## **OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2023**



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## Ask, Seek, Knock...

**Matthew 7: 7-8** 

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Matthew 7:7 – 8: 'Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks will receive; and anyone who seeks will find, and the door will be opened for those who knock.'

Using the verbs ask, seek, and knock, Jesus emphasizes us to actively and continually seek a relationship with God. As believers, we are urged to openly express our needs (ask), actively search for God's will (seek), and persevere our efforts to engage with God (knock). The promise is that those who earnestly and persistently seek God will receive, find, and have doors opened to them, highlighting God's willingness to respond to sincere and persistent prayer. As we go into this festive season and New Year, we should take all our needs to God in prayer, but also take extra effort in faith to take action about it. Jesus imparts teaching and guidance to us -his followers. Let us learn and be guided – Rosemary Nakasiita.

Welcome and thank you so much for selflessly supporting Good Samaritan School for the Deaf.

Enjoy reading this record!

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Dear Friends,

As we draw curtains on another school year and term filled with growth, joy, and achievement, I am compelled to reflect on the incredible journey I have undertaken over the past two years as the school director. It feels as though it were only yesterday when I eagerly embraced this opportunity, though uncertain about how I would effectively contribute to the well-being of students and staff in this environment.

When I assumed the role in March 2022, I was confronted with formidable challenges.



The school faced significant hurdles in delivering high-quality education and support to its deaf students and staff. resources compounded Scarce efforts, and the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown added an extra layer of difficulty. Parents and the broader community, still reeling from the pandemic's impact, were unable to provide adequate support, particularly in furnishing our children with essential scholastic materials. Remarkably. despite the widespread closures seen in

other institutions during the pandemic, our school remained operational, steadfastly caring for children with limited resources at its disposal. Astonishingly, the dedicated school staff persevered through two years of financial hardship, scarcely foregoing payment while continuing to provide invaluable services to the community. It was a grim reality, one that cast a shadow over the futures of the students who relied on the school for their education and sense of belonging.

The initial priority was to address the challenging financial situation. I reached out to friends and assembled a team of passionate and dedicated educators who shared my vision for a self-sustainable charity school and the school's mission (To provide affordable and appropriate educational and social-emotional growth services to enable the empowerment of the underserved deaf and hard-of-hearing children to live a meaningful life). Together, we introduced innovative strategies to address each issue systematically. We engaged with parents, alumni, and the local and international community of friends, well-wishers, and donors, rallying their support and garnering their commitment to the school's rejuvenation and survival.

Fundraising became a central focus of our efforts. We reached out to local businesses and even launched a crowdfunding campaign. The response was overwhelming. Friends and well-wishers rallied behind us, demonstrating a profound belief in the

importance of Good Samaritan School for the Deaf. The funds began to pour in, and gradually alleviating the burden of debt that loomed over us.

Simultaneously, we worked tirelessly to revitalize the educational programs. We introduced new initiatives, improved infrastructure, and implemented a dynamic curriculum tailored to the unique needs of our deaf students. The positive changes were palpable, and as word spread, enrollment began to rise once again.

The journey was fraught with uncertainty, and there were moments when the weight of responsibility threatened to overwhelm us. Yet, the collective determination of the school staff, the unwavering support of the local and international donor community, and the resilience of our students propelled us forward.

Today, as I reflect on the past two years, I see a transformed institution. The Good Samaritan School for the Deaf is not merely surviving; it is thriving. The once-imminent closure is now a distant memory. Our students are flourishing academically, and the vibrant energy within the school is a testament to the resilience of the human spirit when faced with adversity.

Our journey is far from over, but the path forward is now filled with hope and promise. The Good Samaritan School for the Deaf stands as a beacon of resilience, reminding us all that with determination, compassion, and a shared commitment to education, we can overcome even the most formidable challenges. As I continue to lead this remarkable institution, I am filled with optimism for the future, knowing that we are making a lasting impact on the lives of these incredible students and the community as a whole. Thank you for being the driving force behind the success of our school!

I invite you to embark on a captivating journey through this record of updates, with each entry unveiling a new chapter of insight and progress at our school.

Merry Christmas and and Happy New Year!

Rosemary Nakasiita

**School Director** 

#### **ABOUT US**

#### **Our Mission**

To provide affordable and appropriate educational and social-emotional growth services to enable the empowerment of the underserved Deaf and hard-of-hearing children live a meaningful life.

#### Vision

To create a safe, supportive, nurturing, and equipped resource and rehabilitation center and learning environment that allows Deaf and hard–of–hearing children to thrive and succeed to their optimal potential to become independent, self-sufficient, responsible, and productive citizens.

