

# 'Help Send refugee and poor children to school in Uganda Project update'

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Elise Shakira, a pupil at CIYOTA Nursery and Primary school.

## About CIYOTA

CIYOTA seeks to transform communities in Africa by preparing, developing, and empowering a unified group of young leaders to tackle the greatest challenges facing our communities.

Our community empowerment model is just simple:

CIYOTA brings youth together to unite their communities;

Provide them with access to quality, affordable and sustainable education;

Train them in social entrepreneurship and leadership;

Unite them with mentors and other community leaders;

Help them to start social innovative ventures and unite with startup Fundings;

COBURWAS alumni program connects community members into large families.

Dear Family, Friends, and Supporters of CIYOTA

Thank you for your generous donation to CIYOTA. With your help CIYOTA now has secured a permanent fundraising place at the GlobalGiving website and raised \$6225.

I cannot tell you how much your donation means to us, the two permanent hostel buildings will enable refugee and underprivileged Ugandan Children get access to better and functional education, practical social entrepreneurship and leadership skills.

The first hostel opened in 2008 in Hoima, Uganda, a town 80 km from Kyangwali. It has 100 members, including Ugandans, and refugees from D.R. Congo, Rwanda and Sudan. Through a partnership with government-run schools, hostel members attend for free under a universal education initiative that did not previously accept refugees and has not reached rural communities.

Today, CIYOTA hostel students have started many social innovative ventures in their communities and positively impacted many lives. Our students excel academically and assume school and community leadership positions. They are planting trees to protect the environment, doing HIV/AIDS prevention, fighting malaria, and helping the needy.

We will continue to develop the Hoima hostels by building two permanent structures and making them financially sustainable by starting income-generating projects that the hostel members help run. The primary need addressed by the hostel—lack of access to quality education—is prevalent. We envision one day spreading our hostel model to other communities throughout the world.

For us to continue supporting youth, we need YOU, your friends, your family, your co-workers, church members, and neighbors to help us raise \$100,000 by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012! This will not happen without you! Please tell your friends, family, co-workers, church members and neighbors. Ask them to invite 10 friends to give and tell them why you gave. Post the link on your facebook page, tweeting or emailing or anything else you can think of!

Thank you again for allowing CIYOTA to transform communities in Africa.

# CIYOTA Students Hostel



I cannot tell you how much your donation means to these students whose lives have been completely changed, they now have hope to realize their dreams of transforming their communities.



*COBURWAS hostel has made me who I am today. After completing my primary school in Kyangwali refugee settlement, I had no hope of joining secondary school because of poverty that my family was experiencing. Just to one hour left for me to give in for a marriage at 14 years with an old man who had tried to convince me how there was no single chance left for me to continue with my studies.*

*On my way I met a COBURWAS leader whom I explained to my challenges, and when he said the student hostel is the answer my hope became restored. I have just completed my senior four and I am running a beauty salon that is employing me and other 2 ladies.*

*Women used to travel for miles to look for a beauty salon but we are the answer because of the education, the practical social entrepreneurship and leadership skills we have acquired after joining the COBURWAS student hostel. **Uwimana Grace, a student hostel beneficiary***