

CCU NEWSLETTER



JULY 2024

CHILDREN CARE UGANDA DEUTSCHLAND E.V.



International Day of the African Child

The International Day of the African Child is celebrated every year on June 16. It aims to draw attention to the obstacles that make it difficult for African children to access education. Under the annual theme "Education for all children in Africa: the time is now!", CCU organized a community dialogue on this day. At this event, parents had the opportunity to talk about the (educational) challenges for them and their children and to share these, as well as their wishes and needs, with those responsible in the area. The aim was to develop solutions together.

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NEWS FROM UGANDA

Team

There have been some changes to the team in recent months! After a long search, we have found a new deputy warden in Lydia, who will be joining the team at the rehabilitation center! In future, she will live with the boys at the center, help shape their everyday lives and be available as a contact person. A new social worker, Sultan, has also been hired! We were also able to fill the position of the sewing teacher. Mercy Grace Oroma is already instructing the participants in the sewing workshop and is also learning how to make our CCU products. And another new team member was recruited at the beginning of the year: Alice Ayoo Ogal is the new project coordinator of the Help Alliance project.



The new employees have already brought in new ideas and fresh impetus and contribute to the good atmosphere in the team.

Recently, the team started choosing the "Employee of the Month". Points such as tidiness and punctuality are included in the assessment and the winner receives a small prize in addition to the honor of the title.

It is important to us to encourage employees in their skills, give them responsibility and allow them to work as independently as possible. This is why we have changed some communication structures and strengthened the team members at middle management level in particular. For example, they are now responsible for preparing and conducting the weekly team meetings and will have the opportunity to reflect on themselves, their role in the team and their work at monthly supervision meetings.



What a wonderful surprise!
A boy who lived with us at the rehabilitation center for two years and was cared for by us for a total of three years contacted us by phone after a long time. He reported that he had found work in the capital of Uganda, Kampala, is now earning his own money and lives with his brother. Before his time at CCU, he lived on the streets of Gulu for several years. We asked him how he deals with his old challenges (e.g. anger and aggression) and he told us that he is no longer easily upset and has his goals clearly in mind.

One of the boys, currently living at the center was able to start training in cooking and catering this year. He is enjoying it and would like to bake the cake for the next CCU birthday in October.

Unfortunately, even a donation of new mosquito nets and insect repellent could not prevent many of the boys from contracting malaria in recent months. We are therefore even more grateful for the sponsorship program, that enable us to carry out regular medical check-ups. In this way, we can at least detect diseases at an early stage and have them treated.

At the end of June, Peace Corps Uganda visited the center for a workshop on nutrition. In addition to a relaxed transfer of knowledge, the program also included planting sweet potatoes, maize and beans. The boys are now responsible for caring for and harvesting the plants.



Kids at the center



Wang Oo

A very successful soccer camp with a total of 22 participants took place during the last school term break. During the one-week camp, the mixed teams had both sports training sessions and lessons on mental health topics. On the last evening, there was a joint campfire ("Wang Oo") and a final game in which the participants won against the CCU team. All participants gave very positive feedback afterwards!

We are grateful for the support of Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU) and Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) in this project and the great responses in the community.



We are building a children's and youth library!
The construction is not yet complete. As the project with Help Alliance is ending by the end of this year, we appreciate more people to join hands in this cause to being able to complete the construction work soon. If you would like to support this project financially or by partnership, kindly reach out to us.



Help Alliance





As mentioned above, we have found a new teacher for the sewing workshop who is teaching the participants the basics of sewing and also take care of the product making of the CCU projects. We are very happy about the new addition to the team and the first course under the new management went very well! It was even possible to teach more content than planned, as the course got through the material faster than usual.

The participants in the hairdressing and carpentry courses are also motivated and at the last graduation ceremonies, 9 (carpentry course) and 14 (hairdressing course) young people were delighted with their success.

Skill Trainings

Our work in Uganda is varied and extensive - to list everything would go beyond the scope of this newsletter. Nevertheless, we would like to mention a few highlights from the last few months:

and much more...