#### Motto

"Obulema si Butesobola" literally translates as "Disability is not Inability".

#### Beliefs & philosophy

- We believe that every child has the right to an education and a loving upbringing that is why we take in children from all over Uganda, regardless of their backgrounds, and how much their parents can afford to pay.
- We believe that disability is one of the many characteristics of a Good Samaritan child. We therefore appreciate every child for their unique talents and traits and encourage them to respect themselves and each other.
- We welcome everyone, but also everyone has to contribute. That is why all the children are in some way responsible for the running of the school and taking care of each other. Through caring, and nurturing a 24-hour residential and academic program and through family engagement programs, we provide educational and social opportunities that assist all children to attain their fullest potential.
- Emphasis is placed on meeting the unique needs of each child, fostering positive values, good health and community involvement and encouraging children to view learning as a lifelong endeavor in an ever-changing world.

#### The Potential of Coffee Cultivation: A Source of Prosperity and Financial Stability.

With a blend of enthusiasm and a deep sense of purpose, I extend this message to you, marking the commencement of a transformative odyssey that holds the power to mold the destiny of our school and its student community. It is with great pleasure that we unveil an essential fundraising initiative, dedicated to acquiring land for coffee cultivation – a venture far beyond a mere crop but a strategic endeavor to fortify and

elevate our educational mission.



financial sustainability for our school.

One of the remarkable attributes of coffee is its cyclic nature. Harvesting can be realized twice a year – in January and July – allowing us to enjoy a consistent income stream. The profits generated from the commercial sale of coffee will be a cornerstone in supporting our school's operations and enhancing the educational experience we provide to our students.

Coffee, beyond its aromatic allure and global popularity, stands as a beacon of economic opportunity. With each kilogram fetching approximately 6,000 Ugandan Shillings, and an anticipated yield of about 400kg per acre of planted land, the financial prospects are compelling. This endeavor transcends mere cultivation; it is a pathway to

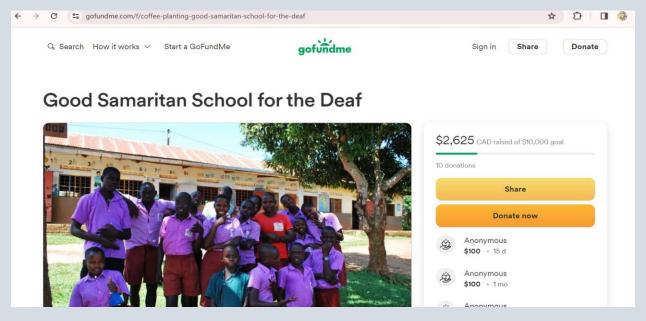


Currently, our students actively participate in the gardening. They contribute their time and effort to care for the garden, where maize/corn, beans and other crops are cultivated, harvested, and either consumed or sold as needed. However, a critical challenge looms over our efforts – the lack of land ownership. The land we currently utilize is generously provided by the school's founders, Mrs. and Mr. Nsamba. While their support has been invaluable, the legal intricacies of succession in Uganda pose a threat. The law of succession dictates that the land, presently available to us through the Nsambas, will eventually be inherited by their children and their families. Understandably, they may need to allocate the land for their own gardening needs, leaving our school in a precarious situation. This underscores the urgency of our fundraising initiative.



Our goal is clear: to acquire five acres of land near the school, a prudent investment that comes with an approximate cost of 5,000,000 Ugandan Shillings (approximately \$1810 CAD) for each acre. This land will serve as the foundation for our coffee cultivation project, securing the future of our students and paving the way for a self-sustaining educational

institution. According to our School Director – Rosemary, acquiring a minimum of **two acres** of land would enable the school to cultivate sufficient coffee for a steady profit, while purchasing **five acres** would be the optimal scenario.



We extend an invitation to you, our cherished readers, to join hands with us in this noble cause. Your support, regardless of its size, will have a direct and lasting impact on the lives of our students. Through your generosity, we aim to create a lasting legacy of education, empowerment, and sustainable growth.

To make a contribution or learn more about our initiative, please visit our dedicated <u>fundraising page here</u>. Every donation brings us one step closer to creating a future where knowledge and prosperity flourish hand in hand.

Thank you for considering our appeal. Together, let us sow the seeds of education and watch them bloom into a harvest of opportunities for generations to come.

