



changing lives in Africa, £5 at a time

Support for Vulnerable Children, Uganda



Background

We learnt of the plight of 40 vulnerable children in Nakabango Village in the Busoga region of Uganda from one of our High Five Club supporters. Children who because of acute poverty and the loss of one or both of their parents, are extremely vulnerable. Nakabango Village is located in a rural community, where the children live alongside wildlife such as monkeys and snakes.

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Unlike in the west, orphaned and vulnerable children in African countries such as Uganda are not supported by the government and many end up on the streets. Thankfully for the lucky ones, there are a number of poor, but servant-hearted community members (like Brown in Malawi who H5C supports) who have it placed firmly on their heart to advocate for and support such children.

We reached out to Patrick Gracious Kyakulaga, who cares for these children along with other volunteers from the community through his **Nakabango Space For Children's Ministry**, in order to better understand their most pressing needs – which are at this time food, access to safe clean water and provision for the childrens' sleeping quarters. We always check out such child support initiatives carefully, as the exploitation of vulnerable children for personal gain is rampant in this context.

Patrick and his team care for 35 children with their schooling, clothing, accommodation and meals, whilst 5 other children come to Nakabango for their lunch and dinner but sleep in the community with their one remaining parent or with relatives.

High Five Club Support:

IMPROVED NUTRITION: We have joined hands with **Nakabango Space For Children's Ministry** to help improve the nutrition of these 40 vulnerable children. In keeping with High Five



Club's ethos of a 'hand up, not a hand out', we have funded a chicken project at Nakabango to

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enable the children and their carers to produce eggs. The project, it is hoped, will provide a steady supply of eggs, enhancing the children's nutrition and providing an income stream through the sale of some of the eggs. This will enable the project to become self-sustaining in terms of the provision of chicken feed and veterinary care.

High Five Club provided the funds for the construction of a secure chicken shelter, including all the materials needed, for the purchase and safe transportation of 40 young chickens (1 and 2 month old layers) to Nakabango, for a supply of chicken feed plus feeding, watering and other essential equipment, plus a fund for the initial veterinary care and medicines for the chickens until they start to produce eggs and their upkeep becomes self-sustaining.

As High Five Club we are very passionate about those communities we support in keeping livestock and poultry adhering to high animal welfare standards. To achieve this we agreed humane ways of transporting the chickens, the importance of on-going health checks and veterinary care, adequate food and water, good



hygiene and cleaning standards of their shelter and the feeding & watering utensils, and access to the outdoors during the day so the chickens can express their normal behaviours through free-range activity.

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Along with improved nutrition for the children and an income source through the sale of surplus eggs, the project aims to provide opportunities for the children to learn about animal care and taking responsibility for poultry to high welfare standards.

SLEEPING QUARTERS:

We have funded the purchase of 2 x three tier bunk beds (3 beds to each bunk bed, so 6 beds in total), 6 mattresses and 10 blankets. This has supplemented the existing stock of bunk beds and bedding at Nakabango, now ensuring that all 35 children in their full-time care sleep in beds each night, not on the floor as some were.



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ACCESS TO SAFE, CLEAN WATER: We have funded the replacement and fitting of new underground pipes for the repair of the water borehole at Nakabango so it is functioning again. The borehole has been out of use for some time due to a lack of funds to repair it, and the children and staff were forced to collect water from a muddy stream instead. This intervention is providing safe, clean water for the children and their neighbouring community. Healthy children means happy children 😊



Funding:

High Five Club members, with additional support from one of our individual members, have funded these 3 interventions at Nakabango.

The breakdown of costs is:

- Chicken project - £415
- Bund beds, mattresses and blankets: £289
- Repair of borehole: £173

Total funding = £877

How our joining of hands together is making such a big difference to children's lives in this wildlife area of Africa.

For more information contact Cheryl@highfiveclub.co.uk

