EDUCATION VS STARVATION

RABS Uganda students' update November 20, 2023:

THIRD TERM KARAMOJA SCHOOL FACILITATION REPORT 2023

It is with great pleasure that I bring greetings from the 18 students that are being sponsored by RABS International Ministries in Karamoja districts of Kaabong and Moroto. Special thanks to Mummy Cyndi and all RABs partners and facilitators for enabling these children to attend school who otherwise would be out of school.

This time I began my activities with the Kaabong children after a cumbersome bus journey. The bus broke down and we spent an extra four hours in Soroti as the crew were fixing the problem. We ended up spending twenty five hours on the road.

I found when I arrived three of the four girls (from Loleria) had already reported at school. I reviewed their academic performances for the last term and they had all improved much more than the previous terms. I delivered the school requirements and their personal effects and the next day I proceeded to Loyoro, the home village of the fourth girl to find out what was happening to her.

I found Judith had stayed because she had lost her uncle and they were supposed to bury him that evening. I decided to wait and attend the burial ceremony. I was eager to witness if they are still practicing their crude ways of placing the dead body on top of a rock in the countryside and leaving it there, but to my surprise, this family conducted a more civilized ceremony. They even dug a tomb and after burial, covered it with concrete. This is very rare in Karamoja.

I had some time with Judith, I encouraged her to be strong and urged her to report to school as soon as possible.

The next day I was supposed to travel to Moroto, but I abandoned the trip because we received reports of a clash between army troops and karamojong warriors who had raided a village near Kotido and took away cattle. I had to wait until it was clearly safe to move and that was a day after the day I had scheduled.

Traveling from Kaabong to Kotido was relatively safe but from Kotido to Moroto was interrupted about thirty kilometers to Moroto when the taxi van ran out of fuel but the place looked secure because we were near a camp for workers of a road construction company. We waited until some guys brought fuel from Moroto and proceeded after refueling the van.

At Moroto I met with the sponsored school children, checking their reports for last term and delivering the scholastic materials and school dues to the children and head teacher respectfully. I was given an opportunity to minister to all the children who were present with a video show and the word. I showed a short clip about a bride trying out different gowns and a movie that was acted by karamojongs about a girl called Nakiru who passed through many hardships at home but managed to persevere and continued school until she became a doctor.

I preached to them that in as much as school is preparing them for their future, they also need to be prepared for eternity by fitting in the right garments as a bride does. Many accepted to prepare for eternity by inviting Christ to be their Savior and Lord, and promised to continue attending school despite the challenges involved. I also had some good time with Nechap, the lame girl, very happy to be in my company but her wheel chair broke down and she was not using it.

I am very grateful for the priceless precious sacrifices and contributions of our dear RABS partners who through their relentless and continuous dedication, these children are safely at school and financially facilitated to carry through the entire term.

Surely the blessings of the almighty God will abide with you all and especially Mama Cyndi for spearheading this cause heartedly and enthusiastically. I also thank you all for allowing me to be part of this undertaking.

GOD BLESS YOU, MUWANGUZI DENIS PETER. (Volunteer Uganda national director/coordinator Karamoja ministry)











RABS Ugandan students' update June 5, 2023 Dear Mama Cyndi, RABs board, fellow Ministers and our dear ministry partners, Second term facilitation mission has been carried out successfully in both districts of Moroto and Kaabong.

I first staged at Moroto and the activities there were conducted without hindrances because most of the children had already reported to school except Lokawa who was bedridden with malaria, and Nachap. I checked through each child's report form of last term and there was considerable improvement in overall performance except for Nechap. I also had a meeting with the parents and emphasized they must help their children report to school in time and not allow them to come back home before the term ends.

I was surprised to see Nechap again crawling and upon inquiring why, I was informed that she cannot push herself in the wheel chair. During the school term other children help push her around the school, but during holidays she stays alone and therefore resorts to crawling. I went to find out the condition of the the wheel chair and found that it needed some repairs where the seat gets fixed to the rod and the wheels are missing some of the support strips.

