

ISSUE 18  
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# BINGWA

FIGHTING CORRUPTION BY BUILDING INTEGRITY IN THE CHILDREN OF AFRICA

SPECIAL EDITION • SPECIAL EDITION  
ANNIVERSARY  
SPECIAL EDITION • SPECIAL EDITION



CHILD AFRICA:  
**25 YEARS**  
OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE



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**COVER PHOTO: Child Africa celebrates 25  
years of making a difference**





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## DEAR READERS,

This special anniversary edition celebrates the twenty-five years Child Africa has been making a difference in the lives of the children of Africa. BINGWA Magazine is proud to be part of Child Africa, which has published this FREE magazine since its inception in 2009.

Because of the lessons on honesty and integrity that are passed to our young readers, a future free of corruption is no longer a far-fetched idea. Let us keep fighting against this corruption monster threatening our present and future generations.

As the organisation celebrates its achievements and embarks on the next part of its journey, we thank all those who have worked with us in some way. From our partners to the amazing sponsors who have taken up the education and care of these children in need, to our staff, contributors, designers and other suppliers and consultants as well as our precious young champion readers. May your cup keep overflowing with abundant blessings.

Each story here tells the authentic Child Africa journey or experiences with the powerhouse that is Child Africa. These stories will move you to make a difference wherever you are too. Let us share, let us make a difference together!

*Join us on this exciting journey  
at [www.childafrica.org](http://www.childafrica.org).*



**THIS SPECIAL EDITION OF BINGWA HAS BEEN PUBLISHED BY CHILD AFRICA**



# CHILD AFRICA CELEBRATES TWENTY FIVE YEARS



It all started in 1991 in Uganda. A Norwegian couple Rino and Julie Solberg (with roots in Kabale) visited Kabale. For to the visiting couple, one problem stood out and demanded their full attention. It was true that the people were poor and that many of their children did not go to school. HIV and AIDS related issues were a heavy burden on young and old families alike. The number of orphans, child-headed families, grandparents with sets of children left in their care, single parents and ailing parents were visibly growing by unnatural proportions.

Deeply moved by the sadness of these tales, Rino and Julie Solberg were prompted to act (initially as an individual family) to help educate some of these vulnerable children and give support

to their disadvantaged families. The **Solberg Children Help Organization** was formally founded and first funded entirely by the Solberg's family and few friends privately.

The foundation of this charity was bound to grow beyond the stature of the Solberg's as a family, hence the adoption of the name **Child Africa**. Today, thousands of children are supported by Child Africa and are going to school and living a reasonably better life with the support of their sponsors.

Child Africa is proud to point at two well-built and furnished schools - Child Africa Junior Schools - at the Equator in Mpigi, and Kabale Municipality, Uganda. There are also many







The first Child Africa School in Uganda under a mango tree

children in other partner schools. There is a growing number in secondary schools, vocational institutions, colleges and universities with a Child Africa sponsorship tag. Most Child Africa benefiting children are in central, western and the eastern parts of Uganda. Child Africa has also renovated schools in two regions, in Kiambere and Mboti in Kenya.

Celebrating twenty-five years since its foundation, Child Africa is a proud benefactor to many children - now adults, graduates of different universities and tertiary institutions in Uganda and beyond. These citizens are playing positive roles in society, with good jobs or self-sustaining businesses. Indeed, they are exemplary youth, giving well-deserved tribute to the vision of the couple at the apex of Child Africa - Julie and Rino Solberg. The story of Child Africa is also the story of many people in Europe, Africa and other parts of the world. It is also a story of building from pain and its scars, of orphans who are now useful with school education and skills, of children with special needs now proudly being equipped to take on life. It is a story of gritting our teeth at the beginning and smiling at the end, of enduring and striving hard and finally flying to the top for the children of Africa.

#### MILESTONES:

- **1991:** Julie & Rino Solberg start 'The Solberg Children's Help Organisation'. They are the only sponsors and financial supporters at the time.
- For the first thirteen years, Julie and Rino fund all administration matters privately. With

voluntary help from family and friends, the job is done. In the first thirteen years, the organisation only has Norwegians sponsor children in the schools.

- **1997:** The name of the organisation changes to **Child Africa** in Norway.
- **2002:** Aisha Kugunda, who had been in Child Africa's sponsor program ten years before, graduates from Makerere University in Kampala. She becomes Child Africa's first beneficiary graduate.
- **2004:** Child Africa launch their first website [www.childafrica.org](http://www.childafrica.org) and start getting sponsors from all over the world through their online payment system.
- The first 'school' is started under a Mango tree at the Equator in Uganda and has about twenty children in the class.
- **2007:** Child Africa gets into a partnership with telemarketers in Norway. We get funds for administration and are able to hire, give salaries and build schools.
- **2007:** Our first big school is built in Kabale.
- **2008:** Child Africa incorporates deaf children in their Kabale School as a pilot project. It works so well that it is now here to stay.
- **2008:** Child Africa is also registered in Kenya.
- **2009:** Child Africa published and distributed BINGWA Magazine, the first FREE children's magazine of its kind on the continent.
- **January 2009:** Child Africa builds their second school at the Equator in Uganda. This project is financed by Better Globe's sales of 'donations packs'.
- **2010:** Child Africa School formed the first Primary brass band in the whole district. It is



unique because it incorporates girls, street children and deaf children.

- **2011:** Child Africa is blessed with 210,000 bricks to start building a new school in Kabale in Uganda.
- **25th February 2013:** Two pupils representing the Norwegian college of education (Strand VGS) and the Child Africa head-boy and head-girl cut the ribbon and declare Strand Play Park officially open. This is donated by Strand Vidregaaende Skole.
- **5th March 2014:** The official opening of the new dormitory for boys and girls at the Equator School takes place. This is sponsored by Jåtta School from Norway.
- **June 2014:** Child Africa is presented with the prestigious '**Tumaini Award (Education Category)**', given by Save the Children, World Vision, Compassion International and UNICEF among others.
- **June 2014:** Child Africa is chosen to arrange and head the yearly celebration of 'The Day of the African Child' at the District level.
- **July 2014:** A team of twenty A' level pupils and four teachers from Littleover Community School Derby, in England turn an acre of stony, scrub mountain-side into a fruit and vegetable garden. This is at the new Child Africa Junior School site, bringing the school even closer to sustainability.
- **2015:** The building of the new school starts in Kabale, with financial help from Gunnvor & Olav Solli testament in Norway, Tau VGS in Norway and Catarina Bertling.
- Thanks to the return visit of Littleover Community School, Derby, UK, twenty-one pupils and four teachers work eight long days in temperatures and an altitude they are not accustomed to. The three coats of paint they provide inside and outside the two

new school buildings make a Child Africa landmark!

- **2015:** Child Africa Junior School Kabale get 100% pass in the Primary Leaving Examination (P.L.E) and are ranked the third in Kabale Municipality. A big achievement.
- **2015:** The founders of Child Africa are awarded the prestigious '**Extra Ordinary People's Award**' in Dallas Texas, USA.
- **January 2016:** Child Africa Junior School moves into its new premises.
- **2016:** Thanks to the third time return of the Littleover Community School Derby UK, four pupils and three teachers worked tirelessly to fence the whole school premises in the shortest time ever. The fence was donated by Jaatta VGS Norway and Littleover CS to keep the children in a safe environment.
- **A bonus:** A special highlight of this quarter of a century celebration is the start of building the two new school sites, one in Kabale and one at the Equator in Uganda, which is planned to cater for 2,500 children in each school.

Special thanks go to the sponsor parents for supporting the children, the Government of Uganda for creating an enabling environment, the Local Government and the Community for their help, support and cooperation, all the staff of Child Africa, guardians/parents of the children, friends of Child Africa, sponsor schools in Norway and England who tirelessly fundraise to make dreams come true, donors of all categories who support us with whatever they manage (every penny counts), all the children and the Better Globe Group, which endeavors with near selflessness to make the world and its environment better.

**LONG LIVE CHILD AFRICA!**





# HALL OF FAME



Child Africa receives the Tumaini Awards- Education Category in June 2014.



Julie, Rino Solberg and Arnold Schwarzenegger



Jack Welch (USA), Julie & Rino Solberg



2015: The founders of Child Africa are awarded the prestigious Extra Ordinary People's Award in Dallas Texas, USA



Randi Zuckerberg, Julie & Rino Solberg



Julie Solberg and Steve Wosniak



Rino Solberg with super golfer Arnold Palmer USA



Sylvester Stallone, Julie and Rino Solberg





# A journey of Passion, Love and Tears

## Q & A with Child Africa Founder & Managing Director Julie Solberg

### So, Julie, what's your story? Briefly tell us about yourself...

My story is a long one and I have difficulties knowing where to start but let me try and just jump-start. My name is Julie N. Solberg, a positive young lady (hahahaha), Founder and Managing Director of Child Africa, Norwegian by nationality with roots in Kabale. By the time I was eighteen, I knew what I wanted and was very focused on my goals. My advanced education in Leadership, Personal Development & Sales were done in the United States of America. In my working career, I have had the opportunity of working in different countries. By the time I was twenty-five, I managed a factory in Norway at top management level, got enormous experience working with my husband whom I would call a genius and true motivator.

### Why did this type of work interest you and how did you get started?

I have been interested in helping children since I was ten years old. When I was ten years old, my mum (may her soul rest in peace) told me that I informed her that I would build a big house and fill it with orphans and poor children, no matter what colour or religion and that I would look after them all.

Mum is the reason I am so much into what I do.

Growing up, I loved her kind heart, her passion for helping needy children. We grew up with so many brothers and sisters that were not blood related but to us that did not matter. We loved them all and there was never jealousy amongst us, it was just the way we lived and we never ever questioned it. Mum taught me love for others and the culture of helping. But my turning point came when I met my husband at a shipping exhibition in Oslo where I was a hostess. He became my biggest motivator, my teacher and supporter.

We started working together and travelled the world, meeting well-known people all over the world. In all this, I still felt my heart was not content; I felt like I had left out something important in my life. One day he asked me, "Julie, if you had enough money and a possibility to choose, what would you like to do?" Without blinking an eye I said, "Help poor children in Africa." He looked at me and said, "So what are you waiting for? Do it NOW!" And here we are now. Child Africa, my dream, my baby was born.

### Why did you choose to invest in children and in particular in Uganda?

One of the reasons is that I have roots in Kabale, Uganda. Also, after visiting Uganda and seeing the endless suffering of children, my heart sunk, my





eyes filled with tears and I felt pain deep inside me. I decided there and then that this is where I wanted to start my project of helping children. I have never regretted.

**What interests you about this kind of work?**

My love and passion for children, I hate seeing children in pain, children hungry. If it were possible, I would protect all suffering children; give them an education, a fair chance in life.

**Twenty-five years down the road, what have been some of your challenges in managing Child Africa?**

Oh my God!!!! Challenges have been many, being a small organisation and sourcing funds ourselves has not been easy. Each coin had to be turned several times before being used where it is most beneficial. Working in Africa with so much corruption and lies is not easy. But my biggest challenge is not being able to help more children because of limited funds. Seeing children cry due to not being picked, makes me cry with them, I prayed inside me for strength to overcome this hurdle. We are positive people and believe every challenge makes us stronger and has a solution one way or the other, but sometimes I would feel lost and helpless. Today, I am grateful that we help even more children, but we still need many more sponsors to cover the gaps.

**We hear Child Africa is doing something about corruption?**

Yes! Child Africa's goal and mission is to fight and eliminate corruption. Whenever I say this, people tend to laugh and tell me it's an impossible goal. Well, not

the way we plan to do it. Our fight is through children, fighting corruption by building integrity in the children, which is the only way we can get rid of corruption, by a generation shift. Starting with the children in nursery school, we teach them honesty and integrity, educate them about the monster and evil of corruption; bring up a generation that does not want this monster in existence. Today, all Child Africa schools have a subject called 'Honesty and Integrity', which we hope to implement in all schools across Africa. It is a huge goal but with determination and the right partnership, it is not impossible.

**What are your achievements since you started?**

It has been a long journey. We started in a very small way, with family and friends sponsoring about fifteen children, and my husband and me paying all expenses personally. A Norwegian magazine 'Allers' interviewed us about the work we were doing privately and our system of connecting child to sponsor, interacting with each other and money going to that very particular child. People liked our system and many called to be sponsors, from fifteen we went to forty-five and continued to (now) over 1,000, this is a truly great achievement. From our first school under a Mango tree to two big beautiful schools, where deaf children are incorporated. From having volunteer workers because of lack of funds to paying salaries to ninety-six fully paid employees. To see our street kids turn into respected students, to see children who started with us at nursery-going age become University and college graduates. With tears in my eyes and pride in my heart, I experienced the graduation of our hearing-impaired (deaf) pupils, all these are huge





achievements. Opening Child Africa office in Kenya in 2005, the start of our BINGWA Magazine in 2009. Receiving two prominent awards, one in Uganda and the other in Dallas USA, was a big achievement too. It feels good being recognised after such hard and challenging work. Child Africa is (today) highly recognised by the governments and much appreciated and praised by local governmental offices where it is established.

**Where do you see Child Africa twenty-five years from now?**

We dream big and take action .We are expecting BIG moves in the right direction over the next twenty-five years. Read the article **‘Child Africa next 25 Years’ (Pg. 57-58)** and you will get to know everything about how we are aiming at making Child Africa very sustainable.

**You seem to be a go-getter, when have you been most satisfied in your life?**

Deep inside me, I have been most satisfied when I started Child Africa as this gave me the opportunity of working with needy children full time. My heart was content and I work with big passion. I love my job so much that every day I wake up, I thank God

for allowing me work for poor children. Making a difference in each and every child you touch is a blessing from heaven. This is my calling, I feel it in every fiber of my body. What I do is what was meant for me in this life.

Looking back, I would not call myself the usual kind of Country Director, I loved being in the field visiting homes, getting to know each and every child in the organisation and their families. I became such a common encounter in the mountains that the village locals named me *‘Kemishozi’* which means the ‘Queen of the mountains’ because of climbing mountains (and crossing lakes) to locate families to help. Today, seeing the first Child Africa children (whom we got from those remote places and who had no chance in this world) excelling at school over the years and getting employed, my heart is happy and at peace. No money in the world can buy this feeling I have deep inside of me. My journey to help needy children has healed me in so many ways.

**Who is your role model, and why?**

My Mum. She was a woman of compassion-always extending a helping hand to whoever needed it. Her





love for others amazed me. From her, I learnt the art of giving and the passion for helping children. She was very hard working, even heading women associations and other groups-always with a smile and kind word to everyone she met. Honestly, this woman did not know how to hate, even those who wronged her she welcomed into her home with a smile and kind word. When I started the organisation, Mum was there for me and the children. Many times in our meetings, she would talk to them and guide them. All parents knew and loved her very much. Child Africa is something I am building in her memory. She is no longer with us but she sees everything we have achieved with a smile on her face.

My Dad also worked tirelessly as a volunteer since 1991 coordinating all the children in Kasese/Fort Portal and surrounding areas until his dying day at the age of eighty-two. His compassion and drive for children was unbelievable. Child Africa is something I am building in their memory. They are no longer with us but I know that they see the achievements with a smile on their faces.

### What is your biggest strength?

The zeal within me of NOT GIVING UP. I do not let nitty-gritty things rule my world; I shake them off and proudly walk on.

### On a scale of one to ten, how lucky are you in life?

A good teacher once told me luck is just 'Preparation meeting Opportunity'. He was right, nothing comes by luck. When you get what you have in life, it's because you had prepared yourself for it; so when opportunity comes knocking, you grab it because you are prepared. Prepare yourself, do your homework and see how lucky you get. I am very lucky because I prepared myself for what I have achieved in life. Good times come and go, but you need to keep steady and focused in your journey no matter what hits you along the road, get up, focus and move on.