Project visit from the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) - we are at the end of a training course with "Capital Solutions", which will help us to make our skills training and product manufacturing more professional and to market them better in the future.



Community dialogue on the International Women's Day on the topic of women's rights, including a radio talk show, some of which was broadcast live and then discussed on air.



Cooperation with "Read for Life Uganda", in which some team members read aloud in schools on "DEAR DAY" (which stands for "Drop Everything And Read"). We are hoping for a long-term partnership that will also benefit our planned children's and youth library.



Many of our team members had never celebrated their birthday before they came to CCU. Now they receive a cake on their birthday, a song is sung and the person's positive qualities are listed. These are written down and the piece of paper is presented as a "gift". It's now a real tradition that contributes to appreciation and team spirit.



REPORTS FROM PROJECT VISITORS



During her visit to Uganda, Board member Helena (Treasurer) at the beginning of the year, not only had the opportunity to meet the girl she supports in the sponsorship program, but also to gain insights into the financial processes on site and work with the team to plan the budget for 2024. This personal experience and direct exchange enables us to develop effective strategies and ensure that every cent of the donations is used wisely to support the children in Uganda.



Lara, one of the CCU ambassadors for Germany, has also traveled to Gulu in recent months, gained an impression of the work on site and contributed her knowledge. In addition to visiting the three training courses, she showed some team members tricks for Excel and gave impulses on the topics of document filing and self- and time management.

NEWS FROM THE ASSOCIATION

Our aim is to make the German's association's work in Uganda even more professional and thus make CCU fit for the future. Voluntary project management is not enough to achieve this. We are therefore delighted that the members present at the Annual General Meeting voted in favor of the plan to fill the position on a full-time basis in the future. The plan is to start with employment by the association in Germany (including social security contributions) and then to send the project manager to Uganda in cooperation with a suitable and experienced partner, who will take over the administrative tasks and bookkeeping in the long term.

We are delighted to have found a great project manager in Mimi Odongo, whose first working day was May 1st!

Appointment of a project manager

IT problems

We would like to inform you that we have been experiencing major problems with the sending of e-mails for some time now: messages sent by us cannot be delivered to some e-mail addresses! All previous attempts to solve this problem have unfortunately been unsuccessful. However, we are still in contact with our mail provider and are working in the background to find a solution - also with the help of experts. We hope that we will soon be able to send all information digitally to all association members and those interested in our work. Anyone who is familiar with IT and would like to help solve the problem is very welcome to contact us.

Increase in the membership fee

An increase in the membership fee for our German non-profit was decided at the general meeting. In future, the annual membership fee will be €50 per person, with married couples paying €80 per year.

The reasons for the increase are, on the one hand, the increased administrative costs of the association in recent years and, on the other hand, the funds are also intended to provide more financial support for the work on site and to (co-)finance the employment of the project management.

The increase in the contribution will take effect from 01/01/2025.

This newsletter shows once again that the association has grown in the recent years and that the projects and the team in Uganda have become more diverse and larger. To ensure that the German side can keep pace with this, we are looking for committed and interested people who would like to support the Board in its work on a voluntary basis.

The idea is to form small working groups that focus on a topic that suits the individual strengths of the people involved. For example, a group for events at which CCU's projects are presented or a fundraising team to ensure that the work in Uganda remains financially stable in the long term.

You are also welcome to pass on this information.

Interested? deutschland@childrencareuganda.org

Support wanted

PLANNED EVENTS

A number of events have already taken place in recent weeks at which the work of CCU was presented.

Many thanks to everyone who took part!

You are welcome to mark the following dates in your calendar:

Concert by the "Troubadour" choir in aid of CCU
Sunday, 20.10.2024, at 5 pm
Matthias Ehrenfried House, Würzburg

Information stand and CCU product sale
Saturday, 26.10.2024, from 9 am
Lengfeld farmers' market in front of the Kürnachtalhalle,
Würzburg



Best greetings,
Board and Team
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