#### A Memorable Journey of Learning and Adventure.

Our adventure began as we set off from our school at 4:30 a.m., and headed to Jinja, a place renowned for its natural beauty and rich cultural heritage. Our first stop was at the famous Jinja Bridge built over the Nile River and then to Makepasi Match Ltd, a local matchbox manufacturing company. We had made a prior appointment with



A photo with some of Deaf youth who work at Makepasi Match factory

them and they had been expecting us to be there by 10 a.m., so we had to be early. The visit was both enlightening and entertaining, as we learned the intricate process of making matchboxes. It was fascinating to see how something so simple yet essential in our daily lives is created. While there, we also got to meet the deaf community employed there, they

demonstrated to us their daily tasks in the different departments and it was very hopeful to see that such a big company employs deaf youth despite their disabilities. We left with a deeper appreciation for the craftsmanship behind these small but significant items.

Next, after our tasty lunch meal at a local restaurant in Jinja town, we made our way to the breathtaking Busowoko Falls on the Nile River. The sheer power and beauty of the falls left us in awe. We took a boat cruise on the Nile to see the said source longest river in Africa a point in Lake Victoria, during which we were surrounded by lush greenery and tranquil waters. It was an incredible experience to be so



A photo outside Makepasi Match factory administration block

close to the source of the Nile, and we couldn't help but be amazed by the grandeur of nature.

After our boat cruise, we visited Sikia Cafe, where we had the pleasure of meeting a group of Deaf youth who worked there. They warmly welcomed us and served us a



Dennis taking a high jump at the Busowooko falls on the Nile River

delicious meal of Rolex, Uganda's delicacy street food. We were delighted not only by the food but also by the chance to connect with fellow Deaf youth who are thriving and contributing their to Their community. determination and spirit were truly inspiring. Our day ended with a night in a cozy motel, where

shared bed and stories and laughter, creating lasting memories that we will cherish forever.

The following day, we returned to Kampala city, but, along the way, we stopped by a small restaurant where we each had breakfast before we embarked on the journey. While in Kampala, we visited Acacia Mall. It was a day of firsts for the children, as they experienced their very first elevator ride and escalator. The mall was a bustling hub of



Boat ride to the source of the Nile River in Lake Victoria

activity, and we were captivated by the diverse range of shops (we went shopping in Carrefour Supermarket, and got some snacks, juice, and donuts for the road) and the entertainment options it offered.

We also had the opportunity to explore the Buganda Royal Palace, where we learned about its rich history and the significance it holds in Ugandan culture. The Buganda Royal Palace is more than a physical structure; it is a living testament to Buganda's resilience and continuity. Beyond its architectural grandeur, the palace is a vibrant hub

for cultural events, ceremonies, and traditional rituals. Visitors can witness the kingdom's customs come to life, forging a connection with Uganda's past and present.

As we entered the palace grounds, our guide, Joseph, a knowledgeable curator, led us through the various sections of the palace, offering insightful commentary on the significance of each structure and artifact. He shared captivating stories of Buganda's



history, from its ancient roots to its role in the modern era, the era of President Amin. The tales of Buganda's kings, their traditions, and the resilience of the Buganda Kingdom painted a vivid picture of a proud and enduring culture.

On way back to school, we made a stop at the Ugandan equator in Kayabwe.

Eager to witness the famous water demonstration, we joined a small group gathered around a basin. The guide poured water into the basin, and we watched with

amazement as it spiraled in opposite directions on either side of the equator, showcasing the Coriolis Effect. While we knew demonstration had the limitations, it added an element of fun and excitement to the After experience. the demonstration, we took pictures and explored the local stalls and shops surrounding the equator. The vibrant colors of traditional fabrics caught our eyes, we hope



A photo the Equator monument at Kayabwe

to pick up a few souvenirs to remember in our next visit.

It was a fascinating encounter with this geographical wonder, and we marveled at the science behind it. The equator holds a special place in our memories, representing the meeting point of our adventures and the significant milestone in our journey.

To conclude our trip, we visited Deaf alumni from our school – Eseza Nankya, who has successfully overcome challenges and achieved great things. It was heartwarming to see how our education had made a positive impact on a fellow student's life and

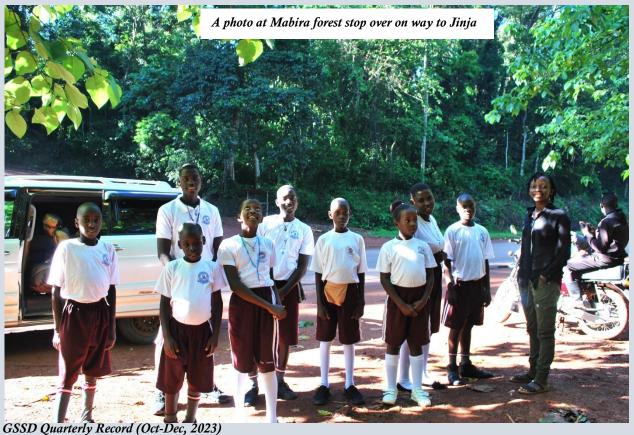
how they are giving back to the Deaf community through her salon business.