It was a full day traveling from Moroto to Kotido and then to Kaabong. Kotido and Kaabong are among the districts in northern Karamoja were insecurity involving murders, clashes with army troops, vandalism and robbery occur most. Traveling from Kotido to Kaabong is more risky, as karamojong warriors have raided vehicles, robbed them and killed occupants in several incidences. It was near some of these dangerous spots that the taxi I was traveling in broke down. Its fan belt got torn and as thus we could not move until a new fan belt was brought and installed.

We had to wait for three hours before mechanics from Kotido would arrive and fix the car. Most vehicles refused to stop to help us, I presume because they feared we had staged the occurance to ambush and rob them. It was after two hours that a driver of an NGO vehicle stopped and allowed to help carry three of us to Kaabong leaving the others waiting for other sympathisers.

I was deterred from going to the villages the next day because there was an operation carried out by the army to recover guns from village members. It was on Friday that I was able to travel to Loleria to meet the girls.

I found out one of the girls had relocated to another village. She was sent away by her guardian because of hunger. However I was able to visit the homes of two other girls, engaged with the guardians and prepared them to report to school. The next day I had to travel to Kakamar to meet the third girl, but found out that the village women and older girls had gone to a distant village where visitors to a certain church were distributing food. Because of the security situation, I left before 6pm when they had not come back. I left her transport funds to bring her to school the next day.

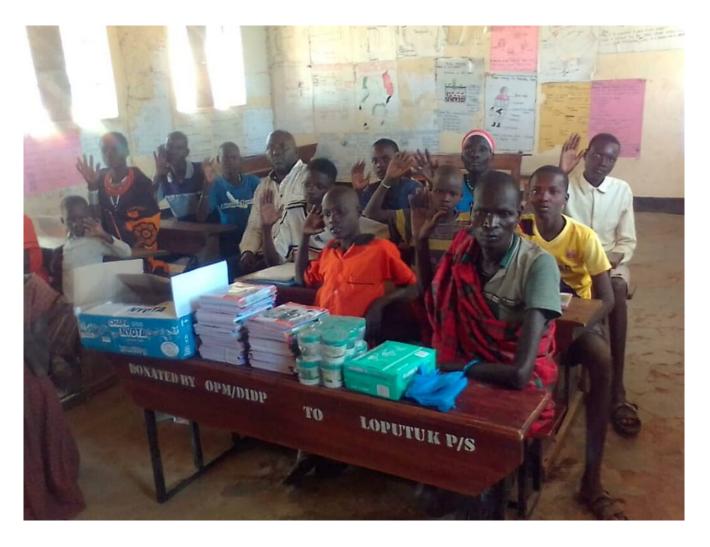
By Sunday morning, they had all reported to the boarding facilities. However Regina, a primary seven candidate, was needed to clear registration for primary leaving exams(PLE) by the end of June. I used part of the boarding fees and school fees to pay for P.L.E. and promised to top up the balance in due course.

