



2023 BINTI IMPACT REPORT

MENTOR GIRLS • DEVELOP LEADERS • TRANSFORM COMMUNITIES

Dear Friends and Partners,

This report presents a comprehensive overview of the Binti Shupavu Program's impact for the year 2020 -2023, emphasizing the program's contribution to empowering girls in Tanzania to overcome challenges, achieve educational success, and cultivate resilience. Despite the government's provision of free basic education, barriers such as poverty, harmful societal norms, and lack of parental support persist, particularly for girls. Binti Shupavu addresses these barriers by equipping scholars with resilience, leadership, and life skills essential for navigating challenges and remaining engaged in their education.

Data from surveys, focus group discussions, and case studies reveal positive changes in the scholars' abilities to overcome challenges set goals, make decisions, and seek support. The report also highlights the vital role of mentors and social workers in providing psychosocial and academic support, which has proven critical for scholars' success.

Additionally, the support from parents and communities has strengthened as a result of stakeholders engagement meetings, fostering a more encouraging environment for girls' education.

The findings demonstrate not only the success of the Binti Shupavu Program but also the ripple effect of empowered girls on families and communities. Through this program, girls are not only better prepared for future challenges but are also making strides toward sustainable personal and academic growth, setting a foundation for long-term positive change.

89% Binti Alumnae have skills to overcome challenges.

84% Scholars received support from mentors outside classroom.

96% of Binti Scholars passed their form 4 exams.

94% of Binti Parents strongly agreed that educating a girl child is important.

75% of Binti Parents strongly believe that girls should stay in school at least until they graduate from University.

1126 Binti Scholars graduated from the Program.

With gratitude, MaryRehema Mkumbo - MEL Manager

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Girls Livelihood and Mentorship Initiative (GLAMI) mentors secondary school girls in Tanzania to complete their education, develop into confident leaders, and transform their own lives and their communities.

We equip girls to overcome challenges and reach their full potential because educated girls create lasting positive change. The outcome is proactive, resilient, and socially-responsible girls who secure better jobs, start their own businesses, raise healthier families, and increase the standing of women in society.