Your generous support made this incredible journey possible, and we are immensely grateful for the opportunity to learn, connect, and create memories that will stay with us forever.



A photo with our alumni Nankya Eseza at her salon business in Kayabwe

Thank you for making this enriching experience a reality for us. Your kindness and support have not only broadened our horizons but have also filled our hearts with gratitude and inspiration.



#### Celebrating Love: Teacher Yosam's Joyous Wedding.

Love is a universal language that transcends barriers, and at Good Samaritan School for the Deaf in Uganda, we recently witnessed a beautiful celebration of love as our esteemed staff member, Teacher Yosam, tied the knot on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. The joyous occasion followed a traditional introduction ceremony held on the 8th of



December, creating a festive atmosphere filled with love, laughter, and cultural richness.

The festivities began with a traditional introduction ceremony, a vital prelude to the main wedding event. Held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December, the ceremony was a vibrant display of Buganda's cultural heritage and familial unity. Teacher Yosam's fiancé introduced him to her parents, family, and friends at her parents' home in Mpigi, over 50 kilometers away from Kitengeesa. Teacher Yosam resplendent in traditional Kanzu attire, and his bride, radiantly adorned in Gomesi, received blessings and well-wishes from family and friends.

The following morning, the bride and groom exchanged vows at Kijjabwemi Church. The

occasion was a poignant moment that resonated with everyone present. The couple's commitment to each other was beautifully expressed both in spoken and through sign language for the deaf students, staff, and guests, underscoring the power of love to transcend communication barriers. The sign language element at the ceremony aligned well with the school's commitment to promoting inclusivity and understanding within the community.

Following the ceremony, the celebration continued with music, dance, and a sumptuous feast at the reception venue near the school. The joyful atmosphere reverberated through the school, as staff and students joined in the festivities to celebrate the union of two cherished members of our community.

As we congratulate Teacher Yosam and his bride on their union, we also celebrate the values of love, diversity, and respect that make our school a truly special place. May their journey together be filled with joy, understanding, and the continued support of the Good Samaritan School for the Deaf family.

#### A Day of Grace: Confirmation at Our Lady of Rosary-Narozari Parish.

On the memorable day of November 10th, the Good Samaritan School for the Deaf witnessed a profound celebration of faith as seven children (Grace Jovia, Jackline, and Deusdiet, Raymond, Denis, Jordan and Pius) received the sacrament of Confirmation. The spiritual journey of these young individuals reached a significant milestone as Bishop Serverus Jjumba of Masaka Diocese led the sacramental rites assisted by Fr. John Mary Vianne –the Parish Priest at Our Lady of Rosary-Narozari Parish. This extraordinary event was not only a testament to the perseverance and dedication of the confirmed children but also a testament to the vibrant faith community that gathered and filled up the church, with over 500 children partaking in the sacred sacrament.



Bishop Serverus Jjumba confirming the candidates, on line are some of our students waiting for the special anointing.

The ceremony began with a solemn procession, symbolizing the journey of faith that these young individuals were embarking upon. As the candidates for Confirmation, adorned in their white garments, approached the sanctuary, a sense of anticipation enveloped the congregation, and Teacher Mary-Ludith was there to interpret for our children. She has prepared the students for this special day for some time now. The bishop, with his pastoral staff in hand, welcomed the candidates and the assembly, emphasizing the significance of the sacrament about to take place.

The Liturgy of the Word reminded everyone present of the promises made at Baptism and the call to live a life rooted in the teachings of Christ. The candidates actively

participated in the liturgy, professing their faith and expressing their commitment to the Catholic Church. The bishop's homily resonated with wisdom and encouragement, urging the candidates to embrace the gifts of the Holy Spirit and live as witnesses to the Gospel.



