

Amari

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION

2018
End of Year Newsletter

Kisiabi
Buliisa District
Uganda



We have once again been very encouraged by your love, support and care for the children we teach, and those in our community. We have had a very sound year, and we are, more and more, seeing the positive impact Amari is having in the community. Thank you so much for partnering with us, as we partner with our local community.

May you and your families be blessed this Christmas.



In 2018, on the building front, we:

Built the new school kitchen



Completed my (Marita's) onsite house



Did some finishing work on existing verandahs



Laid the floor slab for the school hall



In 2018 on the school front:

Our years of pioneering teaching and developing resources in mother tongue have paid off, and our students topped the district in the mother tongue (Lugungu) competition.



Also for the first time, our students took part in the Buliisa District Music, Dance and Drama competitions. They were highly commended for their excellent effort, given it was the first time they competed.

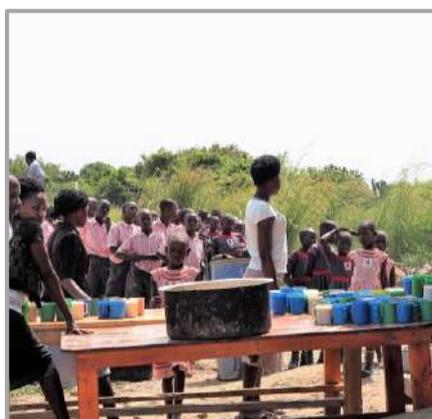


Our school was officially registered – a BIG job to get that done!

Our school management committee (SMC) and parent-teacher association (PTA) have been actively involved in advising us on how to handle discipline issues from a cultural and community liaison point-of-view, and this has been a positive contribution as it indicates our immediate community is taking more ownership of the project. *(Below – PTA/SMC meeting)*



And of course, regular school activities happened on a daily basis!



Our Community Emergency Assistance and Children's Medical Assistance Programme:

About 30 children are receiving ongoing assistance for medical needs. Amari contributes towards their transport and accommodation to get them to Kampala and other regional referral centres for assessment. Then, if it is necessary, we partner with hospitals and practitioners for surgical costs and ongoing treatment. *(Below – Joanne is under care for hydroencephalus, and James for clubbed hands and feet)*



Siblings Henery, Juliet and their sister Janet were removed from an abusive home situation, and lived with us for a month until we helped locate their grandmother, who took over their care. We are now helping build a more permanent house for them.



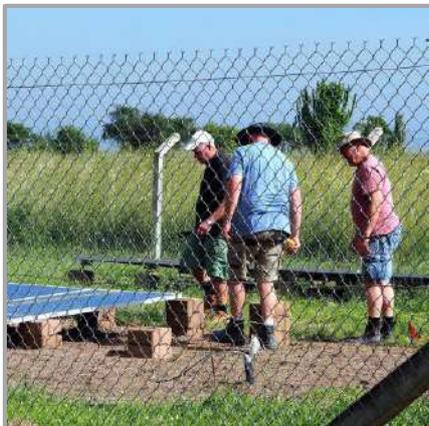
Twins Joshua and Caleb were hospitalized until their malnutrition was under control, and Amari is now assisting their father to build a new house.



Amari loans out chairs that the community can borrow for local burials. We also allow community members to cut grass to use for thatching their huts. Traditionally people used to be able to collect grass from anywhere. Now, with the new oil discoveries and land titling that is happening, they don't have this opportunity. Hence we are allowing access to grass on our land.

2018 Work Party

We were again privileged to have around 16 people come with the LMC June team. This year they continued work on the solar farm and electrical wiring, laid out more plumbing, did finishing work on my house, took our midyear photos, and got into the school where our staff and students had a lot of fun learning recorder.



Looking forward to 2019

2018 has been a very stable year, where the staff have (in the main) been cohesive and settled, and our school humming along. We are continuing to build a good relationship with our community, and with our local District leaders.

In 2019, our plans are as follows:



- Completing the new Primary 7 classroom before the end of January, in preparation for the new school year. Our original plan was to have the school hall completed, and to use that for a classroom, but time is against us, so we will focus on the classroom instead.
- Our oldest students will progress to Primary 7, and there will be a new intake of students into our Lower Nursery (first year of Kindergarten)
- Once time and funding allow, we will complete the school hall, begin work on a couple of secondary classrooms, and start on school dormitories.
- During the last couple of months this year, myself, Emmanuel (another founding director of Amari) and our senior staff have been checking out a new resource that has been produced that is based on the Ugandan school curriculum, but supplements what is being taught and uses a Christian framework. There have been some very positive outcomes in schools already using this, in both academic and in behaviour and character-building terms. We are going to introduce it this year into our Nursery school, and take it from there. Our teachers who were looking into it with us are quite excited about it, and the whole school will undergo a few days of training in January before classes begin.
- As funds allow, we will continue with our children's medical assistance program, and with community emergency assistance.



Sunday 27th January – Interview with Marita

On Sunday January 27, at the 10am the morning service at Life Ministry Centre will be featuring Amari, and Ps Graham Nelson will be interviewing me (Marita) about the founding of the organisation and the work we are doing in Buliisa, Uganda.

You are cordially invited to attend. Refreshments will be provided afterwards, and I will be available should you wish to discuss anything further.

Location: Life Ministry Centre
Old Melbourne Road
Chirnside Park, 3116



AMARI CALENDARS

We have put together two different calendars – a desktop calendar with scripture verses, and a wall calendar with pictures only. We are selling these for \$30 each (including P&H) and any money raised from these will go towards teacher training and staff development. If you are interested in purchasing one, could you please contact me on marita.simpson@amari.org.au or via our website or a facebook message.



2019 Work Party

Life Ministry Centre (my home church) will be hosting a work party visit to Amari next June. If you are interested in visiting Amari and Uganda, this is a good way to do it. More information can be found on our website at www.amari.org.au



Praise and Prayer Points

- Praise God for His faithfulness over the year, towards our staff, children and wider community
- Thank God for the continued love, care and compassion of those who support Amari in prayer, with assistance and financially. It is only through their ongoing commitment that we can partner on the ground with our community, and impact the lives of the children and families we work with
- Pray for wisdom for our directors and leadership team as they appoint new staff over the holidays, and as they prepare to head into 2019.

Amari Community Development Organisation

Amari CDO was established in 2008 to help relieve the effects of poverty through the support of education, development and welfare programs conducted in developing countries, principally Uganda. We have 40 acres of land at Kisiabi in Buliisa District. We are registered as an NGO (Non Government Organisation) in Australia and Uganda. Our emphasis is on the education and support of orphaned and vulnerable children. We aim to invest in them educationally and spiritually through quality Christian education.

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Tax-Deductible Donations can be made directly online at www.amari.org.au

We gratefully acknowledge the support and partnership of: AUSTRALIA HOPE INTERNATIONAL

Website: www.ahi.org.au

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