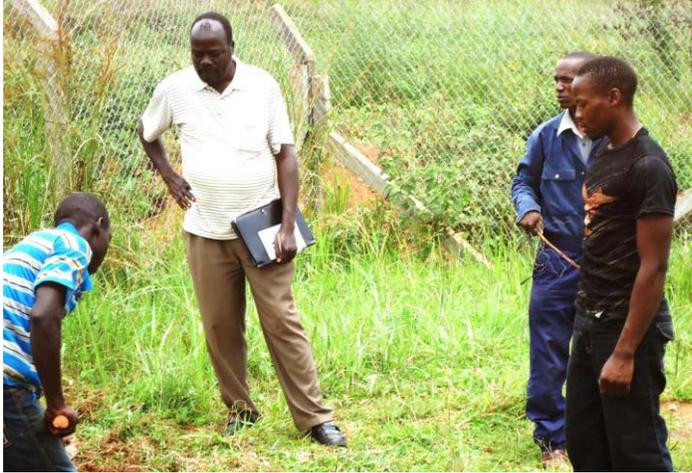


# The Clarion



## **A message from the Chair of the CANHAVE Board of Trustees in Uganda**

In this 20th anniversary year and on behalf of the Uganda trustees, I would like to thank all our friends and supporters for enabling CANHAVE to carry on the noble task of empowering the most disadvantaged in our communities with education and life skills. We experience the destitution of AIDS orphans in our communities, some of whom become heads of households at a tender age of seven. It is very motivating to see the smiles on the faces and share the dreams of the children we support in schools under the children's program.

We have a very successful children's program with 100 children in different types of institutions. The CANHAVE Vocational School still needs a number of key developments in its training and accommodation infrastructure to make it fully-fledged and self-sustaining. I know that together we shall make a difference in the lives of many AIDS-affected households through education for their children.

I would like to thank the Canadian and Ugandan board members for the time and efforts in support of CANHAVE activities. As we mark 20 years of existence, we join in wishing all our friends and supporters a happy celebration.

**Paito Obote**

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**This issue is dedicated to all the volunteers and donors who continue to make CANHAVE a success. Thank you for your continued support**



# President's Message

This year we are celebrating the 20th anniversary of CANHAVE. We are celebrating a generosity of heart and reflecting on how far we have grown. The founders of our little organization had a dream that we could help some of the most unfortunate children - those who had lost both parents to AIDS. That dream, and the commitment to making it come true, has brought us to our current accomplishments. For all of us who have worked with CANHAVE, it has been a rewarding period too. When you see the smiles on the faces of our CANHAVE children, you cannot help but smile yourself.

Our first Memorandum of Understanding comes to a close at the end of December 2015. We will have met all of our commitments and currently are undertaking an evaluation of our achievements, in preparation for the next Memorandum. We have 90 pupils enrolled in the Children's Program and that number will increase to 100 in January 2016. Our Vocational School is well along the path to self-sustainability. In order to help us meet our governance responsibilities, we approached Milly Baino to go to Uganda in the fall of 2014 to work with the trustees and both boards. Milly is a Ugandan Canadian who has been a long term CANHAVE supporter. Milly returned to Canada and presented the Canadian board with her report. Her enthusiasm was electrifying! As we go to press, Milly is currently back in Uganda with our Ugandan partners. I am excitedly awaiting her next report.

Looking forward, we will need to decide where to concentrate our efforts for the coming three-year period. We are education-focused with an emphasis on early primary education. If our goal is to enable children to become literate and numerate, the earlier we begin the intervention the better it is for the child. For that reason, my suggestion would be that we start looking toward bringing nursery pupils into the Children's Program as spaces open because of our departing graduates. Starting in pre-primary would be possible where good nursery schools exist.



I am now completing my second term as a Board member and will be stepping aside, handing over the reins. I am a richer person because of all the new friends I made through CANHAVE. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the directors for the work they do on behalf of our pupils. I also thank the people working behind the scenes to make our little organization the success it is. There is a children's story called "The Little Engine That Could" which clearly comes to mind when I think of CANHAVE. With all of us supporting, CANHAVE did climb the mountain. The dreams sustain us, motivate us and reward us. Onward! I give you flowers



**Janet Castle**

## A 2014-15 Report from Milly Baino in Uganda

Last fall, the CANHAVE Canada Board of Directors gave me an opportunity to visit the CANHAVE Children's Centre in Uganda. The main purpose of my visit was to deliver some messages from the CANHAVE Canada board and also to visit the children, in the program (see picture below), at their educational institutions. I was privileged to interview many of the children and their school principals (Head Teachers). I was very touched by the amazing opportunity for these vulnerable children to receive an education through the support of generous CANHAVE donors. I could clearly see what a difference this support was bringing to the children's lives.



**Dorothy Mitala, Chair of Uganda Board of Directors CANHAVE Children's Program, Joseph Kabali, Coordinator of the programme and myself visiting with some of the CANHAVE children in their school.**

During the visit, I spent some time at the CANHAVE Vocational School and mingled with students and staff. I also met with members of the 3 CANHAVE Uganda boards – the Board of Trustees, and the Children's Program and the Vocational School's boards of directors.