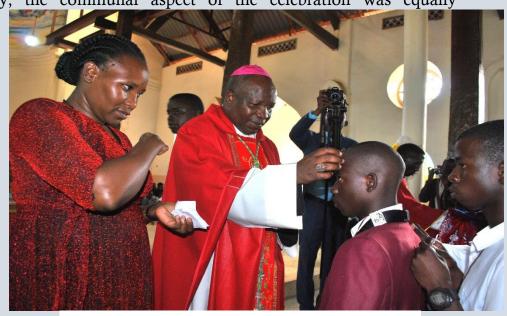
The pinnacle the of ceremony the was with anointing sacred chrism oil, a symbolic and transformative moment in Confirmation rite. the Bishop Serverus Jiumba, with a profound sense of reverence, anointed each candidate on the forehead. proclaiming, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." This act signified

the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the confirmed, empowering them for their journey ahead.

While the seven children from Good Samaritan School for the Deaf received the sacrament individually, the communal aspect of the celebration was equally

significant. Over 500 children from various backgrounds were also confirmed,

representing the diverse and vibrant Catholic community that makes up Masaka Diocese. The shared joy, prayers, and songs echoed the unity within the Church and the collective commitment to living out the faith.



Teacher Mary-Ludith helping Bishop Serverus Jjumba in Sign Language during the confirmation mass for our students.

November 10th will forever hold a special place in the hearts of those who witnessed the Confirmation ceremony at Our Lady of Rosary-Narozari Parish. The sacrament not only marked a crucial step in the spiritual journey of the confirmed children but



also served as a testament to the and strength vitality of the Catholic community in in Narozari Parish and Masaka Diocese. As these young individuals embark on their journey of faith, guided by the grace of the Holy Spirit, the entire

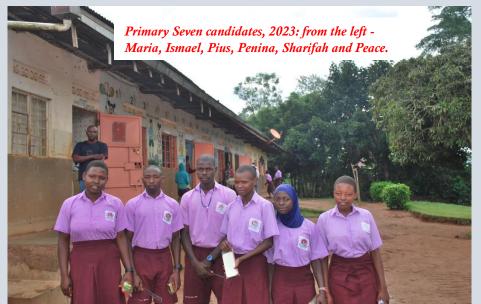
community rejoices in the shared commitment to living out the Gospel values and continuing to be a beacon of light for others.



#### Celebrating Academic Triumphs and Unforgettable Moments

Once again, our children have demonstrated their academic excellence through a series of assessments, both internal and external. These evaluations, comprising beginning-of-term, mid-term, and end-of-term exams, as well as external examinations tailored for the candidate class, have yielded highly promising results.

Lower and middle primary pupils showcased notable improvements in reading and writing skills, while upper primary students displayed exceptional knowledge and time management abilities during a challenging online mathematical quiz. This collective effort significantly contributed to an overall enhancement in academic performance.



A pivotal moment the academic calendar was the Primary Leaving Examinations. marked by briefing on November 7th. followed by exams on November 8th and 9th, covering Mathematics Social Studies, and Science and

English respectively. Primary Seven candidates, in particular, exhibited dedication and rigorous preparation, supported unwaveringly by teachers. These comprehensive exams, spanning multiple subjects and lasting over two hours each, tested the students' knowledge and perseverance, reflecting the commitment of both students and teachers throughout the term.

Despite a few health concerns such as fever, flu, and cough, along with minor issues like ulcers, our diligent school nurse efficiently managed them. The well-being of our students remains a top priority, and we appreciate the swift and effective response to health matters.

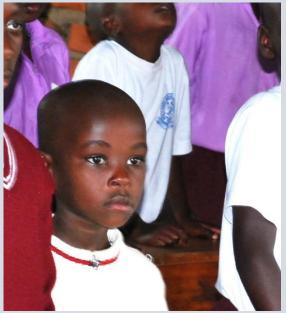
A highlight of the term was the much-anticipated Parents Visiting Day on October 21st. Parents from various locations eagerly traveled to witness the progress of their children. The school staff organized a variety of activities, including captivating sign language performances, engaging art exhibitions, and interactive games. The atmosphere was filled with pride as parents marveled at their children's creativity and

talent, reinforcing the strong bond between the school and families. Special prayers were offered in intercession for Primary Seven candidates. Father Simon Peter of Narozari Catholic Parish led the prayers. Parents of these children, staff members and fellow students joined in to intercede for God's wisdom and support for our candidates.



A noteworthy addition to our school family this term was the enrollment of Kalungi Phiona, a bright 5-year-old pupil who joined the Baby class in the Nursery section. We extend a warm welcome to her and look forward to nurturing her growth and development.