### Any last words?

From the bottom of my heart, I would like to thank all those that have made my dream come true, been with me through thick and thin. Special thanks to my husband who has been my rock whenever the going got tough. He also has been a Child Africa voluntary Chairman for twenty-five years. Firoz and Sabilla who started as volunteers in 1991 and Sabilla clocking twenty-five years in Child Africa this year. Jean Paul, who has done great voluntary work for Child Africa Kenya. Without him, we would not have been able to open offices in Kenya. Jan Tore, who voluntarily built our website and back office structure, which has enabled us to get many more sponsors. Rosemary, who also came as a volunteer and later became a big part of Child Africa, she helped enormously with fundraising and ongoing projects. All employees who work tirelessly to make sure procedures and deadlines are met, making Child Africa stand out. Special thanks to Eudiah and Claudiah in Kenya who make BINGWA such a vibrant magazine. Our biggest appreciation goes to all the sponsors who have made it possible for us to help so many children. All the donors and supporters of Child Africa who have worked hard and gone the extra mile to give financial support and make Child Africa what it is today.

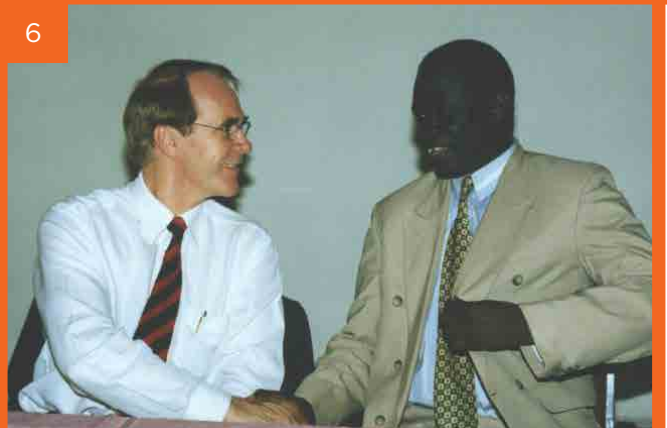
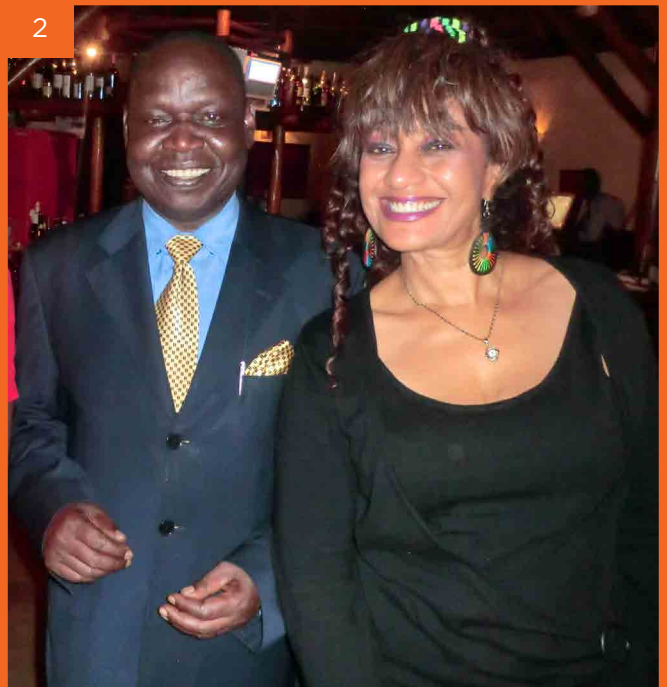
Special thanks to the local authorities who have given us enormous support, making sure we operate in their districts without problems, their cooperation and backup has encouraged us to do more. The LC5 Kabale District Chairperson, Mr. Keihwa Patrick has our very special thanks for having Child Africa at heart and the support given during difficult times; he made sure Child Africa stayed in his district with no more problems. I could have named many more but they all know how much we appreciate their support and friendship. Not forgetting the parents, local community and others that stood by Child Africa whenever evil thunderstorms hit. Child Africa is truly loved and appreciated by the people and the children.

It is with a BIG smile and great pride that I go through this journey of passion, love and tears to make a difference in the lives of poor African children.

**Every penny given makes a huge difference in a life of a child who would have otherwise ended up in total despair [www.childafrica.org](http://www.childafrica.org)**



# Child Africa meets Honourables



1. Julie and the President of Uganda Yoweri Museveni.
2. Hon. Fred Omach, State Minister of Finance & Julie Solberg.
3. Agreement between Child Africa and the late Minister of Education George Saitoti in Kenya in 2005.
4. Julie and LC3 chairman Kabale District Sam Arineitwe.
5. Julie and Rino Solberg with the former Minister of Trade and Industry Edward Rugumayo.
6. Rino with the former State Minister of Tourism in Uganda Hon. Akaki.
7. Julie and Geoffrey Kiwanda, Uganda State Minister of Tourism.





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- 8. Julie giving a presentation at the Uganda Convention in London.
- 9. Julie meets Swedish Ambassador to Uganda Urban Anderson.
- 10. Julie shares a laugh with LCV chairman Luwakanya John Mary, Mpigi District.
- 11. LC 5 chairman Kabale District, Patrick Keihwa with Julie at the ground breaking of the Chid Africa school in Kabale.
- 12. Julie and Rino Solberg with the Prime Minister Rugunda.
- 13. Rino knighted in the Philippines in 2012.
- 14. Rino and Julie with Uganda Minister of Ethics & Integrity Fr. Lukodo.
- 15. Former Vice President of Kenya cuts the ribbon at the handover of Kiambere school after the refurbishment of the whole school by Child Africa.
- 16. Rino and Yoweri Museveni, the current President of Uganda.





**Jan-Tore Øvrevik** has been sponsoring four children through Child Africa for a long time.

**When did you start sponsoring a child through Child Africa and why?**

In 2005, I was very lucky to get to know Child Africa through Julie and Rino Solberg, who had personally invested a lot of time and personal money in this charity organization for years. What struck me at that time was their unique way of doing things compared to other similar organizations I knew about. I loved the fact that the money I gave went directly to my sponsor child and no one else could sponsor my child. Once I sponsored a child through Child Africa's website, the child would no longer be available for others.

I wanted to sponsor children who were in the same age group as my kids. That way, I would show my own children what others of the same age went through in life, and how we could make a difference for them by helping them get an education.

My first sponsor child, Promise Nahurira, was four years old when I started sponsoring her and she turned sixteen this year (2016). A few months later (in 2005), I saw the cutest three-year-old triplets on Child Africa's website and I just could not resist sponsoring them too. Since then, I have had the pleasure of following up on my four sponsor children for almost a decade with the knowledge that at least four individuals get the chance to attend school -something the rest of us take for granted.

**What do you think your sponsorship means to the children you have sponsored and for you as a sponsor?**



I had a period in my life where my personal finances were pretty tough. During that time, I had to see where I could save money. I had four sponsor children and it all adds up. It occurred to me that if I quit sponsoring these children to save some money, it would really change their lives for a lot worse than what it would cost me in-terms of sacrifices, so I continued sponsoring them. As I have my own kids, they need to know that they are safe and in good hands. That is what I have tried to give my sponsor children: a safe childhood and adolescence where they can join school and get their education, food and medical attention when needed through Child Africa. The messages I receive from my sponsor children are full of greatness, thankfulness and kindness. They look at you as a blessing in their lives. It makes me very humble and a lot more aware of not taking things for granted.

**Have you seen how the money you send has been used for your children?**

One way I keep myself updated is through [www.childafrica.org](http://www.childafrica.org). I also had the pleasure of visiting my sponsor children in Uganda in 2009 and 2015. The welcome I (and others) received



was absolutely out of this world and extremely emotional. The happiness these children show by having little or nothing makes you rethink your own values in life. I have visited the schools my sponsor children attend, their homes and even church. Their gratitude is overwhelming and I realize that every penny spent has changed someone's life. My sponsor children are able to get education, textbooks and materials they need at school, medical attention when needed and food at school – all because of my support. Their parents (who have little income and struggle to survive) can also have the peace of mind that their child is taken care of at least during school time. There is no doubt that the money sent for my sponsor children reaches them through Child Africa.

**Would you recommend others to sponsor a child through Child Africa and why?**

There is nothing more satisfying than helping others, but you need to prepare for a long-term commitment to sponsor a child through this organisation. This is not like other organisations where you have many sponsors for the same child (even if it may look like you are the only sponsor). If you quit your commitment, then the child will be without a sponsor and immediately be kicked out of school. That is really brutal. You will rip apart the child's security and their whole future may be turned upside down. Another sponsor may sponsor this child, but it may take months or years. So, if you do not feel like this is something you want to follow up for years, then my recommendation is not to start what you cannot finish.

For me to see updated images of my sponsor children online, read and send messages from time to time, see their school reports and progress and know about their family situation. This information is highly appreciated and valued by me as a sponsor. I have a close relationship with them and can see and understand more of what is going on in their lives. Each sponsor can get as much contact as they want; some just want to hear and see images from the child without replying. Others want more interaction and may even visit their sponsor child/children at Child Africa's schools, as I had the chance of doing.

Child Africa is not among the well-known and huge charity organisations in the world, but the money is going where it should go-to



your sponsor child. Child Africa is unique and distinct in many ways compared to other child charity organisations I am aware of. I would like to mention that their integration of hearing-impaired children and teaching of the sign language to all the children is one of a kind.

With all my heart, I recommend everyone to sponsor a child through Child Africa. Seeing my sponsor children blossom from childhood into bright young adults has made me very happy. My best wishes for Child Africa and all the amazing work they do.

If you feel the urge to help out a child in need, there are hundreds of children waiting for a sponsor at [www.childdfrica.org](http://www.childdfrica.org). Do better and feel better.





**Elfrid** from Norway has sponsored Blessing Anyjukire through Child Africa for several years.

### **Why did you decide to become a sponsor for a child through Child Africa?**

I heard about Child Africa's sponsorship program through a Child Africa representative who was fundraising in Norway. The idea of helping a single child appealed to me and the whole program seemed very positive.

### **Why did you choose to sponsor Blessing?**

She just happened to be the lucky one to receive my sponsorship. I also liked her name. May God bless her.

### **Do you know about Blessing's family and life outside the Child Africa education system?**

I feel that I have good contact with Blessing and her family and that they appreciate the economic help I give. I receive her termly school reports, termly newsletters that are informative and very interesting to read. I can also follow-up on the development of Child Africa. I also receive family news reports once a year and photos. The Child Africa representative in Norway goes the extra mile for me. I am ninety-six years old and am not going to learn to use a computer now! Besides, I am nearly blind and hardly hear anything even with hearing aids. She copies all updates put on my sponsor webpage, makes whatever it is into size 36 in bold and prints it off. Then she brings it to me or posts it. I then put it under a special magnifying machine and this is presented to me on a TV screen. One A4 page contains just two words, sometimes it takes me a whole day to read a letter from Blessing, but I have time and get such great pleasure from them. I speak French, English, Malagasy and Norwegian fluently so I have no problem understanding the letters.



The original photographs of Blessing are brought to me on a laptop, and then we magnify them together. It takes a long time but I feel that I am valued by the organisation as well as Blessing. When I send a little extra money for Blessing's birthday or Christmas, I always get a thank you letter and receive extra photographs. Blessing has never asked for anything and the things she buys seem very sensible so I am happy to help her and her family when I save some money to buy different things. I paid for a water-tower for the family in-order to save Blessing time spent collecting water after school so that she can concentrate on her after-school studies. Homework is important.

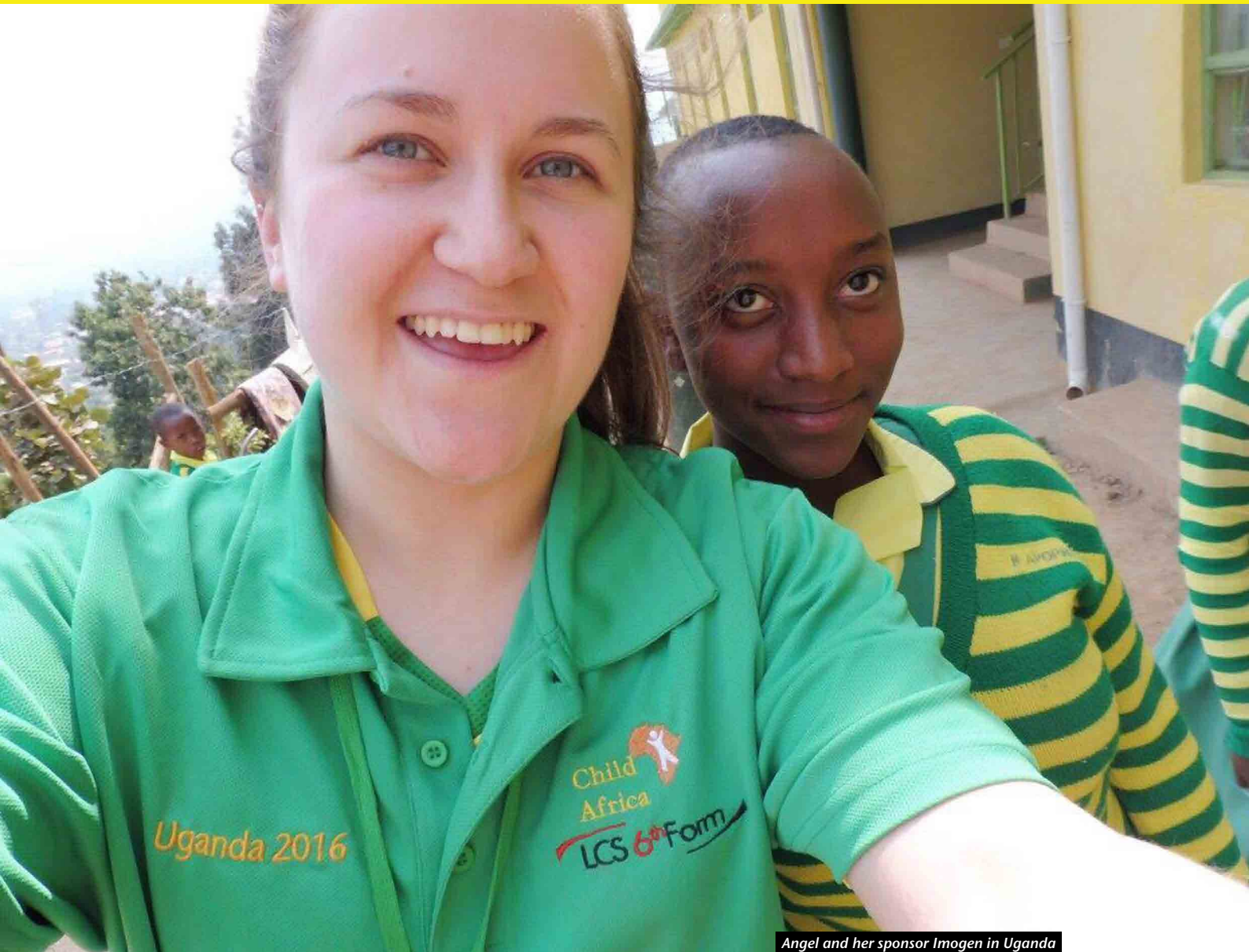
### **What makes sponsorship of a child through Child Africa special?**

I lived in Madagascar for many years and know how important it is for a child to receive an education. Knowing that I am helping a child in Africa makes me feel happy. I have everything I need and helping others who are not as lucky as I am is important to me. I am sure there are lots of people in the world who could sponsor a child if they thought about how much money they use on themselves. I will sponsor Blessing as long as I live.

### **Are you likely to visit Blessing?**

Sadly, my travelling days are over, I am too old. If I had been younger, then I would have travelled to visit her and her family through one of the Child Africa sponsor trips. The sponsor trips are very well planned and I know they are not over-priced. Child Africa does not make a profit out of these guided trips. People tend to think everything in Africa is cheap, but it is not. Fuel is very very expensive.





Angel and her sponsor Imogen in Uganda

**Imogen** from England has sponsored Angel Nayijuka through Child Africa for several years.

**Today, you are a university student, meaning you started doing this when you were really young (at A level), why did you commit yourself to help a child through Child Africa at such an early stage in your life?**

People in England take their education for granted, they are expected to attend school free of charge and leave school with some form of qualification regardless of whether they enjoy school or not. To see children so desperate to learn and so ready to be taught is an amazing thing. It really helps you appreciate how lucky you are to get free education. Helping someone

to get this education, someone who wants to learn, is a complete no brainer for me.

**Why did you choose to sponsor Angel?**

Me and Angel formed a great connection when I met her in 2014. She was one of the children I was put in charge of that year. Something that struck me about Angel was that she never mentioned needing a sponsor, she never asked me about it nor brought up money issues at all. So when I saw her on the website I was shocked and saddened and I knew straight away that I had to do something.

