

Australia **HOPE**

INTERNATIONAL

*Some Good News Stories to Share from Uganda
March 2017*

From Kaazi Twinomujuni, CVM.

"In 2003 a team of 14 muzungu's (whites) HOPE Team came from Australian when they reached a bush village of Kibogo in Western Uganda, all the children ran to escape these 'white angels' that had 'come to eat them'!

It was hard in that year for the local people to believe the western people and trust in their message of changing a hopeless man to a great man.

But one man, Ps. John, hosted them in his green house (below) for 4 days as they shared the Gospel of Hope. And after 4 days when the team was leaving, they promised to stand with John, his village community and the children because the stay was so blessed, and the hospitality by John, as well as the wonderful heart he has for the children, made the team want to be part of the village future.

And now, the shameless (humble) house that housed the muzungu team accommodates needy girl students who come for study in the HOPE School which has 380 students attending.


The beautiful school was built by AHI."



From Marita Simpson, Amari Community Development.

“This little boy Kenneth was bought to us in July 2013, with a severe skin disease/rash. He comes from a large, poverty-stricken family, with a father who is crippled. Jessica, who was visiting our project at that time, took an interest in him, and started sponsoring him straight away. This meant we could get him medical assistance for his skin problem, and supply him regularly with extra fruit and vegetables for nutrition etc. He began school with us last year, 2016, and really came out of his shell. And this is him today. He is happy, healthy, full of life, loving school and loving popping into my office for a cuddle and to say hello. Because of his sponsorship, Amari has also been able to keep assisting him with special soap for his skin condition. It is an enormous joy to see our children blossom and grow through being in our school, and this is only possible through those like Jessica who faithfully sponsor our children.”



A black and white photograph of a young girl with a gentle smile, carrying a small lamb on her back. She is wearing a dark dress with a white collar. The background is a simple, textured wall.

From Liz Buyinza Ssekamwa, AHI Uganda, Country Manager

I am just applauding the AHI Team for the online posts and the website updates.

I got moved when I perused through the AHI Page sponsorship link.

My heart bled for a little girl I saw on the page, too young to be separate from her parents, but fortunately found a better family in our RWC Safe House for Vulnerable girls.

I also got convicted of the fact that being AHI Staff and African does not exclude me from supporting the programs, or to sponsor with the resources I can mobilise.

Despite the fact that am newly wedded with not very many resources, I decided to take the plunge and sponsor Jessica.

I told Hubby later after signing up, to avoid getting cold feet or lengthening of the process!

All these excuses would have deterred me but I decided to go for it.

I am doing half sponsorship at the moment as i study the process. With more cash blessings, we may be able to eventually fully take her up as a family.

I encourage other AHI staff and friends, despite the few resources, to support with whatever you have.

As the African saying goes....

" One by one makes a bundle"

From Michele Heyward, COME Uganda.

COME Uganda has had many overseas visitors who have been humbled by the generosity of a Ugandan family. The total income for the family for two months may be less than their visitor would earn in a day. On entering a one room house one of the children is quickly sent for soda and cake. The visitor might be asked to stay for a meal where the host may kill one of his only chickens and use the little money he has to buy rice and some vegetables. Culturally, the host and his family will not eat with the visitor, but will press the visitor to eat everything.

It is not done to impress, but as a sign of respect. The villager is in effect saying "I do not have much but what I have I will give you the best, but let me hope it is not your worst" or "I will try my best to meet you at your level".

At all of our HOPE Schools the policy is to feed the children at lunchtime. The staple diet is beans and posho, which is made from maize flour. In some cases the food that the children eat at school may be the only meal they have that day. If you visit one of our HOPE schools, one or more of the children will offer up their plate of food to you with the comment "come and we eat", inviting you to share their meal. The children are taught from a very early age the culture of sharing and giving. It is a culture that can be very humbling to a visitor!



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Thankyou for caring!