Binti Shupavu Program & Implementation

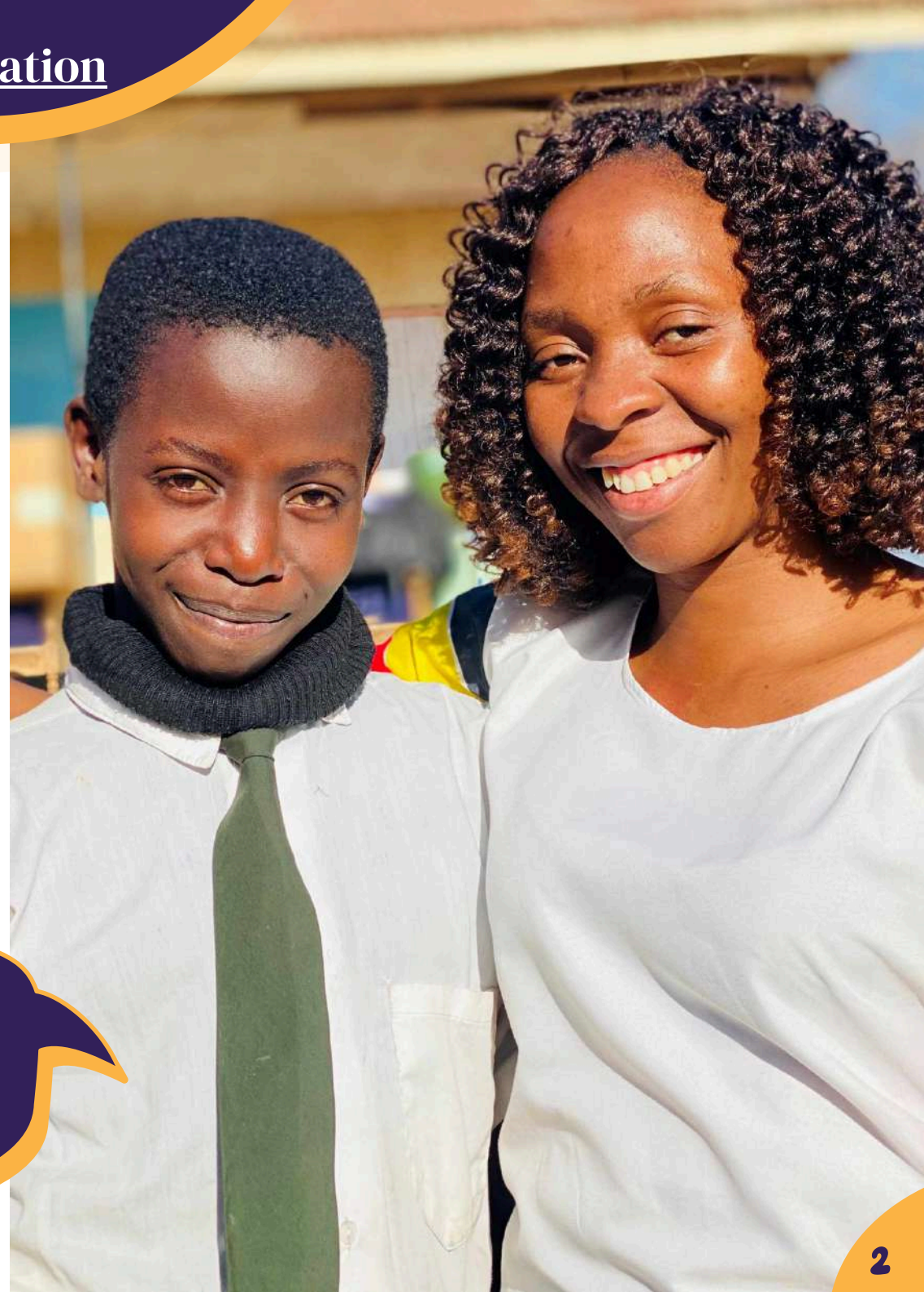
Binti Shupavu is a four-year life skills course for lower secondary school girls in Tanzania, focusing on topics like motivation, personal leadership, health and wellness, study skills, and resilience to boost graduation rates for vulnerable girls.

"Binti Shupavu" means "Courageous Daughter" in Swahili.

Binti Shupavu Program uses a spiral curriculum, where each year builds on the previous one, allowing girls to deepen their understanding of these topics as they continue with their lower secondary school. This approach helps them develop essential leadership, problem-solving, and life skills for personal growth and long-term success.

"My mentors helped me build the ability to overcome problems and challenges in my life."

Binti Shupavu Scholar



Binti Shupavu Program Theory of Change



PROBLEM

Girls are pressured to leave school early, leading to high dropout rates and a lack of opportunities later in life.

ACTIVITIES

Binti Shupavu Classes
Parent Engagement Meetings
Village Meetings
Emergency Fund
Liaison and School Staff Meetings
All-School Seminars
Social Worker
Scholarships
Binti Shupavu Alumnae Network
GBV and VAC sessions
Career Guidance

OUTPUTS

Girls learn leadership and life skills in weekly classes
Girls build a relationship with a trusted female mentor
Parents and community members recognize girls' abilities and rights
Girls have psychosocial and financial support to stay in school
Teachers, administrators, and other students learn about girls' empowerment
The most vulnerable girls can create a plan to succeed in school
Girls are supported to continue their education
Young women are aware of the opportunities available to them

OUTCOMES

1. Binti Shupavu Scholars graduate from lower secondary school
2. Binti Shupavu Alumnae are resilient and prepared to face future challenges
3. The parents and communities of Binti Shupavu Alumnae support girls to continue their education

IMPACT

Girls are the leaders of their own lives and make positive choices about their education and futures.

