



KOMERA

Self Confidence, One Girl at a Time.

SCHOLAR SPONSORSHIP

The Komera Sponsorship Program is a direct, personal and participative approach to supporting girls' education & empowerment in Rwanda.

In Rwanda, “Komera” means “be strong, have courage.”

Komera develops self-confident young women through education, community and sport.

We are a leadership incubator that assists girls who have the courage and desire to pursue a secondary education, but lack the resources to do so.

Rwandan secondary school is split into lower secondary (Grade 7-9) and upper secondary (Grade 10-12). We focus on young women in upper secondary, Senior 4-6, funding their tuition and all indirect costs. After passing her lower secondary exams, a committee of local officials considers a potential Komera scholar's economic vulnerability. We select girls who absolutely would not be able to attend secondary school without Komera's help.

As a sponsor, your support will provide the resources a scholar needs to attend school and everything she needs to succeed, including:

TUITION (\$500/year)

- Full scholarship to a local boarding school
- School mentor throughout the year
- Transportation to and from school
- Health insurance for one year

To become a scholar sponsor we ask that you make an annual commitment of **\$500**, or a **three-year commitment for \$1,500**. We kindly request that you intend to continue sponsorship over the course of three years to provided the scholar continued support to complete secondary school.

CHANGE A YOUNG WOMAN'S LIFE BY SPONSORING A KOMERA SCHOLAR FOR \$42/month!



SCHOLAR SPONSORSHIP FAQ

What can I send to the Komera Scholar I sponsor?

Komera requests that scholar sponsors limit their gifts to photographs and letters only - the Scholars love the correspondence! We encourage you to write letters and send pictures to your scholar! Please send them either via email to info@komera.org or via regular mail to:
Komera PO Box 1491 Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

How often will I hear from my Komera Scholar?

You can expect to receive updates and correspondence about your scholar at least two times per year. Komera scholars are enrolled in boarding school, but spend their school breaks at Komera leadership camps. During the camps, they have time to respond to letters and even Skype with their sponsor!

What happens if a Komera Scholar is not able to matriculate?

Due to the enormous challenges the girls we sponsor overcome to attend school, Komera Scholars are permitted to repeat a grade once. If they are unable to pass after a repeated year, Komera will look for other opportunities for the student, such as vocational school.

What happens if the Komera Scholar I am sponsoring decides not to finish secondary school?

Komera Scholars have faced tremendous obstacles in their lives and continue to face significant challenges to their academic lives – many are orphans of the genocide, some have pressing household responsibilities, and all face significant cultural pressure to marry and have children. In the event these challenges become too great for a sponsored scholar, and she decides not to continue her studies, Komera will inform the sponsor immediately and will proceed as directed by the sponsor.

What's next for my Komera scholar after graduating secondary school?

She will apply for Komera's Post Secondary Transition Program! Launched in 2015, the Komera PSTP provides additional support to our scholars in areas that are specific to university, career development and life after secondary school. The course load includes English language training, business development classes, leadership training and computer courses (their favorite).



Komera is also working to form strategic partnerships in the community to create post-secondary school opportunities for all our scholars. These partnerships include but are not limited to apprenticeships, internships, access to micro-loans, and university scholarships.

What if I decide to end sponsorship before she finishes secondary school?

We strongly encourage donors to pursue the life-changing opportunity of sponsoring a scholar if they are able to do so for three consecutive years. The program is designed to build a relationship between the scholar and sponsor for the duration of her secondary education. Sponsors can end their commitment at any time, for any reason, but we hope you will choose to participate if you foresee being able to support your scholar for three years.

How do I send in my annual donation to continue sponsorship?

You can make your gift through our regular donation page, komera.org/donate, or by mailing a check to: **Komera PO Box 1491 Jamaica Plain MA 02130**. Your donation will be earmarked as a scholar sponsorship, unless otherwise noted. The school year in Rwanda starts in January, and graduation takes place in December. We kindly ask that you submit your donation promptly at the beginning of the school year. You will receive a reminder email annually when your sponsorship is due.

We are grateful for your support of Komera's programs and welcome donations to other programs throughout the year, such as our Komera Global Run- where you can "Run the World" with your scholar!

Can I visit my scholar in Rwanda?

YES! We're so happy you asked. Komera organizes an annual trip to Rwanda in June for friends and supporters to visit and participate in the Komera Global Run. It's an incredible opportunity to see our work first-hand and meet the scholars that are directly impacted by your support. Email info@komera.org to find out all the details for our next trip.

I am already a Komera Sponsor – how else can I help Komera?

Spread the word. Tell your neighbor, mom, coworker, and best friend about Komera. "Like" us on Facebook (facebook.com/thekomeraproject), "Follow" us on Twitter ([Komera_](#)) and Instagram ([_komera_](#)) and share the posts & messages that inspire you. We have many sponsors who choose to support multiple students to increase their impact. Your support and enthusiasm for our work will help us to grow our network, empowering us to empower and educate girls.

If you are interested in sponsoring a scholar, please e-mail us at info@komera.org and we will connect you with a scholar right away! To learn more about the Komera program and the current scholars, please visit KOMERA.ORG