**Do you recommend sponsoring a child? If so, why?**

100% Yes! Even if you get-together with someone else to pay the school fees, I would definitely recommend sponsoring a child. Knowing that you are changing a child's life for the better is certainly rewarding but seeing that child love



school is even more incredible.

## **Do you know anything about Angel's family and her life outside the Child Africa educational system?**

I have been lucky enough to meet Angel's mother and see both their home and her work place. I know that Angel helps her mum around the house and in the family restaurant when she is on school holidays but I don't know much else. However, by seeing her home and hearing about the area from our guide, it was eye-opening as to why it is so important for Angel to board. She is safer living at the Child Africa site compared to her home.

## **What makes sponsoring a child through Child Africa special to you?**

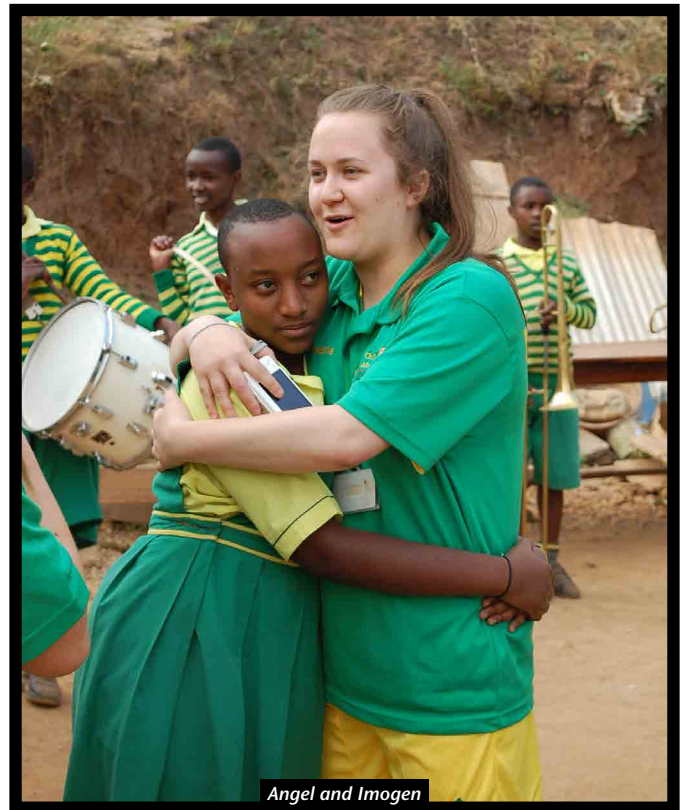
For me, it is the personal nature of the sponsoring system at Child Africa. I have been able to spend time with Angel twice now, but even if I hadn't, we receive school reports and photos of Angel as well as email correspondence, which keep up the personal relationship and bond that we have going.

## **You have visited Child Africa Junior School in Kabale twice. Why did you decide to return a second time? Would you like to visit again?**

My main reason was to see Angel, to see how much she had grown and developed through her education. This was key for me. I also wanted to see how much the school had grown having not seen the new school building at all. Having the opportunity to continue development on the site was amazing. I would certainly be back to visit again and again to help the school grow from strength to strength and to see Angel grow with it.

## **Can you describe a special memory from one of your days with Angel?**

Having Angel show me around her home and her



Angel and Imogen

mum's place of work would have to be the top moment. She was so proud to introduce me to her mum and show me the restaurant; it was an incredibly humbling experience and an amazing one at that. Being able to put a face to the name that I have heard before.

## **Can you describe another special memory from your most recent visit to Child Africa Junior School in Kabale, Uganda?**

Watching the last wire tie being placed was an incredible moment. Having placed around 9,000 ties to put up a 1,4 kilometer long link chain metal fence, with the other six people, which was twenty people less than originally planned, this achievement meant a great deal to all of us involved.





## Minny from Norway has been sponsoring Aisha since 1995.

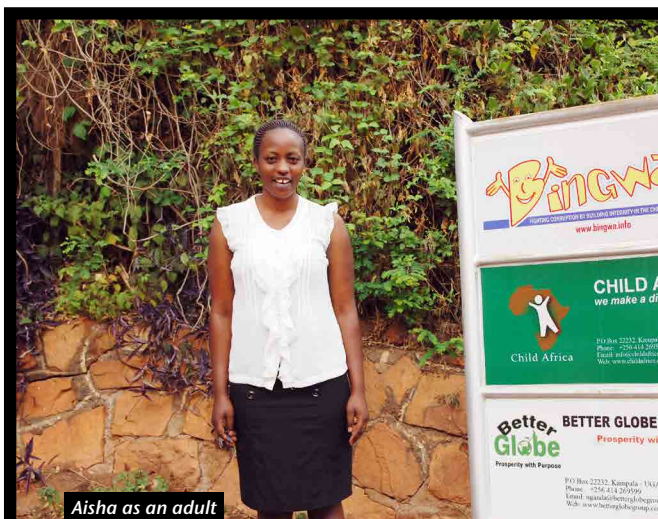
As a child, I was always involved in charity work for people in sickness or those in need. My mother was always using her spare time working to help others or to make life more fun for people new to our city or country. As I grew up, it was therefore natural for me to want to help where I could. When my first daughter was one year-old, we decided to be sponsors through Child Africa (not by this name at that time) after reading a wonderful article about Julie Solberg's work in a magazine. We became Aisha's sponsors. The age difference between her and my oldest daughter is only one month.

I have two daughters who have also been involved in Aisha and her family's life all along, always eager to hear about how she was doing and interested in hearing about life in Uganda. They love hearing Aisha calling them her sisters. We have always enjoyed being Aisha's sponsors. Child Africa has also been kind enough to share pictures and information with us.

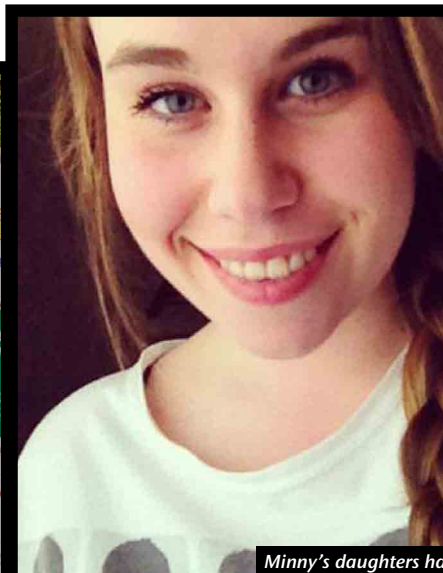
We love and adore Aisha and love seeing to it that Aisha is doing good at school and at home. We hope that the sponsorship has made a difference in Aisha and her family's life. Actually, we never talk about her as helpless or needy. We know that Aisha is a really resourceful, hard working young lady with lots of wonderful thoughts about how she wants to contribute to



making Uganda a better country. We believe that she has a great future in front of her. We are sorry we weren't able to contribute the fees needed at University for her to become a lawyer and other occupations she wished the highest for, but are endlessly proud of her for getting into the school she is now attending. I would absolutely recommend others to sponsor a child through Child Africa. They do a really great job and we appreciate a lot.



Aisha as an adult



Minny's daughters have been part of Aisha's life





## Sally from England has sponsored Kate Ndimukaga for several years.

### Why did you decide to sponsor a child through Child Africa?

I visited Uganda in February 2014 and met children in the Child Africa School in Kabale and Equator. On the day I visited the school in Kabale, they were saying goodbye to two students who were leaving the school to start vocational college. Everyone was quite overwhelmed to see them leaving. However, the two (Kate and Didi) were also excited about their new beginning. I heard that Kate's sponsor had recently stopped sponsoring her so she had no one to pay for her next stage of education. I also warmed up to this young lady with a quirky sense of humour and a strong sense of identity. Being deaf meant finding a job would be difficult for her without a craft, so she really needed this opportunity.

### Do you know anything about Kate's family and life outside the Child Africa education system?

I heard a little about Kate's family background and difficulties she had faced. She would not have a chance of furthering her education without the support of Child Africa.

### What makes sponsorship of a child through Child Africa special?

I have sponsored children through other organisations before, but have found this experience much more rewarding. It helps that I met Kate, receive regular letters and photos from her as well as termly reports about how she is doing in her studies. This keeps me motivated to keep in touch with her and to pray for her too.

### Are you pleased that you visited the school in Kabale and Equator?

Yes. I was blown away by the dedication of the staff and the eagerness of the children to learn. It was so lovely to see them enjoy their lessons and take part in singing, dancing and drama. The new dormitories at the Equator school were fabulous and I know there is a new school in Kabale now. I hope to visit again in the future.

### Any special memories of your time with Kate?

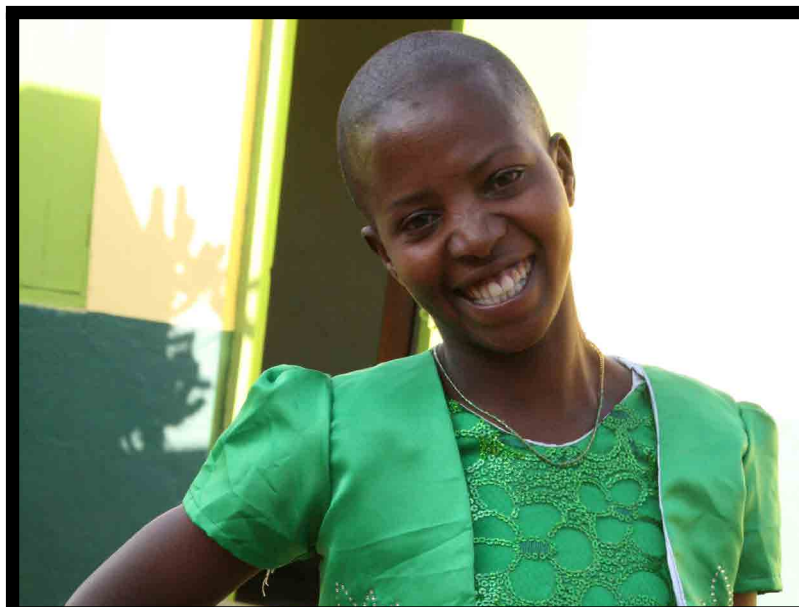
When Kate and Didi went to the small market in Kabale with Rosemary and Patrick, I went too.

I had great fun helping Kate choose some new clothes. She really enjoyed choosing clothes for herself. She chose a vibrant green dress and top for wearing to church. It moved me to see how thrilled she was to get something new that she loved.

It was also good to take her to her new home (the sewing college) and see her settle into her new dormitory, meet and communicate with the other girls. Kate was nervous and apprehensive, but by the time we left, she knew she would be okay and was very happy.

### Kate is now an adult, what are your plans for her?

Kate has now finished her studies at the knitting and sewing vocational college. I am helping her buy a knitting machine and all the equipment she needs to start her off in the next phase of her life so that she can be employed by Child Africa in the Kabale School where she can make school uniforms and help teach others how to knit and sew. It is thrilling that Child Africa has given Kate a life-saving education and continues to provide her with help - this time by giving her a job which will give her self esteem and a purpose. I will continue to support her until she is ready to earn enough money to support herself.





The new school building in Kabale



## Focusing on Quality Holistic Education

Child Africa Junior School is located on Mugabi Hill, Southern Division, Kabale Municipality, in Kabale District, Western Uganda.

Joining Child Africa Junior School for all our pupils is a dream come true because of the quality education and care offered (the school was one of the best in the municipality in the last years 2015 Primary Leaving Examination). The school also focuses on creating a conducive environment for all the children including those with disabilities to thrive and explore all their potential through class work, talent nurturing and building handy skills like weaving, entrepreneurship, craft making

of accessories like African mats, bags, tailoring.


Child Africa Junior School equally values children with disability by teaching sign language to each child who studies at the school in order to create a friendly environment for children with disability. We teach our children basic life skills by preaching integrity and honesty so that they grow up when there are exercising loyalty and kindness. This way they will become leaders who are exemplary and transparent in whatever they do so as to prevent Corruption in Africa which hinders delivery of holistic services to the people in Africa. The future plans for

Child Africa Junior School are big and better as Child Africa the organisation will build twenty-eight more blocks to add onto the existing buildings on the twenty acre land on Mugabi Hill overlooking Kabale Town. The planned buildings will accommodate the Nursery, Primary, Secondary, Vocational, Staff Apartments, Clinic, Supermarket and a recreational Centre. The vision is to accommodate 2,500 children in the primary section of the complex.

The same kind of premises will be built at Kayabwe, Equator School in Mpigi District to accommodate 2,500 children.



Barbra with Julie



**B**arbra Mellab Kyomugisha is my name and I am twenty-seven years old. Child Africa started sponsoring me when I was eleven years old in Primary Six. Life was so hard and I did not have a way out. I was born in a family where achieving something good was dependent on one's own struggle. My mother is not educated and she did not have a job. Her only means of survival was her own hustle.

I am very happy to be part of the celebration of Child Africa's twenty-five year existence in Uganda. Because I have walked the journey with them for fourteen years, I know what it means for them and for myself. Many things have happened along the way. For instance, I got married in January 2015 and I have a baby boy now (Daniel Ainomugisha). Here in Uganda, it is not always easy to be married and working at the same time. In most cases, husbands stop their wives from working. I thank Gerald, my husband, for giving me the freedom to work. I am glad I can say all this on the silver jubilee of the very organisation that has brought me to where I am.

I heard about Child Africa during the registration of other poor children in Kanyankwanzi bukoora. I was in the field cultivating with my mum and siblings when down in the valley, we saw a large group

**Good things**  
come to those  
who wait



of people running to our church. We stopped digging and ran to find vehicles parked there. The 'Abajungu' (lighter-skinned people) were there registering needy children.

I did not go home until I met Madam Julie and explained more about myself. Madam Julie listened to me and agreed to come home with me to see where I really came from. Child Africa started paying school fees for me before I found a sponsor. When I was about to start my University studies, Mr. Bolmeson chose to sponsor me throughout my university. I pursued a Bachelors degree of Business Administration and Management (Accounting) at the Makerere University. During my study, all my bills were paid, from tuition fees, hostel/accommodation fees, meals bills, transportation to stationery and all other necessities of a girl-child.

### Working experience

I started working with Child Africa as a volunteer at the age of seventeen. During my school holidays, I used to help with training music, dance and drama to the younger children. In my Senior Six vacation, I worked as a school matron in charge of girls for nearly a whole year before I joined University. Immediately after my graduation in 2012, I was given a job as the School Bursar (in-charge of school finances)- a position I hold to date.

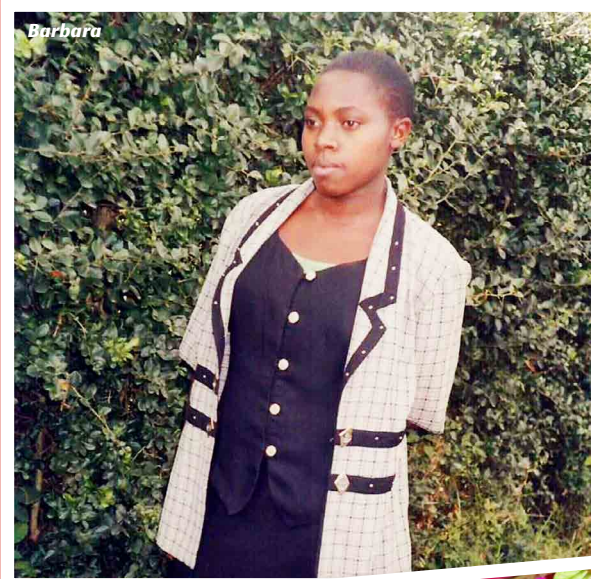
### Best times

As a village girl all the way from Kanyankwazi, I had never been to Kabale or Kampala before. It was Child Africa that introduced me to the urban setup where I saw things that encouraged me to work hard for my future. I was taken to all big hotels in Kampala and other places of value for optical nutrition.

Dealing directly with the Managing Director Mrs. Julie Solberg meant that I got to experience her motherly love and care. She encouraged me so much and cautioned me against sugar-daddies especially when I was at Makerere. If she did not take such matters seriously, I would not have learnt what she really wished for my future. Child Africa surely makes a difference because I am a living example. If they gathered all the happy women today, I would appear among them.

