

CanHave Clarion

Volume 1, Issue 3

September, 2001

News from Uganda

New Children

We have recently added **two** children. They are:

Jingo Issac

Rashid Nabankema

Thanks to **St. Augustine Primary School**, we have also added **three** more children to our list of those being assisted by CanHave Children's Centre, bringing our current total to **20**. The three new children are:-

Milly Namirimu **8-yr-old girl**

Irene Namagenyi **6-yr-old girl**

Vivian Wanyana **6-yr-old girl**

The first two girls are from **Matugga** in the **Wakiso** District. **Vivian** is from **Kampala**.

(For further details on the other fifteen children, see '**A Brief History of each Child** - Page 3.)

(cont'd on Page 2)

What's happening in Canada

Rummage Sale

A rummage sale will be held at the **Parkwood Presbyterian Church** on **Friday, 28 September, 2001**. It will run from **4 - 7pm**, with the proceeds being donated to **CanHave Children's Centre**. . It is also hoped to run a **B.B.Q.** in conjunction with this event, to assist in the costs of the **Gracefield Week-end**.

Mark this date on your calendar!

You are cordially invited to come and support the children. If you have any questions or wish to donate items for the sale, please call **Dorothy Nekrassoff** at **225-5307**.

Student fund-raising exceeds wildest dreams

The children at **St. Augustine Primary School**, in **Ottawa**, who recently raised enough money to sponsor **three** children in the **Canhave Special Child Program** - have indicated, through their principal, that they would like to turn this tremendous effort into an annual event

Congratulations to **St. Augustine Primary School**.

Are there any other schools, clubs, etc. out there who would like to accept their friendly challenge?

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM was held **8 June, 2001**. CanHave's goals were re-iterated - support and education of children who have lost their parents to AIDS. The Treasurer's Report included the current balance of **\$6,232.74 CAN**.

Elizabeth Knowles, Special Education teacher from **St. Augustine's School**, gave us an interesting talk on the school's fundraising project ("**A Chance for Change**"),

(cont'd on Page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** News from Uganda
- 1** What's happening in Canada
- 2** Program Approach
- 2** Letters from Uganda
- 3** A Brief History of each Child
- 4** Membership Information
- 4** Objectives
- 4** Contact Information

(continued from page 1)

News from Uganda

(cont'd from Page 1)

Letter from Joseph Kabali

Dear Sir (addressed to the Treasurer of CanHave)

Greetings from Uganda. Allow me to thank you and acknowledge receipt of money withdrawn from the bank. First I drew 600,000 (1,000 Ugandan Shillings = approx. 1 Canadian Dollar). 400,00 being balance of First Semester School Fees, and 200,000 for a new camera (previously approved by the Board of Directors). On this note, I wish to register my sincere thanks to you for the camera - it was timely because the one I had jammed in the middle of the Christmas party.

On 24th May 2001 I withdrew 1,660,000. On this account, one million was for School Fees for the Second Semester (receipts attached) and 660,000 for myself/ I thank you so much.

May the Good Lord continue to bless all your doings/

Yours faithfully

Joseph Kabali

In discussion of expenditures for the Second Semester, Joseph goes on to explain that, since **Peter Kafeero** and **Racheal Nakabugo** are now designated as Candidates, they must also be Boarders (school rules). **Penina Namuli** traditionally went to school with them and, as the distance she would have to travel alone is 6 miles each way, he made the decision to make her a Boarder also, with which we agree.

The Board notes that Joseph was historically a volunteer, who consistently used his own money to help yo defray some of the children's costs, such as transportation. In this regard, and with a view to stabilising his continued support, which was deemed to be crucial, the Board approved a small stipend for Joseph. ❖

What's happening in Canada

(cont'd from Page 1)

New Initiatives

These include considering the building and stocking of a **school library**, in conjunction with **P.W.S. & D.** (Presbyterian World Service & Development). This is in the preliminary stages, where the feasibility is being studied.

In a separate initiative, we are currently in touch with **C.I.D.A.** (Canadian International Development Agency) regarding our work in Uganda, and the possibilities for funding assistance.

A further initiative could involve **I.D.R.C.** (International Development Research Council).

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Program Approach

Phased Program Approach

We are currently nearing the end of the first phase of our program, which is planned to solidify funding for our current group of twenty (20) children. We are now looking forward to expansion in two directions

Within our current mandate, during the second phase, we are planning to increase the number of children we are directly supporting to a maximum of twenty-five (25).

