their education via trade or school and the second taking the program to Ghana where we began a pilot poultry program. Regarding the IDPs who were displaced we selected 8 scholars within four different regions of the country. In Ghana we began at one boarding school. Continue reading to learn about the two new additions of ScholarShop Africa.

What's new with ScholarShop Africa?



Ghana

Picture: Poultry built for ScholarShop Africa- Ghana

Beginning in 2019, Jacob Moore, ScholarShop Africa's co-founder moved to Ghana. With ScholarShop Cameroon on hold due to the civil unrest and ScholarShop's ten year to plan to be operating in three countries the opportunity to begin ScholarShop in Ghana presented itself. Doing research into the local school and education system in Ghana, ScholarShop remodeled its program. The local high school is both a technical/vocational school and a regular high school. boarding schools and students travel from afar to attend class.

A cause of the country's unique boarding status one of ScholarShop's core reward systems, parental involvement, will be difficult to obtain. Thus, the executive team edited its manual to be more in line with Ghana's education and the locality.

Ghana meat is relatively expensive and roughly 70-90% of its poultry is imported. Within Ghana's education system students learn animal husbandry, in theory, but not practically. With ScholarShop's revised course, business/entrepreneurship is still taught, but with a focus on poultry. This allows students to specialize in a program where demand and practicality is high. Throughout the program students will propose a budget of start-up costs, fixed costs, and running

learning ins and outs of a poultry. Through feasibility studies students will learn whether layers or broilers will have a higher demand in the municipality. As always ScholarShop tries to work as locally as possible, and the local vet planned to teach courses on proper vaccination and provide the vaccines. At the end of the program the students finish with a poster board presentation judged by a local community panel with the winning team receiving a prize.

Unfortunately, due to the pandemic and the cancellation of courses ScholarShop had to postpone the program. The program hopes to resume sometime in the near future.



Jelanie

Top to Bottom:
Jelanie writing down patient records
on his first night shift
Jelanie holding his Nursing Degree

Hear from Jelanie

Jelani has been with the ScholarShop program since the beginning. Knowing the importance of education, he has not let marriage, children, and age stop him from receiving a high school diploma and nursing degree. Even with the civil unrest in Cameroon, moving his family of five, he graduated at the age of 28, while working as a motorcycle taxi to feed his family.

With ScholarShop generous donors, Jelanie, was able to attend nursing school graduating top of his class.

“My passion for nursing is matched only by my love for children, so my decision to specialize in Pediatrics comes from the heart. Once again, thank you for the vote of confidence and the nursing school scholarship. I am committed to my education and to the health care field, and one step closer to becoming a Nurse, thanks to your continued generosity and ScholarShop. It's with due respect I write to you this morning to express my gratitude for the support you and your team are giving me. To cut the long story short, I am full of joy as I begin to feel the impact of my studies,

Today I was inspired when I was given the opportunity to assist the Doctor during a surgery which gives me the chance to blend theory into practical. Actually, I am so happy, and I thank you a million times. I promise to make a difference.



Joraitu

Joraitu has defied all odds and cultural pressure to continue her education. At the age of 12 her parents tried to force her to marry her cousin. She fought the abuse and torment often running to the bush for days to hide and eventually becoming ostracized from her family.

A high school principal accepted her into his home and paid for her schooling until graduation. After high school, Joraitu went to a professional school to become a primary school teacher. Upon graduating in 2017 and everyone expected her to become married. However, she wasn't finished with her education, resisted the pressure from her family to marry, and in 2018 became the first female in her family to attend university.

Because of the war, she had to travel to attend university in a different region. Fortunately, with support from a friend she enrolled and began to study law and political sciences. She completed her first year and unfortunately her friend was not able to continue paying for her education.

ScholarShop heard about the story and could not let Joraitu not attend school because of finances, especially, after hearing her struggle and sacrifices made to date. This year thanks to sponsors she completed her second-year top of her class!



Bilal, Mo-Awiya-Sinan

All three of these students' homes have been uprooted for the second time and are living in their third, fourth, and even fifth city.

As children they come from the area where the Lake Nyos disaster happened and were forced to relocate. As a cause of the war, Mo, Bilal, and Sinan's village was burnt down forcing them to move and begin working on the streets to survive. They would find any odd job such as selling food in the market or helping to unload and load trucks coming into the market. Fortunately, with generous donors they are back in school after a two-year hiatus with a huge desire to learn and reach their full potential!

As we all know this school year has been a struggle

on everyone, and for them it isn't different. Living together they had to walk ~20 minutes to school and on the weekends would find any odd jobs to sustain themselves. Fortunately, during covid ScholarShop was able to secure funds to help them remain safe and not have to resort to the busy markets. Currently, they are writing their ordinary level exams to see if they graduate to the advance level.



These three have been a staple in the program from day one. Sinan surprised everyone with his dream of growing up to be a pilot and with his desire for schooling he is well on his way. Mo-Awiya is one of twelve siblings is interested in drones and electrical engineering, and Bilal is an orphan who was first in his class and speaks 4 languages.





Another student who has fought for her education is TEM, Yoland. In previous newsletters we wrote about her struggles as a child convincing her family to send her to school. Since going to school, Yoland, has received numerous awards, both locally and regionally and is consistently top of her class.

Unfortunately, due to visa issues Yoland was unable to attend the African Leadership Academy in South Africa and remained in Cameroon to obtain her high school degree.

This year, Yoland, gave birth to her first child. 1 years past pregnant females were forced to leave school during their pregnancy. However, Yoland, missed a month of school after delivering and still graduated first in her class. Thanks to LionHeart in the Community, Yoland attended computer coding classes learning basic programming after school and during the summer holidays.

Yoland is the equivalent of a junior in high school and is taking extra courses to graduate a year early. With her determination and brilliance there is no doubt she can continue this feat.

Post graduation she wants to receive a two-year degree to become an accountant.

TEM, Yoland