

Rwanyana Community Trust

News Bulletin Spring 2023

Class of 2022!



Our first class to reach P7 passed their Primary Leaving Exam with flying colours. Well done! The class has 4 sponsored children: Betty, Aggrey, Susan and Shania.

With the support of their sponsors, these young people have progressed to post primary education. Shania has gone to secondary school with ambitions to be a nurse or doctor one day. Aggrey, Betty and Susan have been accepted to technical college. Aggrey will study electrical installation and Betty and Susan will complete a course in garment design and construction.

However, whilst this is great news, it poses a problem for the charity. The charity may need to help with the costs, and also we will see less of the sponsorship money going to support the school each year. We are trying to find strategies to make our work sustainable. One way might be to find sponsors of school costs rather than children, e.g. monthly donations for stationery. Let us know if you have any innovative ideas!



Setting off. Good luck all!

Urgent Issues for the project

- Provide text books, especially for the P7 class
- Fund maintenance of existing brick built classrooms
- Fund education of post primary children
- Provide a laptop and support management IT training

Charity Objectives

RELIEF OF POVERTY - EDUCATION

Clinic and Family Planning Building

From simple beginnings in 2019, Daniel's Clinic has grown and now provides a wide range of support to the community. Nurse Brenda and her colleague Nurse Desire have had over 8 thousand consultations to date. As the clinic is such a success and has improved health and quality of life so much, we are planning a bigger better building this year.



The clinic and associated activities are all supported by generous loyal friends. Another innovation has been a multipurpose family planning building (pictured above), which has proved useful for a number of activities. It has a private room where Nurse Brenda and her colleague Nurse Desire can see couples and young people for family planning advice. The outer room is used for meetings. The Kilinju (Senior Citizens) group and a creche for teacher's children runs from there on school days. The creche is an innovative addition, teachers in Uganda would normally have to look after their babies and toddlers whilst they taught!



New School Buildings!



Last year Project Director, Spencer, and some of the local community were successful in securing funding from The Lions Club International to build new school buildings. The new Bevan school buildings (picture above) are brick built and will consist of 8 classrooms. This was a great achievement, it will be amazing to have such a facility.

Keith, Alison and Neil visit the village

We sponsor children in the school and in September/October 2022, we visited the village along with trustees Mandy and Martyn. Whilst the trustees were occupied with data and financial meetings, we got involved in several community projects. We went with an idea of building a playground for the schoolchildren. We were inspired to do this by seeing other playgrounds built with locally available materials, such as used vehicle tyres and wood. Seeing several lorry tyres arrive on the back of motor bikes was quite a sight!

With help from some local (strong) men, we plotted out the playground, dug holes and made seesaws, boda bodas (motorbikes) and a bus complete with steering wheel, fuel gauge and satnav. Balance beams were made out of strong eucalyptus poles, and stepping stones and hopscotch with the remaining tyres. The children were fascinated with the development of the playground .

Among the things we took with us were a variety of games to teach the children. With a lot of help from the teachers, we arranged to take all the classes during the school week to learn new games and have some fun. We played parachutes, spokes, rounders and other games that involved balls, lots of running and laughing. Parachute games seemed to be the favourite and once they got the hang of it there was no stopping them! The children loved all the games and it was amazing to see them so happy. When the balls were thrown in they went wild, shouting and laughing.



We were very glad of the teachers' help but think the teachers probably enjoyed it more than the children.

Nurse Brenda and Alison visited several families in the wider village area who are supporting children and adults with disabilities. People with disabilities and their families receive no state support and can be isolated from village life for many reasons. We spent time with the families, getting to understand their situations and assessing their needs. Some need practical help, e.g. toilet training or a new mattress, whilst many have developmental delays and need help to develop physical, cognitive and social skills.

Nurse Brenda and her new colleague, Nurse Desire, are keen to develop support for these families, and a new weekly special needs 'drop in' has started since our visit. This will initially be a play and support group to build connections with the children and families, and it already has eight children with disabilities and their carers in attendance. The charity has now secured a grant of £2500 from Rotary and the Mary Robinson Trust to fund this initiative.



**Nurse Brenda with the family
of a disabled child**

Case Study: Crispus

Crispus is a disabled child that Grace has wanted to help for a long time. He was unable to walk, talk or toilet himself. His days were spent on a dirty mattress in his simple home or on his mother's back when she tended her crops. In September 2022 supporter Alison, who is a trained occupational therapist, visited Crispus to assess him and advise his parents and Nurse Brenda of simple exercises and tasks they could give Crispus to aid his development. Amazingly, this is Crispus a few months later, running around and playing with objects. His parents are thrilled! He still has many issues and Alison and her husband Keith currently sponsor him, which gives support for his family.



Last year the charity helped to provide:

- **Funding for an elderly persons group (Kilnju group)**
- **64 menstrual cups sent from the UK**
- **New girls' latrines and school kitchen upgrade**
- **Antenatal and family planning clinics and supply of contraceptives**
- **A family planning building incorporating a creche and meeting room**
- **A temporary classroom for the P7 class**
- **Solar power for 61 households**
- **120 mattresses and blankets for very poor households**
- **Free medication including testing for HIV and malaria**

What can you do ?

Sponsor a child

£25 a month will provide schooling, uniform and food for a child in desperate need.

Sponsor school needs

Any regular contribution to the school will enable us to provide education for needy children who haven't got a sponsor

£20 per month will provide food at school for 6 children

£10 per month will provide 30 children with school stationery

Donate any amount

Eg. £15 will provide a school text book, £10 will provide uniform for one child

Contact or donate at www.rwyanacommunitytrust.com



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