

MIRYANTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

AUGUST 2024 NEWSLETTER

SAVING THE WORLD ONE CHILD AT A TIME

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

To our many supporters of MCC,
We extend heartfelt gratitude for you. As we reflect on our journey, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for your support. Your generosity plays a crucial role in transforming the lives of vulnerable children, youth and their families. Thanks to your contributions, we have made significant strides in providing essential services, including education, healthcare, economic empowerment and psychosocial support. Our impact is not just measured in numbers but in the smiles of children who now have hope for a brighter future. Together, we are creating a lasting change in our communities. We are deeply committed to transparency and accountability, ensuring that your investments yield tangible results. Thank you for being an integral part of this journey. Your support empowers us to continue and inspires us to dream even bigger.



WITH CHRIST, DOREEN TIGAH

Program Updates

◆ Initiatives Updates :

We're excited to share recent developments in our initiatives including for Centre Day activities. We are identifying engaging programs for children and youth that focus on education, support, development, and enhanced resources and training for students. During home and school visits, we are strengthening community ties and supporting systems. We continue to seek donations of nutrition and food support to improve dietary health and access to food. We are focusing on health initiatives to ensure well-being. Finally, we are teaching animal husbandry activities to promote sustainable practices and livelihoods.

◆ Special Donations :

We are very pleased with recent clothing donation for our orphaned and at-risk children who now look smart in their new outfits. These types of donations increase



confidence in the children and improve their quality of life. We are pleased that our continued efforts within our community is raising awareness and giving to support these vulnerable children.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND GARDENING

The rainy season has brought renewed energy to our sponsored children, who have been actively involved in planting and weeding activities during the holiday. The team has successfully cultivated a variety of crops, including beans, sweet potatoes, onions, and matooke. Our children are also gaining valuable experience in animal husbandry and gardening skills through our model farm. Teaching these skills helps children know how to develop stable food supplies as adults. Children learn improved farming techniques, financial literacy, effective harvesting and food storage methods. They are able to partner and learn from local farmers about how to become successful gardeners and harvesters as they grow older.



HEALTH OF CHILDREN AT MIRYANTE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Many of the children who are referred to Miryante Community Centre require specific medical care for illness and disease. We are deeply grateful to God for the gift of life and the good health all our children, and we are mindful that we must continue to monitor their status. Upon admission to the program, a child's health often significantly improves thanks to the comprehensive support provided by the MCC foster care setting and the timely health medical assistance. All HIV-positive children are enrolled in antiretroviral therapy (ART), receiving routine clinic reviews and ongoing counseling from qualified medical professionals and social workers. Adherence to ART is important and has been excellent, supported by the direct observation of treatment by foster care guardians, leading to undetectable viral loads. This is a huge success.

While we celebrate these successes, we have also seen common illnesses such as malaria, headaches, and recurrent flu and cough, which have been referred for appropriate management at accredited health facilities. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our generous donors and sponsors for their invaluable financial support, which ensures the routine medical care of our orphans and vulnerable children. While antiretroviral therapy is provided to children at no cost, typical medical care is extremely costly and often requires travel for specialty care. This is only possible with our sponsors.



HELP SUPPORT A CHILD



SEEKING SPONSOR!

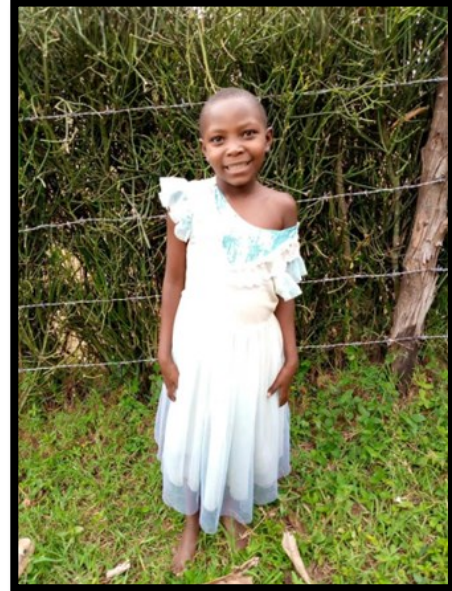
JUSTINE NAKIJJOBA

Justine Nakijjoba is still seeking sponsorship! Justine is a bright and disciplined 12-year-old girl currently in grade seven. She lives with her mother and four siblings. Her father abandoned them five years ago, and her mother is battling severe health issues due to cancer in her feet.

With no sole breadwinner, the family is experiencing financial hardship. Some of Justine's siblings have had to drop out of school due to the lack of funds for school fees and necessary materials. Despite these challenges, Justine remains optimistic and dedicated to her education.

Justine has a loving nature, with dreams of becoming both a nun and a nurse in the future. She enjoys singing and dancing in her free time, which brings her joy and helps uplift her family's spirit.

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



SEEKING SPONSOR!

JOSELINE NAKALEMBE

Joseline is still looking for a sponsor. She is a bright and loving nine-year-old girl living with her 69-year-old grandmother and her seven-year-old sister. After losing their parents, they rely on their grandmother's income from peasant farming, which is not enough to support their basic needs and education. This has put the entire family in a difficult financial situation.

Joseline is well disciplined and enjoys singing and dancing. Her favorite color is pink, and she loves cows. With dreams of becoming a teacher, she is eager to find a sponsor who can help her pursue her education and a brighter future. She is enjoying her schooling and would like to continue for as long as she can.

Joseline is hoping to find someone to support her journey. She has been waiting for an official sponsor for a long time and is eager to find support.

If you would like to sponsor Joseline 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:

◆ **SPONSOR 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: miryanteorphange.org*

Home Visiting

Regular visits with our social workers is an important process for foster families who are willing to care for a child who is either orphaned or vulnerable. These visits with workers are meant to empower families while providing basic education and expectations around child-development. In the Buyende program, children have complex medical diagnoses and needs, and social workers can discuss the status of a child's health as well as provide training and basic education about medical conditions. They can also make sure that families are connected to stable food and healthcare. Below, one of our workers visits a family who is supporting a child abandoned by family.



DONATIONS

Simple donations can teach children many different skills and how to problem-solve. Here, children put together a puzzle that was donated earlier in the year. This is a unique learning experience for many children in our community.