

CLASSROOMS AND STUDENTS

A new classroom building and students rise up P1 and 2

SPOTLIGHT ON A STUDENT

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AWEGYS GRADUATES' ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Awegys students reach their dreams P3

THIS YEAR AND BEYOND

See our goals for this year and beyond P4

AND STILL THEY RISE

We first went to Uganda in 2007 to investigate the 22-year-long war in Northern Ugandan. In particular, we wanted to learn about the effect the war was having on children, given that a rebel army led by the notorious Joseph Kony had abducted more than 30,000 children and forced them to serve as child soldiers.

We toured refugee camps, interviewed children, and interviewed the parents of abducted children. We met a woman of very humble means who was doing her part to help. She had turned her tiny, two room home in Kigo, Uganda into a school for children who could not afford school, including children who had been affected by the war in the North. This chance meeting led to the birth of Mtaala and its partnership with Awegys School.



The walls of the new school building continue to rise.



Students rise on the hill above Awegys School.

Since that partnership began, some of Mtaala's accomplishments include: installing a well for clean drinking water; building and stocking a library and science lab; finishing and outfitting a classroom block; building, stocking, and staffing a pediatric health clinic; constructing bathrooms with running water; providing electricity; creating a literacy program for local children; and making school a reality for poor Ugandan children who could not afford school.

Fortunately, the war in the North eventually came to an end. Joseph Kony fled the country. He has yet to be found and tried for his crimes against humanity. A generation haunted by war is on the road to recovery in Northern Uganda.

And the walls of Awegys School continue to rise and house children who long for an education. Children who continue to rise in the face of an adversity and poverty those of us with access to schools, books, electricity, clean water, and daily meals cannot fathom.

SPOTLIGHT ON A STUDENT IN NEED OF A SPONSOR



NAME: Shamsha Nakimera **AGE:** 16 **GRADE:** Senior Three

ABOUT: Shamsha Nakimera is sixteen years old and in senior 3. She lives with her mother and six siblings. Her mother has been taking care of Shamsha's and her sister's tuition while caring for all of the children since the mysterious disappearance of their father five years ago.

Shamsha's mother cannot afford to pay their tuition anymore and has advised the children to quit school and look for casual jobs to do. Shamsha reached out to Mtaala's country director and told her about the situation. Mtaala's director recommends both girls for sponsorship since they have shown a keen interest in school. Shamsha's favorite subjects are English and literature because she knows they are the relevant subjects she needs for her journalism career.

AND STILL THEY RISE

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This past year has seen significant construction on the new classroom building. The walls and ceilings are being plastered, the floors finished, and windows and doors installed. Work on the first floor of this four story building should be completed by the end of 2017. At that time, there will be enough organized and clean space for staff offices and additional student accommodations.



Students study in a classroom in the new school building.



A worker surveys the newly installed window frames.



The exterior and interior of the new classroom building are plastered. Exterior doors and glass windows are installed.

SOME OF OUR STUDENTS' RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Completing secondary school in Uganda is no small achievement given that only 7% of Uganda's population graduates from secondary school. Of course, graduating with a secondary school certificate provides children with many more opportunities for employment and continuing education. Almost 50% of Uganda's population is under the age of 15, underscoring the important effect education can have on children of all ages. Below you will find a brief update of a few of our sponsored students' recent accomplishments. Thank you to all of our generous sponsors, for it is your support coupled with our students' dedication that helped these students get to where they are today.

- Phillips Lakor has completed a certificate course in nursing and midwifery at Gulu School of Nursing and Midwifery in May. He is currently working at Victoria Health Centre in Gulu.
- Deborah Amuge has completed a diploma in Business Administration at Makerere University Business School, Kampala and graduated in May. She is currently working in Nairobi.
- Amos Olweny has joined Minakulu Technical College in Oyam district and is pursuing a two year certificate course in Electricity Installation and wiring. He was elected the guild president of the college for the 2017/2018 academic year.
- Winifred Apiyo and Lona Acen have joined Primary Teachers' College. Both Awegys graduates are pursuing a certificate course in primary school teaching.



Phillips Lakor in full scrubs at school...



...and ready to practice as a nurse.



An Awegys graduate receives her university diploma.

THIS YEAR, WITH YOUR HELP, WE WILL CONTINUE TO...

As a small but ambitious organization, we appreciate it when our supporters lend a helping hand towards Mtaala projects. The following are some of our goals for this year...and beyond!

SECURE STUDENT SPONSORS

Mtaala's greatest need is sponsors for students. For a small monthly fee, sponsors provide tuition and room and board for our students. Our sponsors are the heart of our program.

RAISE FUNDS TO BUILD A SECOND STORY ON THE NEW CLASSROOM BUILDING

Originally built on a small piece of land donated by Awegys founder Alice Wegoye, we are maximizing use of the land we have by creating a new school building several stories high. The first floor should be finished by the end of 2017. Funds are needed to build the second floor that will house additional classrooms and dormitories, and help fill Uganda's need for schools. The building of schools around in Uganda and beyond, helps those of us at home and around the world.

SUPPORT THE FEST SCHOOL HEALTH CLINIC

The health clinic built and stocked by Mtaala is always in need of supplies and funding. The clinic serves the students or Awegys and the surrounding villages.

FUND SOLAR POWER

Solar power would not only provide reliable electricity to improve classroom learning and general quality of life, it would also follow our dedication to environmental and financial sustainability.

4 Reasons to Become an Educational Partner

1 Mtaala's program is unique

We work with your organization to set goals based on our school's needs and your organization's interest.

2 You get tangible results

The members of your organization will actually see the results of their dedication and generosity.

3 Receive a real thank you

We will send photos and our Ugandan students will send thank you letters about what your donations accomplished.

4 Build global awareness

As an Educational Partner, you can help build relationships between your organization and our students in Uganda.

USA

Mtaala Foundation
230 Kings Highway East, #136
Haddonfield, NJ 08033 USA
Phone: 609-932-8207

UGANDA

Mtaala Foundation
P.O. Box 31434, Kampala, Uganda
Phone: +56-702541383.

UK

Mtaala Foundation
P.O. Box 67002, London UK
Phone: 0044 7730 676824

OUR MISSION

The Mtaala Foundation, a 501(c)3 creates and supports education communities for vulnerable children and at-risk youth, including those affected by poverty, war, and HIV/AIDS. Empowering youth through learning and giving back to their community is a central tenet of our work.

The foundation partners with individuals and villages to create secondary schools where none exist, and connects the schools' students with international sponsors to fund their educations. We welcome and need your tax deductible donations.

E-mail
info@mtaala.org

LEARN MORE AT
WWW.MTAALA.ORG

