

# Branch Mini-Grant Program

AAUW MD 2023-2024 Program Year

Please review the [Application Instructions](#) before submitting a mini-grant request.

Choose Category of Planned Activity \*

Tried and True

Bold and New

Title of Planned Activity \*

Furaha All Girls' School View the World

Start Date of Planned Activity \*

MM DD YYYY

01 / 10 / 2024

End Date of Planned Activity \*

MM DD YYYY

06 / 30 / 2024

Location and Venue of Planned Activity \*

Kenya, Africa

Branch(es) Submitting this Application \*

Harford County

Full Name of Applicant \*

Sheila Allen

Applicant Phone Number \*

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Applicant Email Address \*

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Briefly describe your planned activity. (a) What do you plan to do? (b) Who will be your audience? (c) Name(s) of any organization(s) collaborating with you? \*

A. The Harford County branch plans to send the entire grant money amount to the director of Furaha All Girls' School in Kenya, Africa for the purpose of purchasing a Smart television for this boarding school. The school has approximately 335 high school women as students, 19 teachers, and 10 support staff. During the school year, the girls live on site and receive three meals/day as well as tea at both 10 AM and 4 PM, all for \$800/year. Currently, The AAUW Harford County Branch is sponsoring one young woman at Furaha All Girls' School in Kenya, Africa. The branch is in the second of four years of paying the tuition of Ms. Maureen Kendi. This all-girls high school is a boarding school, established in 2017. I have personally met and worked with the founder and director, Robert Wachira, who was previously the CFO of Rubate Teachers' College, also in Kenya. The school currently has a small television in the staff room; this will be the only television for use by the young women. B. The audience is the entire Furaha All Girls' School, and the main goal, as written by the founder and director of the school, is exposure to the rest of the world. Through watching news and other programs, both local and international, learners will be exposed to what is happening globally. The girls will also use the television to watch documentaries and other emerging issues. (paraphrased from a text from Robert Wachira, School Founder) C. The other collaborating organization is Furaha All Girls' School.

Financing the planned activity: (a) What will be the total cost? (b) How much are you requesting to support this activity? (c) What expenses will the grant be used for? (d) If other parties/sources are collaborating with you, what funds are they contributing? NOTE: If your grant application is approved, when your activity is completed all receipts for expenditures must be itemized and submitted to the AAUW MD Treasurer. \*

A. The \$500 (US money) would be used to purchase a smart television for the school. B. We request the total amount of \$500. C. The school director has looked in the cost of a smart television; in his locale, it is approximately \$483. The additional money will be used to make a frame for mounting. D. The school does not have funding for such equipment. The director said that he would purchase the television as soon as he received the money and then send a copy of the receipt as soon as it was purchased

Promotion of AAUW Public Policy Priorities and Diversity Issues: (a) Which public policy priority \* or diversity issue does this activity advance? (b) How?

This project fulfills all areas of the AAUW mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. It also specifically relates to the public policy priority: To support a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, diversity, and inclusivity, and to address the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women and girls.

The school was established in 2017 with the following as its main goals: 1) to complement the government effort to have every child complete primary and secondary school; 2) to bring dignity to the girl child's education and to enable females to acquire a secondary education; 3) to ensure graduation of Kenyan females from secondary school and prepare them for college. Currently, government selection for students to join a secondary school is skewed on a student's performance in primary education regardless of other social background factors, and many girls are left to attend day schools at their village. Most end up dropping out of school due to difficult conditions at home, pregnancy, and/or early marriage. However, when leaving the village for a boarding school like Furaha, the girls live in a more conducive environment for learning; 4) to provide added opportunities for girls to enter a secondary school. Public schools do not have enough vacancies for all students finishing primary school.

Furaha Girls' School provides personalized attention to each young woman. Parents are allowed to pay school fees in installments and even bring farm produce to help pay the fees. The main aim of the school is to have every girl get the proper education and career guidance at a personal level, which is not always available in the public schools. (The answer to this question is paraphrased from a text from Robert Wachira, School Founder)

This grant will afford the school a means of electronic education: providing current events, historical dramas, documentaries, economic and business programs. These young women will be able to use this for a broader education as well as research. By watching programs about other women, they can learn to advocate for themselves. They will be able to see the world.

The addition of a smart TV will also help the girls overcome some of their own biases and see that women can become successful in a career. They may have no idea what women in other countries can achieve. Their view of the world will broaden exponentially.

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Anticipated Outcomes: (a) What are the goals of this planned activity? (b) How will achievement \*  
of the goals be measured?

A. The academic purpose includes the following:

Furaha teachers will have an opportunity to use the smart tv as a teaching aid along with devices such as a USB and DVDs. They will be able to display learning materials and deliver on lesson objectives.

the female students will have an opportunity to watch educative programs such as debates and proceedings in parliament, which will sharpen their debate dexterity and improve on oral and written languages.

The smart television will be used to train students in sports and games. They will use the knowledge acquired while watching the games on the screen.

The students will have an opportunity to watch programs of already successful career women in the world. This will help the students learn the secrets of success as well as motivate them to work smart to achieve more.

The smart television will provide entertainment to the girls during recreation time.

B. The school director/founder agreed to keep track of the educational usage of the television for a determined time period. This would keep track of both the number of times of use and the types of use. I would ask him to do this for 5 months (to the end of the grant period when I will report. Note: the new school year begins in January). He would also be willing to report on quantitative results, providing information about specific uses and what the students have learned through the television.

AAUW Recruitment: (a) How will the planned activity promote recruitment to AAUW? For \*  
example, would your branch be able to distribute membership materials in conjunction with the  
activity, advertise the activity in local press, and/or implement other recruitment activities?

The founder of the school has stated that he will label the television as a gift/ donation from AAUW –  
“actually with big letters!” (his words)

He has also requested that materials and literature about AAUW be sent for both the teachers and students. Submission of an article to both our local newspaper, the Aegis, and to the Baltimore Sun would assist with local recruitment. Requests for interviews on local stations will be made, and if successful, would also be helpful in making the community aware of the work that is done by AAUW.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: (a) Will the planned activity promote and enhance aspects of diversity, equity, and inclusion within AAUW and in the community? (b) If so, how? \*

NOTE: Branches awarded mini-grants will be required to provide a brief report to the Mini-Grant Committee on the results of the project, level of participation, and other relevant information to document the activity and the extent to which its objectives were met.

A. The director and board of the school know of AAUW through our branch work sponsoring a student's tuition, room and board. Additionally, our branch held a fundraiser last year that provided money for both sanitary napkins, which some girls cannot afford, and for science lab supplies. The school director and board do not have knowledge and/or understanding of AAUW as an international organization, what it is, does, and/or promotes. This is a perfect way to inform the teachers and staff of this worldwide organization and how it assists women of all ages. B. We will share information about the organization and its work in various countries. I would write an article with pictures and results of the use of the television for the Marylander and also for the national organization.

If your branch is requesting a mini-grant for a "Tried and True" activity for more than a second year, please briefly explain: explain: (a) Why an exception to the two-year limit should be allowed for your proposal. What is the planned activity's enduring value to your branch and the community? (b) How would your branch plan to sustain the project if mini-grant funds were not available? \*

This is a "bold and new" request to assist young women in Kenya.

This form was created inside of AAUW.

Google Forms