### Message to school girls

My advice to girls out there is to wait! Finish your studies first. Good things come to those who wait. I strongly believe that if I had not studied, I would not have enjoyed this life. Say a big no! to boyfriends because they distract you from



focusing on your education and an even bigger no! to sugar daddies because they really ruin lives.

### Conclusion

The name Child Africa will not cease from my lips because without you, I would be nothing. Thank you my mum and friend Madam Julie Solberg for the love and passion you have for the children of Africa. Thank you my sponsor Jan and Caroline Bolmoson for the love and care you have given me and for coming to my 'giving away' and wedding ceremonies. May God bless you!



# Isaac Twesiime

## Child Africa is supportive to the end

### Background

My name is Isaac and I am twenty-eight years-old. I am glad to be part of Child Africa's twenty-five year celebrations. Child Africa started supporting me when I was eleven years-old. Child Africa memories will forever be with me. The first time I met Child Africa, they had come to our remote village to attend a baptism service for a certain child. The Managing Director Mrs. Julie Solberg was very smartly dressed in a long red (Sari) dress and she was smiling all the time. Later though, I noticed her wiping off tears from her eyes. I did not understand this until I grew up and asked her what made her cry on that day when the rest of us were so happy. She told me that she felt sorry for the poor children and the life they were living. On that baptism day, we (the poor children) would be served last, eating the leftovers. This was after we had worked so hard on fetching water from miles away. Somehow, that seemed okay for us.

### Registration

One of my most memorable days was the registration day. The scouts from Child Africa came in four vehicles. Because we were not



Issac in red

used to seeing vehicles in our village, most of the people stopped whatever they were doing and came running towards the vehicles. The Child Africa scouts parked at our village church and I was among the very first children to reach there. It was so amazing to see both children and mature people running towards the church.

The Child Africa staff did not know the local language {Rukiga} and they wanted to



Isaac Twesiime, a beneficiary of Child Africa, achieves his Masters Degree



Isaac in the middle



communicate to the people in vain. The MD asked if anybody could help translate and everyone looked at each other and kept quiet. However, I was bold enough to say "I can". By this time, I understood English though it was not so easy for me to speak it fluently. However, I was of help at that very time of need. I helped in translating English into Rukiga and Rukiga to English to ease the registration of children. I did it happily for two consecutive days. After the second day, the Managing Director gave me a 10,000 shillings note-which I had never held in my tiny hands before. I was eleven years-old then.

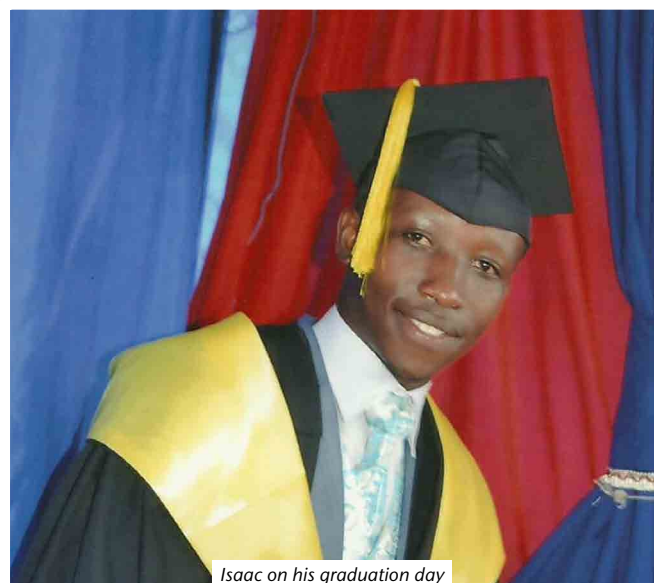
Though I did not get a sponsor instantly, Child Africa started paying my school fees immediately after that registration. They continued to sponsor me until I got a sponsor when I was in my Senior Six vacation. Mr. Iron paid for me for two years but later dropped me. I thank him for his support during my time of study. Child Africa continued to pay for me until I finished my Bachelor's degree of Arts in Education (Guidance and Counseling), which I completed in 2010.

After graduating, many people have a difficult time getting jobs but not me. I finished my exams in May 2010 and started working immediately. I was officially approved as an employee after my graduation in November that same year. Today, I am employed by Child Africa as the Estates Manager. I thank Child Africa for the golden opportunity to work with them and for supporting my education.

**Worst moments:** My worst moment is when I lost my sponsor in my second year of university. I thought it was the end for me. But then Mrs. Julie Solberg gave me hope. She told me one thing that really encouraged me: That I had eaten the whole cow and so I would not fail to eat the tail. She then continued to pay for my tuition until I finished my education successfully.

**Best moments:** The day Julie and Rino Solberg made the decision to support my education. In 2008, Child Africa flew me overseas and this was a big deal for me. I went to Norway and Sweden for a Better Globe Conference to speak about Child Africa. It was the first time I was boarding a plane and I will never forget the experience. It was amazing for a poor village boy to have reached such heights.

My first degree graduation in 2010 (which was also paid for) was also a big deal for me. I am the fifth born in the family but I was the first to get a degree. Maybe in the next one or two years, my



two young sisters will also graduate.

Child Africa has a program of integrating deaf children in the regular classrooms. In 2011, Child Africa sent me to the United Kingdom in Cambridge Mayfield School where I went to see how the program works. This was through Cambridge to Africa Program. It proved to be yet another incredible chance for me and it really changed my world-view.

The other best moment was sharing the same house with the Founder and Managing Director in Kampala for three years. Many students suffer at campus with daily university necessities but for me I did not face that at any point. Mrs. Julie Solberg fed me for the many years I was at campus, sheltered me, transported me, even clothed me. I never suffered at the university. I salute you Madam Julie.

### **Conclusion**

A poor village woman who had spent three days without food attended a giveaway party of the neighbor and managed to eat four plates. Before she left, she said these words, " Even if the in-laws do not show up to pick their lady, at least I will be alive for some days due to the food I just had." Many people have dreams that really change the world after they have followed them up, but I strongly feel like nobody will come to my life that will at any point overshadow the dream that Madam Julie conceived and believed in. It has changed my life, my family, relatives and friends.

I will live to highly exalt the name of Child Africa. Long live Mrs. Julies Solberg, long live Child Africa. Indeed, you make a difference.





# Apophia Kamusiime

## from rags to a princess

**M**y name is Apophia Kamusiime and I would like to share my story with you. I was born in a family of six and grew up without knowing my father because he passed on when I was still very young. Life was so difficult because my mother had to look after all of us and she did not have any land nor was she educated. All she had were her hands to go around digging for food for our survival. Even though there were government schools that required no school fees, my mother had challenges providing us with the scholastic materials and uniforms which the government did not give freely. More so, we lived (and still live) in the mountains far away from these schools. Most of the time, my elder siblings

would miss school so they could join my mother in the farms for money. When I started school in Kanyankwanzi Primary School, we used to walk for almost six kilometers and stay hungry all day.

I was a clever and very bright girl in class. When I was in Primary three, our headmistress (at that time) wrote to Child Africa explaining my state and how much I needed support. I won't forget the day Madam Julie Solberg and other Child Africa staff came to look for me in the village. This was my turning point. Madam Julie couldn't stop the tears running down her eyes when she established our situation. She is the most generous person I have ever met. When



she visited our home in Muganda, she requested me to show her my report cards-which I did. I was always the first or second in my class. That impressed her so much that she immediately asked me where I would like to go and study. I chose to go to Kikungiri Primary School because it was a walk-able distance though still a little far. As always, I kept doing well in school. In 2007, Child Africa started a school and I became a boarder at their school. While in Primary Six, I was elected by pupils as the first head girl of the school. I got a first grade in my Primary Seven exams and joined Kabale Trinity College.

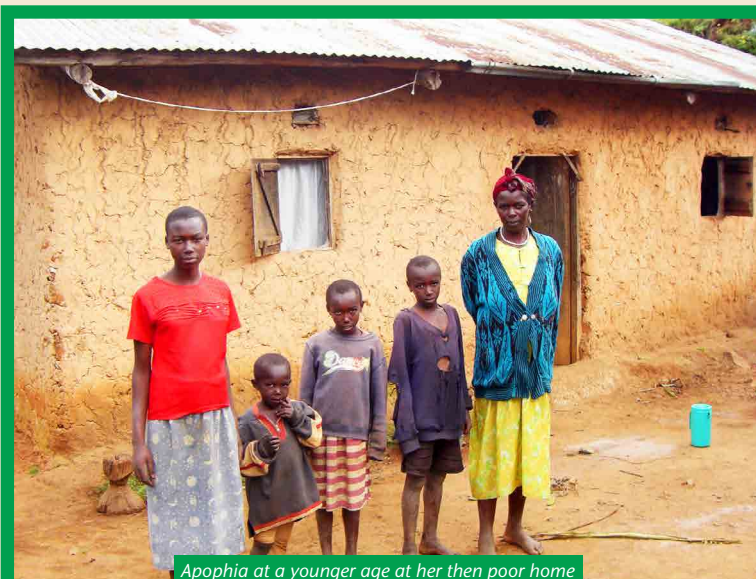
Though nobody asked me, I was always wondering what I could do to pay back Child Africa for everything they did for me. I chose to go for primary teaching college in Bukinda so that I could become a teacher and help the poor children in the future. All this time, Child Africa was sponsoring me fully and I did not lack anything at any point.

I am very glad to say that one year ago, I finished my grade three certificate and because of my zeal and my character from a young age, Child Africa has now employed me as a teacher. I teach Primary One to Three pupils and I get a monthly salary. Its unfortunate that my family still suffers because I am the only one who is educated and the only bread-winner in my family. However, I hope that with time, I will help more of my family members. Luckily, every time I get my salary, my mum is able to smile because she gets something she desires that I can afford.

My sincere gratitude goes to the MD, Madam Julie Solberg because without her intervention, my future would have been dimmer. It was Madam Julie who first sponsored me before she later found me another sponsor. I want to thank my sponsor for everything and especially for not getting weary of helping me.

Many girls today get married when they are still young. For me, I am very determined and I want to help my family before I think of getting married because men in our region cannot easily allow you to support your family if you are married to them. Today, I can buy my own clothes and shoes; things I could only dream of when I was clad in rags.

Child Africa's very good motto, 'we make a difference', manifests itself in real life. Long live Child Africa and long live all the sponsors.



Apophia at a younger age at her then poor home



Apophia teaching in class



Apophia now as a teacher in Child Africa





# EQUATOR

# Kasirye Willy

## from a houseboy to a doctor

**M**y name is Kasirye Willy, a child of Child Africa. I was born in Masaka District in Mbirizi currently known as Lwengo District. I take this opportunity to thank and appreciate Child Africa (especially my beloved great mother Madam Julie Solberg who has made me what I am today. When Madam Julie Solberg picked me, I was a house-boy in Kampala.

In 2006, when I was in Primary Five, my father died. That is when I started experiencing a difficult life. My mother left us and ran off to Kiruhura District never to return again. I was the first-born among my four brothers. We were scattered among our relatives. I was taken to my paternal grandmother. Educating me was a struggle for my grandmother. She sold nearly everything she had. In 2008, after completing

my Primary Seven (even though I had scored eighteen aggregates), she informed me there was no way she could educate me further. As I was wondering what my future held, another distant relative suggested taking me to Kampala where he would help me further my studies. He was allowed to take me to the big city where I had never been before. I was so excited about starting this new life, but it was not what I expected. When I asked him when I would start, he would become silent. At that time, I was working as a houseboy. When I gathered the courage to ask him again, he told me that I should concentrate on what he brought me in Kampala for. I was so confused because I did not understand what he meant. Soon enough, I knew my life was doomed.

Fortunately, Madam Julie Solberg saved me from that life. I remember she had come to visit her friend around our place. When she first saw me, she smiled at me as if she had already seen me somewhere. As a caring person she tried to get closer to me before she left and I also warmly and honorably welcomed her. The first question she asked me was about my level of education. I told her that I was not studying but I had just completed my Primary Seven. She got concerned about my situation and gave me her business card asking me to call her if I ever needed her help.

When my situation got worse, I took the initiative and called her. Fortunately, she asked me to go and see her at her office. She welcomed me very well. When she asked me if I would still like to continue my education, I told her that I was more than eager to do so. She told me to look for any school in Kampala. Can you imagine? It was like a dream to hear that, since I had lost all hope in life. I informed her when I found a school and she started paying my school fees and provided all that I needed (including money for food, paraffin and many other things) as a good responsible mother does. Since I no longer acted as a houseboy and was therefore not wanted in the home any longer, I was thrown out of the home. Luckily, Madam Julie even rented a room for me. Thank you Madam Julie Solberg for helping and nurturing me since I was in Senior One in Kampala until now. She believed in me and I worked hard not to disappoint her. My dream was to become a doctor and help children. I did very well in my Senior Six and am now in Mbarara University where am currently pursuing my Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery to become a surgical doctor.

Had it not been for Child Africa, I would have been a houseboy, a street child or even a robber. Thank you so much Mummy Julie, for loving me and putting me among the lucky ones who are under the Child Africa roof. May the Almighty God favour everything you do and may you live for uncountable years, may your name be sang for hundreds of years and may candles of love always glow in your name for the kindness you show to us needy children. Long live Child Africa! BINGWA readers, please don't give up. Have hope for God is Great!





# Local Government Leaders Say

## Q & A with KEIHWA PATRICK

### **You have known Child Africa's work in Kabale, what do you think the organisation has done for the district?**

Child Africa was established in Kabale District in 1991. Since then, it has had a great impact in the lives of the sponsored children and the community in which it operates. It is one of the non-profit making organisations that deal with the well-being of children and youths with different backgrounds and challenges. As a District, we have benefited in the following areas;

**Education.** It has provided quality education and opportunities to the vulnerable and needy children. The high rate of school dropouts has been minimized and children are being prepared for a better life and brighter future. Getting an education is important, as most career paths require at least some education and training to achieve goals.

**Employment opportunities.** The family welfare for the members employed in this organisation has improved. Child Africa has a number of employees and these create a wider tax base for the District as well as the nation at large.

**Poverty reduction.** The Income-generating activities (IGAs) that have been provided to sponsored children's families have helped them to get some income to support their families' hence good and happy families in our District.

**Promoting hygiene and sanitation** as well as the well-being of our people in the District. Child Africa has many times participated in cleaning up public areas like hospitals and market places which has promoted hygiene in our District. A number of food and household items have been given out to the sick people in hospitals hence promoting the well-being of our people.

### **How has the local government in Kabale supported Child Africa?**

Kabale District Local Government has indeed helped Child Africa a great deal.

**Accessibility.** As a District, we have improved on the access roads to the school premises.

**Opportunities.** We have also been Involved in promoting the image of the organisation. On this note, we have ensured that the organisation has been given opportunities to participate in different District functions. These include providing entertainment services whereby their official Brass Band performs for the people. This has led to Child Africa being very well-loved and known country-wide.

**Registering and attainment of land titles** on which the school is built. The local government helped Child Africa in acquiring the documents.



**Empowering the administrators.** The Local government has been organising relevant trainings to equip both teachers and staff with skills and information necessary to handle the organisation even better.

### **When the new Child Africa School is finished, it will accommodate 2,500 children, what do you think this will mean for the community?**

Our prayer is to see Child Africa growing and developing from one level to another. When the new Child Africa School is finished, the community is going to benefit in the following areas;

More community members are going to get jobs hence reduction in poverty levels. Provision of a bigger market for the agricultural products.

More vulnerable and needy children will get study opportunities.

Quality education and a reduction in illiteracy and is a sure deal.

### **Do you feel that Child Africa is among the top organisations in the District? If so, why?**

Yes, Child Africa is one of the top organisations in Kabale District. It is transparent as supported by the testimonies from the beneficiary families. It teaches children values like honesty and integrity among others in addition to the usual school curriculum. Child Africa submits quality reports to the concerned District departments in time. It has given opportunity to the impaired children like the deaf and the dumb to realize their God-given potential. Child Africa has equipped young people with important skills in music, carpentry and knitting to help them become self-reliant. There is a lot to admire and learn from this organisation. May God keep blessing the founder Mrs. Julie Solberg and the Chairman Mr. Rino Solberg.

