

# Hope Uganda Newsletter

## November 2017



### The Volunteer Trip September 2017

What a successful trip our volunteers had this year! They have achieved so much and we cannot believe that RHC is the same place! It is like a rainbow has literally touched it! The children are so happy and you can tell that they know what love is. Our first aid room is fully functioning and the well has now had its grand opening! The children have now got a TV and DVD player, and they also loved sharing their schoolwork with the volunteers which was immaculately presented and rivalled most adult's handwriting!



The biggest change is the appearance of the buildings! They have transformed from a brown cement to white and cream walls and multi-coloured window frames. Our rainbow mural symbolises the hope for a better future for our children and we all love how bright and happy it looks! We are already looking forward to another trip hopefully in August 2018.



ABOVE: Our brand-new sign at the entrance to RHC.

LEFT: The first aid room and well opening.



ABOVE: The children all crowding around Vanessa to get some sun cream! They then mimicked her and rubbed it on the back of their neck!

### What the volunteer trip enabled us to do...

- Painted chair and bench at entrance.
- Created a sign for the entrance.
- Repaired chicken coup and made nesting boxes.
- New tv in the dining hall for TV and DVDs.
- Donated clothes organised into gender and size.
- Photos of children and letters for sponsors.
- Well officially opened by Anne Beard.
- Dentist trip for all children.
- Bathing bowls, petticoats, shoes, buckets, frame to secure the TV, Tables and four benches, extension lead and paint all bought with donated money! THANKYOU!

Rainbow Hope Centre is run by a dedicated team of local people on HUG's behalf. Lydia and Steven are just two of our amazing team that help us keep the children happy and healthy.

**Steven:** Steven was born and raised in Lukaya, and like many children there he has lived through a difficult and painful childhood. His father died when he was six years old and his mother two years later. He tried as best as he could to provide for himself and his sister by carrying rubbish and digging however it was not enough. His uncle's wife took him in but this unfortunately led to an even more upsetting time for Steven. He eventually ran away, paying for his school fees by becoming a 'dependent' which means he was basically a caretaker at the school until a good Samaritan took him in, clothed and fed him and paid half of his school fees. This good fortune resulted in Steven attending the local collage, working in construction as a volunteer and ultimately becoming a head teacher! He states that whenever he looks at the orphans at Rainbow Hope Centre (RHC) he remembers his orphanage life and can't help but love them. He feels that God has put him there to serve these children and show them love. Steven is now happily married and has two beautiful children of his own. Steven's duties at RHC include: Maintenance of buildings and play area, tutoring the children, providing the children with school equipment, counselling and guidance and ensuring that all of RHC policies are adhered to.

**Lydia:** Lydia was born in Mbale and grew up with three siblings. Tragedy struck her family when her father passed away when she was twelve. Six years later her mother also passed away. Lydia was then passed around a variety of family members (uncles, aunties and grandmothers) most promised to pay for her school fees but either could not due to losing their job, or they simply used her as a housemaid instead. Her grandmother eventually managed to pay for her to finish school, and then an uncle paid for her to do a computing course. She met her husband while ministering in a local church and they have two beautiful sons. In 2014, Lydia and her husband opened up their own church which is where the children at RHC attend. Lydia states that she has always felt she was destined to work with children and she is so grateful for the opportunities RHC has given her. Lydia's duties at RHC include: Book keeping, welfare of children and logistics, caring for the children medically, counseling and guidance and also ensuring that all of the RHC policies are adhered to along with Steven.

### What are your plans next summer?

We will be heading to Uganda again during the summer holidays of 2018. We fly to Kampala, stay in Banana Village, travel to the orphanage in Lukaya and from there you decide what you want to do to help our project and the children further. If you are interested in finding out more please contact Andy on the phone number below.

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

To ensure the children have a future, they need to be educated, and unfortunately, this costs money in Uganda. We are in desperate need of regular donations-every little helps- and our English pound goes such a long way in Ugandan shillings. If you would like to be a part of this brilliant charity and help our children, please contact any member of the charity in person, or text Andy on: **07792651870**