



WOMEN STUDENTS MENTORSHIP ASSOCIATION (WOSWA)
P.O.BOX 30197 -00100, Nairobi, Kenya
+254 712 112 732

WOSWA PROFILE AND BACKGROUND

PROFILE

WOSWA is a women-led non-profit organization legally registered under the section 10 of the societies act, with an aim to promote gender equality by championing initiatives that create opportunities for girls and women from disadvantaged backgrounds so that they may have equal chances to their male counterparts in sectors like education, leadership positions and career fields.

VISION

Our vision to be a formidable force in steering the development of female students in Kenya through leadership trainings, mentorships and capacity building, and to be the official mouth piece of female students in all over Kenya, acting on matters that might hinder growth and development of female students in Kenya.

MISSION

Our mission is to bring out the best in every woman throughout Kenya as aligned to the sustainable development goals (SDG).

SDG#5: Gender Equality, i.e. achieving gender equality and empower all women and girls.

SDG #3: Good Health, Ensure healthy lives and promote well being for all at all ages. Reproductive health is a key health issues for girls and women in Africa.

SDG#4: Quality Education for all, access to quality education is the first step to achieving sustainable development, poverty eradication, gender equality and women empowerment.



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BACKGROUND

Our background is traced back from the university of Nairobi women students' welfare association, which has been in existence since 1986 at the University of Nairobi. Having served as leaders at women students welfare association since 2015, we created a remarkable impact that saw many female students generate confidence towards personal development, leadership and education in the varsity. This drew attention of other female students from other Kenyan universities both private and public who wished to be part of the organization. This therefore incited us to think outside the box on the way to incorporate all Kenyan University female students in our organization.

Through our leadership in the University of Nairobi, we promoted the agenda of female students in the varsity right from advocacy to empowerment programmes which has seen a big impact on the representation of women students' right from the students' council as well as personal image and self esteem. Through our mentorship, we were able to successfully advocate for equal gender representation in the UON Students council. It's through these major steps by WOSWA that the University of Nairobi wrote history since 1964, by having the first female president in the students' council (UNSA). Before her election as the first UNSA female president, Ms Ann Mwangi was initially WOSWA campus Representative for Parklands Campus.

Getting the attention of other female students from most Kenyan universities both private and public universities, whose interests were mainly to be part of the organization WOSWA, we reached out to a number of female students leaders in other universities in Kenya, among them; Mt Kenya University, Moi University, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University, South Eastern University, Technical University of Kenya, Zeitech University, Pwani University, Technical University of Mombasa, Maseno University, Chuka university, ICS college, Masinde Muliro University, KMTC college, JKUAT, Kabete Polytechnic, Rongo University, Masai Mara University, Kisii University, Alupe University, Daystar University, Strathmore University, Dedan Kimathi University, Kiriri Women University, Karatina University, Machakos University and Kenyatta university.



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We discussed with our fellow female students leaders from the mentioned universities about the challenges female students encounter in their learning environment within the University and outside the university. In our discussion, there was uniformity of concerns raised ranging from gender based violence to poor representation of female students matters and lack of appropriate policies on matter of sexual harassment. Thinking of the way forward, we resolved on, first empowering the current female student leaders in various positions on how they can stand up for other female students. In our partnership with Akili Dada and TICAH, most of the female students' leaders were then trained on leadership skills and emotional intelligence in 2015.

Having few trained leaders from different universities on leadership skills, it became easier to then present the need of running our mentorship activities in different universities and even officially launching WOSWA in other universities. The trained leaders have been the champions of WOSWA in their respective schools, though many more students even if not trained as such are still willing to take up the mantle of female students' mentorship in their respective schools advocating for the launch of WOSWA in their institutions.

This is how women students' mentorship association WOSWA national outfit was born in the year 2017.

OUR OBJECTIVES INCLUDES

- ✓ To be a formidable force in steering the development of female students in Kenya through leadership trainings, mentorships and capacity building.
- ✓ To bring out the best in every woman in all over Kenya by education, mentorships and capacity building.
- ✓ To ensure that our members live comfortably while in schools and get the best opportunities that will assure them a brighter future beyond schools.
- ✓ Creating awareness on personal health issues for students.
- ✓ Improving living conditions of students in schools.



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- ✓ Promoting the image and self-esteem of female students and encouraging a peaceful coexistence among all students in the country.
- ✓ Guiding the welfare of our members.
- ✓ Embracing social responsibilities, which involves activities aimed at giving back to community.
- ✓ Most importantly, to defend the rights of female students across the country.
- ✓ Act on issues and situations that are of sufficient consequences to our members' interests and the larger public.

Our membership is open to all female students in the Kenya, both in primary schools, secondary schools and universities and colleges.

Our leadership constitute, the executive committee made up of

- *Chairperson- Mary Ojuang (University of Nairobi-student)*
- *Vice chairperson-Angeline Wanza Mwangangi (University of Nairobi-Student)*
- *Secretary General- Claire Ongati (Mt Kenya University-Student)*
- *Secretary General – Emma Akinyi (University of Nairobi)*
- *Treasurers- Irene Asuwa, (University of Nairobi –student)*
- *Organizing Secretary- Olivia Ayora (Moi University-student)*
- *PWD Rep- Janet Wawira Wachira- (University of Nairobi-student)*
- *Welfare Secretary- Annette Abuya-(University of Nairobi –Student)*
- *UON Rep- Ms Emma Akinyi (university of Nairobi Student)*
- *Jaramogi Oginga Oding University Rep-Faith Gatwiri (Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University - student)*
- *Technical University of Kenya University Rep-Brenda Adhiambo Owiny(Technical University of Kenya-student)*
- *TUK,University Rep- Faith Thuku (Technical University of Kenya)*
- *Moi University Rep- Joy Sharma (Moi University-Student)*



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- *JKUAT University Rep –Whitney Ndaga (Jomo Kenyatta University of science and technology-student)*
- *Egerton University Rep – Teresia Nduta and ms Charity Egerton University Student*
- *South Eastern University rep: Betty (South Eastern University-student)*
- *Karatina University Rep – Ms Ouna Khalai Rose (Karatina University –student)*
- *Chuka University Rep- Ms Stella Njeri (Chuka University student)*

**ANY DONATIONS TOWARDS WOSWA PROJECTS SHOULD BE MADE THROUGH
WOMEN STUDENTS MENTORSHIP ASSOCIATION (WOSWA) BANK ACCOUNT
WITH DETAILS BELOW:**

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 1252189370

BANK: KCB BANK

BRANCH UNIVERSITY WAY BRANCH

ACCOUNT NAME: WOMEN STUDENTS MENTORSHIP ASSOCIATION (WOSWA)

Yours sincerely

Chairperson

WOSWA