Binti Shupavu Program Outcomes

✓ Binti Shupavu Alumnae are resilient and prepared for future challenges

Tanzania offers free basic education to all, however there are costs associated with going to school that families often cannot afford. The disparity between girls and boys is particularly evident at secondary level. Although enrollment is similar for girls and boys, retention falls substantially for girls, with poverty being the most significant cause. Early marriage, pregnancy and traditional gender roles are also ranked as among the top causes for drop outs (Girls Education Challenge, 2021)

In 2023, 58% of our scholars reported facing challenges, not too far from what other peers face. The most common being:

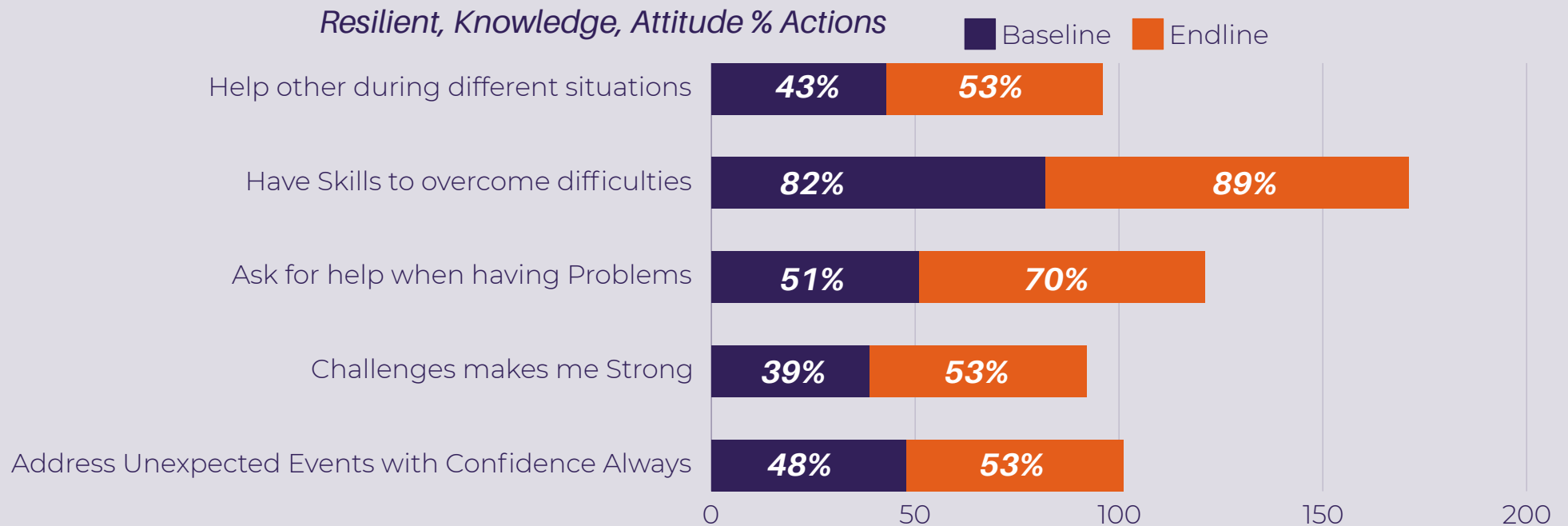
- Poverty- no school fees, not being able to pay for school food, not getting basic needs and scholastic materials
- Harmful societal practices such as being coerced to circumcision and being seduced by men
- Academic challenges like failing exams and language barrier
- Infrastructure challenges like water scarcity and lack of electricity
- Parents support challenges caused by conflict, sickness, alcohol abuse, death of one or both parents/living with a single parent.

Building resilience, possibly with the help of family or professional support, equips teens with the necessary tools to confront these challenges and grow stronger from them(Yang, 2024)

Binti Shupavu scholars have been equipped to build resilience skills necessary to support them, overcome and manage challenges that they face. Around 176 Scholars completed the Resilience Competencies Scale (RCS) at baseline and endline. The Resilience Competencies Scale (RCS) is a quantitative measure used to evaluate resilience, specifically in vulnerable youth (Henley, 2010).

