

Newsletter Edition 35 February 2024



Back from Uganda - a different world



"Filling another person's life with confidence means living twice over." (William C. Chandler)



If the journey starts in Germany at 4 degrees Celsius during the day, 22 degrees when landing at the airport in Entebbe already seems strange, from 32 degrees to 9 degrees back again, it already makes it clear - there are almost worlds between Germany and Central Africa. And yet it is one world. While our daily concerns are about prosperity and public order, everyday life in Uganda is about the struggle for having enough to eat every day and, above all, about sufficient prospects for the



children, asked their teachers and head teachers lots of questions and gathered a lot of information that takes a while to process and helps us to make the best possible progress with our resources.

mainly very young population (average age under 17). As we work for a foundation that is dedicated to supporting education and training, it is not a mircale that we visited 16 schools in 9 days, talked to young and older



Other School projects - a colourful bouquet of commitment and new ideas

In addition to visiting our scholarship holders in their various schools and our school project St. Jude Nursery & Primary Day & Boarding School in Kikondo/Kyotera district, we visited several other school projects to gather experiences and ideas. To describe each of them in detail would fill pages. Each of them was impressive and remarkable. In this newsletter, we will only briefly summarize the highlights:





Yilt ("You and I initiative for Life Transformation") - the founder and trained teacher Fred Ssuna, fuelled by his own life experience, inspires both young and old children for African dance in a dance school, sends the children to various schools with school fee subsidies with income from dance performances and the sale of small arts made from paper and other waste, and fights for the construction of a school of his own.

Futture for Ugandas Children in Kyanamukaka



Two young women from Germany lost their hearts to the children of Uganda during a voluntary year's stay in the Transitory Home in Masaka (see below) and, together with the priest Gerald Lwanga, who trained as a teacher, have built up a primary school for 420 children from predominantly poor families in Kyanamukaka, a village approx. 50 km south of Masaka surrounded by pineapple, maize and sugar cane fields, within less than 5 years on the basis of sponsorships and donations; hats off!



Smile - Smiling Angels Daycare and Nursery School



In 2023, three young teachers, Steven, Gorreth and Benitah, founded a nursery school just a few kilometers north of Kampala on a plot of land they had purchased and with their own creative concept. They themselves come from the Motherhouse in Masaka and dedicate their efforts with

many ideas to vulnerable children from poor families.

"OCAOF – Our Children and our Future" - different projects in Kamukongo/Kitamba/Birinzi

The Remscheid-based organisation OCAOF, together with Emmanuel Musoke, his wife Maria Goretti and Rose, has been doing amazing things for many years: an orphanage with a second home for children suffering from HIV, support for a state primary school, a medical station, a vocational school, a secondary school, a model farm, an agricultural research farm and a laboratory for humanitarian and biological research, all to support and qualify young people in the region and improve their living conditions.





Anna Namuddu's - St. Cecila Transitory Home in Masaka



Founded in 1980 by Anna Namuddu, the centre is home to around 80 children, all of whom are girls who were somehow stranded, dropped from school or for whom no school fees could be found. They find a home in the Transitory Home. A two-year vocational training programme (tailoring, knitting, cooking, catering, making utensils from waste and other materials) gives them some prospects for an independent life. The biggest concern of the home's management is the lack

of materials such as fabrics and the like, which are needed for the girls' training.

Our current projects::

At "our friends" in Kikondo





There was great joy at the reunion, which was used as an opportunity to



officially hand over and inaugurate the new well on the school grounds. The well pumps water from a depth of almost 20 metres via an electric pump, which starts up when water is needed for school use or to fill the 10.000 litre tank installed at the other end of the school grounds. The water is so clear and clean that it can be drunk without treatment. The tank is located right next to the

school's sanitary facilities, so that its water can be used for flushing toilets after a corresponding investment in the sanitary facilities. It is also located near to the neighbouring agricultural land, which is planned to be acquired in a later stage of the project in order to significantly reduce the costs of feeding the school from the agricultural produce to be obtained there and, if sufficient, to generate cash income from the marketing of the produce. If the school has surplus water, the pipeline will be opened for a tapping point outside the school. The neighbouring population can then draw water from there. This greatly increases the positive connection of the poor population in the neighbourhood of the school





In addition to speeches and singing as well as visits to the school classes during lessons, we took the time to get to know the teaching staff and the headteacher Valentine and to talk about future plans. The purchase of a second-hand school bus to transport the children to and from their families' homes, some of which are more than 5 kilometers away, and new standards for the school's sanitary facilities are on the agenda. A cash donation of $\in 1,000$ was enough to buy another 30 new school



desks for 60 schoolchildren and to equip 16 pupils with school uniforms. "Our friends" have a firm place in our hearts

Our scholarshipholders - Teddy's "children"



Melvin Motherhouse in Masaka Teddy



Also helping beside giving money

They say that you "dive deeper" on your second visit to a foreign country. If this is true, we experienced this during a whole day of dialogue with young people who are on the threshold between school and work.



