



2023 – 2024 REPORT FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND NUTRITION FOR ORPHANS IN UGANDA PREPARED BY HANDS OF EMPOWERMENT UGANDA

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023–2024 Scholarship and Nutrition for orphans in rural Uganda made remarkable strides in transforming the lives of vulnerable children. This report outlines key milestones, including an increase in the number of beneficiaries from 80 to 100, enhanced community involvement, and a significant reduction in malnutrition and school dropouts. Despite challenges such as funding limitations and logistical constraints, the program’s focus on providing scholarships and nutritional support has yielded measurable improvements in educational outcomes and children’s overall health.

2. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **Background**

In rural Uganda, children face multiple barriers to education and proper nutrition due to poverty. Many must forgo schooling to contribute to household incomes, while malnutrition impairs their physical and cognitive development. The Scholarship and Nutrition Program addresses these challenges by providing scholarships and daily nutritious meals to orphans in targeted rural areas.

- **Objectives**

- To provide scholarships for 100 OVC's, covering tuition fees, school supplies, and uniforms.
- To deliver daily nutritious meals in two schools, ensuring consistent attendance and improved health.
- To foster community engagement in supporting child welfare and academic excellence.

3. PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

- **Scholarship Distribution**

- **Beneficiaries:** Scholarships were awarded to 100 children, up from 80 in 2023–2024, with an emphasis on gender equity.
- **Coverage:** Each scholarship included school fees, uniforms, and learning materials such as books and pens.
- **Geographic Reach:** Expanded to include Ghetto areas in Jinja, alongside previously supported locations.

4. NUTRRITION PROGRAM

- **Meals Provided:** Daily meals included locally sourced grains, vegetables, and proteins to combat malnutrition.
- **New Schools:** The program expanded to support an additional school, increasing the number of children receiving meals.
- **Health Monitoring:** Periodic health checks showed 90% of children had improved BMI and overall health compared to 85% in the previous year.
- **Community Engagement:** Parent-teacher workshops were introduced to improve parental involvement in children's education and welfare.

5. IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

- **Educational Impact**
 - **Attendance:** School attendance among scholarship recipients rose by 35%, with a dropout rate reduced to 2% (from 4% in 2022-2023).
 - **Academic Excellence:** 65% of children achieved higher grades, with five students recognized for outstanding academic performance. Two have been recommended for secondary school scholarships.
- **Nutritional Impact**
 - **Malnutrition Reduction:** Cases of malnutrition fell by 60% in the targeted schools.
 - **Improved Health:** Regular health monitoring showed increased energy levels, better immune function, and improved growth metrics among beneficiaries.
 - **Feedback:** Parents and teachers reported increased concentration and enthusiasm in class.

6. CHALLENGES FACED

- **Funding Constraints:** Expansion was limited by financial resources, affecting the ability to reach more children.
- **Logistical Challenges:** Delivering food supplies remained a challenge due to poor road infrastructure, particularly in remote areas.
- **Parental Involvement:** Cultural and economic factors hindered full parental participation in workshops and child monitoring.

7. FUTURE PLANS

- **Increased Beneficiaries:** Plan to support 120 OVCs in 2024–2025 by identifying additional funding sources.
- **Program Expansion:** Expand the school feeding program to a third school in rural Jinja.
- **Sustainability:** Launch income-generating activities to fund the program locally.
Strengthen partnerships with local and international donors.
- **Community Empowerment:** Increase the frequency of parent-teacher workshops and community outreach activities.

8. VISUAL HIGHLIGHTS

Fig 1: Group photo of scholarship beneficiaries with teachers and parents during graduation event.



Fig 2: Joyful students enjoying nutritious meals at their school.



FIG 3. Smiling faces of children showing growth and improved health through health checkups.



Fig 4: children display scholarstic items they had received.



CONCLUSION

The 2023–2024 Scholarship and Nutrition Program made significant contributions to improving the lives of Orphans in rural Uganda. By enhancing access to education and combating malnutrition, the program has laid a solid foundation for long-term community development. Continued donor support and local partnerships are essential to sustain and scale these efforts.

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Davis', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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