Newsletter

March 2023

#197







Dear Friend and Partner in Ministry,

Thank you for taking the time to read our news. The singing and whistling birds in the tall trees around us and the monkeys that feed on our grown papayas, sweet potatoes and bananas are a constant reminder of how God cares for even them!

So, we remain confident and grateful for HIS

care, faithfulness and love for the young mums and their little ones and we marvel at God's provisions and sustenance.

We thank you for the support you so generously give to the Ministry.

A sad Story: Ketty

The youngest girl at Wakisa is 13 years old and from Mubende about 90 miles away from here. Ketty (not her real name) has been abused and raped 3 times by her father and the mother has been aware but she was helpless and feared her husband. Ketty is the firstborn of 5 children who had to run away from home to stay with her grandmother but the father demanded that his daughter comes back home. He made a scene at grandma's home and both grandmother and Ketty's mother are so fearful of the father. She was brought back.

The second time he took her to the market to buy food and he raped her. She wanted to run away but she didn't know where to go this time and she remained helpless.

The third time it was in the garden when she was picking maize with her little sister and her father came, scared the little one away and grabbed Ketty.

She conceived this time and was still helpless so she decided to look for the police station, she went by herself and reported her father. The father was put in police custody and there was all the evidence.

Ketty's mother was furious with Ketty for taking her husband to prison because he was the breadwinner, incidentally, the mother is also pregnant with the 6th child.

Ketty loves her mum though she is angry with her. She misses her so much; however, she does not want to go back home. She is bitter with her father and hopes he never gets out of prison.

Please pray for Ketty and her mum for reconciliation. Ketty is emotionally traumatized, she feels no one protected her from the evil father, not even her mum or grandmother.!



Girls at the Center

You have given us the opportunity to serve this community of pregnant teens. We currently have 23 teenage pregnant girls who receive health care, counselling, infant care and vocational skills to help them cope with young motherhood, plan for their future and become financially independent.

Counselling & Admissions

This month we have admitted 8 girls to the centre, and have resettled 7 girls back to their homes. We have a new professional counselling psychologist and she has had time for one on one as they receive counselling



Vocational Skills - A case study | Sofia 17 years

Sofia (not her real name) comes from a family of six and is the fifth born. When she was young, she was abandoned by her mother, so she doesn't know much about her. She stopped attending school in primary three (P.3) and was taken to live with her paternal aunt.

She escaped from her aunt due to mistreatment and headed for the city. She started living on the streets of Kampala where she made friends with a girl who introduced her to other street kids.

She got involved with a street boy who got her pregnant. When the boy suspected that she was pregnant (1 month pregnant), he chased her away. Fortunately, she was discovered and picked from the street by UYEDEL an organisation that deals with street kids. They brought her to Wakisa Ministries.

She is acquiring skills such as self-respect, critical thinking and assertiveness. She has gained interest in tailoring which she does with a passion, knitting (baby hats, booties) and making sponges. Most importantly she is emotionally doing well.







Vocational Skills & A case study

Tailoring

The girls have learnt the fundamentals of tailoring including measuring, cutting and stitching and have been able to create a variety of pieces like Skirts, and maternity dresses. The new girls started with learning how to use the sewing machine (peddling) and through this, the teacher noticed how the girls supported each other through the learning (peer-to-peer learning) aiming to all move at the same pace.

Cookery class

In theory, the girls learnt types of food, health, nutrition and kitchen hygiene for their practicals. They made the following;

- Spaghetti Bolognese
- Poached eggs
- Vegetable turmeric rice
- Pilau rice
- Banana crisps
- Prepare food for a child of 6 months to 2 years.

Agriculture

Being a rainy season, the main activity was to transplant the vegetables from the nursery bed to the main garden, the girls also had to weed the garden (Sukuma, cabbage and spinach).

English class

The girls have learned self-introductions, and how to describe their daily routines while incorporating time and they have also learnt how to read. Jamila 15 years, who stopped studying in P.6 has improved her reading skills by actively participating in the class. She has learnt pronouns, nouns and adjectives and how to use them and is happy that her vocabulary has improved.

Computer class

The computer teacher is doing his best to teach these 13 -16-year-old girls who have never touched a computer. They are excited and so learnt it with enthusiasm.

Bible study

One of the thrills of the month is the 5 girls who accepted Christ and 4 of them were Muslims. We often wonder how they will be treated when they get home but God will take care of them.

Art and craft

The girls were taught how to make wallets, flower vessels, wall hangings in preparation for the Easter holiday and paper r beads. In Wakisa it's a tradition that each new girl that joins is taught to make sponges that they use to shower and this is done in the art and craft class using old nets. The girls also make baby blankets for their babies and this month they were so excited to make the blankets.

Infant class

The girls learnt the early signs of pregnancy and what's happening to their bodies, and they got to ask questions about what they didn't understand and how to take care of newborn babies.

Deliveries

| Joan | Baby girl | Normal delivery |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|
| Patricia | Baby girl | Normal delivery |
| Felicity | Baby girl | C-section |
| Joan | Baby girl | Normal delivery |
| Justine | Baby girl | Normal delivery |





Health

Health issues have been a real concern as we spent a considerable amount paying medical bills this month.

One 17-year-old and three months pregnant girl spent two nights in the hospital where she got treatment. She had drifted into unconsciousness during a siesta break which they all have after lunch to our shock. She couldn't wake up despite all stimuli. This was an unusual situation which made us panic! The doctor's diagnosis was Conversational disorder/Epilepsy. She is well but we have to keep a close eye on her.

She has a history of passing out at the onset of severe headaches.

Being a rainy season, a few of the girls got flu with headaches which was managed by giving them vitamins. As usual, girls are encouraged to take a lot of water to keep them hydrated.

2 girls had a toothache and were taken to hospital. They had a tooth extraction and are doing well. One girl had to be rushed to the hospital due to bleeding and it was discovered that she had an infection and is undergoing treatment.

School Sponsorship

School term is still on and young mums will not be on break for Easter except for the Agromax School of Agriculture.

We were glad to have Hope venture visit the students they sponsor. A group of young mothers who had previously been sponsored came to meet the Hope venture team and shared what they were doing. They thanked their sponsors for supporting them to achieve their goals of acquiring a skill.

The Agromax girls shared how they learnt to plant and grow high-quality vegetables such

as English and Chinese cabbage, learnt plant initiation, prepare pre-sprouted seedlings, tissue culture, manage greenhouses, irrigation and how to control pests. Some are employed as sales executives within the agriculture sector. Some are employed as casual and nursery operators.

Wakisa paid a visit to our young mums in one of the schools on their visitation day. Unfortunately, the girl's parents could not make it due to the high costs of transport. We had to take more books, pens, pencils, toilet paper rolls, sanitary towels as required by the school and some snacks.









THANK YOU FOR THE GREAT SUPPORT YOU ARE GIVING. MAY THE GOOD LORD BLESS YOU.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO BLESS THE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM SO THAT MORE YOUNG MUMS ATTAIN AN EDUCATION, THE BUILDING FUND FOR THE HEALTH CENTER AND A VEHICLE.

I want to wish you a **HAPPY EASTER AS YOU CELEBRATE THE RISEN CHRIST!**

In Christ

Vivian KityoDirector





