

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

This has been a momentous year in BKB history. For 20 years we have worked to improve the education system throughout Uganda. Here is not the place to put forward the reasons for the poor performance of schooling in the country.* In November 2017 we started expanding our model nursery school at Gogolo by building 3 classrooms thanks to many who sent us donations towards this project. In February at the start of the academic year the building had been completed. One classroom was filled with a large overflow from the Nursery School; the second room opened to Primary 1 children and the third is being prepared as the center for the Professional Development of Teachers.



EDUCATION

During 2017-2018 BkB supported 99 orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) through tuition payment and meeting the scholastic needs of a few of the very poor some of whom are living with financially handicapped grandparents. Two of our OVCs completed their courses in



Plumbing and Tailoring and Fashion Design respectively. Sylvia Luwedde (see picture) graduated on 2nd March this year. Upon completion Sylvia was offered a temporary job by the area woman MP to skill fellow youth. Among the remaining OVCs, we have a young woman who joined Makerere University for a BA in Commerce. Ten others are in vocational training. Thirteen children completed primary seven and have joined senior one.

Challenges in the Education Programme:

Dropping out of school. This is one of the biggest challenges we are facing as children disappear without trace. Following up on these children is difficult as many of them lack a permanent physical address. Six children disappeared last year.

- As the dollar increases so do the school fees and cost of living.
- Some parents and guardians move their children to faraway places that aren't easily accessible. This makes monitoring them very difficult.
- Weak family support and a general lack of community support systems.

*See www.bkbUganda.org Newsletters Spring 2018

WATER The water project aims at improving the health of communities by increasing access to year round clean and safe water and improving sanitation. BkB has protected over 200 springs, sunk 22 Boreholes and installed 29 water tanks. This year BkB sunk 6 boreholes, protected 16 springs and installed 2 water tanks to one family and one primary school in Mpata village.

The pictures shows Favour primary school in Mpata. It is a makeshift private subgrade school with nursery and up to P 3. It is the only school in the village. Children study in temporary structures with dusty floors that have to be kept damp to minimize dust and prevent jiggers from attacking children. Prior to the water tank the nearest water source was 10 km away. This is a big development to the school.



Results of the water programme this year:

- 2,160 households (about 10,800 people) have access to year round clean and safe water
- Reduction in the prevalence of water born/related illnesses
- Improvement in household and institutional hygiene and sanitation
- Enhanced livelihoods for livestock and poultry farmers, brick molders and vegetable farmers who depend on this water.

Protected springs and drilled boreholes

Name Springs	Households	Village	Parish	sub county	District
Alex Nunez	200	Kyambizzi Bulausuuku	Kavule	Kiringete	Mpigi
Anna Olivia Duffy	40	Butesasira	Sseta Bweya	Kalamba	Butambala
Carmen Donahue	55	Kiziiko (B)	Mabanda	Kibiibi	Butambala
Dolores Lawson	140	Lungala	Mpigi T/C	Kibiibi	Mpigi
God's Juice	30	Nsozibirye B	Nsozibirye	Kalamba	Butambala
Inca Trail Runners	186	Kabasanda	Kabasanda	Kabasanda	Butambala
James Carlin	30	Ggala	Kakoola	Mpigi T/C	Mpigi
Jared's well	60	Katende Kiwamirembe	Karule	kiringente	Mpigi
Leroy Scot	40	Nantwala	Kikondo	Kiringente	Mpigi
Lisa Munoz	30	Lubuga – Lugoye	katabira	Kibiibi	Butambala
Lydia Geresa Riolo	295	Wetamuza Kigato	Kibiibi	kibiibi	Butambala
The Burns Family	45	Kasana	Kabasanda	Kalamba	Butambala
Lydia Gregor 1952 – 16	320	Kibiibi Town	Kibiibi	Kibiibi	Mpigi
MacFarlane Family	85	Katabira B	Katabira	Kibiibi Sabagabo	Butambala
Rouse Famaily		Simba	Kibiibi	Kibiibi	Mpigi
Vicki Lawrence	50	Kirokola	Munyuka	Kalamba	Butambala
Name Boreholes					
Kabagezi	40	Kabagezi	Buwanuka	Kakiri	Wakiso
Namagera	40	Namagera	Magoogo	Kakiri	Wakiso
Kalasa Primary school	100	Kalasa	Kalasa	Makulubita	Luwero
Butalaga community	120	Butalaga	Butalaga	Bigasa	Bukomansibi

