

Abundant Life Living Hope International Missions

September 2020

"For He shall give His angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. In their hands they shall bear you up." (Psalm 91:11)

COVID-19 UPDATE - UGANDA



The Ugandan Government started their lockdown very early which meant many people were not able to access their usual services or support networks, including work. This helped to slow the progression of the disease and, initially, there were very few cases reported. However, as in most countries in the world, Covid-19 has now taken a stronger hold with many more cases (and inevitable deaths) reported. Unfortunately, in Uganda the medical support network is not as developed and basic equipment (let alone ventilators) is very often unavailable. We ask for your prayers for those suffering at this time.

From the beginning of the lockdown and the inevitable developing situation regarding starvation and hunger in the region, Micheal and his volunteers at ACYP were given special dispensation by the Government to continue to move amongst people in the very poor communities, some of whom were cut off from the

mainland, to deliver essential food and other essentials (eg medication). On one occasion, Micheal and some of the volunteers were in danger as their canoe almost capsized.



The Covid-19 situation in Uganda continues to develop and the volunteers, along with Micheal, are doing everything they can to ensure that the basic message regarding sanitation and how to reduce infection is understood by all those they visit. They share their hope in God using Psalm 138:7 "Though I walk in the midst of trouble, You will revive me".

MOTHER JANET UPDATE

Many children were dispersed to friends and others to relatives. Some stayed at the orphanage and others were able to stay with teachers and their families. All children are being kept safe and, although it has been a challenge to distribute food and supplies to them, Micheal and his team continue to support staff at the school in undertaking this difficult task.

The latest news from the Ugandan Government is that children who are candidates (ie those sitting their Primary Leaving Exams – O or A levels) will attend school, wherever possible. All other pupils should return for the beginning of the next academic year. Thank you to all sponsors for your continued support, as this has enabled all children to remain safe, healthy and well fed during these very challenging circumstances.

SECONDARY SCHOOL UPDATE

During the lockdown, it has still been possible to continue with some of the building work on site and, following very productive meetings with the Government's Chief Education Officer, completion of several buildings is well underway. Providing the suggested programme of work is able to be completed in time, it is hoped to open the school, with 3 classes, at the beginning of the next academic year. Completion, of course, will very much depend upon the availability of necessary funds and we ask for your prayers and support in this matter.



Digging out for the toilet block



Buildings completed so far

♣ To all who contributed to the appeal for funds for Margaret Byanyimba's back operation. The donations enabled the operation to go ahead, including six months' post-operative physiotherapy.



- ♣ For the donations towards the ambulance which is already helping to save lives.
- For the continued donations towards food and medication which is so vital when communities are forced into further isolation.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FROM SPONSORS

Why does my sponsored child now say they are part of a large family with many brothers and sisters when, initially, they had only 3 siblings? In Uganda, when family circumstances changes (eg with the death of a parent) children often move into another household, sometimes with a family member, or close family friend. The child then refers to the people within this household as their family and will state they have many brothers and sisters.

What happens to the money I send for my sponsored child's birthday or Christmas?

The needs of your sponsored child are discussed with the Head Teacher of the school who, in consultation with your sponsored child, will decided on the best 'gift'.

Why do children in Uganda need to walk to collect water?

In some of the villages, the water supply is some distance away from many of the homes. It is common practice for groups of children to walk together, sometimes over a mile, to collect water from their nearest water source. Although there is a good water supply on site at Mother Janet it is not unusual to see large numbers of pupils from other schools walking in convoy, carrying jacks of water, back to their schools.

These are some of the most frequently asked questions and we are very grateful for the support of our sponsors who continue to help improve the lives of our friends in Uganda.



CHRISTMAS 2020

This year, due to Covid-19 and the uncertainty of any future lockdowns, we are making a very early request.

As you know, ALLHIM Charity supports very needy families in the Mukoko area by inviting donations to buy each family a plate of food for Christmas. Each year, thanks to your generosity, several hundred people were able to receive a nutritious Christmas meal. Are you able to help us again this year? As last

year, we are requesting £5 per plate of food. If you are able to make a donation, this would be hugely appreciated and should be received by no later than Monday, 19th October.

For sponsors who would like their child/ren to receive a Christmas gift, please send donations to the Charity address, again no later than Monday, 19th October. As always, the Charity will liaise with the Head Teacher on the most suitable gift for the child, to the value of your donation. **Please make your donation by cheque, or bank transfer, to ALLHIM Charity.**

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER?

If you would like to receive your newsletter via email, please let me know by sending an email to: kath@allhimcharity.org

