



St Nicholas World Development Group PROJECTS UPDATE

UGANDA ALBANIA ROMANIA

December 2021

Once again COVID has dramatically affected our projects and our opportunities to fundraise. Thank you to everyone who has continued to donate and support the projects throughout the year.

The mid-yearly contributions were gratefully received by our Albanian and Romanian projects. Both working tirelessly throughout the pandemic to support abused and trafficked women, and the disadvantaged in society, giving them protection and opportunities to train and support themselves.

In Uganda, once Clare Dorcus and Paul had recovered from COVID, spring of 2021 started with some positives. Harvesting of the fish ponds began, raising £3,335! The ponds have since been repaired ready to be restocked. Eggs and milk sales continue to do well. The less profitable pigs were sold and the profits fed back into other projects. The first season in the vegetable garden was a success, making money and feeding the children.



Clare Dorcus also made and sold facemasks to raise extra funds. Our shipment of shoes, clothes and toys arrived safely, as did a big shipment of carpentry tools, sewing machines, school equipment, fabrics and more from TWAM (Tools With A Mission)... we only had to fund the shipping costs. FML plan to add carpentry to the vocational projects by building a workshop.

By mid-spring all the teachers and children were allowed back to school. The children were healthy and attending classes regularly. P7 were able to take their postponed examinations. The vocational projects, tailoring and hairdressing were able to restart and were making money.

Sadly the pandemic became worse in Uganda and on 7th June the country went into a 42 day lockdown. The classrooms had to close and once again the children's education was interrupted. Clare Dorcus and her family were again left to care for 50 children, with support from the cook, a guardian and the older pupils. The children remained safe and were educated in COVID hygiene procedures. Sadly many in the wider community died, including Beatrice, a guardian and also the school cleaner.

Flattened banana trees



Paul and Claire Dorcus were allowed to shop for food and the older children continued to harvest produce and look after the animals. The children and guardians in the community, were supported throughout with food, soap and sanitizer. Once again the medical insurance was absolutely vital. With fuel prices doubling, the cost of food increases. Unfortunately the second season of planting was less successful. Maize, the staple of their diet, was flattened by heavy rain and storms, so once again it has to be purchased at great cost.

One highlight during this difficult time, was the amazing exam results of P7. All 20 students passed, 18 grade As and 2 Bs. What a fantastic achievement!

Despite the lockdown ending the school was unable to open until all the staff had been vaccinated and vaccines are scarce. Recently the Ugandan government announced that it will allow schools to reopen on 3rd January 2022. The staff hope to get their 2nd vaccine by then.

Clare Dorcus is completely exhausted after all these months of providing care, but is happy knowing at the end of each day she is doing what she has always wanted to do. She sends a message to you: *"We are going through a very difficult time but managing with all the support you are sending us! Please let the WDG supporters know that we are always very grateful."*



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CAN YOU HELP?

Once again the World Development Group's main fundraising event, the annual dinner, couldn't take place

Please could you consider donating to help match the gaps in our funding?

Of course you could still invite your usual table group to come and dine with you... for a price!

£25

Who wouldn't want somewhere safe and warm for their child to sleep at night? The original street children from Kampala sleep in dormitories next to the school, unlike the local parentless children who are found places within the community.

After all this time the original mattresses and blankets desperately need replacing. The cost per bed is no more than a Christmas jumper!

MATTRESS & BLANKET

£20

We mention the medical insurance a lot, but health care in Uganda is not free like here. Several years ago we started buying cover for the children and staff at FML. It saves lives and money.

Usually it covers care for malaria and other common illnesses, but throughout the pandemic it was vital, meaning precious school funds were protected. This year the cost has increased, but is still worth every penny!

The price of a take-away would protect a child for a year!

MEDICAL INSURANCE

£10

In Britain, the pandemic has forced food prices to increase. In Uganda the increase is even more dramatic. More travelling is now involved to buy food and rocketing fuel prices add further to the costs of the school.

In a day, the weather can destroy FML school's efforts of growing their own produce. The rains that help make the land so fertile, can just as easily wash away precious seeds or flatten crops.

Could you donate and feed a child for a month?

FOOD FOR A MONTH

THANK YOU!

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