# MIRYANTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

**APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER** 

### SAVING THE WORLD ONE CHILD AT A TIME

# DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear our Valued Sponsors, Donors and friends of Miryante Community Center East,

I hope this message finds you well. On behalf of the entire Miryante Community Center team, I am honoured to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and commitment to our cause.

M.C.C has been a beacon of hope, empowerment, and transformation in the community of Buyende. Through your generous contributions and tireless efforts, we have been able to provide essential services, educational opportunities, and a safe haven for those in need. Please take a look on some of our projects we carried out within the month.

We are very busy, and please enjoy a summary of our work!

WITH CHRIST, DOREEN TIGAH



# Program Updates

• Farming and Gardening

The rainy season is here, and the children have been assisting with weeding the maize and preparing the gardens for planting vegetables. We have also been actively involving our children in hands-on learning experiences with animal husbandry, using our model

farm which includes cows and goats. This approach helps instil in them practical survival and business skills essential for future success.



#### Blankets and Mattresses

Miryante Community Centre embarked on a compassionate initiative to support the vulnerable members of the Buyende community by providing them with mattresses and blankets. This act of kindness not only aims to offer comfort and warmth but also symbolizes our commitment to caring for those who need it most. Below is a photo of the late Aisha's family receiving mattresses and blankets. Aisha died this year



from complications from sickle cell anemia after an extended hospitalization. The old woman who cared for her and the family were so grateful and overwhelmed with happiness for this extra support.

# TAKING CARE OF OUR YOUNG WOMEN

Miryante Community Centre plays a crucial role in providing adolescent girls with the knowledge, resources and support they need to manage their menstruation. With information, they may continue their education by addressing menstrual health and hygiene in schools. Once educated, girls are better equipped to attend and participate in their education without interruption or embarrassment. Here are young women from the Butaswa Primary school. With the help of a senior female teacher, community counsellor, Madam Betty plus M.C.C. social workers, the girls were taught the importance of personal hygiene and how to avoid teenage pregnancies. They were also encouraged to stay in school. M.C.C gave them pads and tooth paste to help in their menstrual hygiene and to keep clean. We believe this is important work to keep young women and girls in school.



Primary and secondary school children have started their term one break and are happily helping their caregivers with house hold tasks. We are also delighted to inform you that the end-of-term results of our children have been released, showing a significant improvement in their academic performance. MCC credits the positive educational achievements and academic progress to financial assistance for school fees, educational materials, and essential needs provided by our generous donors. Social workers also visited schools to monitor our children's performance and educated school-going teenagers about the risks of dropping out, such as early pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and extreme poverty. We are grateful to our caring donors for their ongoing support, which has brought hope and love back into the lives of our orphaned and vulnerable children.





MCC holds regular Saturday activities with the children on Center Days. The social workers meet with the children in the communities. The social workers connect with each child, provide psychological support and counseling, share stories, teach them letter writing, and sensitize them on various life skills, in order to help the them develop in a well-rounded and productive manner. Children color pictures, socialize and interact freely with their peers, participate in music, dance, and drama activities, and most importantly, share knowledge and information with each other. Children with various life coping challenges are offered counseling, along with breakfast, school supplies, toothpaste, sanitary pads and more. Our children are always happy and grateful for the items they receive. We sincerely thank our generous donors for bring smiles to the lives of our children.

# HELP SUPPORT A CHILD



# **SEEKING SPONSOR!**

#### **JOSELINE NAKALEMBE**

Joseline Nakalembe has appeared in the Miryante newsletter before and is still looking for someone who is willing to sponsor her!

Joseline is nine-year-old girl. She stays with her grandmother who is 69 years old and her little sister who is seven years old. Both of her parents passed on and both girls remained under the care of their grandmother. Joseline's grandmother is a peasant farmer; she digs for people to get food and rent for the house they live in. Her income is too little to support the family and the children's education. Miryante hopes to provide additional support to keep Joseline's family intact.

Joseline is a well-disciplined and loving girl. She enjoys singing and dancing, her favourite colour is pink and her favourite animal is a cow. She wants to be a teacher when she grows up.

Are you able to sponsor Joseline?!?

If you would like to sponsor Joseline or another child in receiving programming, please visit Miryante's website: miryanteorphanage.org.



## **SEEKING SPONSOR!**

#### SPECIOZA NAMUGERWA

Specioza Namugerwa is still seeking sponsorship! This is her third appearance in this document and she is hoping to find someone who is willing to sponsor her!

Specioza is a seven-year-old girl with Miryante Community Centre. She lives with her mother and two siblings. Their father abandoned the family and no longer provides support for the household. Specioza's mother is a peasant -farmer, which means that she digs (gardens) for other people to earn food. Her income is too little to support, feed and educate her family.

Specioza is a well-disciplined and loving little girl. She enjoys singing and dancing, and her favorite color is pink. She really enjoys the cows, which are her favorite animal, and she would like to be a teacher when she grows up. Sponsorship will help her attend school, have enough to eat, and stay united with her siblings and mother within their home.

Specioza is hoping to finding a sponsor soon!!

If you would like to sponsor Specioza or any of the other children receiving programming, please visit Miryante's website: miryanteorphanage.org.



### GET INVOLVED MIRYANTEORPHANGE.ORG

Want to get more involved with Miryante Community Centre? We need your help in the following ways:

#### SPONOSOR A CHILD

\$50 a month provides a child with food, shelter, clothing, school fees, medical care and psycho-social support.

#### BECOME A PENPAL

Send letters to a child! Letters back are texted. The children feel very special when they receive mail! Contact Marie Wilbanks: merasika24@gmail.com

#### DONATE TO A FUND

Visit the Miryante Community Centre website to learn more about the following projects: Animal Purchase Fund, Vocational School Fund, Farm Supply Fund, Management Fund, Renovations Fund, Buyende Home Fund, and Miryante

#### • PURCHASE AN ANIMAL FOR A CHILD

Livestock supply milk, meat and income for the children. Often, children will be given an animal of their own as they exit the Miryante program.

#### VISIT CAMPUS

Visitors to the program are always encouraged! There are also endless activities in the area for tourists! To find out more about visiting the Miryante Community Centre campus and Uganda, contact Laura Corcoran: lauracorcoran@hotmail.com website: miryanteorphanage.org

### **Food Donations to Families**

Miryante Community Centre provides monthly supplemental food to all of our children living in foster care. This is to ensure that everyone has full and nutritious meals to thrive. Here are children receiving corn flour to take home and share with their families.





### SPECIAL DONATIONS

We want to thank our sponsors for another clothing donation. Our children are always happy to have new clothes, and they are more confident and content when they have sufficient clothing for their schooling and activities. We are always grateful for this support.