The survey focused to understanding the scholars attitudes and proactiveness towards challenges, goals and decision making, taking actions in problem solving, asking for help and helping others.

Binti Shupavu scholars demonstrate increase in ability to manage challenges



Resilience Competence Scale Survey 2023

Youth involvement in community planning, decision making, and action hasn't received a lot of attention in the past, but youth are becoming increasingly involved in community development. (R. V. Barnett and M. Kumaran, 2012)

"... Since I joined, it has given me the confidence to overcome challenges in my environment, such as family problems. They taught us how to face these challenges and how to be confident so that difficulties do not hold us back. They provided us with study techniques and methods to overcome obstacles, and now that we are in Form Four, it continues to help us." (Binti Scholar)

“Before joining Binti Shupavu, many girls in our school were getting pregnant. However, since joining Binti Shupavu, we have received education about Bodaboda (motorcycle) drivers who try to deceive us by offering money and rides. As a result, the pregnancy rate in our school has decreased by 50%.” (Binti Scholar)”

Mentorship and Psychosocial Support to manage challenges

Thirty-five mentors and six social workers have provided support to Binti Scholars in need. In addition to classroom sessions, Binti Shupavu alumnae have shared that the support from their mentors has helped them navigate various challenges at school and beyond, including:

- Studying, academic success, and goal-setting
- Self-love and self-care
- Interpersonal relationships, such as supporting others in need, choosing the right friends, and managing anger
- Building confidence

“They sent a message to my parents when school was closed, encouraging them to support me and help me fulfill my responsibilities.”

“My mentors helped me in giving me advice and teaching me how to live with people in the community around me and when I have a problem I should go to someone I trust and tell them”.

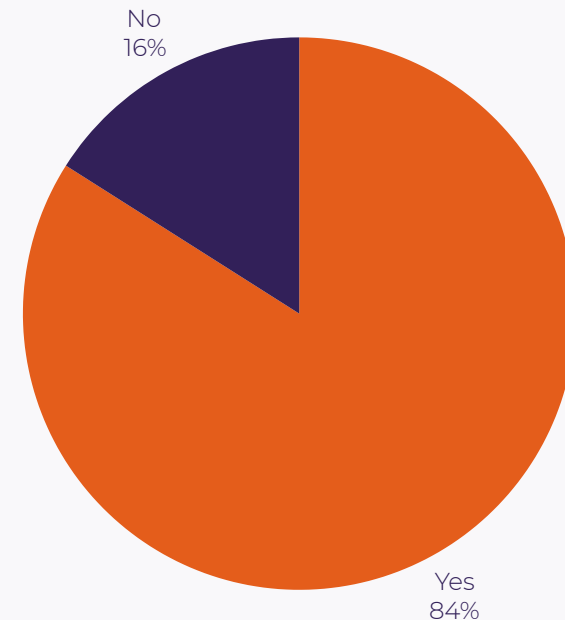
“When I was on holiday, I talked to madam about the temptations of boys, she was able to give me advice on how to avoid them, that's why I'm safe until today”



Mentorship and Psychosocial Support to manage challenges

When asked if they had received support beyond the classroom, 84% of scholars shared that they had, while over 100 scholars in need of support received psychosocial and material assistance from social workers. This support included psychosocial counseling, emergency funds, materials support, holiday sessions, and sessions on Gender-Based Violence and Violence Against Children. This assistance has been instrumental in helping the girls stay in school and complete their education.

Mentors support outside Classroom



Mentors Highlight

“What we appreciate about our mentor is that she loves us and shares her real-life experiences from when she was in school, including the challenges she faced studying in government schools. She encourages us not to give up and reminds us that students in private (better) schools are just like us. She believes we can overcome the challenges we face in our families and studies and succeed in reaching our dreams, just like those in private schools.”- Binti Alumni



Binti Shupavu scholar receiving psychosocial support from Social worker

✔ Binti Shupavu graduate from lower secondary school

In 2023, 1,126 scholars graduated from our programs. Before their graduation, these scholars sat for their national exams. The national pass rate for girls in Form Four exams was reported to be 88% (Mosenda J, 2024). Meanwhile, results from our program showed that **96%** of Binti Scholars passed their Form Four exams, compared to 94% of non-scholars in the same treatment schools.