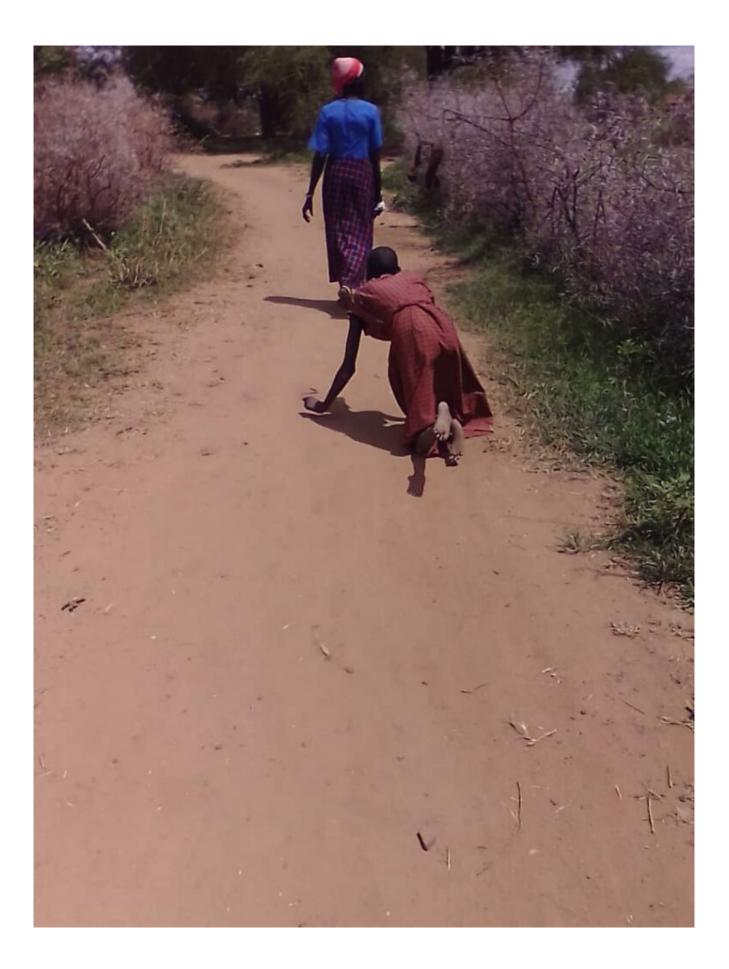
I was able to visit Catherine at her place of work and she was very happy. She is doing well and sent greetings. She is a public testimony of how RABs ministry helps such disadvantaged children to become useful and responsible members of the community.

I used the 2 am bus that passes Karenga, Kitgum, Gulu, Luwero to Kampala because I had to connect to another soul winning mission starting Monday.

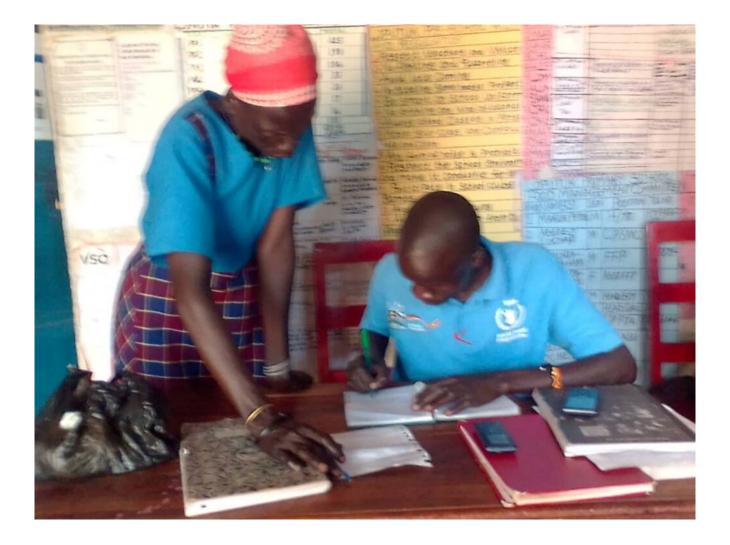
I thank Run Away Brides Ministry and it's committed partners for enabling some of the vulnerable and needy children in Karamoja to attend school without limitation or lack of basic necessities. The Lord bless you for your generosity towards this course.!

Muwanguzi Denis Peter

















2023 MISSIONS AND PROJECTS

RABS IS GOING FORWARD IN 2023

Relying on God has to start all over everyday, as if nothing has yet been done.

