



Buyamba News

Helping **Uganda**...one child at a time

It's Time ... Laying the Foundation of the Student Dorms



As most of you know, many of our students actually live at God Cares Schools during the three school terms each year and then return to their parents or guardians in their village of origin during the term breaks. Living at the school is the key to success for many of them, as they become immersed in education and are well fed and cared for 24/7 at God Cares School. There are usually about 300 boarders at the Primary school (out of the 1,000 students), and their lodgings can be found on the fourth and fifth floor of the five-story building. Many short-term mission team members have seen these creative dorms in the classrooms themselves with wall to wall three-story bunk beds and a nurturing matron or guardian for each room that sleeps 40-60 kids.

As the result of a recent visit from the authorities, the Ugandan government officials have informed us that only 150 of our 300 children will be allowed to board at the primary school this year. Half of our children will move back to their guardians' homes and walk to school, or those that have to board will be reassigned to Joy Primary School nearby. The Dongo's stay in close contact with this School, and report it is a high quality Christian school. Each affected student's sponsorship will transfer, and each sponsor impacted will receive written

notification from our office when we receive that list of children. We must comply with the law on these requirements and this is the year to begin that journey. Please pray. This will be a difficult transition for some students who are used to boarding at God Cares, but Worship reassured us, "This is a good school with strong education and discipleship and we [Buyamba social workers] will be overseeing this process closely until these kids transition into God Cares High School or into a new dorm at the Primary School."

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Transition Years at GCS

The first term of the new year at God Cares School starts this month! This is a great time of transition for some students, especially the P7 (primary graduates) students who will be moving an hour away to God Cares High School and the S6 (senior) graduates who will be applying to universities and trade schools. If you sponsor a child at any of these stages, you will receive written communication from our office regarding your specific child. We want the sponsors of the P7 kids to know that their child may need an additional sponsor for their boarding costs, if their student was not already boarding at God Cares Primary School. We also want the sponsors of the S6 students to know that this college application process takes a long time and to please pray and continue with normal sponsorship in order to save for college or trade school in the months ahead. This communication is for your information and prayer consideration only, not to pressure you to give more, but to continue to come alongside your student just as you have before!

Prayer List

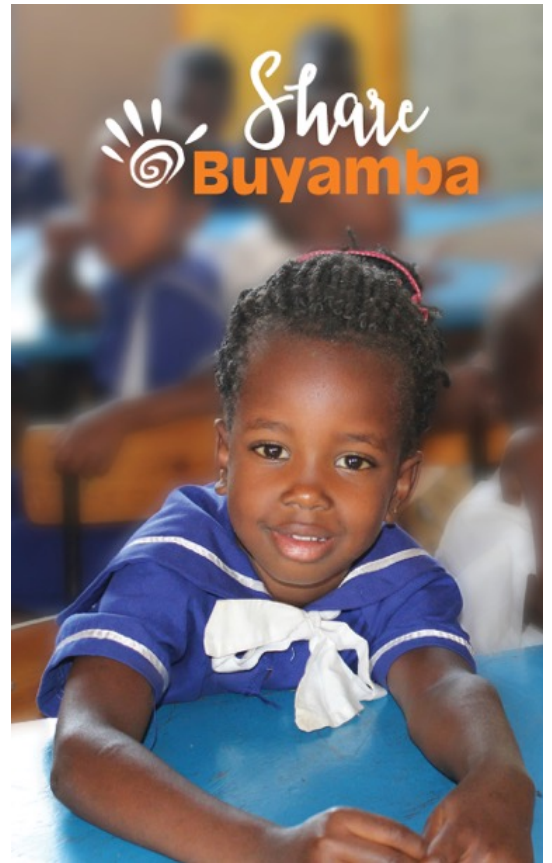
Pray for those students in transition this school year.

Pray for wisdom and financial support for our student dormitories.

Pray for Florence Dongo's trip to the United States and the connections with new and old friends who help Buyamba grow!

Share Buyamba... A Call to Buyamba Ambassadors

It is clear that God moves on the hearts of people to care for his children who are orphaned or in desperate situations. There are many sponsors and donors who have been with Buyamba for years and who are very passionate about sharing the love of Christ with these children. If you fit this profile, the "Share Buyamba" invitation is for you. We are looking for ambassadors that will carry the call to others who do not know of this opportunity to journey alongside a child in the education and discipleship process at God Cares Schools...transforming lives and taking more children off the streets who are hungry for love, hope and a future in their desperate circumstances. **YOU can take the next step in spreading the word by hosting a small get together at your house or a given location and invite a couple of friends to get to know Buyamba.**



Florence Dongo's visit to the U.S. creates a perfect chance to get this opportunity off the ground. If you live in Southern California, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, or the Sebring/Orlando area of Florida, we want you to get involved! Please join us this spring and invite Florence into your home to meet some new and current Buyamba friends. It's an easy, relaxing way to introduce Buyamba and share your passion with your friends and family. We will provide you with a simple booklet called "Share Buyamba" that will give your guests a quick overview as they meet Florence over coffee, dinner, or a gathering of your choice. The idea is to share the passion that is within YOU to impact these lives. You can be God's mouthpiece to

share the powerful message that we have the ability within our means to achieve Buyamba's vision to empower a generation to impact their nation for Christ.

Contact our Buyamba office today for more information and to schedule this special time with Florence, as she makes the trip out to the U.S. to thank those who love her children. We will fully equip you. There are limited spaces and scheduling has begun; Call today at 805-558-0089.

»» ...Laying the Foundation of the Student Dorms

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At God Cares High School, almost all the students live at school for it is over an hour away from God Cares Primary School, where most of the students come from. There is no way to go back and forth each day to school (like many who had walked to school or took the bus when they lived near the Primary School from the surrounding slums or villages, such as Bukasa or Kabalagala). Since we are looking at a high school population this year that may reach 800, **there is an immediate need for dormitories.** Currently, the GCHS kitchen building has been transformed into a huge girls' dorm with three-story bunk beds filling the space. Now, the almost completed Bethuel Dongo Assembly Hall's bottom floor also houses the senior girls (where the future teachers' quarters will be.) The high school boys are nestled on the fourth floor of the five-story high school building. This dorm project must begin now at God Cares High School.

These various 'living' spaces have been temporary solutions, as we have continued to complete the building of the required student Assembly Hall. Nevertheless, the time for temporary fixes is over, as the government continues to ask that the students be housed outside of the school buildings, as required. We have had favor with the authorities, but the time of us "moving forward in this process" has ended, and we must build the dormitories now.

Although building the dorms is another huge building project to undertake, we have learned that one person can make a difference, a focused group of people can make an impact, and all of us together can change a nation. So, if the next step for us is to build the dormitories, then we will be about our Father's business together... one brick at a time. Please pray for wisdom and financial support for our students' dormitories. Consider giving a one time gift of any amount towards this time sensitive project.