National pass rate of Form four exams of girls in Tanzania is

88%

The average of the National pass rate that Binti Scholars performed better than the average national pass rate of girls in their national exams

8%

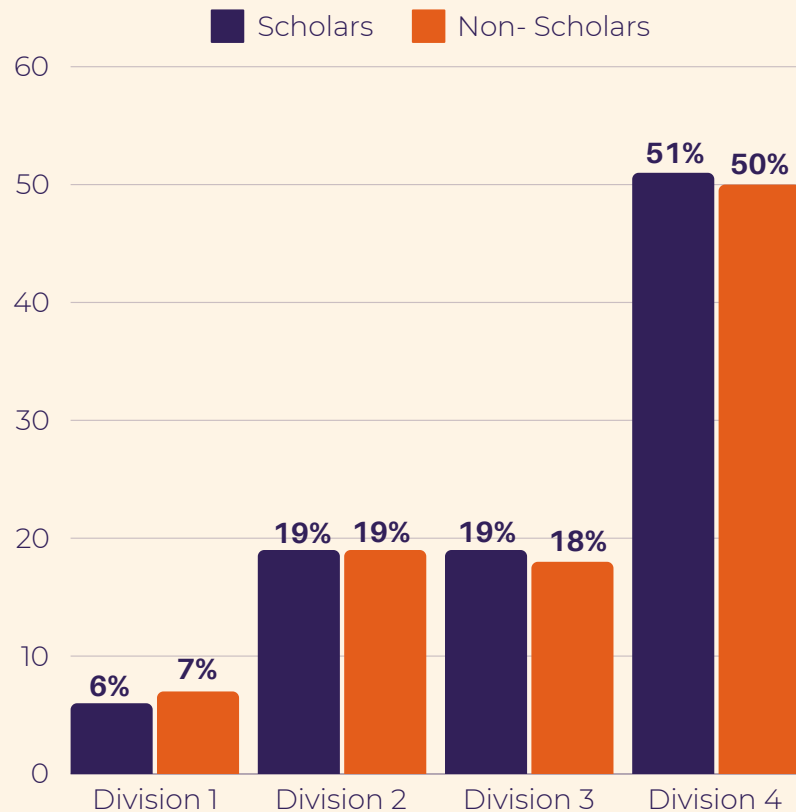
The Average of Binti Scholars performed better than Non-Binti Scholars in the same schools in their national Form Four exams

2%



Binti graduate representing her peers in presenting an award to GLAMI in recognition of the positive impact the Binti Scholars have had in their school.

Scholars Vs Non- Scholars Exams Results



CSEE Results 2023

One lesson I like from Binti Shupavu is the goals lesson, which helped me to set and achieve my goals, distinguish between long-term and short-term goals, and identify the steps I can take to reach them." (Binti Scholar)