C.S. Lewis

• Providing 18 students in Karamoja Uganda educational and

basic needs funds

- Sending missionary pastors into unreached areas of East Africa & surrounding areas
- Publishing 'free' Christian written materials in national languages
- Subsidizing some missions' cost through Mama Cyndi's Milling Company
- Distributing free Flour at Milling Company to widows, poor, single moms
- Providing church planting consultation
- Pastoring the pastors in ongoing weekly RABS' online teaching
- International collective prayer partners and focused prayer teams
- Pastoral Care including physical, spiritual, and emotional services























SOME OF THE NEWLY TRAINED RABS LEADERS SHOWING THEIR RABS BIBLE STUDY BOOKS THEY HAVE LEARNED FROM AND WILL NOW TAKE TO THEIR CONGREGATIONS



HUNDREDS OF CHIDREN CAME TO THE RABS CRUSADES



LEFT; PASTOR MILTON; RIGHT EVANGELIST GERVAS SAYING GOODBYE AT THE MBEYA TANZANIA AIRPORT

ELECTRICITY ARRIVES AT EDENSET PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL, Luwero district, Uganda,

November 2023 update:

This divinely designed opportunity for Edenset School to have electricity installed came following Pastor Cyndi Higgins' 2018 visit.

With her compassionate heart to serve Christ in Africa and in holy desiring to see children in Africa receive quality education and be transformed in a Christian community, she began campaigning for funds to support bringing electricity to the school. This was no easy job because there wasn't electricity yet brought to the entire

remote village called Nabinaka, nor the region in Mazzi parish, Kamira sub county in Luwero district, Uganda.

In 2021, the dream became a reality.

We'd like to bring you a 2023 report showing the amazing progress our students have made because of electricity!

I truly believe that God hears the cry of His people. When we remember the agonizing moments our students used to pass through while learning under disruptive tree shades, temporary muddy structures, and light produced by burning smoky risky candles that actually left some of our students dead when a fire broke out, we are humbled all the more and continue trusting God, praising and honoring Him as we see the Children are very happy, confident, and parents testifying for the great transformation they see at Edenset Nursery & Primary School.

Indeed we thank God for your precious life and for using you to bless and impact our community with improved education through infrastructure, electrical lighting that is greatly supporting the learning and teaching, extra lessons, research as phones are easily charged and the students and staff are able to use the internet for learning information and more.

This is giving our school higher performance as already seen from Primary 7 mock-test results. We are trusting God for excellent performance on the National Exams this year come November. I also believe that if God accepts our prayers, a computer laboratory would increase the students performance levels even beyond the present.

The need of a boarding facility on our campus continues to bite hard on far distant learners whose parents have continued requesting a dormitory facility to reduce risks of their children walking impassable roads, dangerous sexual predators hiding in dense woods where children must walk to get to school. These travel hours on foot also causes learner exhaustion. All these challenges they face causes the tendency for dropping out of school. We continue to pray that the Lord works out a way for Edenset's geographically disadvantaged students.

Just a few days back one of our children we offer bursary, Nakijoba Ruth P5, came with her friend Allen also P5 and challenged me saying,

"Mum, when will you ever construct for us a living room? It is so hard coming from our village, it's far." I told them, "Pray and God will answer. Heaven and earth and all that is therein belongs to Him.

We remain encouraged and hopeful.

Eve Clive Nansereko

Founder and Director

Edenset Nursery & Primary School

EDENSET PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Basic information:

School name: EDENSET Primary & Nursery School

Project: School Electricity Access (SEA) Project 2021

Location: Nabinaka Village, Mazzi parish, Kamira Sub County, Luwero district, Uganda

Contact person: Reverend Eve Clive Nansereko.

Contact details: P.O Box 349, Luweero, Tel. 0782154254,

Document title: The SEA project implementation report

INTRODUCTION

The success of the SEA project came about as a result of a Request for proposal (RFP) by Pastor Cyndi Higgins, the founder and international director of Run Away Brides (RABS) international ministries situated in the U.S.A but with evangelical programs running in the continent of Africa. Through her ministry and service she has supported the school to access reliable electricity to which this report is in respect thereto.

