

ugive2uganda



Ever thought about sponsoring a child in Africa?



ugive2uganda

Ugive2uganda is a UK registered charity (No. 1115196) dedicated to supporting children in and around the town of Mbale in Uganda. We help children through:

- Our child sponsorship scheme
- Our emergency medical aid program for sickness and disease
- Our music program that gives children a chance to be creative and learn to play a brass band instrument

Our Child Sponsorship Programme

Our child sponsorship programme is based on the concept of supporting a child through his or her education. Here in Uganda, as in many developing countries, education is a huge issue. Although Government schools are supposed to be free for primary pupils, the standards are poor and it is not uncommon for a child to reach ten years old without being able to write his or her own name. Many parents will do almost anything to get their children into a better private school. Some families have no money of course and so are stuck in the state system.

www.ugive2uganda.org

For the country as a whole, education, and particularly exam results (which make the front page of the national newspapers), dominate many peoples' day-to-day lives. A substantial proportion of parents' income often goes towards their childrens' school fees so that they can give their children a chance in life. They know that children who have no education, or a very poor one, have no prospects whatsoever in a country where unemployment is very high. Children who are lucky enough to go to a decent school at least have an opportunity, if they work hard, to have a career after they leave – perhaps becoming a teacher, doctor, office worker, or something similar. Without an education a child will often be destined for a life of poverty.

So with our child sponsorship program we focus on placing a child in a school where they can at least be given a foundation in the core subjects. Obviously, not every child will excel academically but at least they will be sure of achieving some sort of basic competence in reading, writing, arithmetic and English.

The other big issue that we concentrate on is school lunches. Many schools have no cooking facilities so children either walk home for something if they live close enough or do without. In some schools there are local places nearby where children can buy a little food for lunch if they have the money – 20p is enough. Children in the better schools are often boarders and live in the school hostel. When they do this they don't have to walk to school and also receive porridge and beans for lunch. Obviously children who have something to eat at lunchtime do better in their studies in the afternoon. So one of our main priorities with sponsors' support is to ensure that at least the child concerned has enough money to receive some lunch during the school day.

Alongside all this, education matters so much because through schooling children can learn about the modern world and avoid some of the unhelpful practices of the past such as witchcraft, child sacrifice, etc, as well as gaining some understanding of important issues such as family planning.



Mrs Vivienne Duffy visiting her sponsored child Margaret

How Sponsorship Works

We channel our sponsorship program through our music project.

We can't just march into Mbale town, or a village nearby, and select a child to be sponsored. Even if you ask local leaders for candidates they will inevitably put forward their favourites or members of their own family. Not every child is suitable for assistance. Some don't need help and others would waste it. But some are desperately in need.

So we invite children to come and play in our brass band and then we monitor them. With over 500 children on our music program we have plenty to choose from!

When a child comes to band practice every day we learn all about the child's character and their family circumstances. In this way we can verify the truth about what's happening in their family, whether their parents are alive and whether they are working. We can visit their houses and this often tells us more about the child's life than anything else.

And then we see whether the child wants to help themselves. We don't want children who are not prepared to be part of a team, who bully smaller children, who do not want to share, or have no respect for authority.

What we do want is children who will work hard at school, and in their music, and will take advantage of the opportunity that we are offering them. We want children who have potential and take their education seriously. We also work hard to find help for older children who want to go on to college or vocational training after they finish school.

This is how we ensure that your support is used wisely and properly and this is what makes us different from other charities working in the developing world.

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: Why support a child through [ugive2uganda](http://ugive2uganda.org) rather than other similar charities?

Answer: Because we deliver the sponsorship support myself instead of relying on others. In this way we can be sure that all sponsorship money is used appropriately. We aren't some massive global charity that spends a large proportion of its donations on fancy headquarters buildings and new computer equipment. When you decide to sponsor a child we can guarantee that the child, their family, and their community will receive the money that you donate. We simply deduct 15% from your sponsorship to cover our overheads such transport, postage, photos, and medical emergencies.

Question: How do I know that my child will receive the money that I send?

Answer: Because the Founder of the charity, Philip Monk, lives in Uganda to make sure they do! We visit the child's home and monitor the child's progress at school and how your money has been spent. In most cases we pay school fees directly to the school itself.

Question: What do you spend the money on?

Answer: Nearly all your sponsorship money goes towards the child's education. This includes school and exam fees, books, lunches, and uniforms.

Question: What can I expect to receive from my sponsored child?

Answer: First of all, you will receive a photo of the child and some personal information about him or her along with some family details. In due course you will also receive a letter that describes your child's progress including how well they are doing at school. He or she will send you a Christmas card (you can return the gesture if you wish!), and you will also receive an annual report on the child as well as our newsletters. Of course, you can write to your child as often as you wish.

Question: Can I choose my sponsored child?

Answer: Yes – to a certain extent. We'll ask you whether you prefer to sponsor a boy or a girl, and in what sort of age range. We'll then select the child in most need of support from our waiting list.

Question: How long does my sponsorship last?

Answer: The sponsorship normally lasts until the child leaves school. But you can choose to sponsor a child for all or part of this time.



Zeu Kanaga – the first girl to complete her schooling through Mbale Schools Band and who is now at her first year studying at Livingstone University.

Our Emergency Healthcare Program

We also try to help children in need of emergency medical treatment. So we intervene when we can afford it and when we hear of cases where a child is suffering because of the inability of their parents to pay for medical treatment. These hardship cases may be the result of a disease like malaria, an accident, or an underlying condition.

If you would like to help by sponsoring a child from Mbale or one of the surrounding villages please email me at ugive2uganda1@aol.com, or simply complete the form below and return it to your bank, or see our website at www.ugive2uganda.org

If you would like to make a donation to [ugive2uganda](http://www.ugive2uganda.org) instead then please use the DONATE button on the website. We would be so grateful.

What we really need is for compassionate people to become sponsors for children that have potential but desperately need help to realise it. Nothing is worse than seeing a bright child whose formative years are wasted. So please complete the form at the end of this leaflet to become a child sponsor and make a real difference to the life of a child. Sponsoring a child costs £15 a month. I know that this scheme works and is so worthwhile.

I hope you can help me to support some of the children of Uganda. Their cause is tremendously worthwhile. The children are not asking for never-ending handouts from people in the UK. They just need help to get started and the basic investment in education to enable them to earn their own living and to live their life with dignity and respect.

The children in Uganda are no different physically and emotionally from any other child in the UK. They are separated from us only by distance and culture.

As you may be aware, donations, including child sponsorship, from taxpayers qualify for the Inland Revenue *Gift Aid* scheme. This simply means that *ugive2uganda* can claim back the tax from the revenue on all donations it receives providing that you have paid the equivalent amount in income tax. If you decide to go ahead with your sponsorship all you have to do is sign below and return the form to me or email me with your acknowledgment and confirmation that you are a taxpayer.

Please treat all donations that I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Thank you very much.

Philip Monk
ugive2uganda
Registered Charity No. 1115196



STANDING ORDER FORM

To.....Bank plc

Branch Address.....

Post Code:

Sort code.....

Account name to be debited

Account Number

Please make payments and debit my/our account in accordance with the following details, to:-

Barclays Bank (Huntingdon Branch)

1 Market Hill, Huntingdon, PE29 3AE

Sort Code No. 20-43-63

For account of ugive2uganda

Account Number 50030708

Amount in figures £.....

Amount in words

Payments to be mademonthly/annually* until further notice

Date of first payment

* (delete as appropriate)

Name.....

Address:.....

.....

Post Code:.....

Signature(s)..... Date.....