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May 2022

CALL US QUICK... WHILE THERE IS STILL ROOM... WE'RE DIALING UGANDA... FOR A FUN AND CRAZY "ZOOM"



On <u>Saturday</u>, <u>June 4th</u>, the ChristAid Board will host a <u>zoom session</u> for sponsors of Grandmas and Ahadi Kids to speak directly to their Ugandan family members. The hours are from <u>7:00 AM to 9:00 AM</u>. Although that is early for us... it is late afternoon for the Ugandans. This gives them time to walk home after the zoom - before it gets too dark. <u>This special event is happening at Christ Community Church at 8085 East Hampden in Denver.</u>

It is a challenge for Director Grace to organize the attendance of all the Grandmas and Kids who will participate in the zoom on the Uganda side. So, we have a firm date of Monday, May 16th for sponsors on "this side of the pond" to tell us if they would like to participate and to give us the list of everyone with whom they would like to speak. Then Grace will get to work to make it happen!

To arrange your personal time to zoom, please let us know of your interest by e-mailing us at our ChristAid email address (shown in the box above). Our Programs Manager, Kent Stannard, will respond to you regarding the time slot you will be assigned. We will be having FOUR separate "chatrooms" set up at the church, so four individuals or groups in the US can be talking to Uganda simultaneously, for the 5-6 minutes for each sponsored person. We have been practicing this format with them. It works quite well, and it is fun!! Please pray for beautiful weather in Uganda on <u>June 4th</u> - it greatly affects the signal strength and picture quality we will enjoy.

Conversation slots will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis, so please let us know right away if you would like to be involved. We will be serving coffee and breakfast items for your enjoyment.

This is an opportunity for your Grandma or "Kid" to express their appreciation to you. They are honored to have a chance to speak to you. Our Grandmas have been known to dance and sing for sponsors - so be ready for some smiles and even some happy tears. You can ask questions about your child's schooling, health, family, and hobbies, etc.



What's Happenin' at the ChristAid Secondary School??

It is hard to believe, but a <u>very successful first term</u> of the ChristAid Secondary School has already ended. All but four of over 300 students who started the term, finished it. That is an amazing statistic considering that typically nearly 1/3 of all secondary students in Uganda drop out of school.

While all reports about the educational experience were positive, there were a few deficiencies that became apparent. The most significant is in the amount of <u>science lab equipment that is still needed</u>. The headmaster of the school has made an urgent request that funds be made available to purchase additional pieces of lab equipment. He wrote, "For our students to excel, it is a must. Otherwise, we half teach the syllabus content." The following is a partial list of what is badly needed in the labs:

<u>Biology</u> <u>Chemistry</u> <u>Physics</u>

Microscopes Dissection kits Model human parts Charts Beakers
Test tubes
Bunsen burners
Distillation flasks

Voltmeters and Ammeters Electronic Weighing Scales Magnets Triangular prisms



Once the school is better established, it will operate on its own funding received from tuition. We have, however, accepted the responsibility to get it started with a solid foundation. The ChristAid Board and the students in Uganda appreciate any help that you can provide. Go to <u>TinyURL.com/ChristAid-donate</u> then scroll down to "Ministry Projects"







ADDITIONAL GOOD NEWS - MISSION TRIPS TO UGANDA ARE RESUMING!!!

After nearly three years, we are finally able to plan mission trips to Uganda again. Two trips are scheduled for this summer. The first will be composed mostly of people from the Church of the Cross in Evergreen and is planned for early July. We wish them safe travels and a memorable trip to ChristAid.

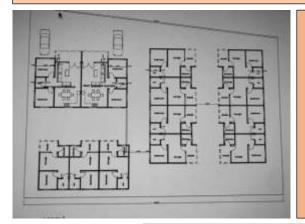
The second is happening in August. The <u>entire ChristAid Board is planning to go</u> at their own expense to be part of the Inauguration Ceremony for the Secondary School. That ceremony was originally planned for January of 2022 but was cancelled because Covid made it impossible for us or the representatives of Cunina to attend. (Our Belgian mission partners who constructed the Secondary School for ChristAid.)

Besides enjoying the new school, the trip itinerary will be busy with the need to identify Grandmas needing new ChristAid houses, touring the new Grandma Village, and covering administrative issues and new projects to be discussed since the last time we were able to travel. Peace to All, Pastor Bruce

If you have been around ChristAid for a while, you will remember that in 2016, a four-plex teacher housing unit was built with the intention of adding additional units when possible. That building is now within the new Secondary School campus and a decision was made by the Board to make it part of the school.

The ground floor has already been remodeled to serve as a dining room for the kids and the upper level will be converted into a library and computer room soon. Presently the headmasters of the primary school and the secondary school occupy the two apartments on that upper level, so we need to make arrangements for them elsewhere, as soon as possible. (Thanks to some awesome ChristAid donors, we have a plan!!)