BACKGROUND

Edenset primary and Nursery school, a remote school providing education to a community which according to 2002 Kamira sub county baseline survey had 0.4% of the population with ordinary level of education certificate. No wonder, the area is considered as the Karamoja of Luwero because of its deep rooted backwardness in terms of social, economic and spiritual conditions in the heart of Luwero district in Uganda, could never ever at any near future access electricity as now seen fully connected to the service through the support of RABS. This is a great ray of hope for the school to solve the frail sections of its efforts to reach out and sustain academic excellence.

This divinely designed opportunity comes following Pastor Cyndi Higgins compassionate heart to serve Christ in the heartland of Africa and in a holy discontent of passionately desiring to see children in Africa receive quality education as well as a Christ transformed community.

She was at the school located at a 'small' remote village called Nabinaka, in Mazzi parish, Kamira sub county in Luwero district, Uganda in 2018. She ecstatically preached in a RABS Conference organized by Good Samaritan Outreach International Church with, a 'big God," on the homeland of the school where she left the community set free from bondage.

No sooner had she left the government then planned to extend an electricity grid to the village which is over 30 kms away from the nearest electricity grid. Praise the Lord! That now the light of Christ does not only get seen in the spiritual but is also manifested in the physical illuminating the dark parts of life.

IMPACT / OUTCOMES OF THE ELECTRICITY INSTALLATION

What an amazing impact that has quickly come with the electricity installation program as implemented at the school! So far:

 There has arisen general parent and community excitement and great hope in achieving their educational objectives for their children. This has led to a start of the biggest number of the previous students approaching 400 despite Covid 19 effects yet other schools within the area are struggling with very few student enrolment.

- 2. More new students have been enrolled with increased appreciation from parents, local leaders among others.
- 3. There has been growth in church/chapel attendance, membership as well as Sunday school that is building a generation which will have more people appreciating Christ's work in their lives as well as upholding moral uprightness.
- 4. Three new qualified teachers from distant districts have been recruited and they have accepted to live and work with the school that needs them most which was not so before electrical installation, as they see a promising future and opportunities to further their career through research.

HIGH LIGHTS OF IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES IN PICTORIAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE SEA PROJECT

The project implementation activities circled around 5 classroom block, staffroom, administrative block and dormitory, the chapel/church and included acquisition of electricity license, purchase of materials, wiring, installation, and labor. Materials were purchased according to the budget and delivered on site and work begun on 21st of December, 2021 despite the interruption that came about due to the demise of Eve Clive's father the late Nsereko Edward on the 22nd /12/2021.

The contractors engaged in the activities were from a company known as Billy electricals LTD from Kampala.



Electrical lines installed in the classrooms



Electricity being installed in Church/ Chapel



Edenset Students Excited to return to school after Covid 6 month closure and finding electricity had been installed.



Poles and lines—lighting up the classrooms THERE IS MUCH MORE WORK TO DO

The challenge and future Prospects

Because the five semi-finished permanent classrooms that the school has are unable to provide learning facility enough for children from Nursery to grade 7, the school with the little savings from school fees paid, raised a 4 classroom block to foundation level in August 2021. From here well-wishers, Mrs. Harriet & Joseph Sserwadda came in and supported with the building to wall plate level. However, with electrical installation there has been increased enrolment that created a need that now urgently requires completion of the building otherwise learning of the children is at stake. Therefore, we long for your prayers and still believing God for phased completion starting with roofing that has been estimated at a budget of 18,305,000 UGX (\$5,720.00 USD) and soon thereafter do electrical installation estimated at 2,107,000 UGX (\$658.00 USD).



Edenset Primary & Nursery School Campus



Needs roof, electricity, floors, plastering, etc. for new 4 classroom complex

ELECTRICITY ARRIVES AT EDENSET PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOLDownload