

A Few High Points from 2017



2017 has been an eventful and productive year for Africa ELI. Generous and committed donors have helped us meet some unusual challenges and grow as an organization, all while continuing our mission of providing girls in South Sudan with access to education. Thank you!

The year began under turbulent circumstances. In the summer of 2016, [violence from South Sudan's civil war enveloped the Yei region](#), forcing many of our students to flee. They joined the flood of men, women, and children

seeking safety in foreign refugee camps. Our focus in late 2016 and early 2017 was on responding to this ongoing crisis. Thanks to the exceptional efforts of our Monitoring and Program Officer, [Alemi Charles](#), and trusted friends, we were able to assist our students in getting to safety. We then began enrolling them in fourteen new schools in their respective locations across East Africa. It became necessary for us to purchase replacements for their boarding school essentials -- such as mattresses, uniforms, shoes, and educational materials -- and to pay for a reissuing of the student's' birth certificates! In addition to their educational requirements, donors made it possible for Africa ELI students' *basic humanitarian needs* to be met.

Back in the U.S., [new board members and volunteers](#) have brought fresh ideas, insights, and resources. We have expanded our outreach and improved overall operations through key procedural and technical enhancements, including the integration of a new information management platform. One change you may have noticed is the frequency of email updates. Communication with our friends and supporters is extremely important. Look for regular emails to start coming out every Saturday with stories and current information.

Help Get the Message Out

A strong social media presence is vital to grow support for our girls in South Sudan. Please help us build support by following us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) and sharing our posts.