**-Keihwa Patrick** Is the chairperson LCV Kabale District.

## Q & A WITH MARY BEBWAJUBA



**How is the community benefiting from Child Africa?**

**We have seen the number of street children in Kabale reduce** because they have been given opportunities to be in school.

**Security** has improved because Child Africa has taken up some of the street children that could have been a threat in Kabale Town.

Many needy children who would otherwise not be studying, have now got opportunities to be in school.

**Infrastructure.** We are grateful to Child Africa because its existence has led to the development of the area. Now Mugabi Hill has electricity, water supply, road accessibility and a play-ground in the adjacent areas for the community.

The community gets inspired and entertained by Child Africa brass band and school choir. This has equipped very many children with interest and skills in playing musical instruments.

**Poverty eradication.** Many families have gotten into Income Generating Activities (IGAs) such as cattle for rearing, businesses and seeds for commercial farming. Additionally, the organisation has created employment opportunities for the community members around such as administrators, teachers and support staff.

**As one who has been the overseer of all the NGOs in Kabale, what can you say about Child Africa as an organisation?**

My relationship with Child Africa has been outstanding. They walk the talk.

They are transparent, exemplary and submit their reports in time. In addition, Child Africa has been involved in a number of charity works like cleaning and giving items to needy people in hospitals hence promoting hygiene and welfare of the people.

**How do you think incorporating deaf children in Child Africa schools has made a difference?**

These children are able to read, write, play band instruments, knit sweaters, use computers and have high esteem. Child Africa has shed light to the rest of the community members that Disability is not inability.

**-Mary Bebwejuba is the** Former vice-chairperson LCV Kabale District.

## Q & A WITH SAM ARINEITWE



**As the local area leader, what do you have to say about Child Africa as an organisation?**

In the first instance, I thank the founders of Child Africa for the great impact they have had in our communities and the district as a whole.

I have known Child Africa for many years. So far, it is one of the best organisations in the district that is working with young children and youths very well. It has helped many young children especially those from the streets and has nurtured them to be better responsible citizens and this is something that we as the leadership and government want to see in our communities.

Many children have acquired education at all levels and some have graduated and got employed by the organisation. Indeed, this is a testimony and I applaud Madam Julie and Mr. Rino Solberg for this.

Child Africa has promoted education in our district by establishing a modern school. In addition to the school curriculum, they teach values such as honesty and integrity. This is quite different from most of the schools and it has helped to produce Ugandans who are corrupt-free in the communities.

**Has the organisation had an impact in the district? If so, what?**

Of course it has. When you look at the number of children in the school, it has helped to increase the percentage of children enrolled. This is because of Child Africa sponsorship program. In other words, if it was not for Child Africa's existence, many children would not be in school.

**-Sam Arineitwe is the chairperson LC3 Central Division Kabale District.**



# BINGWA CHAMPION

WILL SAVE AFRICA FROM THE

# 10

## ATTRIBUTES OF A BINGWA CHAMPION

1. A champion is a learner
2. A champion is honest
3. A champion has a positive attitude
4. A champion is trustworthy
5. A champion is self-confident
6. A champion is helpful
7. A champion supports champions
8. A champion is polite
9. A champion loves hygiene and good health
10. A champion is fair to everyone

[www.bingwa.org](http://www.bingwa.org)



# CHAMPIONS

## THE CORRUPTION MONSTER





# Reactions From Community Members



I am very grateful for Child Africa because it has boosted my business. I operate my retail shop in front of the school gate where teachers, parents and children come to buy different items more especially on visiting days and the new term opening days. I wish Child Africa many more years because it has supported me. Though I have no child in the program, Child Africa has really made a difference. Long live Child Africa!

**- Frank Nyesiga (Shop keeper)**



Sometimes God visits you and you don't even know it. God has visited Kabale- Uganda through Child Africa. This I know and believe that other people have seen it because it is not hidden but is open for all to see. We have seen organisations come and go or disappear without any impact. I can assure you that even if Child Africa closes today, it has made such a big impact that is incomparable anywhere else.

**- Ashabahebwa Martin**



We want to hail Child Africa for its tremendous work in our community. Child Africa has always put smiles on our faces. Every one or two years, the school buys shoes for all the children and these shoes are bought from different vendors at our own Owino Market in Kabale. Selling off many pairs of shoes at once gives us a big amount of money which we use to boost our business. We are really grateful for their presence in Kabale.

**-Baruhanga Emanuel & Kyarikora Herbat (Shoe Vendors)**



Child Africa has really changed the lives of many different people especially the vulnerable families who cannot afford school fees in our community. They have been offered free education at Child Africa and other schools and institutions. This has eliminated illiteracy. In Uganda today, anyone giving you just one meal is a saviour. Child Africa even provides food to the children and this eases the burden of the poor parents. Unemployment is a threat in Uganda but we are happy

that our very own people have gotten teaching, cleaning, cooking, guarding and many other jobs at Child Africa. I am proud of Child Africa as a leader because it is really doing a lot for our people.

**-Milcenta Nyaruhima**



I love the glorious buildings they built on our Mugabe Hill as they have made our community shine. During the night, the whole village appears bright due to the electric lights from their yellow and green painted buildings and this has reduced insecurity in our area. Now, we do not have insecurity issues like theft and robbery after the building development and the lights that are on always. We are so grateful.

**-Hope Mugisha** I thank Child Africa for sponsoring some of the children in our community. These are families whose children were becoming a real threat in the village. They would steal and do all sorts of



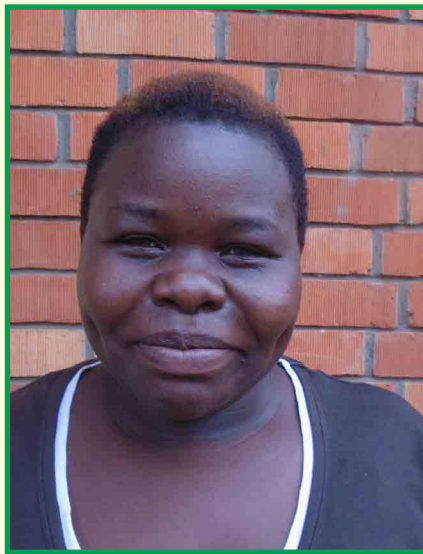
evil especially during the day when the rest of the working parents were away. Some of these children are orphans and others belong to the poor parents. Thank you Child Africa for keeping the children busy in school. We have now noticed that during the weekends or holidays, the children who were once threats are good children and can manifest some discipline compared to the time before Child Africa took them up. More so, I operate a small business of fresh food and charcoal near the school premises and am doing well because Child Africa staff buy from me. I am actually having a steady progress. Bravo!!!

**-Gorettee Nkamwebonera**



I am a forty year-old married woman. When I start talking about Child Africa, I can take a whole day. This is the only school in the area where a child can develop his or her talent and the big compound they have allows all games to be exercised. It has classrooms that have space for a child's learning and the dormitory is big. It is the only school in the area that has fire extinguishers that can be used in case of a fire outbreak. Generally, the school has all the facilities for a great learner.

**-Regina Nakityo.**



Child Africa has brought the services of education closer to the community. Education is affordable and it has well trained teachers who are capable of delivering their best. My child is at Child Africa and I do not regret. I thank the founders of the great dream of building a school that even teaches honesty and integrity to the young generation. My child Peace Namubiru in primary one can speak good English which surprises her friends in different schools around us. Her advice is that Child Africa schools should be brought on television and children demonstrate so as to promote the school.

**-Mercy Nalubega, a house-wife with three children.**

Child Africa is one of the best schools in the area. It focuses on imparting knowledge and discipline in the children. It has also helped in giving them skills through vocational subjects like tailoring, carpentry and building. Many children completed school with this knowledge. My grand children have been beneficiaries and I am proud about that.

**-Aloisious Nakabale**



Being in a community where child Africa is operating, has helped me because I got a sponsor for my child Muhamed Sekyewa whom Child Africa (through its sponsors) has helped him pay his fees to make him stay in school. It was not easy for me to raise his fees but with the help of this organisation, he is able to attain quality education. Exposure to the donors who come to visit the school has also made my son gain confidence as he can now interact with them and he feels happy. I pray Child Africa continues with this spirit.

**-Florence Nalwoga**

I study at Kabale Universal Primary School and Child Africa has been bringing free BINGWA Magazines to our school every year. The magazine has helped me improve my English speaking and writing while the success stories have really encourage me. When I grow up, I want to be like some of the people I read about in the magazine. At some point I won a T-shirt after I had written a good article in BINGWA Magazine. May Child Africa reign forever so that the under privileged may benefit from you always.

**- Arinda Ashley Keys, Kabale Universal Primary School, Uganda**



# Rosemary Soyland; On volunteering for a humanitarian organization

### **You were a volunteer with Child Africa for five months, how would you explain being a volunteer.**

The word volunteer is often misunderstood. Being a volunteer not only means that one works for his or her chosen organisation without receiving any salary but also that a volunteer must not cause the organization any expense. All daily expenses such as accommodation and food have to be covered by the visiting volunteer.

### **Most volunteers are much younger than you were when you volunteered at Child Africa in Kabale, Uganda. Why did you wait until you were fifty-four years old?**

I did not have the opportunity or the economy before. When I was younger, it was normal to start college or university immediately after completing A level college. I gave one-year voluntary service to those less fortunate when my children were mature enough. But, it was a family project and I could not have done this without the financial support from my family. Bills had to be paid at home while I was away volunteering so really my family and I gave a six months' work to Child Africa, not just me.

### **Did you know much about your role as a volunteer before you arrived in Kabale?**

Not really, but part of being a volunteer is to give help where help is needed. Child Africa had not had a long term volunteer before so it was a case of the administration looking at me, a mature English lady and thinking what can she do, and how will she benefit the organisation when she is outside her world. The Managing Director (Julie) soon found out that I had had quiet a few resources and a lot of work experience with children and a lot of teamwork administrative experience. I was started giving lessons and my role took shape within a week.

### **What was the first project you started and is it still running today?**

The knitting project, which is still running today and is now called the Handcrafts Project. I managed to get someone to donate fifty sets of different sized knitting needles to Child Africa. The project started with me using my lunch breaks to teach knitting



whereby both deaf and hearing pupils knitted along side each other. First it was scarves, then the boys wanted to join in. Then the pupils started teaching the teachers to knit. After school time, during breaks, and at the weekends, the children were knitting. Wool was recorded and budgeted for so that every child got wool in turn, it was not a case of those who knitted fastest, got the most wool. Many girls went on to make jumpers from knitted squares. Today, knit and other craft items are for sale to visitors and sold in the Child Africa shop known as the Gallery, at the Equator.

When the carpentry club, which integrated the deaf boys with the hearing boys, started; I couldn't hold back the tears. It was something I had dreamt of for a few years but took a while to find someone to donate money to the project. The first thing the group of boys made was a huge rabbit hutch for the school rabbits.

### **What was your job title?**

Officially it was 'Volunteer' but everyone calls me 'Teacher Rosemary' to date. I often hear Teacher Rosemary called across the road. It always makes me smile.

### **If a person were considering volunteering, what tips would you give him or her?**

A volunteer must realise that one cannot help everybody, but one can help somebody. Do not try to change the people you work with but show them alternative ways. Problem solving is essential. Think outside the box, not in the way one would at home. Volunteers have to be flexible. Plans often have to be changed and it is no good getting upset about such trivial things as a change of plan.

### **Do you feel that you were you prepared to be a volunteer?**

I believed I was prepared physically, psychologically and socially. I did not travel to Uganda with the idea of changing their traditions, customs or way of life. I was going with the idea of helping someone, somewhere.

**A few months after you returned from volunteering to your teaching job, Child Africa asked you if you would like to work for them, was it a difficult decision to make?**

I had already been bitten by the 'Child Africa virus' for sure. Knowing you can help hundreds of children receive regular meals, care and an education through this new job offer meant so much to me. Knowing this, I did not have to think too long before I resigned from my secure job after twelve years. So, I left the security of my job at an A level college to work for Child Africa in August 2010. When I say, 'left the security', I knew that a certain degree of job security disappeared when I joined a charity organisation. As everyone knows, if there is an economical change, such as in the oil crisis in Norway in 2015, where thousands of people lost their jobs in a year, this has a ring effect. The same applies to charity organisations, if sponsors and donors stop giving, something has to go. That was a chance I was prepared to take.

**But why work for Child Africa and not another established organisation?**

I worked in all the areas of Child Africa; from administration down to grassroots level with my eyes wide open. I saw how funds raised were being used wisely for the benefit of the needy children. I saw withdrawn needy children arrive at the schools and blossom after sometime. It was a delight and so motivating to see how children thrived and developed on Child Africa education. I decided that I could help spread the word about the work of Child Africa and hopefully motivate people to give towards the valuable work.

**You took on a number of roles, one being fund-raising. Is fund raising an easy job?**

Fund raising is really hard work these days. Many countries are experiencing an economic crisis, meaning that unemployment numbers have increased dramatically during recent years, the number of refugees being given shelter and help has also increased and people often give to those within their own country. The public are bombarded by organisations asking for financial support through social media, TV, etc. All of these facts have made fund-raising for small organisations more difficult. Many companies only support the larger organisations even though their administration percentages are bigger and the feedback given on how donations have been used is not enough.

**Do you have many special memories?**

I have many special memories locked in my heart, which involve one or a few specific Child Africa pupils, or staff and local people. During my forty-three years of working life, I have learnt that there is always somebody somewhere who is jealous, wants to cause unhappiness, sleepless nights, regardless of how much hurt and damage is caused through lies and false stories.

**Do you recommend volunteering with Child Africa?**

Yes, I do. But anyone wanting to volunteer should be fully aware of what it involves before booking flights. Today, Child Africa has a very clear contract, which has to be signed before a person embarks upon being a volunteer with them. To get the most out of being a volunteer one should stay for at least a school term. By doing this, pupils, staff and the volunteer get the maximum out of the volunteers visit.

**Are you known for anything special in Child Africa?**

Probably a lot, both good and strange!!!! (laughing). Plus not all my teaching methods are traditional, I had to work hard to persuade the head-teacher to let me take a class outside on an afternoon walk to collect visual information for writing essays, poems, and discussions. I always have my camera at hand. Today, I have over 27,000 photographs taken in Child Africa schools or in connection to Child Africa events.

I am often asked for photos of this or that and I know more or less where to find most photographs but working with photos is very time consuming.

**Did you learn much from volunteering?**

Yes, especially about football. Everyone thought that since I was English, I knew a lot about football. I didn't even know how many players there were in a team! The boy pupils took it upon themselves to educate Teacher Rosemary and we had lots of fun, but I never scored a goal!







## Child Africa incorporates deaf children

As we celebrate Child Africa's twenty-five year existence, I would like to talk about the deaf department at Child Africa. While Child Africa Junior School started in September 2007, a deaf class section was introduced in 2008. It started with eleven children. Handling the deaf children is a challenge especially those who have never gone to school. This is because, most of them are already using the basic local signs but when they come into the school system, they have to learn the standard sign language in Uganda's education curriculum. Nonetheless, it has been a great experience.

### Progress

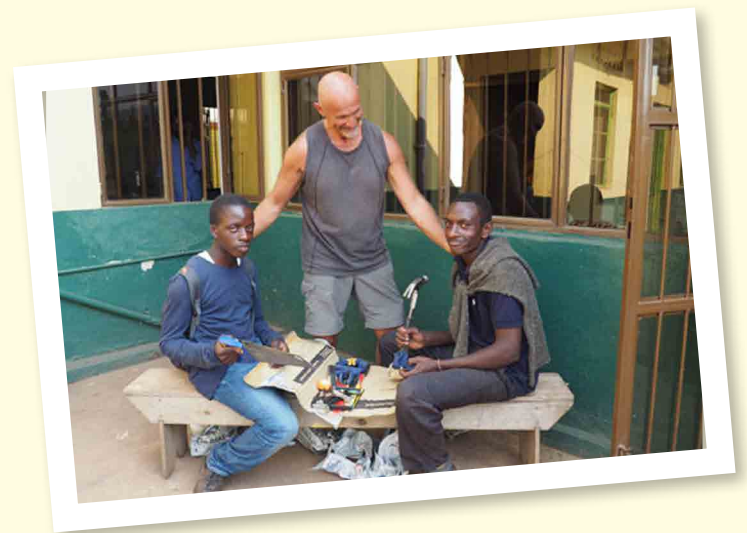
Out of the pupils we started with, some of them have gone on to succeed in their different areas of study. These include Didi Simon, who appeared more understanding and mature than the others. He has already graduated in carpentry and joinery at African international Christian Ministries and is now self-employed. Edwin, who also attended the same college and pursued the same career, will graduate next year. Kate Ndimukaga, who attended Shalom Vocational Institute and attained a certificate in knitting, is today employed at Child Africa Junior School-Kabale as a knitting instructor. All the above

joined our deaf section at Child Africa Junior School when they were so young and with no knowledge of the standard sign language. It is through the deaf section at the school that they learnt the standard sign language which has helped them so much in the institutes they joined after primary school. They were also very good with hands-on activities hence their enrolment in tertiary institutions.