Corte, 22, is a fashion tailor and works for a small company owned by her friend in Kampala, who has a sewing machine on which she can sew. She would like to work with materials other than those available in Uganda, e.g. cotton. But these materials are either not available or not affordable. The clothes in Uganda are mainly sewn from very strong textiles containing plastic, which allow less freedom of design than cotton or even silk. Yes, and then there is the sewing machine problem. We have a total of 5 fully functional electric sewing machines in Germany and have not yet found a way to transport them to Uganda. Customs is the problem, especially since

the only airport in Entebbe was sold to the Chinese by the government.

Conrad, 21, is about to complete his degree in art and media design. He loved drawing as a child. He did this on the back cover of his school books, forbidden and with punishments from the teacher as a consequence. At secondary school, he was then allowed to develop his love of fine art with a computer and brush. He enjoys painting portraits and lets the painted faces tell their stories through the eyes and the position of the head. He very much regrets that there are hardly any opportunities to earn money with his paintings in Uganda.





Naster, 22, studied Business Administration with our support and graduated with honours last year. She is learning German at the Goethe-Institut and earns some money by selling self-made bracelets on her YouTube channel "Naster-Craft" - she still needs just under 150 registered subscribers to her channel (free of charge) - then she will earn some money. She works on a voluntary basis for an organisation called Omuti Kreativ in a project in which she informs pupils at secondary schools in Uganda about the dangers associated with being sold (enslaved) to Arab human traffickers from the Arab Gulf states, who - as we know from the coverage of the football World Cup in Qatar - have been trafficked to Uganda. In addition to sharing experiences and ideas on how to network even better, we can and want to help all three of them to make new contacts.



Lisa – a supprising 15 years old young lady from the region of Kasese

When I received an email in perfect English from 15-year-old Lisa last summer asking for a school grant, I was a little sceptical because I didn't know her or her background. As it was a manageable amount of money, I agreed to it, not least because I wanted to get to know her better on our trip. Kasese is about 120 kilometres south-east of Kampala, close to the border with Congo. The area is currently not considered safe for tourists from Europe, which is why Teddy didn't want us to travel there. So the plan was for Lisa to travel to Masaka by bus with us. We had expected her around midday, but Lisa didn't turn up at first and the phone connection was mostly interrupted. Towards evening, she arrived at the



Motherhouse on a "boda-boda" (= motorbike taxi) together with an aunt and her son from Masaka. She had set off alone in the early hours of the morning on the bus from Kasese. The bus then broke down due to engine damage and she had to fight her way to Masaka by hiring another bus and motorbike taxis until her aunt from Masaka came to her rescue - an amazing adventure for the young girl. In fast, fluent English, she told us an equally amazing life story. Her mother is seriously ill, her father unknown. An aunt had taken care of her and her three siblings and initially also looked after her and her three siblings includig paying the school fees. However, when the money became too tight, Lisa dropped out of the programme and had to leave the school despite her excellent grades. But she didn't want to give up. She found a publicly accessible library in

Kasese, which also had a computer with internet access, and continued to study from there. At some point, she caught the eye of the staff at the institution to which the library belonged. They gave her the tip to contact possible foundations for a scholarship and that's how she got in touch with us. She is now back at school (Secondary 2) and is once again achieving excellent grades. Her dream is to become a doctor. It was no question for us to promise her that we would help her fulfil this dream.



And...thanks to our companion Gerhard Haag - "Johannes' new grandad"

Dr Gerhard Haag has a lot of experience in setting up and running schools in Africa. For 15 years, he helped build and supervise schools in the Mbeya region of Tanzania. He is affectionately known there as "Dr Haggi". When he heard about our travel plans, he expressed an interest in accompanying us. We were delighted and grateful, as his experience was and is very valuable to us. During his stay, he quickly took Johannes, Teddy's little 7-month-old son, into his heart as his "new grandad"



Do Not forget!

This year's concert of our foundation with Avishag and an ensemble of the

Maqamat School for Eastern Music from Safed/Israel will take place on

Saturday, den 28. September 2024 in Leonberg-Warmbronn



"What the world of tomorrow will look like depends to a large extent on the imagination of those who are just learning to read."

(Astrid Lindgren)



Have we aroused your interest in our work?

Visit our homepage www.fam-hoene.de! Get in touch with us at stiftung@fam-hoene.de or by telephone on +49 7152 3537299!

If you would like to support our work, whether by providing information about educational projects worthy of support or in any other way, we would be delighted to hear from you. If you would like to support us through donations or endowments, you can also do so on a project basis. We guarantee that your donation will go directly and exclusively to the project of your choice. In the case of project-related endowments, we ensure that the income attributable to your endowment is used exclusively for the project of your choice.

If you would like to make this decision, you will find the necessary information on our homepage. Our donation account at Kreissparkasse Böblingen (BIC BBKRDE6BXXX) has the IBAN DE17 $6035\ 0130\ 00011098\ 14$.

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