



HOPE CENTER UGANDA

- MARCH 2021 NEWSLETTER -

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CHILDREN REUNITED

Reunited & Fostered

In 2020, a total of 10 children were either reunited with family members, or placed with foster families. Every child who comes to HCU deserves the best; whether they are reunited with biological families or loving foster homes, who will take care of them, all homes are vetted and approved by our social worker. After placement, the children and families are visited multiple times a year to check in on the kids, bring them treats, and make sure that they are doing well!



Left to Right: Calvin, Hassan, Simon



Left to Right: Faith, Jonah, Esther N.



Left to Right: Daniel, Hope, Miriam, Victor (pictured right on the cover)

2020 PROJECTS RECAP

New Latrine and Showers

For Giving Tuesday last December, we asked for funding for a new latrine and YOU DELIVERED! We were able to raise over our \$2,000 goal for the project! Our old latrine was old, cracking, and in desperate need of updates, and now we have a beautiful new one that will serve HCU for years to come!



Before



After



PROJECTS cont.

Ceiling Project

A second huge project that we were able to complete was ceiling updates! This included putting new ceilings in the baby rooms, to help with air circulation and temperature control. The rooms also got a fresh coat of paint after the ceilings were done!



Trenches

The third big project that we have been working on is drainage trenches around the property! These trenches help control rainwater when we get big storms by keeping the soil from eroding, and funneling the water away from the buildings and places where it is likely to pool and make muddy puddles! We have 1 finished, and 1 to go once financing comes in!



NEW DIRECTOR

Mia Cannedy

Hello! My name is Mia Cannedy. I'm a Colorado native who grew up in churches and was gifted with an adventurous spirit. I have always had a desire to both explore and help others. Having grown up in a family that did foster care, my proclivity for helping those in need always seemed to draw me towards kids the most. I first ventured to Uganda and the Hope Center in 2015 for a two-week volunteer trip to appease the wanderlust and visit the center that had been started by people who used to attend the same church as I had as a teenager. Yet when I returned back to my Colorado home and careers, I couldn't get those babies from Uganda out of my mind.



A year later I had taken the plunge to move back to Uganda for a long-term volunteer stay. The plan was to stay 5 months and extend if I could. However, three months after moving I was sent back to the US by a team of doctors at the international hospital who couldn't understand what had caused me to become ill a month into my stay and took me on a downward trajectory that they couldn't diagnose or treat, but that they determined was life-threatening. For the four years following that return, it remained a dream to be able to move back to Uganda and my babies, and play a larger role in the Hope Center.

DIRECTOR cont.

I am blessed to say that I finally received that opportunity and am now the Director of Hope Center Uganda where I oversee many of the daily operations and staff. My goals at Hope Center are to increase the level of care and protection we provide our children, develop a more sustainable operation, provide stability in expectations of quality care, and make sure that every child that God has placed in our care knows they are loved and precious.



Mia will be taking a very hands on approach with the children and with the donors who are sponsoring children. If you have not heard from her already, and are a child sponsor, she should be reaching out to you soon! She is working on bringing a more personal sponsorship experience to our sponsors by sending pictures, updates, and general information about the child that you are sponsoring. We are so excited to have Mia joining our staff in Uganda, and can not wait to see what she is able to accomplish!

NEW CHILDREN

In 2020, HCU took in 9 new babies! We are so excited to be a part of their lives, and to help them grow and flourish! Below, are the stories of our two most recent intakes:

Patience (right)

Patience's mother took her older sister and abandoned the child to her unemployed and impoverished father. Her father has been unable to care for Patience and she often went without food and was left alone in the house all day while her father went in search of work. Because of this, Patience is malnourished and physically not as developed as she should be. At 2 years old, Patience cannot walk and cannot stand without assistance. She weighed only 13 pounds when she arrived at the center, but now is doing better and has gained weight!



Noelina (left)

Noelina's mother is currently unable to provide for her needs and her father has recently died from HIV/AIDS. Because of her family's poverty, Noelina has been undernourished and her development has started to slow. She is 13 months old and weighs just 11 pounds. She is on preventative medicine for HIV, and despite both parents being positive, thus far she appears to be HIV negative.

Sponsorship information for these children is available at:
hopecenteruganda.org/sponsor-a-child

UPCOMING PROJECTS

Updated Laundry Room



Currently, all of the laundry at the Center is washed by hand. We have 2 employees who wash clothes, diapers, and blankets all day, every day.

We would like to make this job much easier, and cleaner, by purchasing a washing machine and building a space dedicated to washing clothes.

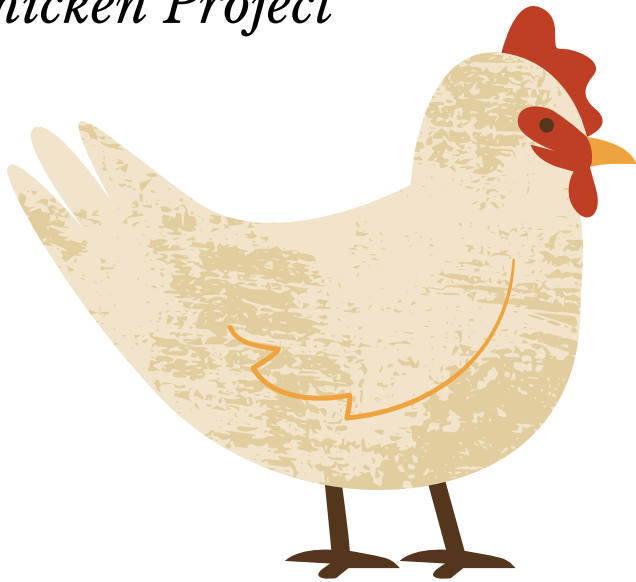
This new washing room will take the place of the old kitchen. It will have shelves, a sink, a washing machine, extra storage, and will significantly lessen the burden of laundry on staff members!

Estimated costs for this project:

The estimated cost to complete this project from start to finish is \$2,700.

PROJECTS cont.

Chicken Project



The next big project we are hoping to complete at HCU is purchasing some chickens! Chickens will give us eggs and meat, and help us to become a bit more sustainable by allowing us to cut costs on the eggs and chicken that we are already purchasing!

Estimated costs:

Costs for this project are TBD!

Staff Training

Staff were recently trained in First Aid! A big group of staff is now well-equipped to help in any first aid emergency that may occur!

Continuing costs:

\$650 is needed to train the rest of the staff or as recertification is needed.



For more information, check our annual report--coming SOON!

Our website was recently given a complete redesign! Head to the link below to check it out and learn even more about what we do at HCU!



hopecenteruganda.org