Bweramondo community	90	Bweramondo	Kyerima	Wabwoko	Kayunga
Buyinjabutoole community	75	Buyinjabutoole	Buyinjabutoole	Buyinjabutoole	Gomba

HEALTH The Mobile Health Clinic (MHC)

The Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) engaged in its usual activities of providing basic and primary health care. Health sustainability has also been highly emphasized with the usage of local medicines and herbs as an alternative to western medicines. With the support of Vibrant Village Foundation 20 mobile clinic sessions were conducted where 4,291 people were diagnosed and treated for basic illnesses. 1,914 were children, 1,404 women and 973 men.



A nurse registering a patient



A nurse preparing to test for malaria



School children queuing for dewormers

Achievements

- There is a remarkable appreciation in the growing and consumption of fruits and vegetables as prevention to common illnesses like scabies, coughs and influenza.
- Married men have embraced the clinic and can now allow their wives and children to attend the clinic something that they were against at the start.
- Due to demand the MHC is planning to produce training materials for use in local herb treatment.

INCOME GENERATION

Our goal here is to increase family income from the sale of surplus agricultural produce and/or products of small businesses. In a bid to achieve this, we have trained 40 beneficiaries from Namagera and Kabagezi villages in business management skills and supported them with start-up capital. Beneficiaries now boast of a regular source of income that can sustainably meet small household needs like buying salt, paraffin, a pencil, book and pen for their children.

BKB DEMONSTRATION FARM

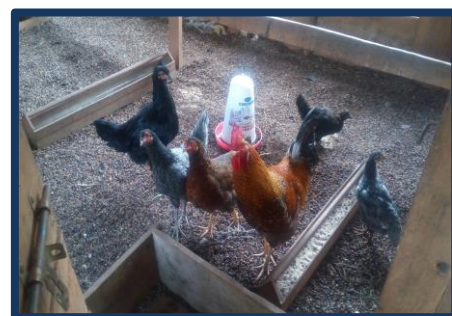
which is an organic demonstration farm that strives to empower communities in term of organic food production and gives hands on learning opportunities. We are open on demand and our diversified curriculum gives room to all visitors to make their own choices for training topics

Learners this year included 405 school children, 40 teachers, 22 individual farmers, 16 family demonstration group members from Mpata and Bukondo and 20 individual visitors.



The farm has different enterprises/units which include piggery, goats rearing, dairy farming, crop farming and horticulture where we grow a variety of vegetables: cabbages (both leafy and drum head) beet, root, celery, carrots, lettuce, spinach, broccoli, cauliflower and amaranths. Various tree species also dot the farm such as mangoes, avocado, quavers, oranges, lemon, paw paws, jack fruits and many others. The crops and animals generate income for BKB enough to cover the farm's operation costs.

Poultry: We started local chicken rearing with only two birds last year and to date we have 36 birds. From



this enterprise we are able to get 5 trays of eggs per month. Our aim is to be the leading local egg supplier in Nalugala community where BKB farm is located.

Piggery unit: We currently have 12 pigs; 5 female, 4 male and 3 piglets. This unit has a high multiplier effect. For instance a good sow is able to deliver 3 times a year to about 7 to 10 piglets. A three month piglet sells for £20; a mature pig from between £60-£80 giving us good rates of return.

Crop unit. Among the crops, bananas generate more income. They are perennial crops that mature in 1 to 1½ years. We have predominantly Mpologoma banana variety which is high yielding with big bunches and fingers. Due to their heavy weight they have to be supported with a V- pole. This variety is mainly eaten cooked either by boiling or steaming. Then the delicious gonja banana. This one is left to ripen and then roasted. It is a very popular snack for long distance travelers sold alongside roads with muchomo (roasted meat/chicken).

The farm provides vegetables throughout the year to both the local community and BKB staff.

AGRICULTURE

This project aims at empowering caregivers to produce enough quality food year round and reducing the level of hunger and malnutrition in the community through use of good quality seeds and better agronomic practices.