A parcel of land near the school has already been purchased by ChristAid on which we plan to build numerous teacher housing units. Initial plans suggest that the land is large enough to hold 13 apartments. The hope is that we can have the first building finished before the end of this year so that the headmasters can move into the new units. That should leave time for the upper level of the existing building to be converted to use by the school by the beginning of the 2023 school year.



At left, is a preliminary layout on the land we purchased. In the upper left corner, are a couple of two-bedroom apartments for the headmasters and their families. Directly below is a triplex and to the right there are two buildings of four apartments each for other teachers.

While more land is available for future expansion next door, this land provides a great start to housing our teaching staff. The property is 1/4 mile from our schools along the Kicuna Road which leads to the campus, and water is available nearby.



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO ASSIST OUR TEACHERS DURING OUR FIRST EVER ONLINE FUNDRAISER. "A ROOF OVER THEIR HEADS"



This **online fundraiser** is something different for our spring fundraising! Our goal is to raise money to complete the first two apartments for the headmasters during the campaign, which runs from <u>May 23rd to June 10th</u>. If you have an email address on file with our office, you will receive more details and instructions on how to donate during this time. A new "donations page" has been set up on the website to donate to this specific purpose. <u>You can donate to it at any time, even if you don't get an email, of course!</u> (The total cost is still being estimated.)

The campaign will include emails designed for you to forward to your friends, along with updates on our progress throughout the three weeks of the campaign. Please pray with us that this effort will raise the funds needed to move forward on the new teacher's housing complex.

Again, our hope is to raise enough money <u>in this campaign</u> to move the headmasters to a new space and free up their former apartments for classrooms. We are excited for the opportunity to take good care of our headmasters plus attract other excellent teachers by offering housing for them, as is the custom in Uganda. THANK YOU FOR ANY AND ALL DONATIONS TOWARD THIS IMPORTRANT PROJECT IN <u>OUR MISSION OF BRINGING GREAT EDUCATION TO OUR CHRISTAID COMMUNITY</u> IN RURAL KICUNA!

A note from Maggie Van Dusseldorp - our Volunteer Coordinator of Sponsor Communications: "God is our refuge and our strength, an ever-present help in trouble." Psalms 46:1

The last two years have been a difficult time here and in the world around us. We thank our loving God and Father for the constant help and care that he gives to us each day. Whether in the US or in Uganda, he is always with us. We are so thankful for his loving presence.

Our Ahadi Kids have returned to school and finished their first term. It is great to have the schools open again! Our "Grandmas for Jesus" have resumed their times of fellowship together when they receive their monthly support as a group. These are long awaited and wonderful changes that are gifts from God!

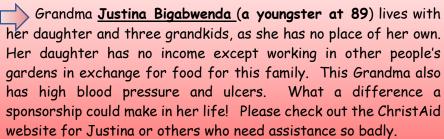


We thank you so much for your prayers, your love and your sponsorship of the Ahadi Kids and Grandmas. You have truly made a difference in their lives as they have gone through this time of Covid. Would you please take a few minutes to write to your Ahadi Kid or Grandma? They would love to hear how you are and that you are thinking of them. It would put a smile on their faces and warm their hearts to hear from you.

Please send your letter to the ChristAid office (address on the front page) or email it to christaid@christaidintl.org
We will see that your letter gets to your Grandma or "Kid" . Thank you for letters you have sent in the past and please write again soon! Thank you! God bless you, Maggie Van Dusseldorp



Grandma <u>Juliana Kaganda</u> is a 90-year-old widow who is trying to feed and care for three grandchildren with <u>no means of support except the produce from her garden!</u> Sponsoring her for \$35 a month would provide her with a steady income to benefit the family, plus provide health care which she desperately needs. If you are able to assist her, please contact the ChristAid Office. ChristAid@ChristAidintl.org Juliana has high blood pressure and suffers from weakness due to her advanced age.





Patience Caroline is a second-year student at Nyakasura School. Twice during her education, she has lost her ChristAid sponsor. Her parents are peasant farmers with several other children in the household and are unable to help with her education costs. She has already come such a long way! If you are able to help her continue, please contact ChristAid. She loves biology and aspires to be a doctor someday. Her tuition is \$70 per month.



Trinity Mujuni is one of the youngest children (in a family of 13) who is now old enough to attend our ChristAid Preschool. His parents are "green banana vendors" meaning they cut bunches of green bananas that grow near their home, to sell in a nearby marketplace so they have funds to survive. He has no hope for education or a better life without a sponsor to get him into school. Please pray for God's direction in helping Trinity (\$40 per month) or any other vulnerable child on our website. The need is very great.



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