

Global Giving Network

2010

Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project

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Our Mission: To provide quality, free education, and extracurricular activities, both formal and informal, as a means to counteract pervasive hunger, poverty, and systemic resource deprivation.

Our Vision: For rural communities in Uganda to build strong community and family structures using sustainable, community-focused approaches to address challenges they face due to the HIV/AIDS pandemic.



Nyaka's 2010 Accomplishments

Primary & Secondary Level Education

1. Provided 3 terms of high quality primary education to 332 students at the Nyaka (206 students) and Kutamba (126 students). We served throughout 2009 and into 2010 53% girl students and 47% boy students.
2. Retained 100% of students from last school year in 2009.
3. Supported 21 students through their first year in secondary school- provided school fees, bedding, clothes, books, boarding cost, scholastic materials, and other various necessities.
4. In December 2009 26 students graduated from the Nyaka Primary School. All them passed their exams and 8 of them passed with the highest scores. We now support 48 students in secondary school at Ishaka Secondary College and St. Gerard's Secondary School.
5. Achieved a passing rate of 98% of National Primary Level Exams- these exams determine whether students get into Secondary School. The regional average for Primary Level Schools is 20% passing rate.
6. Finished construction of the 2nd classroom block at Kutamba which made it possible for us to take on a 5th class of students in Jan 2010 (photos here: <http://bit.ly/6jBadn>)
7. Hired 3 more staff for the Kutamba School including a new Headmaster and two teachers.
8. Built a Math Playground for Kutamba School that has dramatically improved the mathematics skills of the students.
9. Instituted an Endowment Fund totaling \$100,000 by December 2009 to ensure the continuing education of students beyond the primary level.





Nutrition, Health, and Hygiene

1. Continued to provide free lunch, breakfast, and tea break (only during the hunger season Oct-Dec) to 15 staff and 359 students at the Nyaka and Kutamba school.
2. We have harvested in Winter/Spring 2009/2010 2.5 tons of maize and 400kgs of dry beans on the Desire Farm which will go towards feeding our students and generating income to support the two schools. (photos here: <http://bit.ly/8THTg0>)
3. Provided supplemental food during famine months at breakfast and lunch.
4. Continued to maintain a clean gravity-fed water system that services over 12,000 residents in and around the Nyaka School.
5. Two full-time nurses work at both schools providing in school and at home emergency and preventative medical care.
6. Held ongoing health and physical education classes with students at Kutamba and Nyaka School (359 students) focusing hygiene, nutrition, sanitation, and our girl's education concerning women's reproductive health.

Community Education & Life Skills Development

1. Finished construction on the Blue Lupin Community Library (photos here: <http://bit.ly/5RHvFw>)
2. Nyaka Anti-AIDS Students' Club carried out HIV/AIDS sensitization radio programs, and church and primary school presentations throughout the Kanungu District reaching 250,000 people.
3. Our Anti-AIDS Choir has visited and raised awareness in 36 schools and community centers in 2009 (photos here: <http://bit.ly/6MLLFA>).
4. More than 25,000 people listen to our radio program every month throughout 2009, according to statistics provided by Radio Kinkizi in Uganda

Grannies Program

1. Continued sensitization and training programs for all 92 Nyaka Granny Self-Help Groups of 6,230 women in Rukungiri and Kanungu Districts on advanced gardening techniques, coping with grief, loneliness, and stress, home-based care for HIV positive family members, the use of the grandmothers' collective voice and cooperative power, building a savings culture, bookkeeping and managing rotating savings and credit associations in the self-help groups, home sanitation, and personal hygiene.
2. Held ongoing trainings in life skills for grannies at 78 Model Homes throughout Kanungu and Rukungiri in 2009. We constructed fuel-saving stoves and sanitation/dish drying racks to the model homes.
3. Supported the 91 groups with ongoing leadership trainings, networking tools and opportunities, and information resources.
4. Distributed over 1850 gardening hoes to needy grandmothers in 27 grannies groups.
5. Built more than 56 pit latrines for the neediest grandmothers. Built more than 38 kitchens for the neediest grandmothers.
6. Provided financial services to over 7,000 grandmothers in rotating savings and loans associations with a microfinance pool that reached 11,500 USD in 2009.
7. Raised 5,620 USD in direct financial assistance to 700 Grannies through the provision of a market and sale of grannies handcrafts.
8. Continued to facilitate community ownership of the two schools and their support through active local management committees for the two schools.



