

Dear Friends of Keystone Church,


We wanted to reach out to give you updates on several areas of progress so many of you were instrumental in supporting either through prayers, serving in person, or through financial gifts. There are many programs growing, as well as projects nearing completion. We wanted to invite you into “the know” and into participating in the next steps.

Construction at the Center

We are thrilled to announce the 3-story dormitory/classroom building is nearing completion. Girls have already begun to move into the main level with their children as bunk beds are constructed and classroom spaces are outfitted. The excitement among the teachers, girls, and surrounding community is contagious. Their ability to have private and sanitary bathrooms and housing made for bedrooms with adequate ventilation has been welcomed with gratitude. The Keystone team heading there in June will work to help finish bunkbeds, decorate the bunkrooms, and help girls personalize their own living spaces. We are currently fundraising the remaining \$93K needed to finalize payment on the building’s construction and to outfit the building with bunks, mattresses, classroom furniture, bathrooms, and a water collection system for the roof. The video link following this letter is a tour of the new building given by Robert, the general contractor.



Communities of Impact



The community living at the Center consists of 58 girls and their 59 children. The full-time and part-time teaching, maintenance, security, and administrative staff accounts for another 30 people. About 20 children from the community are also attending the preschool. The farm is worked by laborers hired from the Republic of Congo, as it is near the border. This group represents 55 families, supporting between 5-8 family members each. During harvest season, groups of women within the Nebbi community, closer to the Center, are also hired to help process the harvest. 50+ laborers continue to finish the construction of the dormitory, meeting for prayer daily, and a church service weekly.

Miracle Pig

God truly cares about the most specific details. At the Center, it had come to Scovia's (the assistant director) attention that they really needed a new male pig to breed to their young sows. But, a purchase of that size was not in their budget. She prayed for three weeks asking God to provide a male pig so they could continue to breed for meat and to sell off young pigs to purchase seeds for the farm. One evening, Dr. Betty and Scovia heard banging on the gate at the Center. Dr. Betty asked Scovia to go down to the gate to see who needed to get in. When she got to the gate at the road, there stood an adult male pig... by himself... banging his head at the gate! Scovia quickly had her husband help get the pig into their property and in with their sows. The boar lived at the center for a few weeks, long enough to be bred with all the eligible sows, before his previous owner came to collect him. God provided EXACTLY what they needed. Praise the Lord for the miracle pig!

Farming Crops & Animals

To sustain the growing appetites of the children, students, and staff at the Center, farming continues to be a significant area of growth. Scovia oversees the expanding farm program currently growing in three locations and covering over 175 acres of farmland. Crops like beans, corn, casava, ground nuts, sesame seeds, and sorghum are prominent fixtures across those many acres. There is often a surplus at harvest that allows them to sell to the surrounding community for added income.

They are actively raising chickens for meat and eggs, both for selling locally and to feed the kids at the Center. They also have a large herd of goats, flocks of ducks, Guinea fowl, turkeys, and pigs.

Education

January began the new term of school for girls and their children. 58 girls are in accelerated education, secondary classes, or getting career training. All of them meet daily for devotions, weekly for church, and weekly via zoom for trauma counseling and faith-based training with mentors from Keystone. Currently, 102 children are enrolled in five different levels of education ranging from their baby class to primary 1 (the equivalent of our 1st grade). Teachers are utilizing national standards to guide their teaching and have been exploring new ways to integrate faith in learning. These new classrooms and dorms are getting finished JUST in time to host these students!



Dream City

The commercial center for career training and economic growth for the Center, fondly known as Dream City, is becoming a regular stop for neighbors seeking to do business with honest vendors. Eleven graduates from the Center run the grocery store, tailoring center, salon, and restaurant in Dream City. They are managed by the executive director, Dr. Betty Udongo, and Brian Odoch, Betty's nephew who has business training. An additional 8 girls are being trained to work in the various businesses in Dream City. Community members stop by daily for grocery basics, businesses and church groups are hosting gatherings and taking meals together at the restaurant, people stop in to access internet at the internet café, groups gather to watch national soccer games on the tv at the restaurant and



purchase food while they watch. Even the mayor has visited and taken meals at the restaurant.

Next Steps!

We are actively seeking donor gifts to help us reach the \$93K goal to complete the construction and furnishings for the dormitory/classroom building.

Donations towards New Generation Uganda can be made online to the “Global Uganda” fund via this link: <https://keystonecc.churchcenter.com/giving>

We also know, the amazing work at New Generation Uganda will continue to be successful with the help of a growing network of supporters. We welcome your participation in sharing about New Generation among your own network and would love the opportunity to be introduced to others (business contacts, churches, friends, rotary groups, foundations, etc.) you think may also have a passion for supporting the continuation of the Kingdom work happening in Uganda. Please also join us in prayer for New Generation Uganda. God is at work!

Please don't hesitate to reach out with questions. My cell number is (616) 292-5875.

Sincerely,

Randy Wassink

NEGHEC International Board Chair