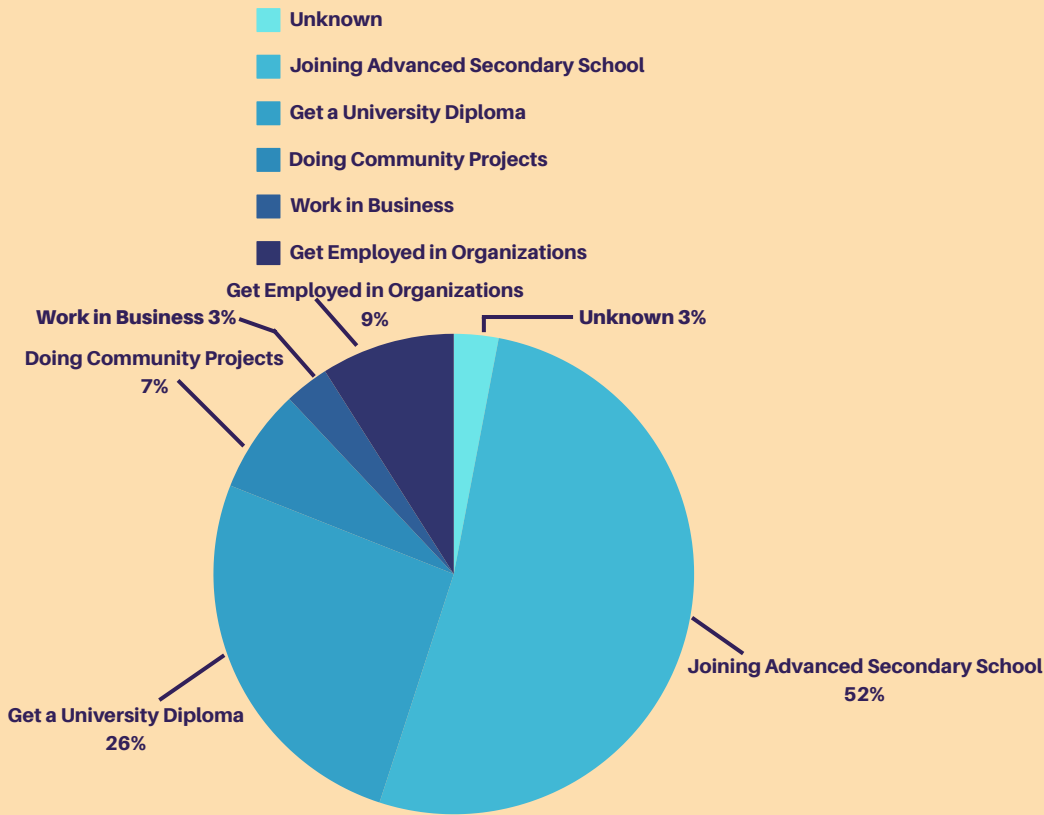
"When I joined Binti Shupavu, I set a goal to complete Form Four by avoiding early pregnancies and negative relationships, and I have succeeded in achieving my goal." (Binti Scholar)

"The program has been so helpful to improve scholars performance. All scholars in my school who were in Binti Program passed their exams, the scholars who didn't pass their exams were not in the program" (Head of School)

Binti Alumnae Future Plans

After completing four years in secondary school, scholars are awarded a certificate which bridges them to access further education and opportunities. 96% of our Scholars have passed the national exams as per national pass rate and are eligible to proceed with Advanced secondary education, University certificate/diploma and Tertiary colleges which upon completion sets them to secure better opportunities in the future.

Alumni shared the following to be their future plans



Full Endline Surveys 2023



Binti Alumni with their certificate during their End of Year 4 graduation.

When asked how the program can continue supporting them after graduation, Binti Alumni shared:

- Employment opportunities
- Financial support to continue their education or start a business
- Training in areas such as leadership, mentorship, community service, and gender education
- Ongoing communication and mentorship support

Binti Alumni Community Initiative

After completing their final year exams Binti Scholars are supported to give back in the community through community initiatives. Scholars in the same geographical area stay in groups and plan to implement cost-effective community solution projects within their ability. This year some Binti Shupavu Alumni reached their community members through sharing Binti Shupavu lessons and doing cleanliness in the community.



Binti Alumni sharing some Binti Lessons with primary school girls

✓ Parents and Communities support Binti Shupavu Alumnae to continue their education

In efforts to increase parents' involvement in girls' education, Parent engagement meetings are conducted every year to enhance parents support in girls' education. Preceded with invitation calls to the Annual Parents Engagement meetings, mentors also send text messages to Binti Shupavu parents on a monthly basis. The contexts of the texts aim to increase their involvement and support their girls with school resources such as scholastic materials, attending meetings and giving them time to study.