I also participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> graduation ceremony at the School, a colourful event attended by various dignitaries. The message that resonated in all speeches that day was about self-reliance, which is the very reason the CANHAVE Canada Board supported the building of this vocational school. Most of the students who graduated that day had already found work in their various localities.



## 2014-15 Report, cont'd

Upon my return to Uganda this spring, I feel as if I am just carrying on from where I stopped last fall. It feels great to see familiar faces which, in the true Ugandan culture, are so welcoming and appreciative of my being here. While CANHAVE grapples with a few issues, the boards are focused on achieving their goal of helping these children become self-sustaining adults through literacy and skills training. CANHAVE is fortunate to have such dedicated people who are willing to push this important work forward on a volunteer basis in the harsh Ugandan environment.

The Children's Program is in very good shape. The board is focused on its role while discussing how else they can re-innovate the way they care for the children to include other urgent needs such as health insurance and feeding the children when they are at home (their caregivers' homes) during the school holidays. These are two major issues in the Children's Program, because Uganda does not have medical and social programs to support their citizens that many of us take for granted.

The CANHAVE Vocational School is providing various skill programs (trades). The board and staff too are faced with improving the infrastructure; they are determined to continue with this important task of producing self-sustaining citizens of Uganda. The instructors are totally committed to their work. When I arrived this time, the students were undergoing some practical exams. I had the privilege of observing some Catering students as they chopped away at local produce and cooked some really amazing meals using the basic infrastructure (see photo below) that is available at the school. Upgrading the catering facilities is at the top of the school priorities. The Board of Trustees is aware of the urgent need and is scrambling to find assistance to accomplish this.



The Tailoring Fashion and Design program is the second most popular course at the school. When I visited last fall, the head instructor told me of an urgent need of a knitting machine. I am happy to report that the School has purchased one and is awaiting delivery of a second one! This acquisition of needed equipment is a sign of the determination of the administrator and staff to move their important work forward for the benefit of the students!

I would like to end this report by thanking the generous Canadian donors for supporting these vulnerable children. The changes that happen in these children's lives are immeasurable! For every one child supported by the CANHAVE in Uganda program, I believe that another 50+ Ugandans benefit from this generosity.

## Meet some of the Uganda CANHAVE Volunteers

### PAITO OBOTE

Paito is the Chair of the CANHAVE Board of Trustees, Uganda. Paito came to us on the recommendation of WaterCan/Eauvive (now Wateraid Canada) when CANHAVE prepared a contract to build the well at the vocational school site in Kisubi. Paito is known for his honesty and transparency in all his dealings. He is able to get the job done using completely fair terms.

Following the construction of the well, Paito designed a water filtration system for the school. In 2010, Paito was offered the contract to oversee the construction of the Elizabeth Residence at the vocational school. After joining the CANHAVE Board of Trustees, Paito accepted the position of Chair of the Board, where he oversees the direction and management of CANHAVE in Uganda and serve the needs of its two programs: the Children`s Program and the Vocational School Program. He and his fellow trustees are ultimately responsible for the persons, accounts, site issues, programs and projects of both programs.

Originally from the northern provinces of Uganda, Paito is a member of the Acholi tribe. He is currently living in Entebbe, while making frequent journeys to his home in the north. Paito is an extremely grounded human being with a fine mind which is value based. He is also a strategic thinker.

CANHAVE is both privileged and grateful to have Paito Obote holding the reins of its partnership in Uganda. Paito is highly respected both locally and internationally, because of his involvement in various non-governmental agencies, such as Water Aid. His skills are invaluable and his dedication to the development of his country admirable.

**Comment from Board of Trustees:** *"Paito is a visionary and a doer. He is driving the CANHAVE programs to real success".*

### JANE FRANCES KIIZA

Jane Frances is one of the volunteer `focal persons` whose area of responsibility is Busukuma. She lives in a large district with many CANHAVE pupils under her care. Jane Frances comes to CANHAVE through KWYEEG, a grassroots community-based group which organizes women to join together to help each other establish economic stability in their communities.



As a community organizer, Jane Frances knows each and every orphan and their caregivers in her area. Since she knows of the vulnerable orphans in the area, she filters the information about the neediest to the CANHAVE Children's Board.

Jane Frances' kindred spirit for her community has led her to dedicate her life to looking out for the best opportunities for those vulnerable children. She is a great resource to the people of Busukuma and a valuable ambassador for CANHAVE and the children in the program.

**Comment from Board of Trustees:** *Volunteers like Jane Frances are hard to find in this world."*

## PETER KIMERA

Peter Kimera is one of CANHAVE most dedicated and long-serving pioneer volunteers. He is a retired secondary teacher, living in Kyengera. Peter serves this district as a `focal person` in the Children's Program. In this role, Peter knows and understands his region and has enabled CANHAVE to reach the most vulnerable children. The opportunity to become a CANHAVE student gives each child a future that the CANHAVE strives to create.



Peter's understanding of the education system spans primary, secondary and beyond. As a widower with six children, Peter is in constant contact with education. Peter was the person to recommend some of our first children in the program. He still remains a strong link between CANHAVE and our pioneer school - St. Aloysius.

