



## They Need Our Help

**2,529,170**

Number of Ugandans infected with HIV/AIDS.

**12,083**

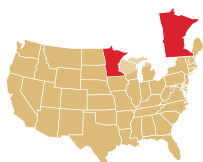
Number of newly infected Ugandans each month.

**1,200,000**

Number of orphans in Uganda as a result of AIDS.

The Rakai district of Uganda is ground zero of AIDS. Since the disease was discovered in Rakai in 1982, more than a million people have died, leaving behind more than 1.2 million orphans.

In Uganda, HIV/AIDS has significantly reduced life expectancy, depleted the labor force and reduced food security. Many children are being raised by elderly relatives and these children often have no choice but to work as laborers, rather than attend school. We need your help to change the lives of these children.



African Children Today (ACT), a nonprofit organization based in Minnesota, USA, was formed to support the Rakai Orphans Development Initiative (RODI) of Uganda. Together we provide

ongoing support to the Rakai district in Uganda. ACT has centralized its efforts around the Rakai district. This ensures that the local Ugandans who work for RODI keep their jobs, and that individual donors can support their sponsored child as they grow. Ultimately, the children are supported.

The primary goal of child sponsorship is education and skills training. We feel that educating children arms them with the tools to help them provide for themselves and break the cycles of poverty and disease.



Rakai Orphans Development Initiative (RODI) was founded by Johnson Lwondo and Richard Mutaawe. Johnson's parents died of AIDS when he was 11, leaving him to raise five younger

siblings. Richard grew up with Johnson under very similar circumstances— orphaned at age 10 and left with three younger siblings to raise. The assistance they received from various organizations allowed them to complete school and obtain master's degrees. It also inspired them to help young Ugandans in similar situations.

According to Johnson, "Knowing that I have survived and succeeded because someone reached out a hand of help to me, how can I turn away from those children who are now in the same place I was as a child?"