Staff & Organizational Capacity

1. Continued to provide income for 15 teaching staff at Nyaka and Kutamba Schools, 11 support staff between both schools, one farm manager and between 12 and 25 day laborers on Desire Farm, and many local farmers, artisans, and craftsmen from whom we purchase food for the school and specialty services.
2. Hired a Country Director in Uganda, James Asiimwe, and Administrative Manager in the US, Megan Whaley, who have streamlined our operations and increased our organizational capacity to serve donors and beneficiaries.
3. Hired a Farm Manager for the Desire Farm.
4. Conducted a full organizational assessment and staff training which allowed us to assess and correct poor incentive structures, misunderstandings among staff, and flows of information and resources to the benefit of our beneficiaries.
5. Conducted two intensive teacher and support staff training workshops regarding advanced teaching and learning methods, professional work ethics, working with and for the vulnerable child, and counseling methods and best practices for vulnerable children.
6. The Nyaka School partnered with Harvard University and The International School of Uganda to train Nyaka Teachers on new and advanced teaching methods.



Finished Construction on the Blue Lupin community Library



Finished upper classroom block and Math Playground at Kutamba School



***Desire Farm Manager
Agaba Innocent***

Nyaka's 2010 Goals

Broad Organizational Goals

1. Provide free education to orphans of HIV/AIDS and other vulnerable children at the Nyaka and Kutamba Schools.
2. Incorporate an entire Health and Safety Program consisting of providing our children with a balanced diet of nutritious and quality foods; both emergency and preventive medical services; clean water; and community gardens.
3. Provide a support system and assistance for grannies through trainings (parenting skills, income-generating projects, latrine construction, etc...) and regular support group meetings.
4. Provide AIDS prevention and awareness education at Nyaka and Kutamba and the surrounding communities through the Nyaka & Kutamba Anti-AIDS Club.
5. Enhance our children's future successes through providing quality vocational and entrepreneurial skills training.
6. Build partnerships with other like-minded organizations in order to provide more quality services to more people.
7. Be a role model for other communities by developing a program to address the problem of gender inequality and violence against women.
8. Develop sustainable solutions to the challenges presented by HIV/AIDS.
9. Encourage literacy and reading through establishment of a community library and media center at Nyaka.



National Administration

1. In 2010- shift our Assistant Finance and Administrative Manager to a position of Program Coordinator Library in the field where she will find more passion and stimuli in her work.
2. In 2010- hire one full-time school inspector to provide a reliably unbiased analysis so as to uncover otherwise unnoticed areas of opportunity.
3. Continue into 2010- mediate, resolve, heal, and improve upon relationships and conflicts between staff in both country offices
4. Continue into 2010- constant monitoring of program effectiveness through sensitive feedback systems between beneficiaries and staff
5. Continue into 2010- streamlining program operations and communication infrastructure to improve services to beneficiaries and reporting timeliness, depth, and accuracy.
6. Continue into 2010- professionalizing staff through training in work ethics and relevant technologies.
7. Continue into 2010- raise awareness and connect with the hearts of individuals and organizations in Uganda to increase upon in country donor and volunteer constituencies



School Management

1. By 2010 – Establish more effective evaluation and control procedures to provide a means of following the accomplishment of goals and objectives.
2. Continued work into 2010- Streamline organizational structure and accountability of each staff member so that reporting is faster, more frequent, and more accurate. Also to do so in order to ensure the communication of organizational objectives.
3. Continued work into 2010- establish more effective and control procedures so that staff can easily benchmark progress towards individual and organizational goals.
4. Continued work into 2010- provide individualized and specific training opportunities to staff members to maximize their potential as Nyaka staff.
5. Continue into 2010- train and sensitize staff on professional work ethics and protection of the vulnerable child.
6. In 2010- At Kutamba hire three competent, reliable, ethical, professional, and capable staff to fill the positions of Head Teacher/Headmaster, and two teacher vacancies.
7. In 2010- At Kutamba hire one school accountant to improve upon accuracy and accountability of expenditures.

