

The Represent Foundation



2021 Annual Report

May 04, 2022

Our Mission

The Represent Foundation aims to increase access to higher education for students from Malawi. We do this through a combination of mentoring, advocacy, and financial support. We believe that representation from diverse backgrounds enriches the college experience for all students.

Progress

Establishment

This project operated as a labor of love until 2021, when it officially attained 501(c)(3) status. The Represent Foundation is a federally tax-exempt non-profit organization incorporated in the state of South Dakota.

The Represent Foundation also created a web presence: www.representfoundation.org.

Fundraising and Disbursement

We fundraised a total of **\$481.78** in 2021.

- \$230 from [GoFundMe](#)

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- **\$251.78** through sales of [Lucky: An African Student, An American Dream, and a Long Bike Ride](#). (Half the proceeds of each sale, anywhere from \$1.71 to \$7.50, go to the Foundation.)

We disbursed **\$814.81**.

- \$764.82 to three students for tuition
- \$49.99 to two students for materials related to education (food, uniforms, internet bundle)

Mentorship

We mentored one student with the [Wells Mountain Initiative](#) scholarship. He was awarded a scholarship of \$325 per year for four years.

Outcomes

Through our financial outreach, we helped five students attend college. Through sales of *Lucky*, we got our message out to 79 people. We had 166 unique visitors to our website, for a total of 235 visits and 613 pageviews.

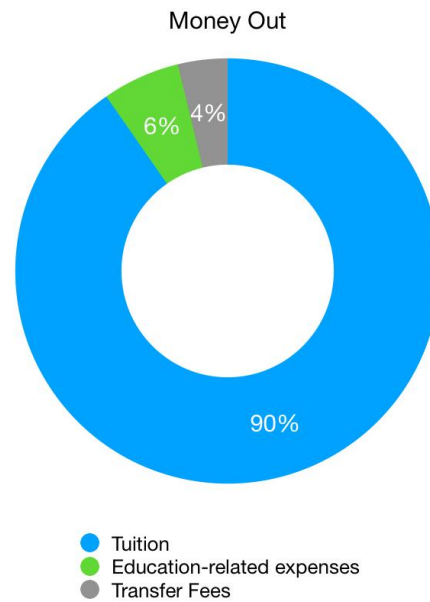
A special note on the Wells Mountain Initiative scholarship project: Although we were successful in helping the student get a scholarship, he spent the money on what he perceived as an investment opportunity. We reimbursed WMI, and they allowed the student to keep his scholarship. WMI also reached out to Brooke Marshall and offered her a volunteer position within their organization. Ultimately, we were able to turn an unfortunate mistake into a professional partnership – and to learn a valuable lesson about taking steps to ensure the money goes where it's supposed to.

Financials

Money In	
Donations	\$230
Book Sales	\$252
Savings	\$478
Total income	\$960

Money Out	
Tuition	\$765
Education-related expenses	\$50
Transfer Fees	\$32
Total expenses	\$847

Money Left Over	
Income minus expenses	\$113



Looking Forward

- Apply for \$5,000 grant from the Cambridge/Smith Charitable Trust
- Contingent upon receiving the grant, recruit 6 students to receive scholarships to Malawian four-year universities. Each student will receive \$800.
 - \$618 will go toward tuition, housing, books, and stationary
 - The remainder will go toward food and other living expenses

The remaining \$200 will be saved for future projects.

- Assess the efficacy of the Malawian scholarship program. Disburse tuition money directly to universities.
- Seek out other sources of funding:
 - Rotary clubs, particularly in Raleigh, N.C.
 - Mighty Yoga (host a fundraising class)
 - Yogi Tea
 - [The USAID BAA for Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa](#)

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- [Higher Education for Leadership, Innovation, and Exchange](#)
 - [Office of Postsecondary Education \(OPE\): Higher Education Programs \(HEP\)](#)
 - Reach out via email to a total of 35 colleges to gauge interest in offering a full scholarship to a minimum of 2 Malawian students in 2024. Colleges will include the 8 members of the [Work College Consortium](#) (a group of colleges that “engage students in the purposeful integration of work, learning, and service”) as well as 25 colleges that do not require standardized testing (a significant hurdle for African students) and 2 colleges selected by the Board Chair.

Acknowledgements

The Represent Foundation wishes to thank everyone who donated to our GoFundMe campaign and who bought *Lucky*. Special thanks go out to Kimberley Ladue.

The Represent Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax ID number 87-1534053.

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