As the term concludes, students dispersed for the Christmas and New Year holiday break on November 28th, entrusting them to their parents' care. They carry with them memories of a term filled with friendship, learning, and overcoming challenges. We kindly request parents to observe their



Kalungi Phiona, our newly enrolled pupil in Baby class.

discipline and provide continued guidance during this two-month vacation, recognizing the crucial role you play in the holistic development of our students.

Teachers, students, and parents alike played a vital role in making this term a resounding success. We eagerly anticipate the release of exam results in the third week of January 2024, believing they will reflect the hard work and dedication of our students and educators.

Wishing everyone a joyful holiday season and looking forward to the new academic challenges that await us in the upcoming term.



GSSD Quarterly Record (Oct-Dec, 2023)

#### URGENT NEEDS FOR THE CHILDREN

The school and children have several needs that we are seeking your generous support for. These were mentioned in our previous March to June Record of updates and they include; the need for outside play station materials, need for school fencing, comfortable beddings for proper sleep, and teaching aids such as tailoring machines for vocational/ teenage children to learn practical skills. These needs are individually described below.

#### 1. Children do not have outside play station materials! \$1,500 is needed.



70% of the pupils at the school are between 3 -15 years. 20 children on record are in Nursery section while 18 others in primary one to primary four classes. It has been one year now since we scrapped the old and rusted outdoor play materials at the beginning of term three in September 2022. The rusted swings, slides,

monkey bars, seesaw and others had become a safety and health hazard for the children. They had been in use for almost 8 years since they were donated in 2015 by SignHealth Uganda Organization.

Ever since we removed these items the children have had a hard time trying to adjust to the absence. They play using the few toys and dolls that were donated last year by

friends in the UK. These toys have supplemented these with the traditional games such as skipping the rope made from banana fibers in the school garden alongside playing football and netball among other local games.

The presence of varied learning materials at Good Samaritan is very important and can be associated with better child



learning outcomes. Different materials allow for different types of play which develops competencies across the different developmental domains of these Deaf children. Right now it feels like they have been deprived of part of their right to play without access to a variety of appropriate materials to play with!

A whole set of outside play materials that includes two swing sets, monkey bars, a sea saw, climbing frames, sand, tyres, wood, slides among others costs **5,517,000 Uganda shillings (approximately \$ 1,500 USD or £1,170 Pounds Sterling)** to be fully installed in the gazette play area at the school.

#### 2. Appeal for beddings to provide comfortable sleep for children.

60% of the pupils at Good Samaritan school for the Deaf come with no mattress, blanket or bed sheets for bedding while they're being enrolled to study at the school. Some are brought in by the local police as lost children and usually their parents never get found. Some parents promise to come back to bring these necessary materials for

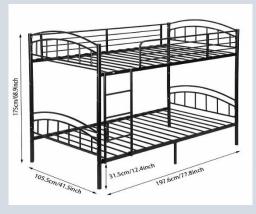


their children but they never do. They leave their children with us for over years until we have to go and look for their whereabouts. The school has become a home with the teachers and school directors parents/guardians thus they are relegated to provide a comfortable bed for these children in addition to other services and care. We currently need 40 double-

decker to satisfy the current demand and not the increasing population of children as of term three 2023, we have registered 2 more new students, 2 of which did not come

with any mattresses or a blanket.





GSSD Quarterly Record (Oct-Dec, 2023)

About 10 years ago, we received donations of mattresses from a Rotary club in Masaka. These have been in use since and have become old while some torn down. Children whose parents carry mattresses for them would not share with others thus the growing need.

A whole set of a comfortable bedding comprises of a bed frame, a mattress, a mattress cover, a pair of sheets, a blanket and mosquito net. It costs Ugshs. 700,000 (approximately \$218/£160); thus to supplement what we have and to cater for the growing population, we need 40 sets costing Ugx. 28,000,000 – approx.\$ 7,609/£6,482 is needed. Please consider donating to this appeal.

#### 3. The need for tailoring machines

At Good Samaritan; there are currently 15 Deaf youth who have graduated from primary education and have enrolled back into the vocational program to learn practical skills in hairdressing, hair trimming, tailoring & embroidery among others. The school has 2 tailoring machines which are being used in the training, but these are not enough for all the children to study at once. Children have to take turns in using the machines thus they take long to study and understand and graduate in the 3 year



course set thus the need. Infinity Ideas Network organization has been sponsoring training of the children with all necessities and has written several appeals seeking to provide learning materials for these teenage children. In this regard we also appeal to you to support us and Infinity Ideas Network in this appeal to have an equipped learning

space for children.