“My parents attend meetings. They say we should follow what we are taught, and if we do that carefully, we will go very far and achieve our goals.” - Binti Scholar

“My parents—father, mother, and sister, who take care of me—have big expectations for me. They know I am in the Binti Shupavu program, so my sister tells me that if I follow what I am taught in Binti Shupavu, I will go far.” - Binti Scholar



Parents of Binti Scholars listening attentively during the Annual Parental Engagement Meetings, 2023

Parental involvement has been defined as participation in school meetings and events, communication between school and home, involvement in parent – teacher organizations (PTOs) and school activities, supervision and help with homework, reading or other educational activities at home and planning for the future.

Varshney, 2015). Studies have shown that the more parents are engaged in their children's education the more likely their children will excel academically. their parents in their education.

Parents play a big role not only in the promotion of children's academic achievement but also improve school effectiveness (Frank, 2017). Parents have continued to buy-in girls' education support and responded positively to the reminders sent to them. **85%** of scholars vouched strongly for being supported by their parents in their education.

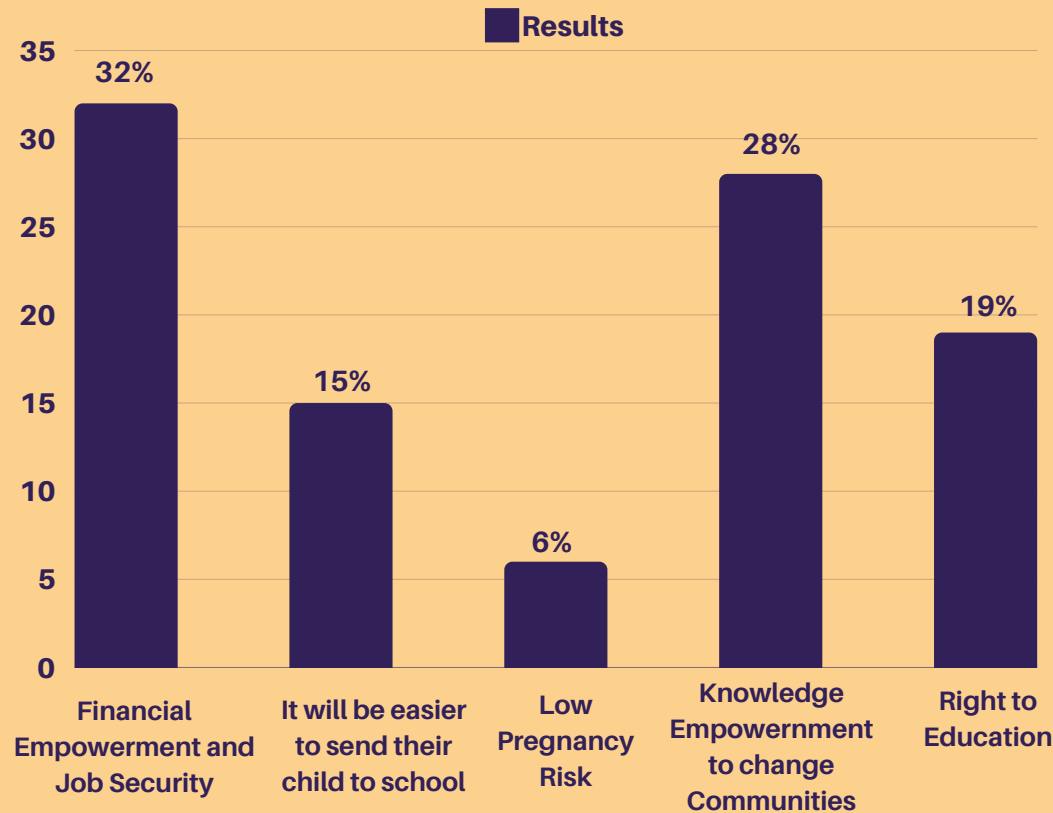
“Thank you for reminding me to fulfill her needs, thank you for your good advice, we will continue to protect her and fulfill all her basic needs to avoid temptations” (Binti Parent)

“Thank you we promise to continue supporting our daughter. I will do my best to support her continue with her education” (Binti Parent)

Progressive changes have been observed from parents perception to support of girls education in Tanzania. Through the annual parental engagement surveys **94%** of parents strongly agreed that educating a girl child is important while **75%** of parents believe Girls should stay at school at least until they complete their University education.