Peter spearheaded the first construction phase of the vocational school. After clearing the bush off the land, he worked tirelessly to complete the first U shaped building where the vocational school is situated. He employed local labour and was constantly on site every day to direct and supervise the work. The idea of constructing fishponds for the vocational school was Peter's as well. With his knowledge of the site and of education, Peter serves on the board of directors for the vocational school.

Communication is a particular strength of Peter's. As a tall, respectful person, Peter displays a quiet authority. He has strong links with the community and helps keep the lines of communication open. Peter never tires of volunteering to help solve problems.

**Comment from Board of Trustees:** *"Peter is a gem for the CANHAVE programs! His contribution has uplifted so many in his community of Kyengera and beyond"*.

## ELIZABETH KAZIRO

Elizabeth is the Secretary of the Board of Trustees in Uganda. She has held this voluntary position for many years, as she works full time as Secretary to the Japanese Ambassador to Uganda. In her role as Secretary she performs invaluable services for both the Children's Program and the Vocational School. In an environment of mobile phones and phone cards, Elizabeth is the hub of communications. She saves her colleagues thousands of Ugandan shillings by conveying messages with speed and efficiency.



Elizabeth was one of the first trustees appointed in 2008 to form the Ugandan Board of Trustees, our Ugandan partner. She is a very serious, people person who is dedicated to her responsibility. Elizabeth has been one of the trustees sitting under a tree, mapping the path to follow for the growing CANHAVE.

CANHAVE Uganda is fortunate to have Elizabeth as a resource person. Her communications skills continue to benefit the CANHAVE program. She is the filter of information from Uganda to Canada and vice versa. She dedicates a lot of time to CANHAVE business, in spite of her full time work and family responsibilities.

**Comments from the Board of Trustees:** *"Elizabeth is the gatekeeper of the CANHAVE communications channel."*

# Bouquets and kudos to our wonderful fundraisers

**CANHAVE has some wonderful faithful friends.**

**Ann McLean** and her **country quilters** continue to amaze us by their work and dedication to CANHAVE Ugandan orphans. For the 20th anniversary, they have created a beautiful African quilt. It is being raffled at all the CANHAVE events and other summer occasions where they are present.



The winning ticket will be chosen on December 1, 2015 at the Country Quilter. The license number for the lottery is: **M757187**.

A group of **tireless seamstresses** who love to sew up a storm together has made hundreds of pillowcase dresses and matching pants for our CANHAVE children, their friends and siblings. We are very grateful to these ladies who work all year round, including the winter when some are in Florida.



**Many thanks to both groups of ladies.** They love our CANHAVE children. Will you follow their example and come up with a fundraising idea for CANHAVE?

## 2015 Annual General Meeting

Please join us at **CANHAVE`s Annual General Meeting**

**Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2015**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**Place: Parkwood Presbyterian Church on Chesterton Drive at Meadowlands.**

We encourage you as members to take part in CANHAVE`s business.

## Upcoming Fundraising Event

**20th Anniversary Dinner "The FACES of CANHAVE "**

**Date: 30 October 2015.**

Pease mark the date on your calender

# How can you help? ...Please sponsor a CANHAVE child

This year 2015, CANHAVE will support the education of 90 orphans in primary and secondary schools. By **SPONSORING** a student, you help CANHAVE reach its goal of increasing the number of school children by 10 each year to 100 by 2016.

## Your donation of:

- **\$360.00 per year or \$30.00 monthly** pays the school fees and extras for one child in primary school each year
- **\$100.00 - \$350.00**, contributes to the fees and boarding expenses of academically successful students entering senior school or post-secondary institutions
- **25.00 \$** (to the general fund) offers the donor an annual membership. Every member receives two issues of the Clarion, our semi-annual newsletter, and may vote at the Annual General Meeting.
- **Other options - designate your donation towards a specific aspect of our work in the Children's Program or the Vocational School Program: \$\_\_\_\_\_**

## Other opportunities to help:

- Make a tribute to a family member, friend on an important occasion: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Organize a fundraising event for CANHAVE

## How to donate:

- On line, via the CANHAVE website ([www.canhave.org](http://www.canhave.org)) through **CanadaHelps**
- Credit Card (Visa or MasterCard)
- By cheque payable to:

**CANHAVE** Children's Centre, Inc.,  
PO Box 21045,  
Ottawa, ON  
K1S 5N1.

**Tax receipts are issued for all donations of \$20.00 or more.**

CANHAVE is an incorporated membership, not-for-profit organization. We encourage individuals wishing to help Ugandan AIDS-affected orphans to join and become a voting member, a volunteer, and/or a donor. CANHAVE has two voluntary boards; one in Canada and one in Uganda. The decisions and leadership for planning and managing the programs are made in Uganda; meanwhile the Canadian Board provides policy and fund raises to support the education of children, one child at a time.

**Canadian Registered Charity No. 88992 8396 RR0001**



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*Special thanks to those involved in the creation of this issue of the Clarion: Helen Anyoti, Milly Baino, Janet Castle, Gwynneth Evans, Paito Obote.*