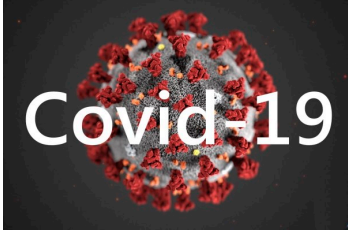


ACT News

An update brought to you by African Children Today

November 2021

Top stories in this newsletter



COVID-19 Update



ACT Secondary School

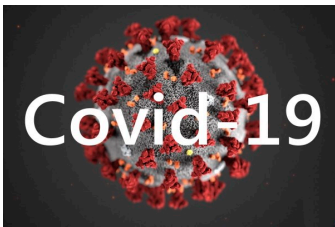


Financial News



Sponsorship Update

Covid Update



COVID-19 infections are slightly decreasing in Uganda, with daily average of 71 new infections reported, and only 3% of the population vaccinated.

Thanks to our faithful donors, ACT has distributed rice, beans, maize flour (from our own milling operation), soap and masks throughout the pandemic lockdown. More than 3,000 families have been sustained during these difficult times. Each family has received enough food for two meals per day, while many other Ugandan families have faced days without a single meal.

Schools are expected to open in late January, 2022. The children have been effectively out of school for nearly two years, which is a major crisis for Ugandan education. Students who attend government schools have had no learning opportunities during COVID and most older students will never return to school. Another tragedy is the significant increase in teen pregnancies, with reports of pregnant girls as young as 12. Also, Uganda has one of the world's highest maternal mortality rates, with 18 mothers dying every day in pregnancy or during/after childbirth.

ACT has been proactive in this fight to keep children in school, particularly girls. Each ACT staff member visits four children a day, delivering study materials prepared by the teachers at the ACT Junior School and reminding the students they are still a priceless part of the ACT family. Each teenage girl in the ACT program has frequent check-ins at our new clinic, allowing nurses and mentors to ensure the girl's health and support.

The result?

- ◆ No child, parent or guardian connected to ACT has been lost to Covid during the pandemic.
- ◆ Because of sponsor's support, teachers continue working during the pandemic - tirelessly providing homework packets and feedback to ACT students while they must remain at home.
- ◆ The ACT children are not behind in schoolwork. When school resumes, each student's academic level will be assessed, and we are confident that their high level of performance will continue.

ACT Secondary School



This ACT secondary school will provide the highest level of academic training with an emphasis on faith and core values that began at the ACT primary school. In Uganda, only 50% of children ever attend school, and of those who begin primary school, only 35% stay to completion. For every 10 students enrolled in primary school, only 1 is enrolled in high school - and the statistics for girls are much worse. We believe that the combination of the ACT primary school and high school will change that dynamic and provide a strong foundation for thousands of children.

The high school is almost complete and will open in January, 2022. The curriculum will have a STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) focus as there is strong job demand in those areas. Even though construction on many buildings is finished, we are still striving to raise additional funds for a bathroom/shower building and science laboratories. Our goal is to have one of the best science programs in the country, but we need your support to make that happen.



Financial News



As we come to the end of 2021, would you consider a financial gift to help open the high school next January? The following budget provides a summary of funds raised and funds still needed for the ACT Secondary School.

SCIENCE LABORATORIES (6 LABORATORIES - BIOLOGY (2), PHYSICS(2) & CHEMISTRY (2))

PARTICULAR	QUANTITY	UNITS	UNIT COST	TOTAL COST (USD)	FUNDING RECEIVED	TOTAL BALANCE	DESCRIPTION & NOTES	STATUS
Plumbing Works and Constructions	1	Contract	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	\$ -	Construction and furnishing of preparation rooms and Clay Dhobi sinks plus water supply and drainage.	FUNDED
Granite Work-tops	170	Meters	\$ 43	\$ 7,310	\$ 7,310	\$ -	Recommended by the Ministry of Education	FUNDED
Gas Delivery System	1	Contract	\$ 17,300	\$ 17,300	\$ -	\$ 17,300	All tubing, pipping and gas taps for all laboratories and preparation rooms.	NEED FUNDING
Assorted apparatus/Equipment	1	Assorted	\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000	\$ -	\$ 21,000	All equipment for teaching Physics, Biology and Chemistry Laboratories.	NEED FUNDING
Chemicals/Reagents	1	Assorted	\$ 15,900	\$ 17,294	\$ -	\$ 17,294	All chemicals for teaching Physics, Biology and Chemistry Laboratories for at least 2 years.	NEED FUNDING
Laboratory Wooden Stools	350	Number	\$ 15	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,250	\$ -	Enough stools for 50 children in each of the 6 Laboratory rooms.	FUNDED
GRAND TOTAL				\$ 86,654	\$ 31,060	\$ 55,594		

Sponsorship Update



More than 400 children are now sponsored through ACT... what a blessing! Our deepest gratitude to all our faithful sponsors! Once the high school is completed, all sponsored children will attend either the ACT Junior School (primary), the ACT Secondary School (high school), or another higher level of education (such as university).

If you would like to send a Christmas gift to your sponsored child, please send funds to ACT, PO Box 390123, Edina, MN. 55439. Please indicate your child's name and that this donation is for Christmas gift. If you have questions about your sponsorship donations, please email Beth@africanchildrentoday.org.



I sincerely hope you have an idea of the **WONDERFUL** impact you are making in the life of your sponsored child . . . and their entire family! And as you can imagine, there are more children waiting to be sponsored. If you know of anyone who might be willing to sponsor a child, please share with them these photos of Peter and Paul, 10-year-old twins who lost both parents and have never been able to attend school. (Yet)

We would love to hear from you! Any suggestions, thoughts, encouragement can be sent to ann@africanchildrentoday.org.

With endless gratitude for your prayers and support!

Ann