Child Africa has done a great job in the lives of the deaf children in the community. The deaf boys and girl I have mentioned above received equipment to use when they were starting up their businesses. This year, we will be having the first deaf child (Farida Arineitwe) sitting for her P.L.E exams. She has been so hardworking in class, confident and competing favorably with her other non-deaf classmates. I am glad that Child Africa incorporates these deaf children in the normal classrooms. One cannot easily differentiate who is a deaf and who is not because they all communicate in sign language- especially when there is a deaf child amidst the group. Sign language is taught in the whole school to help the whole team communicate.

Being deaf is hard to live with. Deaf children feel stigmatized in the community causing them to have a low self-esteem and a bad temper. At Child Africa, life is so good because the children and teachers are very friendly and communication is not a problem anymore because all pupils (deaf or non deaf) can communicate in sign language. While at school, the deaf children play a big role of helping their fellow deaf children especially the new comers. They help them get used to the school situation. More so, they also participate in school leadership elections. They contest and campaign at the general assembly and so, many of them go on the leadership/body of the school each year.

I want to thank Madam Director Mrs. Julie Solberg for starting the school and for sponsoring children of such nature. Ever since the school started, no deaf child has ever faced school fees challenges or been chased out of school for any school necessity. I am happy that Child Africa is celebrating its twenty-five year existence when I am still alive. I can testify about all it has done for the deaf children. Indeed Child Africa makes a difference!!!!





# Better Globe will always support Child Africa

Better Globe in Norway, was started in 2006 with the vision of **'eradicating poverty and corruption in Africa'** after two years research (from 2004 to 2006). They then started to execute this using a three-pronged approach consisting of;

**Massive tree-planting in the drylands of East Africa.** This gives the farmers work and sustainable income.

**Microfinance to poor farmer families.** This gives farmers ways to help their families and start sustainable businesses.

**Education of children.** To give the children quality education and teach Honesty and Integrity, in order to fight corruption.

In regards to the third point, which is education of children, Better Globe chose to work with Child Africa. The team therefore developed a product which they called a 'Donation Pack' which is sold to people all over the world. This gives the donors good interest on their 'investment' over a period of twenty years. This has proved to be the best and most sustainable way of helping poor people in Africa.

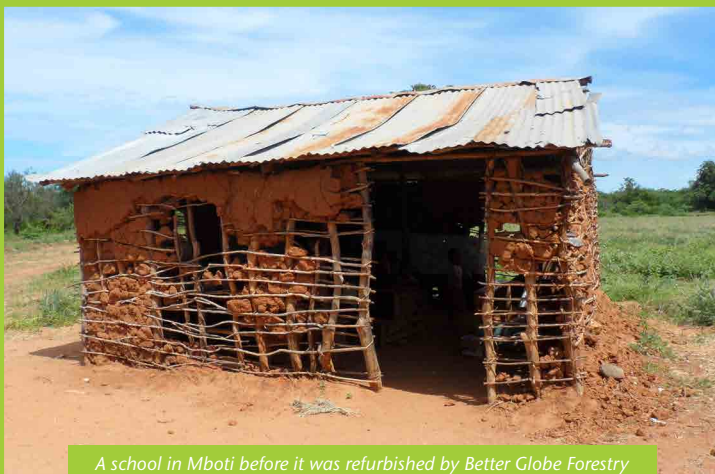
## How it works

You log onto the website, [www.betterglobe.com](http://www.betterglobe.com) and buy the 'Donation Pack'. The pack costs €53 and includes the following;

- Two trees to be given to farmers, for them to make money on.
- **€ 1.50 to microfinance in-order to kick-start sustainability.**
- **€ 1.50 to Child Africa. Over the years, this has been a lot of money to assist in running the Child Africa schools.**
- **500 litres water to farmer families.**
- **AND two trees, which the donors keep.**

This actually gives the donor seven times more money back than the price of the whole donation pack, over a period of twenty years. This makes the donation itself sustainable and the donor can continue giving for life and making money on every donation.

The Better Globe Group has now developed five additional tree-selling companies, (Trees4Family.com, Trees4Expenses.com, Trees4Cars.com, Trees4RealEstate.com and Trees4Shopping.com) all with a built-in support to Child Africa. These will be accessible starting 2017. From the first year, this funding already goes to help Child Africa build schools and fight corruption. The Better Globe Group (including their new companies) sell trees to people, with a buy-back deal over fifteen years. From every tree sold, some money goes to support Child Africa. Better Globe's vision of **'planting as many trees as there are people on this planet'** is on the right track. The first twelve years have just been a pilot



A school in Mboti before it was refurbished by Better Globe Forestry

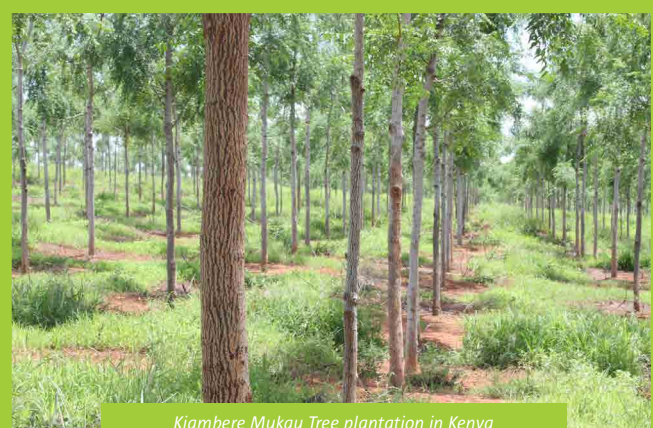


The school in Mboti after it was refurbished by Better Globe Forestry

project, where the main company, Better Globe Forestry Ltd in Kenya, has managed to develop a dryland mahogany tree plantation (Mukau) into the biggest plantation of this tree in the world. Better Globe Forestry Ltd is today a well-reputed forestry company in Kenya. The company has a partner Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with many forestry organisations, companies, government departments and universities. Some of them are KenGen, Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI), Kenya Forestry Service (KFS), The World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), Nairobi University, National Forestry Authority (NFA) in Uganda, Sawlog Production Grant Scheme (SPGS) in Uganda. In addition, they have been working with the Laboratory for Applied In-Vitro Plant Biotechnology at the University of Ghent in Belgium, over a period of eight years in order to get the protocol for In-Vitro production (cloning) of the Mukau tree.

Better Globe Forestry will continue that work in Kenya and are already building their own laboratory. In 2015, Better Globe Forestry was given the prestigious award for **'Best Corporate Tax Yield - Small and Medium Enterprises'** by the Kenya Revenue Authority. The award was handed over by The President of Kenya, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta himself.

Today, Better Globe Forestry have (only in their 'pilot project'), planted around one million trees. They have also helped thousands of farmers get out of poverty, one family at a time. In the years to come, Better Globe Forestry will plant billions of trees and help millions of poor farmers sustain their living. In this process of planting billions of trees, they will help better the environment locally and fight against global warming internationally.



Kiambere Mukau Tree plantation in Kenya



Lawrence Mulandi, Better Globe Forestry Finance Manager receives an Award from KRA-Kenya



The leaders: Jan Vandenabeele, Rino Solberg, Jean-Paul Deprins





## A life changing trip to Uganda

**I was 5 years old** when I was introduced to 'The Collector'. 'The Collector' was made of cardboard and folded into a kind of 'money box'. The goal was not to save money but to give. On the side of the box was a photo of a young African boy and even at five years-old, I could understand that the boy was badly off. I remember seeing his ribs, thin face and big eyes. The photo made a really huge impression on me.

My mother told me that in Africa, many children were hungry and because of wars, many of them had to run away from their homes. That was also why they did not have food. I do not think that I understood why or how this could happen, but I understood that the child on the photo did not have a good life. When I asked my mother what I could do, she told me that we could put money in 'The Collector'. If we did that, the little boy could get food.

As a five year-old boy, my pocket money was

limited. It was just about one dollar. If I gave away that money I was broke but at least the boy got food. That was not an easy decision for a five-year old. My mother seemed to understand my predicament and said something that I will never forget; "The one who gives to someone in need will receive many times more later." The only way to find out how true this was, was to try it out. I closed my eyes and put my money in 'The Collector', I needed to find out the truth.

A few weeks later, I had my birthday and I will never forget what happened. I got more presents than I ever had before. From this day on, I was fully convinced that when you give, you will always get more in return, one way or another.

**39 years later**, I am taking my three children on a trip to Uganda. I hoped that my children and I could learn something valuable from this trip. First stop in Uganda was at Child Africa School at the Equator (a charity school run by Julie and Rino Solberg from Norway). I was asked if





I could facilitate a seminar on 'How to create good team-work' (something I do in Norway) for the teachers at the school, which I did with pleasure. That was quite an interesting event. To teach these nice people togetherness and team-spirit actually became more a teaching for me than for them. When they told me how they work together, how much they loved their jobs and how proud they were of their jobs, I was astonished. Their engagements were unbelievable. When we talked about visions and common goals, something was very clear in this group; they wanted to secure their jobs by doing a good job themselves. The reason for their great commitment was that, often, they were the only ones in their family that had jobs and if they lost their jobs, their entire families would suffer. This was their best motivation and helped them work hard. The school thus became the best school in the area. I loved how they helped each other every day. They also showed great gratitude in a fantastic way. They were so happy with my seminar that they booked me again the next day for me to continue. I really believed that I learned more from them than they did from me. They were so hungry for more new knowledge that they couldn't get enough.

The day after, we continued to Kabale South of Uganda-to another Child Africa school. My children had not yet forgotten the reception we got at the Equator, with song and dance, drums and posters with our names on them. Could anything be better than that? Maybe not, but my children were right about one thing; the way Child Africa receives guests is unbelievable. To meet such committed staff,

with warmth and hospitality at both Child Africa schools made a huge impact on us all. The trip we made to the local church on Sunday morning at eight o'clock in Kabale was also fantastic. If we had half of that enthusiasm in a Norwegian church, we would probably all go to church every Sunday.

I want to end by asking our brothers and sisters in the western world; Do you seek the meaning of life? Do you want to meet people with sparks in their eyes, passion for work and who at the same time do not have half of our material benefits? Or are you just curious about the different cultures out there?

If you are, take a trip to Uganda and see for yourself, or help someone in need.

**Just do it!**





## Reaching out to the children

The development of **BINGWA Magazine** comes as a response to the public outcry on the rampant corruption, persistent degeneration of moral behaviour, and unprofessional conduct in both public and private affairs in the African society.

Besides being a corrosive as well as debilitating social phenomenon, corruption retards development of a nation, increases material mortality rate, impoverishes the citizens, reduces life-span of the citizens by diverting public resources that could be channeled to social development, to benefit a few individuals in the society.

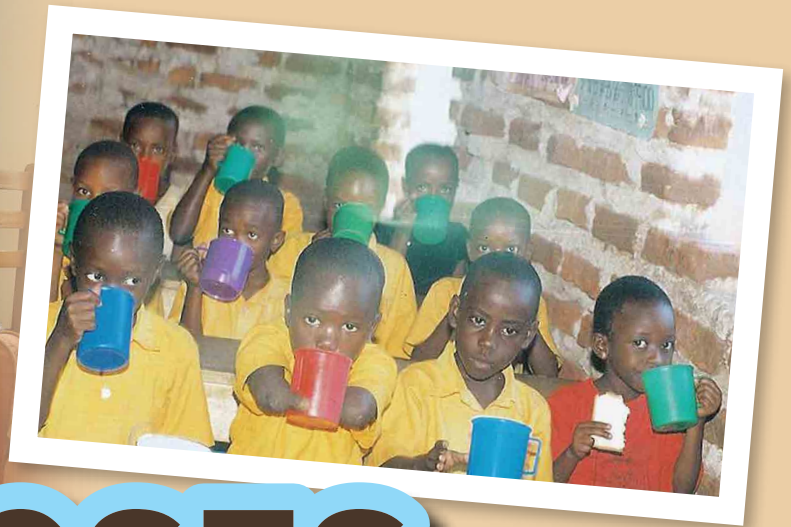
The Government of Uganda stands side by side with **Child Africa** in the fight against this vice of corruption. In this regard, Uganda has joined other countries in the continent and adopted pro-active initiatives to fight the fundamental causes of corruption which is a result of moral decadence in the society, by developing National Ethical Values that are to be mainstreamed in all spheres of social life.

**BINGWA Magazine** is a multifaceted tool to fight corruption by; educating the children on the dangers of corruption at an early age so as to inculcate into them the African Values System, in order to mould them into morally upright citizens and future leaders of this great continent.

Therefore, the development of **BINGWA Magazine** for children in the fight against corruption will, certainly go a long way in complementing efforts of Governments, Community-Based Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations and Faith-Based Organisations in the fight against corruption in Africa as a whole. I therefore implore everybody to fully support **Child Africa** in its quest to reach out to the children of Africa through **BINGWA Magazine**.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY.

Rev. Fr. Simon Lokodo  
**MINISTER OF STATE FOR ETHICS AND INTEGRITY, OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, UGANDA.**



# MOSES MURUNGI A zeal to excel

**M**oses Murungi is a fourteen-year old in Senior Two at St. Augustine's College. Born without limbs, his parents Kato and Kevina did not know how to handle the situation. The family became the talk of the village, with everyone coming up with different kind of stories, some even betting on curse myths and witchcraft. His parents worried about how he would survive in this world, how he was going to fit in the society and acquire a good education, considering that theirs was also a poor family.

Before Moses started going to school, his parents were already looking for help. It was during this time that Kato met someone who had heard of Child Africa's Managing Director Julie Solberg. This person advised Kato to go and explain his plight to her. Kato did that.

When Julie Solberg heard Kato's story, she was so touched that without a second thought, she took the family under her care. She then went on to talk to her family in Norway about Moses. Camilla Solberg decided to sponsor Moses while he was in already in nursery school. His welfare, school fees and scholastic material needs have since been catered for through Child Africa.

It's now an amazing eleven-year bond between Moses' family and Child Africa. Moses has made Child Africa and his sponsors Camilla and Vigdis proud with his love for education, personality and will. He is not an ordinary boy. He is active and determined; an inspiration to many.

He has given disability no chance of slowing him down or even blocking his dreams. He wants to become a pilot when he grows up. He draws his aspiration from Jessica Cox who is the world's first armless pilot. She, just like Moses, was born without arms but has excelled and achieved her dreams because she got quality education and kept her dreams alive thanks to her positive personality and zeal to excel.

His dream is being kept alive by Child Africa providing a stable and quality education. "Moses is an inspiration to fellow students and teachers," the school administration says. He is active in school activities and refuses to give up. Moses always says that he hates it when fellow students pity him. He honestly believes that 'Disability is not inability'. It's through all this that Moses will achieve his dream of becoming a pilot.





## Muhammed Lubowa: serving Child Africa with pride

**Eighteen** is the number of years that Muhammed Lubowa has been with Child Africa as the senior driver. When he sits you down to narrate his journey with Child Africa, you will definitely appreciate the hard work of everyone who has been with Child Africa through the years under the stewardship of its Founder Julie Solberg and Chairman Rino Solberg.

He speaks about all his Child Africa memories as if it were just yesterday. He speaks with so much excitement and pride. This is because he feels a sense of fulfillment in his heart for the work that Child Africa has done for him, his family, the children of Africa and families across all regions that Child Africa covers.