Parents shared that with time they have learned more benefits of sending girls to school

Parents Endline Survey, 2023



“First, they will receive a good education and be able to understand themselves, avoiding involvement in bad things, such as street gangs.” - Binti Parent

They will be able to support themselves in life also for the whole community around them without being dependent”. (Binti Parent)

“Education is important for girls because when a girl is educated, she becomes confident and gains knowledge. It's not just about learning how to earn money, but also about growing mentally and thinking big.” (Binti Parent)



Parent of Binti Scholar listening attentively during the Annual Parental Engagement Meetings, 2023

Communities perception on girls and changes in Binti Shupavu Alumnae

Parents shared that after their daughters being involved in the program they are;

- More self aware,
- Disciplined
- Hardworking and determined,
- Confident and positive motivation to their peers.

She has been a hard worker. She reads on her own without prompting. She teaches her younger brother. She is self-aware.

(Binti Parent)

“Growing up I never understood how I could be responsible, I would dodge everything as long as I wasn’t caught by anyone, my parents would say I am lazy and that was it I was truly lazy and irresponsible. At some point that was a threat to my academics, I wasn’t responsible at all and I would most of the times fail because I wasn’t responsible enough with my studies. After I joined Binti Shupavu we were taught a lesson about being responsible and ever since everything has been just different. My parents are now very proud of me and how responsible I have become at home and at school and it has changed my academic performance. Now I know what to do if I am struggling with a subject or if I am required to take responsibility for anything”. (Binti Scholar)

During our stakeholders annual engagement meetings, the school representatives also shared that they have seen quite some improvement in scholars' behaviors and positive influence to others that has constantly improved academic performance of girls who have been in the Binti Shupavu program.

“Scholars in the program have been a catalyst to change to their peers who are not in the program. Students have been inspired to share what they are facing. On the other hand, parents have been carefully following up on their daughters' progress; they even ask for academics' reports, something which was never there before. We have also seen a great improvement in Scholar's behaviors” (Head of school)



The community now perceives me better. For instance, in my surrounding community, parents have been telling my neighbors' children to stay with me and asking how I overcome challenges, how I stay peacefully with my parents, and how I avoid temptations as a girl.

(Binti scholar)

We are glad to learn the impact Binti Shupavu program has had on this cohort (2020 -23). The program has demonstrated to bring positive changes to our stakeholders. Change has been observed on Knowledge, attitude and practice of our beneficiaries , parents, partner schools and communities.

Our direct beneficiaries have gained and used life and personal leadership skills to improve themselves and how they relate with others. They are more hopeful for the future and with continuous use of the skills they will continue to be Leaders of their own lives and make positive changes with their education and future.

As we reflect on these achievements, it is evident that investing in this program not only transforms direct beneficiaries lives but also the communities around them paving a way for a better empowered community with a hopeful future. With support we hope to continue reaching more vulnerable girls through our programs in risk of their future.

Methodology and Acknowledgments

Methodology

This report was informed by both Quantitative and Qualitative data collected from Scholars, Parents and School representatives. Surveys and Focus group discussions were conducted at baseline(2020) and endline(2023) to collect data. Scholars were randomly selected to participate in Surveys and Focus Group Discussions while Key Informants(from parents and School representatives were intentionally selected to participate in surveys. For confidentiality purpose no participants names were used in this report and quotes were slightly edited to correct grammatical errors but not to alter the content of the intended information.

Acknowledgements

We thank our donors for their generosity to support the Binti Shupavu Program. The MEL Team did all the Focus Group Discussions, analyzed and wrote this report. The programs team(mentors and leads) supported with data collection from our stakeholders and the communications personnel supported with graphics designing for this report.

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Our Partners

Thank you for helping Tanzanian girls reach their full potential!





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