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*Standing
Together*

Stand firm, let nothing move you...
-1 Cor. 15:58



UGANDA IS A LAND FULL OF MOSTLY CHILDREN

One only has to walk the streets to see evidence of the struggle that's created by systemic poverty and high mortality rates. As a result, you see older children watching over younger ones, unattended babies, or mothers with five to six children living in small makeshift huts as they eke out a living to provide for their children. Since many children are orphaned, it's not uncommon for families to take on additional children who have lost their parents.



Fifty percent of Uganda's population is under the age of 14. This Sub-Saharan African nation has more than 2.3 million children orphaned due to AIDS-related deaths. With a total population of more than 30 million, Uganda has the highest proportion of AIDS orphans of any country in the world.

Though Uganda now has a stable government, it's still crippled by foreign debt, lack of industry, and the AIDS crisis. Therefore, the government is unable to support services to rescue its own children. Churches and international relief agencies are vital to confront this crisis on a daily basis. "Buyamba" means help and is one of many organizations making an impact in a sea of desperation.

Education and discipleship is the only hope for this nation's children. Understanding this, Bethuel and Florence Dongo founded a school that today is thriving: **GOD CARES SCHOOL. IT'S A NAME THAT REMINDS THE CHILDREN DAILY WHERE THEIR HELP COMES FROM.**



Since God Cares High School was completed, the span of education in the God Cares School system now runs from baby class (age 3) to S6 (the last year of high school). A child's education ends with level testing and school assessment—helping to direct a student to the doors of trade school, small college, or even university. To that end, the administrators and teachers at God Cares come alongside every student who is motivated to launch them into a post high school program of study—one that will set them up for success. To date, God Cares has seen four of its own graduating classes.

God Cares School is striving for excellence in academics and to be intentional in creating Christian discipleship programs. At the same time, Buyamba in the U.S. is committed to coming alongside God Cares through the equipping of sponsors, donors, and prayer partners—helping them to make a difference in the lives of Ugandan children.

Our mission is to offer love, hope and a future, through education and discipleship...one child at a time.

Our vision is to empower the orphaned and needy children of Uganda to impact their nation for Christ.

This vision has continued to go deeper into the hearts of all of us who journey together in the ministry of Buyamba, defining all that we're doing together to answer that call.



HOW CAN BUYAMBA MEET THE VAST NEED?

Buyamba started with one child. One child, matched with one sponsor who met that child's education expenses. Then another. And another. Soon there were school dorms and sponsors to meet those children's residential needs. And still more children came...one child at a time, each matched up with a generous sponsor's heart who longed to make a difference in the life of a child. Today, God Cares School has grown to 1,660 students.



SPONSORSHIP IS AT THE HEART OF BUYAMBA. \$35 A MONTH CHANGES A LIFE.

This year, we will look to **EXPAND** our borders by taking in more children off the streets. There's still room in both of our five-story buildings at God Cares Schools, which means we have the capacity to impact even more children.

We will also continue to **BUILD** on the high school campus, which is still incomplete. God blessed us in our goal to put the roof on the Bethuel Dongo Assembly Hall in 2017, in memory of our dear founder. There is still much to be done to finish the building.

The facility itself will serve the whole community of the high school and beyond. It's a multi-purpose building that will not only serve the entire student population for school assemblies and weekly chapels, it will also be an official testing site for national testing of the S4 and S6 classes (high school secondary exam levels).



This has led to the Ugandan government's recognition of God Cares School as an approved facility, making it more appealing to solvent families who can afford to pay their children's tuition. This helps everyone.

The building will also be used for other special events like graduations or various ceremonies for the student body as well as outside groups that will be able to rent the facilities, thus generating needed funds for the high school. One great feature of the building is the teacher housing on the first floor, along with a large area that will eventually have both basketball and volleyball courts for student athletes.

Although land was purchased outright in Jinja (the second largest city in Uganda) as the site of the future home of the third God Cares School, those building efforts have been put on hold. Buyamba has decided that it's better stewardship of our resources to first finish our efforts at the God Cares High School campus with the **ASSEMBLY HALL** and **STUDENT DORMS**, before we endeavor to launch a third school.



OUR LOVE GIFTS

Ongoing **“Love Gifts”** are always popular with sponsors and donors. These are gifts that can provide for a single child, their family or friends, or even the whole school or community. These gifts often fill in the gap where there’s a need such as a school uniform, a Bible, a goat or chickens, food supplies, or even a cow! Two gifts that are growing in popularity with our donors are the **“Shoes that Grow”** and the **Buyamba Family Christmas Baskets**.



THE SHOES THAT GROW!

Buyamba has recently partnered with **Because International** to obtain the **“Shoe that Grows”** for our many students at God Cares. Their founder explains, “Over 2 billion people suffer from soil-transmitted diseases and parasites. They live in areas that do not have adequate sanitation. They struggle with proper hygiene. They do not have the right clothing, resources, or healthcare. And being sick = struggling. Kids miss school, can’t help their families, suffer with pain. Many of these diseases and parasites get into the body because people don’t have shoes. There are over 300-million children (in the world) who do not have shoes.”

The **“Shoe that Grows”** is the solution. The shoe grows five sizes (with adjustable

features) and lasts for years (for its durable material). With this shoe, a child can always have a pair of shoes that fit. They can stay healthy and focused on school.

Buyamba is partnering with Because International to get as many shoes to God Cares as we can this year. Since we’re buying in bulk, we’ve been given a discount, reducing the cost for a pair of shoes to \$15, including a tote bag

OUR FAMILY CHRISTMAS BASKETS

God Cares School finishes the academic year in December, right before Christmas. If you ask a child what they’re looking forward to after school is out, you might be surprised to know that it’s not Christmas presents, or family, or decorations— it’s FOOD. Over and over the children will tell you that eating with their family during break, along with worship time on Christmas Day is what they most look forward to. They don’t necessarily have a traditional feast, rather they receive a variety of food while at home on break. That’s a marked increase from what they get during the school year, so you can see why the students look forward to it!

Instead of buying a Christmas gift for your sponsored child, **Family Christmas Food Baskets** provide for a whole family instead. This way, all are blessed with the provision of staple ingredients like flour, sugar, rice, beans, fruits and veggies.

Only \$40 sends a family gift basket home to a child’s family during Christmas break that will provide ongoing meals.





CREATIVE GIVING

Creative Giving is a revenue stream that grew out of sponsors and donors being empowered to give in a multitude of creative ways. We've seen everything from lemonade stands, car washes, school children running "Change for Change" programs, a high-end shoe line called Buyamba, and even a future Ugandan coffee product called Ugandan Mist—all of which are created to benefit our children at God Cares Schools. Those are just a few of the business ideas with a cause, that reflect the creativity of our donors in raising awareness of the orphaned and needy children of Uganda.

BUYAMBA APPLAUDS THESE EFFORTS AND SEEKS TO SHARE AND EMPOWER THEM AND OTHERS TO FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLES IN BUYAMBA'S CREATIVE GIVING CAMPAIGN.





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