



Buyamba News

Helping Uganda...one child at a time



Facing The Challenges of School Closures



"The Covid-19 school closures will exacerbate an already-existing trend of low and declining learning outcomes in the education of Ugandan students as a whole. These results have important implications for education systems when schools reopen, which relate to, but also transcend, the current crisis." (Uwezo survey, 2019).

At God Cares School, we continue to take education and discipleship seriously as we face the school closures. Along with continuing to bring food and school work to families in different villages, we have initiated GOD CARE CIRCLES; that is, we meet with the families alongside the child, we give them food and educational supplies, and we provide prayer and counseling. The Buyamba Team asks; How can we help? What do you need? We then ask if we can pray with the family while we are there visiting. (Continued on Page 2)



Can we pray for you?



How can we help?



A Parent's Story

My name is Namajja Hafsa, a mother to Asher Israella Mulungi. For the last 4-5 months, COVID has affected us. It was a sudden occurrence, and we were not prepared. It so happened that it was critical to the extent that help was not at hand. As a parent, I was not equipped, and I was not expecting it to go on for this extended period. When the COVID lockdown started, some of us were employed, but then we were given a cutoff, and our earnings put down....meaning no more job or income.



Namajja Hafsa
Buyamba Parent

The children are being supported by God Cares School, which has given us help by bringing homework to us and availing us with reading materials. (Continued on Page 2)



A Parent's Story



a mother to Asher Israella Mulungi

We have been receiving bible materials and school assignments to keep the children busy. So, we do have school at home, and we pray and do bible studies to the level that Asher is now able to read. She is now at the point that she can open a book in the bible and just read.

We want to thank God for the provision that Buyamba has put in place for us. We have received posho, sugar, and salt, which are the basic staples we need at home; for example, you cannot give a child porridge without sugar in it. We could not think of where to get these basic things, but because of Buyamba, we have these things now.

We are also thankful for Buyamba providing soap, so we can now wash. We are very grateful to the donors and extend our gratitude to them that they have helped us at this level. Thank you for giving from the heart. Thank you that you love us even in such a moment. We are forever grateful.

Facing The Challenges of School Closures

Meanwhile, our social workers are on the phone every day, trying to track down each child we have not been in touch with yet. These are the children that we have not seen or talked to as we delivered food to different villages. These students are not easy to find; they may have moved to another village nearby, or their guardianship may have changed (for many of our students are orphans). The social worker often calls 2-3 people before they find a student, but they will not give up. When we locate a child or guardian, we ask what their needs are, such as food and educational materials, and we try and help whatever way possible. If their living situation has changed, we also update our files so it will be easier to collect all the children at once when we receive word that school can reopen.

President Museveni said that the government would make a final decision sometime in September to reopen schools. He said the options are: open school starting with candidate classes or declare a "dead year," which would mean that all students would start the current school year level over. This poses problems in that many older students may lose interest in school, having moved into an available job, or even moving into early marriages, especially with the girls who are often married off for a dowry, which helps the rest of the family survive. This is truly a difficult time for Uganda that presents many challenges which will impact lives forever. Please pray with us for the children of Uganda and especially our students at God Cares Schools.

Creative Giving - The Buyamba Annual Pumpkin Patch

Join us as we welcome the fall season with our annual Pumpkin Patch hosted at Calvary Community Church in Westlake Village, CA. If you cannot join us physically, you can join us in spirit as we partner together to help the **Buyamba Food Outreach in Uganda!** It takes all of us together to help our kids AND their families, remember Buyamba means "help," so everyone can join the effort to bring hope to God Cares families!

More details are to follow but save the date for October 17 & 18, and join us for this all day, open-air event. There are over a thousand pumpkins varying in colors and sizes growing in the field today. Take one home with you for a donation and let it be a reminder of the hope we bring to children in Uganda.