Since Muhammed has always been on the Child Africa team that travels all over the country and region for its work, he has been blessed to witness all what has been happening first hand. He talks of the times that

they climbed the hills in Kabale during the early years of Child Africa with the founder Julie Solberg and other Child Africa staff looking for children in need. He recalls “I had never climbed a hill in my life. At the first sight of the hills, I didn’t believe that people lived up there. However, the more we climbed, the more we could clearly see those small houses with families.”

He goes on to also talk about when they had to cross Lake Bunyonyi (the deepest lake in Africa) with Julie and other staff members, “It was the scariest boat trip I had ever taken in life and I couldn’t keep myself from thinking about what could happen. I was glad we made it safely”. He has a lot of memories to share but he says they could fill up a book. Indeed, he is very proud to be one of the longest employees of Child Africa.

He has also benefited from the helping hand of Child Africa

as all his children are being educated through Child Africa. His oldest daughter is at the university and his other two daughters are in secondary school. He says “I always prayed that my children would get an education since I did not get the chance myself. Through Child Africa, God answered my prayers and my children’s education has been catered for all the way from the nursery level to where they are now”.

His greatest joy in life is seeing his daughters attain quality education. He is very grateful about being employed by Child Africa for all these years. “With this employment I have been able to change my life and that of my family for better,” he adds.

He is proud to be part of Child Africa as it celebrates its twenty-fifth anniversary. “I am proud of what Child Africa has achieved and what it is doing for Africa at large,” he concludes.

## Wilson Wanyama; On quality education for change



### **Briefly introduce yourself to the readers of BINGWA Magazine?**

I consider myself a change agent. Before devoting my work full time to Child Africa, I served as a development and humanitarian worker, trainer, administrator and researcher with different organisations and consultancy firms for over fifteen years. I joined Child Africa in 2013 as their National Program Director, and have been serving in that capacity to date.

### **What reasons made you want to work with Child Africa?**

I wanted to work for Child Africa for many reasons but most importantly, the job had meaning that aligned with my values and provided an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of disadvantaged and needy children in Uganda. My work is a calling not just a job, I can not imagine anything else being as interesting, challenging, exhilarating, and as rewarding.

### **How much do you think Child Africa has contributed to the continent of Africa?**

It has often been said that if you think education is expensive, try ignorance. Africa provides many lessons on the damage done by ignorance, and if the continent is to get rid of gloomy perceptions, it will be through education. As Nelson Mandela put it, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". By providing quality education and care to the young generation and future leaders of this continent, Child Africa is changing the continent of Africa. Receiving the 'Tumaini Award' in the Education sector tells it all.

Africa's high rate of economic growth and rich natural resources have not yet brought an increase in employment or better working conditions on the continent. A good job and an adequate income are essential preconditions

for people to escape permanently from poverty by their own effort. Child Africa is currently providing direct employment opportunities to ninety-six men and women of Uganda, and indirectly supporting over 400 members of these families. This means that the organisation is already contributing to the continent by permanently creating an escape route from poverty for over 496 people of Africa.

For corruption, despite the real efforts made by African leaders to fight the vice, there has been little concrete progress. In most African countries today, corruption is wide-spread and part of everyday life. Child Africa is making deliberate efforts to fight and end corruption in Africa by educating the children who are the future leaders of this continent on the dangers of corruption at an early age so as to instill in them the African values system. This will help mold them into morally upright citizens and wonderful future leaders of the African continent. It is a welcome move that Child Africa has openly declared war on corruption, which is what has led to alarming poverty and poor service delivery. Child Africa has also created a platform for children in Africa to advocate against corruption through BINGWA Magazine. Here, the readers (who I like to refer to as the NOW leaders) share on the dangers of corruption, how they can report and also prevent it by having the right morals, high integrity and caring about other people.

### **What would you attribute to Child Africa's success in the areas mentioned above?**

I would say that Child Africa has been able to achieve countless achievements and accomplishments because of the organisation's strong commitment, dedication and good leadership.



## Longest working employee on her experience

### **Give a brief story about you and your position at Child Africa...**

My name is Sabilla Sanger Khan, married with children. I work with Child Africa as the Sponsorship Administrator. I sit at the Country Head Office in Kampala, Uganda. I handle sponsor-child communication, overseeing the flow of feedback to sponsor parents and vice-versa.

### **For how long have you been with Child Africa?**

Twenty-five years. I actually started as a volunteer with Solberg Children Help Organization that later changed name to **Child Africa**. I was a volunteer for about twelve-years before I was enrolled as a full employee.

### **How do you feel about celebrating Child Africa's twenty-five year existence?**

It is such an exciting feeling for me because I see my input in the growth of Child Africa. It may not be pronounced but it is there. I have been working here since its conception. I have seen Child Africa grow into what it is today so I know where it came from and what it has been through, like I would know my own child. I was there when the very first child was registered and I am still here as we continue to register more children and more schools continue to be built. It gives me great pride to see how far we have come. I see what was an idea by Julie and Rino Solberg put into action everyday. Today Child Africa is on the map, especially in its birth-place Kabale District in Uganda. Everyone knows and talks about Child Africa. I remember when Julie and Rino asked my husband Firoz Khan and I to oversee the day-to-day running of the organisation in Kabale, while they sourced for sponsors/funds for these vulnerable children they had found. It was like a far-fetched thought being given a try. I am very proud to see where we are now twenty-five years later.



### **What would you attribute to Child Africa's strength and longevity?**

Despite the ups and downs that Child Africa might have gone through, it is strong because of its founders Julie and Rino Solberg's persistence and the great team-work at Child Africa. We work with the masses, meaning it is not so easy to satisfy all. Both the children and sponsors can at times become a little difficult but this is exactly what makes us even stronger as a team. Solving the problems of children, answering the sponsors' queries and making sure that we are on ground where the projects are carried out. Seeing the successes, the smiles on the children's faces, guardians and even happy sponsors, that gives Child Africa a reason to continue growing stronger every day.

### **What are some of the memories that will forever stick into your mind for the time you have been with Child Africa?**

Being a pioneer of Child Africa, I know the 'A' of Child Africa. The memory of its conception will forever stick with me and I am proud of that. I remember when we would go up the hills of Kabale with my family to visit homes. I remember whenever Julie Solberg would come down to Kabale and we have to walk the steep hills, to either register the children or take help to the families. Visiting homes of the vulnerable children and being able to understand them, seeing how they live with so little resources but with smiles on their faces are some of the beautiful Child Africa memories I hold dearly. It makes me so happy to see the same children I registered, have grown up into educated, responsible citizens with positions in different places. Seeing children who

were so caved-in but now so outgoing, full of smiles and excitement. Reading sad or exciting, even funny stories in the letters from the children to their sponsors and the vice-versa. These are the memories that shall forever stick with me.

**What are some of the achievements of Child Africa that you are proud of as a person who has been with them the longest?**

I am proud of Child Africa's tremendous growth, the success it is registering every day. Child Africa has made big achievements beyond expectations. The Child Africa Junior Schools being built is a definite indicator of the great achievements that Child Africa has achieved. The graduates that have gone through the Child Africa system, some of them have Masters. I am proud to say that Child Africa is making a difference in so many people's lives. I am proud to still be with Child Africa and continue to be part of the ever growing achievements.

**What do you think has made Child Africa register these achievement?**

Like I said earlier, it is the persistence of the founder - Julie Solberg. She really is a tremendous lady. I see her as a very strong woman and with the support she gets from all her family, especially her husband Rino, friends and sponsors, Child Africa has managed to register these achievements. Not forgetting the hard work of the entire Child Africa family (that is the fraternity/staff and beneficiaries).

**Any last words?**

I believed in Julie and Rino Solberg twenty -five years ago and I still believe in them. I saw Child Africa grow to this day. I hope to see Child Africa grow to even greater heights in the years to come (God give me life). Like the Child Africa slogan says, 'We make a difference'. Indeed, it has been twenty-five years of making a difference. Child Africa has made a difference to so many and is still making a difference. Aluta Continua [The struggle continues]. I am proud to be part of Child Africa.





# FERDINAND BEYANGA; reaching greater heights

My name is Ferdinand Beyanga. Eight years ago, I got into a lot of financial problems and I really did not have money. I boarded a lorry from my village and went to Kabale Town to look for a job. I slept at my village neighbors' house in town looking for a job for nearly a week. I ended up in Child Africa where I got a job as a cook for the children and teachers. This was okay for me since I did not have a certificate of any education level.

After working with Child Africa for some time, I lost a relative and the members of staff visited our village. They saw how my kids and wife were living in the village and they registered my children. I have five girls and they registered them all. One by one, all of them got sponsors. Currently the first born is in Senior Two whereas the last one is in Primary Two. I was lucky enough that my daughter Pality's sponsor sent us money

to buy a cow. So far, it has given birth twice. Now there are three cows. For sure, I do not have to worry about Pality's future because at her early age and class of Primary Two, she has three cows. This means that by the time she joins university, which is about eleven years from now, she should be having eight or more cows-which is a good start.

My two daughters also received gift money from the sponsors which I used to buy two goats. After a period of four years, the goats had multiplied. I sold them off and bought a piece of land where today we cultivate and get food for the family.

Something that really made us so proud of Child Africa and the sponsors is that, Pality, Amarin and Meron also received money. We used this to build a semi-permanent house. It is a dream come true to see that we now have a new house of our own.

My daughters sponsors' are so active. They write to us almost every month and send us parcels and lots of gifts always. Since I found Child Africa, my life has changed and is still changing every day. My children used to study in a deep village but after getting sponsors, they joined Child Africa Junior School which is a great one of a kind urban school. Their lives became new, they learnt how to write better, read and speak English. In our village, they are now called town girls and are teaching me and my wife how to speak English.

I will live to praise Child Africa because of where my family and I are now. I truly never at any time dreamt of reaching where I am. I am so grateful.  
**-Ferdinand Beyanga, Cook, Child Africa Cook.**





I am Rev. Milton Kagurusi. I am one of the old parents and I have greatly benefited from Child Africa. I got to know about Child Africa when they came to the village where I was doing pastoral placement in Bukoora Kanyankwazi Church of Uganda. I approached the scouts for help as paying school fees for my children was not easy. I had a very small salary that could not support the number of children I had. Feeding the children was a relatively easy though, because my family and I would cultivate the church land for food.

By then, I had a family of eight biological children and two nieces from my wife's side. All of them were my responsibility and I was the only breadwinner. Child Africa sponsored my two children and the others got sponsors afterwards. Today, my four daughters are sponsored. Judith is at Uganda Christian University, Dorcus at Makerere University, Marriam and Precious at Kigezi High School. My other daughter Shifrah who is on government sponsorship at Mbarara University was also

sponsored by Child Africa until Senior Six before she got the governmental scholarship. My son Isaac, was also sponsored by Child Africa from Senior One up to his university masters' level. Today, he is employed by Child Africa.

I did not attain good education and therefore desired that my children get a good education and reach where I did not reach due to my poor background. I finished Primary Seven in 1976 and later joined the church ministry where I started as a church teacher. I later got a certificate in theology and became a priest.

### **Life before Child Africa**

Before Child Africa, I used to grow cabbages and tomatoes and I would go around selling them in town. This was really hectic. My wife also used to grow sweet potatoes and carry them on her head selling them to get money. Although it helped, we could not save as we were living hand-to-mouth. I had lots of school fees debts at my children's schools. Some time back, my daughter Dorcus

was even locked in the dormitory in one of the schools in Kabale Town for two weeks after all children had gone home for holidays because of school fees arrears. She later found her way out and escaped. She had just finished her Primary Seven.

### **Life after Child Africa**

I want to salute Child Africa and the sponsors of my children in particular. Child Africa paid all the school fees debt that I had with a private primary school. That debt was running into the millions already and was a big embarrassment to me. I was stressed and did not know what to do. But God brought Child Africa into my life. Child Africa has done a lot for me and my family.

Today, the organisation also sponsors my three grand children. This is my prayer for Child Africa:- May God bless you, may God watch over you, may God shine upon you, and may the blessing of God the father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit rest upon you now and always, Amen.



# What donors have helped us build



New buildings at Child Africa Junior School - Equator, Uganda

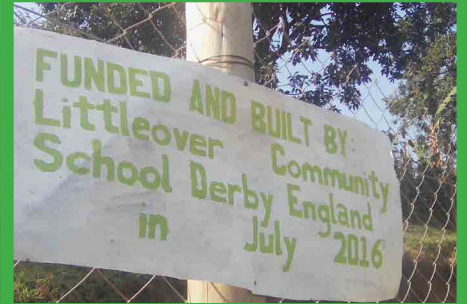


Dormitories at new Child Africa Junior School





The work of Littleover Community School Derby, England



Strand Play Park and new buildings at the new Child Africa Junior School in Kabale, Uganda





## Child Africa has given hope for the future

Bravo to Child Africa for its outstanding work. It is really special to celebrate working together for over twenty-five years. Thank you for bringing Child Africa into existence.

I acknowledge with thanks the countless contributions Child Africa has made in the lives of many vulnerable children-these include provision of quality education, incorporating deaf children which has given them hope for the future.

Needy families have been given basic needs such as food, shelter and also assistance to start small-scale businesses. The organisation has created many employment opportunities for the local people.

Madam Julie, in these twenty-five years of managing Child Africa, the lord has used you a great deal. This is very clear to everyone but more especially to yourself since you had the dream of having this organisation to help needy children in Africa.

I thank God for bringing us this far. We can



now look at our magnificent buildings for the primary school at Mugabi Hills in Kabale District which accommodates many boys and girls of our nation.

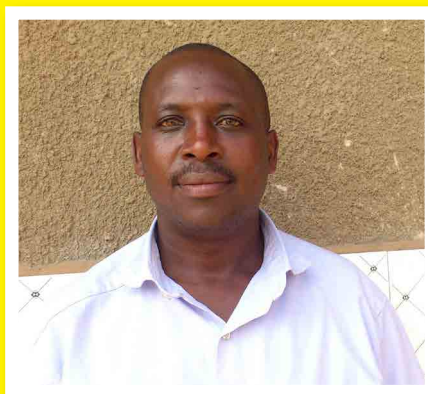
Congratulations on your silver jubilee and Happy Anniversary Child Africa.

**-Augustine Muwanika, Headteacher, Child Africa Junior School-Kabale.**

## Sponsorship has reduced illiteracy & poverty

Since Child Africa Junior School began in 2007, we have had good fruits come out of it worth celebrating, EBENEZA!!!

Child Africa has had a great impact in the lives of the beneficially children as well as their care-givers. Many students have graduated with skills that are helping them earn a living. There is much improvement in the welfare of the beneficiary families due to the support given like income-generating projects, shelter and top-up fees. The community members where Child Africa



operates from have benefited a great deal as they use the social infrastructure put in places like buildings, a play-ground and other play items. Sponsorship given to children has also greatly reduced

illiteracy in our communities and hence poverty.

Therefore, celebrating this silver jubilee is indeed worthy. May God bless our sponsors, donors and the well-wishers who have supported our children.

Congratulations to Child Africa for this incredible achievement. We love you and we wish you the best ever in life.

**-Tugume Denis, Chairman, PTA, Child Africa Junior School-Kabale.**

## Creating employment, changing lives

I joined Child Africa in May 2009 as a store-keeper. I am a fifty-two year-old man from the Mukiga tribe of Uganda. I am married with nine children (four girls and five boys). I am hard-working, social and I like team-work. I respect my supervisors and follow the organisation's policies.

Child Africa has changed my life in various ways as I am now receiving a monthly salary which has helped me in developing my personal projects like construction of rental houses. I will be in a position to educate my children from primary, secondary up to degree level. Beside this, I am able to provide my family with other basic needs like clothes, food and medication among others.

I have learnt to be a person of honesty and integrity while executing my role as a store-keeper. I pray that other workers of Child Africa may emulate this as we celebrate our silver jubilee. Long live Child Africa!

**Caleb Ndyabahika, Store Keeper, Child Africa**



## A most worthy mission; promoting honesty and integrity

I am very happy about this great achievement by Child Africa. I am also grateful for the great contribution the organisation has made towards the church and the support they are giving to our children. In church, we preach and encourage giving and helping the orphaned, the poor and the widows. I thank Child Africa so much for putting this into practice and changing the lives of the people in our very own communities. I appreciate Child Africa for their mission of promoting honesty and integrity as well as fighting corruption, which is the biggest threat in our community. I visit Child Africa weekly (during

school terms) and I very much like the discipline of the children and the members of staff. The children at Child Africa are so special that even when they sing, you can feel the presence of the holy spirit. This is why (on some occasions), I invite them to our church and even during some school assemblies. I thank God for bringing Child Africa to our land. May God continue to sustain Child Africa.

