

ZoomUganda Project Report Support Education & Safety for Uganda Rural Girls

Dear Friends & Supporters of Matala,

Happy Spring in the Northern Hemisphere – from the girls and young women of St. Andrews Senior Secondary School, Matala Uganda.

ZoomUganda and the Harambee Centre with the girls of Matala wish you a Happy Spring. As we celebrate the start of spring 2014, we are filled with gratitude for your generosity to the community of Matala in their quest to give opportunity to young women. The 2014 year is off to a good start. Matala inaugurated a **new Board of Directors** at a colorful ceremony where the old board that was led by the **Mrs. Rosemary Mayiga** for about nine years was thanked for their contribution. Here, we want to tell you a little about Mrs. Rosemary Mayiga. Rosemary did incredible work for the school not only as a leader of the board, but as an advocate for the students. She hosted meetings and welcomed many of the Harambee Centre visitors to Uganda in her home. She mentored students and advised the administration as well as donors on many things. During her leadership tenure, Matala's infrastructure was transformed with updated classrooms, and a brand new Science Laboratory that was completed in 2010. In the simplest way, she was the right leader to be the chair of the board, and a great example to young women not only at St. Andrews, but in the whole community. Her work and efforts will continue to serve St. Andrews and the community at large for years to come.

Matala Former Student Achievements

We learned that **Robert Kasumba** a former Matala student was among the top students in the country on the recently released results of the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (A-Levels) examinations. Robert spent the last two years at a prestigious college prep boarding school near the capital city, Kampala, where we were able to find him placement after his superb performance at the Senior Four national exams while at St. Andrews.

We also got news that **Ivan Bwowe** another Matala alumni now studying for his law degree at Makerere University in Kampala was elected Guild President of the university with 65% of the votes.

Both of these young people give us hope for the future. But as we celebrate their achievement, it points us to the achievement gap with the girls of Matala. The work we have embarked on to build a girl's dormitory is to create a safe place for the girls of Matala to focus on their education and work towards their dreams. Help to make this a reality. Our dream is that in a few years, we can be able to report back to you that we have young women who are excelling and achieving their dreams, just like Robert and Ivan are. **It takes infrastructure, work, and mentorship to create leaders and achievers.** We need your help to make this investing in the young women of Matala. Below is the work we have started at the foundation level.



We kindly request that you include the Girls' Dorm Project in your 2014 giving plans, so that together we can change lives and make an impact that lasts for generations!

DONATE TODAY by clicking on the Give Now button!

Thank you for your support. Wishing you and your loved ones continued prosperity in 2014!

With gratitude,

The ZoomUganda Team,

Thomas Lwebuga Julie Resnick Noela Nalujuna