Other Support Groups

At the same time, we will be actively seeking the involvement of other groups such as ourselves, with the idea that they might set up a similar self-sufficient organization to sponsor other Ugandan children orphaned by AIDS. In this regard, we have developed a presentation of material detailing our own approach that may be of some assistance. Our plan is to disseminate this information to all interested groups.

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A Brief History of each Child

(synopsis from a letter sent by our Treasurer to the LINKS organization in New Jersey).

Racheal Nakabugo 18 years (girl)

Peter Kafeero 16 years (boy)

Penina Namuli 14 years (girl)

Edson Musoke 12 years (boy)

The original group, these four children are brothers and sisters. Their father died in 1993 and their mother passed away a year later. They were left in the care of their 80-year-old grandfather. After watching their mother weeping for the future of her children before she died, we decided to begin taking care of them. Others have been added as funds became available.

Catherine Namazzi 15 years (girl)

Joseph Mawanda 12 years (boy)

These two are also brother and sister, and their parents both died in the same year - 1996, just three months apart. Their unemployed aunt took them in, despite already taking care of her own 10 children, ages from 1 to 15 years.

Moses Bataliwo 16 years (boy)

His mother passed away in 1996, and his father's whereabouts are unknown. He left home and is presumed to have died also, since he was in the last stages of AIDS. Moses was taken in by a neighbour, who was a family friend.

Ivan Nagenda 13 years (boy)

This boy's parents also passed away in 1996. He remained with his stepsister until she married and was unable to take him with her. He remained in the house alone, with some help from neighbours.

Benon Magambo 14 years (boy)

Benon was left in the care of a pastor's family, following the death of both parents in 1997. The pastor has 5 children of his own, together with the 7 children of his late brother.

Jacob Ntambi 11 years (boy)

Jacob lived alone with his mother, until she died in 1997, when his elderly grandmother assumed responsibility, despite no income and many other grandchildren from her dead sons and daughters.

Florence Nabakka 15 years (girl)

In 1997, both her parents died in short succession. Her mother, in her early 20's, had just begun a promising career as a tailor. Her maternal grandmother, a widow herself, had seen her one-time pension as a Midwife and Health Visitor consumed while caring for her only daughter. She was also caring for other terminally ill siblings.

Prossy Nakibuule 9 years (girl)

Prossy's mom passed away in 1998. As a single mother, she was selling used clothing door-to-door in order to support her family. A 15-year-old cousin lives with her, but she has no education and no job.

Suzan Mirembe 8 years (girl)

Suzan was left with the pastor of a local church "because God is the one who gives and takes away", as her young parents told him. Both parents died in 1998, just two days apart. This gentleman volunteers at the church, but earns his living as an elementary teacher. As with many others, he is supporting many children, despite very limited resources.

Robert Kiyaga 11 years (boy)

This bright little boy's parents are believed to have died in hospital or on the streets. He does not know where they went when they left, in 1998, but he does know that they both had "Slim" (AIDS), because they were very skinny and had diarrhea. Robert wants to be a doctor someday.

Juliet Namakula (girl)

Juliet is a new addition since the letter from our Treasurer to the Links organization. A creative little girl, she sent us a home-made Christmas card, which we will include in the next newsletter.

*** FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CHILDREN
WILL BE PROVIDED AS IT BECOMES AVAILABLE ***

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Membership Information

An annual contribution of \$25.00 CAN is required for individual membership, while a family membership is offered for \$50.00 CAN.

The current annual cost of the Special Child program is \$360.00 CAN (\$30.00 CAN per month). ❖

Contact Information

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Objectives

The objectives of CanHave are as follows:-

- To provide education, food and clothing to a number of AIDS orphans in Uganda. These children have been selected by our local field worker, with advice from the local minister, and will stay in the program, until they graduate from high school.

In the matter of education, we have chosen to select new children for the program early on in their primary schooling, and to send them to private schools where possible when they reach secondary school age. The costs are marginally higher than for the public schools, but the quality of teaching is superior, and the learning environment much more positive..

- To promote their physical, emotional, social, intellectual and spiritual well-being.

- To assist them in finding a satisfying and purposeful place in their society. ❖

From: CanHave Children's Centre
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