We need **10 Domestic sewing machines** (Singer brand) **and 5 Embroidery-only/designer sewing machines** (Janome brand). Upon receipt of the above appealed sewing materials, Deaf teenagers will learn 10 different hand stitching sewing methods for various garments including shirts, blouses, trousers, dressers, and altering and modification of various garments. Learners will be able to have lessons for at least 6

hours every day from Monday to Friday and 4 hours every Saturday. The training center will be open from 9am to 5pm.

Since the duration of the course is 3 years, Infinity Ideas Network through its partnership program with individual business owners and other mainstream organizations, she will provide 1 year of apprenticeship. At the end of the training period, the graduand will be awarded a certificate in the same which they can present to their employers or use to start own business. We appeal to donors to consider funding this development program. Such a venture has potential to enable Deaf and disabled children create and have a sustainable social-economic standard of living for themselves and become contributing members of the community.

	Item description	Quantity	Unit cost		Total cost	
			UGX	USD \$	UGX	USD \$
1.	Domestic Sewing Machine - singer	10 pcs	800,000	245	8,000,000	2,446
2.	Embroidery-only/ Designer sewing machine - Janome	5 pcs	3,700,000	1,131	18,500,000	5,657
3.	Tailor's tool kit	15 pcs	55,000	17	825,000	252
		Sub Total	4,555,000	\$1,393	27,325,000	\$ 8,355

This project can be funded and sponsored by an individual donor, family group, in memory of a loved one, anonymously, or as a company as part of its CSR program. Both in-kind donations and hard money are welcome and appreciated.

#### 4. The need for wall fence and firefighting equipment at school.

The Ugandan government has requested schools to improve the security of their children and staff. However, there is NO forthcoming Government funding for this. Given the recent murders and kidnappings of over 41 children at Lhubiriha Secondary school in Western Uganda on 17<sup>th</sup> June; a fire blaze set on the girls' dormitory at Salama School for the Blind where 11 visually impaired children were killed in the fire and 7 others left fighting for their lives in hospital in rural Mukono District were Princes Anne, the daughter of the late Queen Elizabeth II was set to visit the school, we now feel that its great priority to build a security wall around the school.



One of the country's worst school blazes was at Buddo Junior School in 2008 where 19 children died. According to the Uganda Police 2021 annual crime report, a total of 1,258 fire emergencies were handled that year, and over 18 fires in Schools in the past 3 months preceding October 2022. We feel that a security wall supplemented with a Security guard who will check visitors in and out of the school site will aid in improving the security and health of our children given the need to limit contact with visitors during these unprecedented COVID-19 times has added to this need.

It is essential to improve the school's security since there have been thieves and other intruders in the past who have stolen school and staff property and unsettled the children. (One pupil was killed in a road accident because he left school on his own which is not allowed. Deaf children of course cannot hear on-coming traffic). It is possible that people and wild animals at present are free to roam around the premises at night but are not illuminated because there are not flat lights. Moreover, the project will provide increased local employment within the local community. The school has negotiated a possible draft contract with a local builder (Kalinzi Construction Services) to undertake this project.

#### A concrete brick wall



The wall will be at a height of 10 feet and will have in addition a barbed wire top to discourage intruders. It will enclose the whole site which is about 2 acres in size.

Two solid gates will be provided at the same full height; the main gate will allow access to vehicles

and the second one will be for people. Solid foundations, of 2 feet depth, will support the wall and to guard against erosion.



#### Why concrete wall is most appropriate?

- i. A concrete perimeter wall will be made of concrete bricks either s olid or hollow or both kinds, in different sizes of either '6x8x16' or '8x8x16' (WXLXH) cm.
- **ii.** A concrete perimeter wall has high comprehensive strength, resistance to weathering, impact and abrasion, thus will stand for over 20 years with low or no repair costs incurred over the years.
- iii. A concrete perimeter wall is good resistant to fire up to 400°C!
- iv. Strong iron bars of 16 Inch size will be used to hold the wall further firm to the ground and against bad weather such as storms and heavy wind and rainfall.
- **v.** Generally, construction of a concrete block is faster and less expensive in the long run.
- vi. The cost price for this concrete brick wall is Ugx. 53,895,000 approximately \$16,477 USD / £12,249 Pounds sterling. *Email us for a detailed cost breakdown on gsschooldeafk@gmail.com*

This wall will be painted and info-graphical pictures and wording drawn to make the wall more attractive and compelling for the children's learning environment.