Primary & Secondary Education

1. For each school year 2010- Continue adding 32 students at Primary One at both schools.
2. For each school year 2010- Retain all students each year.
3. For each school year 2010- Continue supporting our students through vocational and secondary education including providing financial, emotional, mental, developmental, academic, and health support.
4. For all new students 2010- Continue to provide free uniforms, shoes, and books to all students.
5. In 2010- Raise total funds needed initiate the construction of a secondary school.
6. In 2010- Get 10 students in Division I (highest score) of the Primary Level Exams (the highest score on the PLE).
7. In 2010 and from now on- Complete course syllabi for each term at Kutamba and raise the standard of academic and personal excellence and integrity at Kutamba.
8. In 2010- Hire a Librarian and other Library staff to operate the Blue Lupin Library. Raise enough funds to fill the Library with all necessary reading books and materials for a computer lab with internet access.

Community AIDS Education

1. For each school year 2010– Continue staging plays, songs, and skits in other districts and communities.
2. For 2010– Continue bi-monthly radio programs in the local indigenous language (Rukiga) in order to reach wide audiences and to help spread the message of HIV prevention and improved care for grandmothers and orphans.
3. In 2010- Record a CD and DVD of choir performances for sale throughout the world.

Nutrition, Health, & Hygiene

1. For each school year 2010– Continue to provide free basic healthcare to all students and host families.
2. For each school year 2010– Continue to teach hygiene and sanitation practices to the community.
3. For each school year 2010– Continue free distribution of vegetable seeds to the community (Provided by Seed and Light, Inc.).
4. For each school year 2010- Continue to provide individual and family counseling for students in need.
5. For each school year 2010- Continue to grow most dark leafy greens and supplemental vegetables and fruits in the school gardens for school meals programs and for students to take home.
6. For all students – continue Physical Education and Interscholastic Competitions.
7. For all students 2010- Continue providing nutritious and well-balanced lunch and breakfast meals.
8. In 2010- Solidify our system of food production in the Desire Farm for our school meals program and community nutrition program so that it is completely sustainable in income production and efficiency and meets the goals of the project.
9. In 2010- hire a full-time nurse at Kutamba to service children, staff, and guardians.
10. In 2010- begin providing counseling and social work services to students at Kutamba and Nyaka Schools.
11. In 2010- At Kutamba expand our garden program in order to grow most of the foods on site and solidify a sustainable food production system.

Grannies Program

1. Continue building grannies program in Kanungu and Rukungiri Districts.
2. Continue mobilization for new grannies and follow-up support for trained grannies through bi-weekly meetings (Reach 10,000 grannies in 2009-2010).
3. Continue to develop model homes and families that influence positive behavioral and attitude changes in the community in order to foster developments.
4. Continue to build kitchen gardens and pit latrines for vulnerable grannies (one time gift).
5. Reduce vulnerability by improving the self-esteem of grannies and the children they support.
6. Open up and enhance intergenerational dialogue between grannies and children in order to develop meaningful, fulfilling, and lasting relationships.
7. Continue to develop income generating projects and microfinance programs for all grannies in Kanungu and Rukungiri Districts.
8. Continue to support the Nyaka & Kutamba nurses in their visits to grannies' homes and through the teaching of hygiene and sanitation.
9. Develop a program for giving out piglets, cows, and goats to grannies, who in turn give back one for another family (similar to Heifer's approach to poverty).
10. Provide preventative measures to assist child-headed homes in the event of the death of a grandmother.
11. Continue to take input from grandmothers regarding what intervention they require and what meets their needs the best. (Example: Some grannies were getting brand new latrines for them built out of concrete. In relation to their homes, these buildings looked so much better and when it rained, many grannies went into their latrines for better shelter. As a result, this communication to our coordinators was taken into account and more modest latrines were built and repairs were made to homes and shelters.)

Sustainable Infrastructure

1. In 2010- build a guest house with all necessary accommodations at the Kutamba School to allow for volunteers and visitors to work at the Kutamba school or visit for extended periods of time.
2. In 2010- Provide security at Kutamba School through hiring a security guard.
3. In 2010- move Kampala Office to a larger office farther from downtown Kampala to reduce on contact with vehicle emissions, dust, noise pollution, and overall distractions and increase work efficiency, productivity, and orderliness.
4. In 2010- hire a security guard for the Kampala office to safeguard Nyaka property
5. In 2010- hire a driver for the Kampala Office to improve our administrative staff's work efficiency and ability to coordinate meetings and events.
6. Continue into 2010- network and partner with like-minded individuals and organizations so as to develop mutually beneficial relationships.