**-Rev. Daniel Byamukama, Assistant Parish Priest in-charge of youth and children, St Andrews Nyabikoni Church of Uganda.**







The BINGWA team with pupils of Hill School, Eldoret in Kenya

BINGWA in Tororo, Uganda during the Day of the African Child celebrations

In April 2008, Julie Solberg, Rino Solberg, Jean-Paul Deprins and Mundia Muchiri decided to produce a children's magazine called **BINGWA** (Swahili for champion). BINGWA Magazine's aim was to enhance the reading culture among the children of Africa (aged 10-13) while at the same time nurturing its readers into champions. Back in 2006, when Mundia was managing a publishing company, he conceived BINGWA but had not managed to get the publication up and running. It was not until the four came together that things started to happen. This team took on the challenge of making BINGWA a reality. Thanks to their dedication, the first issue was successfully published in 2009.

Today, Child Africa publishes and distributes BINGWA Magazine FREE to primary schools three times a year to coincide with the school terms. With every magazine copy being read by approximately 100 children, BINGWA has

become a much-loved publication. Over the years, BINGWA has partnered with many organisations including Save the Children, Brand Kenya, WASH Alliance (WSP) among others.

In order to make an even bigger difference, we decided to use BINGWA as a tool to fight corruption. By using the magazine to teach honesty and integrity, children would learn how to fight corruption. In 2014, Child Africa launched the new BINGWA aimed at **FIGHTING CORRUPTION BY BUILDING INTEGRITY IN THE CHILDREN OF AFRICA.**

The new BINGWA was launched in Kenya and Uganda in January 2014. In Uganda, the guest of honour was the Minister of Ethics and Integrity, Fr. Simon Lokodo. The response from children, schools and other stakeholders was very good.

Child Africa has also started BINGWA Clubs in many schools

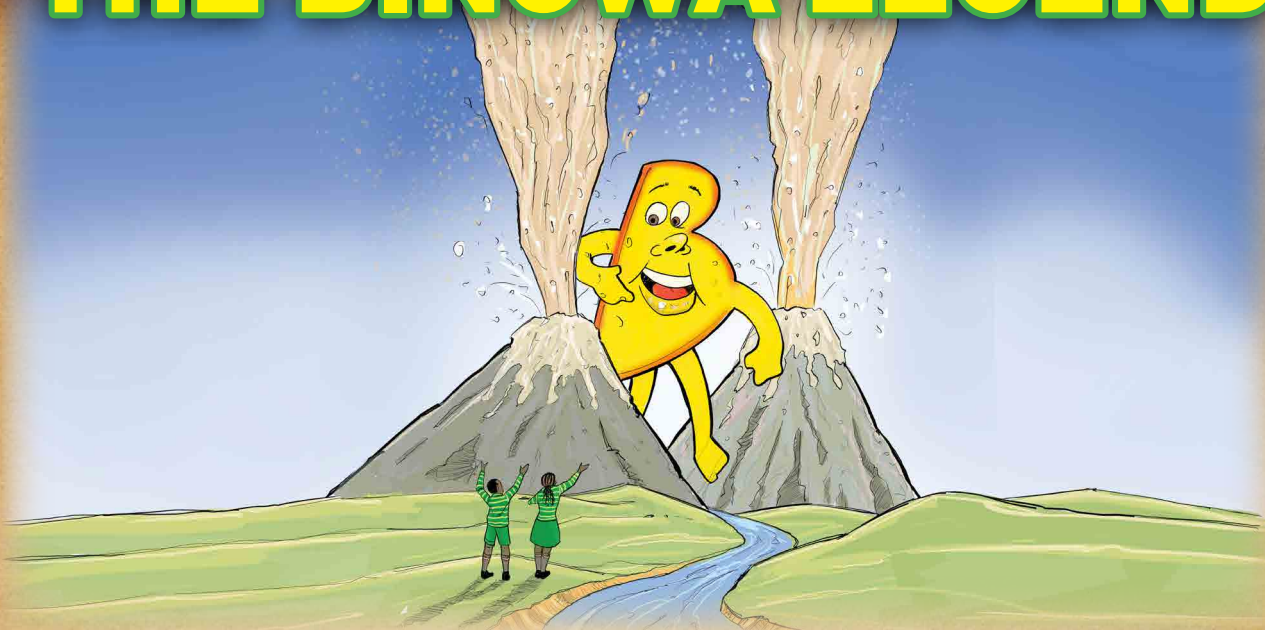
and has arranged outreaches and activations with incredible participation from the children in both countries. The 'anti-corruption monster' message has been so well-received and modified into school plays by the children in order to share this message.

Today, we have a great team that makes BINGWA Magazine a success. In Kenya, we have the Editor Eudiah Kamonjo, the Partnerships Coordinator Claudiah Gachimbi and the voluntary Finance Director Jean-Paul Deprins. In Uganda, Julie Solberg is heading the team with good support from Jeremiah Nelson and Levin Sentongo.

Our goal is to print and distribute ONE MILLION copies of BINGWA and thereby reach approximately 100 million children. The only limit we have today is financing this wonderful concept of BINGWA. We hope that we can get support from companies and organisations all over the world.

To sponsor the BINGWA project, go to our website [www.childafrica.org](http://www.childafrica.org) and click on BINGWA Magazine on the left side of the homepage.

# THE BINGWA LEGEND



Just like any other morning, the sun rose majestically over the Mighty Hills, which were the source of the Living River. This river was so sacred that only a high priest was allowed to drink from it. The people of Mighty Hills believed it was the meeting place of the gods. In fact, the five elements of the world - earth, heart, wind, water and fire - occasionally met there to discuss matters involving the universe.

That morning was one of those days. The five elements were troubled about the current degradation of the universe. They agreed that the only way they

could save the universe was through the children, who were pure at heart and capable of the task. The elements had a problem though. They needed a leader to rally the children for this mission. "This leader must be balanced in all ways possible," they all agreed. They then created BINGWA!

BINGWA is a careful blend of the earth's nobility, the heart's purity, the wind's strength, the water's tranquility and finally, the fire's intensity. With this, BINGWA was sent forth to build integrity in the children of Africa and guide them in the fight against corruption.

[www.bingwa.org](http://www.bingwa.org)



## Uganda Revenue Authority & Uganda Police support Child Africa

### At Child Africa Junior School- Equator, Kayabwe

As part of their Corporate Social Responsibility Program, Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) officers of the Medium Taxpayers' office in Kampala donated a big amount worth of scholastic materials to Child Africa Junior School - Equator (CAJSE). This colourful function was held at the school's premises in Kayabwe. The pupils at the school were filled with joy and excitement upon receiving the new materials. The officers also planted fruit trees in commemoration of the day. Child Africa Founder and Managing Director Julie Solberg was at hand to welcome the special visitors to the school.



### At Child Africa Junior School-Kabale

In Kabale, the Uganda Police force in the region headed by the District Police Commander visited Child Africa Junior School-Kabale (CAJSK) where they talked to the pupils about drug abuse, the dangers of dropping out of school, child rights and traffic rules among other issues. The successful event was held at the school premises and was also attended by Child Africa Founder Julie Solberg, The Regional Traffic Officer, OC CID and an officer of the Child Protection Unit.







## Child Africa's plans for the next 25 years:

The first twenty-five years have not been just a bed of roses. There have been both good and tough times for the founders, but with many positive happenings which we chose to focus on.

Nevertheless, in the next twenty-five years, we will see big changes as we have found a way in which Child Africa will have sustainable funding in the years to come. One way is through the Better Globe Group support (see other article on Better Globe on Pg. 38).

**Our vision for the next twenty-five years:**  
Apart from the two schools in Kabale and at

the Equator, Child Africa is planning to build more schools in Uganda comprising of nursery, primary, secondary and vocational schools, each with 2,500 children. These schools will be our test project on how to build Champions (Bingwas)' in-order to fight corruption in Africa. Child Africa (in their library) already have a lot of educational material from some of the greatest trainers in the world.

Child Africa will build a 'Champion Entrepreneurial' University at the Equator, teaching the students entrepreneurial thinking skills and topics like how to start their own businesses. Successful entrepreneurs will do the





teaching voluntarily. Child Africa will print at least one million copies of **BINGWA Magazine** and distribute them all over Africa in order to make champions and fight corruption.

Child Africa will have its own BINGWA TV channel, producing 'edutainment' programs, to be distributed to TV stations in all African countries.

Child Africa will establish BINGWA Clubs in schools all over Africa and engage children in the fight against corruption.

Child Africa will establish a web portal [www.BingwaSchools.org](http://www.BingwaSchools.org) where African schools can be members, get their own website made, and be able to

communicate with and educate their children, parents and teachers. At the same time, they will be able to download educational material online. This is done with the main aim of fighting corruption in Africa by educating 'Champions,' strong enough to fight corruption now and when they become adults.

Child Africa will have yearly **'Champion Awards'** where Champions are selected, based on a special criteria of Integrity in their schools and are given scholarships and other benefits.

Child Africa will establish a recruitment company where Child Africa educated children are listed for jobs as "Champions of Honesty and Integrity." With such a stamp of approval, it will be much easier

to get a job in the marketplace. With the above points implemented, Child Africa and 'BINGWA' will be known and recognized all over Africa for their fight against corruption. Child Africa believes that fighting corruption can only be done sustainably by educating the children from the nursery school upwards, so they can build a character of honesty and integrity and be strong champions, who can say **NO TO CORRUPTION IN AFRICA**'.

With such ambitious vision we will need all the help we can get from people around the world. If you think you have something to contribute e.g. material, experience, time or money, we would love to hear from you. You can contact [rino@childafrica.org](mailto:rino@childafrica.org).

## UGANDA



**Julie Solberg**  
MD and Founder

## NORWAY



**Rino Solberg**  
Volunteer Chairman

## KENYA OFFICE



**Jean-Paul Deprins**  
Volunteer Finance  
Director



**Wilson Wanyama**  
National Programs  
Director



**Sabilla Sanger**  
Khan Sponsorship  
Adminstrator



**Francis Wafula**  
HQ Accountant



**Claudia Gachimbi**  
Partnerships  
Co-ordinator



**Eudiah Kamonjo**  
Managing Editor



**Levin Ssentongo**  
Kampala Center  
Coordinator



**Jeremiah Byakika**  
HQ  
IT officer



**Mohammed Lubowa**  
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**Paul Sempijja**  
Video Editor - HQ



**Betty Namale**  
HQ Office Assistant



**Kulthum Lubowa**  
HQ Receptionist



**Micheal Kyarikunda**  
Centre Co-ordinator



**Willy Muwanga**  
Centre Co-ordinator



**Hassan Ssebunnya**  
Ass Centre Co-ordinator



**Alex O. Semasaka**  
Field Officer



**Muwanika Augustine**  
Headmaster



**Moses Wanale**  
Headmaster



**Deo Oburye**  
Deputy Headteacher



**Owembabazi Dickson**  
Director of Studies



**Joseph Ssekweyama**  
Director of Studies



**Shallon Kyoshabire**  
Teacher



**Carol Nantongo**  
Teacher



**Glorious Natusiima**  
Teacher



**Rodgers Turyatamba**  
Teacher



**Selestine Turinawe**  
Teacher



**Charity Akampurira**  
Teacher



**Gorret Nakibule**  
Teacher



**Daniel Mugulusi**  
Teacher



**James Apeku**  
Teacher



**Owen Ahimbisibwe**  
Teacher



**David Acidri**  
Teacher



**Caleb Turyamwijuka**  
Teacher



**Deo Luswata**  
Vocation Teacher



**Diana Nantumwa**  
Teacher



**James Ayiko**  
Teacher





**Isaac Byarugaba**  
Teacher



**Beth Ajuna**  
Teacher



**Movious Kwarija**  
Teacher



**Scovia Thungu**  
Teacher



**Flavia Orikiriza**  
Teacher



**Robert Kaliisa**  
Teacher



**Sarah Nyakira**  
Teacher



**Viola Nakilangwa**  
Vocation teacher



**Mildred Nabayego**  
Art and Craft Teacher



**Charity Biryomumeisho**  
Teacher



**Apophia Kamusiime**  
Teacher



**Eunice Kabajurizi**  
Teacher



**Joy Kwarimpa**  
Teacher



**Rhodah Katende**  
Nursery Head Teacher



**Mary Rubarenza**  
Knitting Teacher



**Paul Arinda**  
Band Instructor



**Stella Mbeiza**  
School Bursar



**Barbra Kyomugisha**  
School Bursar



**Isaac Twesiime**  
Librarian



**Fortunate Nakirya**  
School Nurse



**Winnie Walusansa**  
School Nurse



**Maureen Nabadda**  
Matron Boys  
Dormitory



**Sarah Namirembe**  
Matron Girls  
Dormitory



**Hellen Tushemereirwe**  
Matron



**Patience Tushabomwe**  
Matron



**Caleb Ndyabahika**  
Store Keeper



**Sanday Kayembe**  
Land Caretaker



**Simon Omusugu**  
Caretaker HQ



**Jolly Keneema**  
Secretary



**Doreen Akamumpa**  
Center Secretary



**Ferdinand Beyanga**  
Cook



**Enos Machati**  
Cook



**David Ndamira**  
Cook



**Madina Nanyomo**  
Cook



**Phillip Wakyiky**  
Cook



**Terry Maureen Ogesa**  
Gallery Attendant



**Okello JohnBosco**  
Night Guard



**Medard Bright**  
Day Keeper



**Sam Byamukama**  
Centre Day Gate  
Keeper



**Vandestar Kyarimpa**  
Center Night Keeper



**Naharimpisya Nezeplho**  
Cleaner



**Robert Eudu**  
Night Guard



**James Birungi**  
Day Security Guard





# BINGWA SONG



Aaa Aaa woow - Aaa wowo I am a BINGWA!

Chorus:

Am a Bingwa - BINGWA!

Everywhere I go I make a difference

Difference - I make a difference

Yes am a Bingwa . . . . . BINGWA!

And Everywhere I go I fight corruption - corruption  
I fight corruption

I will shine every day, I will share with my friends, I'll serve and protect all the people that I love. I will do better every day, will not fight with my friends,

**BINGWA** is always positive, never ever negative.

Confident and strong, even when the hope is gone, always clean and smart

And everything I do I smile.

Born a champion, my mind is full of energy yeeeh yeeh

Chorus

All I see is butterflies, all I see is people smile,

I see no jealousy, but I see integrity.

I see no enemies NO, all I see is people smile -

No corruption NO . . . . . One family yeeeh yeeh

Chorus

Honesty, honesty, we can fight it with honesty

Integrity, Integrity it's the way we can make it through (x 4)

AFRICA, yelele yee AFRICA, yelele eee AFRICA, yelele yee  
AFRICA yelele yelele

Chorus (x 3)

Honesty, honesty, we can fight it with honesty

Integrity, Integrity it's the way we can make it through x 4

Listen to the song on the BINGWA YouTube channel.

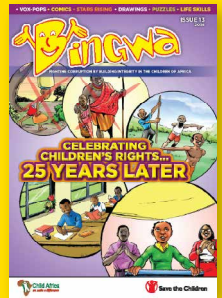
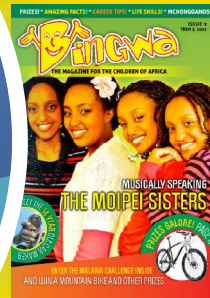




# BINGWA

Fighting corruption by building integrity in the children of Africa

## CALL FOR







# PARTNERSHIP

BINGWA Magazine is a FREE children's publication aimed at fighting corruption by building integrity in the children of Africa. This message is passed across in an easy, conversational and appealing format. The first of its kind, the magazine is distributed FREE to primary schools in East Africa with one copy of the magazine being read by over 100 children. Our future goal is to publish over one million copies to reach school children all over Africa.

The magazine's wide reach and guaranteed long shelf-life provide an excellent platform for individuals, companies and organisations that would like to communicate with children. To establish the various options available for partnership with us, contact us today!

## CONTACTS

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