The agriculture programme is about bringing services nearer to the people by taking what we demonstrate at BKB farm back to the farmers who can't afford travelling to the farm. Our farmers live quite far; about 60 miles away from the farm so what we do is set up village-based Family

Demonstration Gardens where farmers are trained in appropriate organic farming methods. Farmers are then expected to apply the acquired knowledge and skills to their home gardens to boost food production in terms of quality and quantity. Farmers are given some seed variety used at the demonstration garden to plant in their own gardens. It is tending to 5 years since we launched this programme and to date 8 villages in Kakiri Sub County have benefited.

Achievements 78 teachers representing 8 schools were trained on how they can improve teaching of agriculture in schools and contribute to food production in the community. After the training, 4 of the schools, Kirungarunga, Namagera Church of Uganda, Kabagezi and New Generation Primary School received a science kit each. The kits contain agriculture, nutrition, hygiene and sanitation teaching materials rooted in the curriculum of Ugandan education system. The garden kit contained a wheelbarrow, knapsack sprayer, manure fork, spade, shovel, watering can, hand hoe, panga and rake, while the hygiene and sanitation kit contained a small plastic jerry can (tip taps), a string and message tags with different messages on nutrition, hygiene and sanitation. The science kits are to be displayed in the school compound such that the pupils can read them and practice the message that they convey.

Success stories Here is Ssalongo Musoke, the chairperson of Kabagezi Garden Project processing his Kawa (tea flavours/additives) made from soya beans and seeds from mpilivuma, okra, avocado and jackfruit. He is now one of the lead suppliers of tea flavor in the community and the retail shops in Kakiri town. With the proceeds he has now bought himself a grinder/miller to ease the work and increase production to meet the growing demand. His product



is also medicinal calming ulcers, balancing sugar levels, increasing blood levels and adding proteins in the body. His enterprise has led to an increase in soya production in the area because there is a ready market. Musoke produces 10kg of kawa weekly which he packs in 20ml containers and sells them at 40p per container. In a week he earns £20.



Musoke with grinder

In the picture is Jingo Mariam of Kabagezi village. She plants a sack of leafy vegetables/sukuma a week that cost her 40p. She now supplies Balibaseka secondary school with vegetables and earns £2 weekly as a profit.

Miss Kagulire Roy is the proprietor and director of new generation Primary School. She established a school garden to support the feeding programme at school and also teach organic farming skills to her staff and students. The garden now supplies a variety of vegetables for school meals daily and has been able to save £20 monthly towards school development.

At Namagera Primary School Miss Nakitto Ester has been promoted to the level Director of Studies in that school after her efforts to encourage other teachers to use the school garden. This was revealed by the head teacher Mr Samuel Zaake. In her own words Ester says, *“We have been eating these vegetables at school since last year but this term teachers are given vegetables every Friday to take home and enjoy with their families. We hope to mill amaranths and put it into students’ porridge next term. This will be history!! Thanks to BkB”*

NUTRITION The objective is to reduce the level of malnutrition and improve hygiene and sanitation at household level and the community in general.

Activities carried out:

- Nutrition status assessment. Nutrition education on exclusive breastfeeding and complementary feeding, balanced diet/ food groups and nutrient conservation.
- Food preparation demonstrations of various kinds of local foods.
- Supplementary feeding programme for the moderately malnourished children.
- Hygiene and sanitation sensitization and demonstrations.

Achievements Restoration of the 26 undernourished children to normalcy. Their average body mass indices which rose from -1.132 to 1.83 showed great improvements in their nutrition status. Most families can now afford at least 2 balanced meals a day. The feeding of children less than five years has improved tremendously. A number of caregivers are able to pack snacks for their school going children. This has reduced absenteeism at school and helps to strengthen the bondage between mothers and their children

At Namagera village, Bazibu Isaac opened up a road side food kiosk to sell samosas (snacks stuffed with vegetables). The vegetables he uses are carrots, onions, cabbages and others which he combines to make samosas that are sold. Isaac is now self-employed and commends BkB for skilling him. He earns between £2 to £3 per day. The rest of the trainees in this village get an opportunity to sell their products to this kiosk.

CHRISTMAS One hundred and fifty needy families in Katabi and Kakiri sub County received Christmas packages that contained rice, beef, bread, blue band, salt, sugar and cooking oil. These gifts mean a lot to them more than they can express it in words.

We thank our sponsors, friends and well-wishers for their dedication in transforming the lives of disadvantaged children with their families and the communities at large. We sincerely appreciate all that you are doing.

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