#### **HOW ELSE YOU CAN HELP!**

Among the long-term plans to make the school self-sufficient include;

- a) More gardening tools, seeds and natural fertilizers, machine and labour hire for initial preparation of the land every season for crop growing need to be secured. Other agricultural projects such as poultry and goat/cattle rearing may be adopted.
- b) Intensifying fundraising and establishing a regular group of donors to ensure there is enough funding to cater for staff salaries, scholastic materials, and other stationery as well as bedding and clothing for children without their own. If you wish to become a regular donor, please visit the school's <u>website</u>.

# 1. Become a recurring donor while sponsoring a child's fees or a good Teacher's salary.

Currently, the school has an enumeration of 68 children in the following categories;

Nursery classes = 22 children

Primary 1 to 4 = 13 children

Primary 5 to 7 = 20 children

Vocational students = 13 children

Pupil's Class	Fees per term (Amounts)			Scholastic materials per term			Total –per term	
	(UGX)	(£)	(USD)	(UGX)	(£)	(USD)	(£)	(\$ - USD)
Nursery (3 classes)	150,000	£ 35	\$ 42	50,500	£11	\$13	£46	\$55
P.1 –P.4	300,000	£ 65	\$ 80	66,500	£15	\$18	£80	\$98
P.5 – P.7	350,000	£ 78	\$ 95	92,500	£20	\$25	£98	\$120
Vocational student	350,000	\$ 78	\$ 95	150,000	£33	\$40	£111	\$135

The school needs to have at least 15 good teachers, but the cost of their salary limits the number of teachers at the school. In addition to other benefits provided to all staff such as accommodation and meals, a minimum salary of 500,000 Shillings (approx. \$ 138USD or £ 112) should be provided per month.

Period	Amounts for one good teacher				
	(UGX)	(USD \$)	(GBP £)		
Monthly	500,000	138	112		
Termly (3 months)	1,500,000	414	336		
Yearly	6,000,000	1,242	1,008		

Your ongoing donation towards either school fees and scholastic materials or a good teacher's salary will make a tremendous impact to the education of the children and ensure sustainability.

#### 2. Share your day

Do you have a birthday, wedding, graduation, anniversary, marathon, or other important day coming up? Celebrate your big day with vulnerable children, and ask your friends and family to donate to change a Good Samaritan child's life as their special gift to you.

#### 3. Become a corporate sponsor

Aligning your business or brand with Good Samaritan School for the Deaf offers a unique opportunity to engage your community of stakeholders in supporting your shared values through employee engagement programs, donor trips, and tailored cause-marketing campaigns.

It could as well be **Staff fundraising** where you boost your staff engagement and cooperation across your business by organizing a workplace fundraiser with your colleagues. Activities can be virtual or hosted in person.

#### 4. Charity of the year

By demonstrating your organization's commitment to providing education, supporting inclusion, and fighting poverty in rural communities, nominate Good Samaritan School for the Deaf as your charity of the year (s). Multi-year partnerships are credibly impactful too.

#### 5. Support our development projects

Donate to implement one of our development projects to ensure that the school is fully furnished with the requirements to provide a 24 hour nurturing residential and academic programs within which all children can attain their full potential regardless of their back groups and how much their parents can afford to pay. Check out our website for details.

#### 6. Volunteer/ intern/ work with us!

Good Samaritan Volunteers/ interns are needed across the whole range of school's activities and programs. The volunteer/intern scheme offers a Residential program aimed at developing practical skills, sign language skills and awareness of deafness and challenges faced among children, their families and communities in Uganda.

If you are having a gap year of school, or planning for your personal or family holiday, visit us in Kitengeesa Trading center to get first-hand experience in a Ugandan Deaf community.

#### How to donate (Banking details)

Donation can be made directly to our bank account with details below or through Western Union or Send wave to the number below.

Bank	Equity Bank Uganda Limited
Bank Branch	Kampala Road
Account Name	Good Samaritan School for the Deaf (GSSD) Ltd
Account Number	1001202455051
Swift Code	EQBLUGKA
Sort Code	300147
Bank Address	Church House, Plot 34, Kampala Road
Country	Uganda
City/ town	Kampala
Contact email	gsschooldeafk@gmail.com
School's address	Kitengeesa Trading Centre, Masaka
Phone contact	+256 741 361 748



# GOOD SAMARITAN SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

Is a registered non-profit organization Reg. No. 80020003727670 and also registered with the Ministry of Education of Uganda under EMIS No. 220094.

https://goodsamaritanschoolforthedeaf.com

Kitengeesa Trading Centre, Masaka Uganda

gsschooldeafk@gmail.com

