

ChildLine

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The newsletter of the Uganda AIDS Orphan Children's Foundation

www.UAOCF.org

UAOCF Donor Meeting a "Heart"-Warming Success

On February 13, UAOCF hosted our first annual donors' meeting, with the theme "Heart to Heart." This was our opportunity to share what we have accomplished for our Ugandan children, as well as to hear our supporters' feedback and ideas for UAOCF's future direction and growth. The evening was a huge success! About 90 donors attended, enjoying the food, wine and great company. Thanks to all the great volunteers who helped



UAOCF supporters of all ages came to hear about our progress and to share a good time together. (All Heart to Heart photo credits: Alicia Gibbs)



out. We couldn't have done it without you! Thanks also to all who attended. Your input will help UAOCF do even more to help as many children as we can. The discussion included a "brainstorming" session to come up with new ideas for fundraising and outreach. Your suggestions included:

- Hosting a Casino Night
- Exploring corporate matching gifts
- Advertising in The Tidings
- Collaborating with other AIDS organizations and/or with Ugandan businesses in Los Angeles

We were excited by the enthusiasm of all who came, and we hope to follow up on as many of these ideas as possible. (Please read "Help Wanted!" below for more information about how we hope to make this happen, and how you or someone you know can be a key part of it).



Fr. Fred gave the crowd an overview of the crisis in Uganda and how UAOCF has responded to help the children.

Ugandan Bishop to Visit Los Angeles

The Most Reverend Callist Rubaramira, Bishop of the Kabale Diocese and Chairman of the Kabale Diocese Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Oversight Committee, will be visiting the United States in September. The Bishop will be in Los Angeles for two weeks. His greatest interest in making this trip is to meet and to thank YOU: our UAOCF donors and supporters. When can you meet the Bishop? He will celebrate the 9 am Mass at Saint Joan of Arc Parish on Sunday, September 11. That same afternoon, UAOCF will host a reception in Bishop Callist's honor in

the SJA Hall from 4pm to 6pm. All are welcome!



Bishop Callist and some of the members of the Kabale Diocese Orphaned and Vulnerable Children Oversight Committee

Help Wanted!

One of the agenda items discussed during February's Heart to Heart meeting was UAOCF's need for help spreading the word about our mission and reaching new donors. There are many talented individuals who volunteer their time and effort to help the organization, but none with skills and expertise in this critical area of development. Can

you help? If you or someone you know might be interested in joining the UAOCF team to help us reach our development goals and support more orphans, please let us know! We particularly need the help of someone with marketing or development experience. Call UAOCF at 310-479-8396, or send us an email at admin@uaocf.org.

Just the Numbers...

By June 30, 2005 (the end of the UAOCF fiscal year), we had:

- 100 children fully supported
 - 76 "adopted" by donors
 - 24 supported by UAOCF's general fund, who still need sponsors to "adopt" them
- Spent \$35,000 for direct orphan support
- Contributed \$10,000 to the Kabale Hope House
- 13 unpaid volunteers who managed and supported the Foundation

Hope House Update

And now, just the facts...

- Refurbishment is complete!
- Will provide housing for up to 50 orphans
- Will also serve as a technical school
- Uganda committee making plans to hire staff and admit orphans soon

Christmas Giving Program at St. Joan of Arc Parish

Last year, the parish gave \$6,000 to purchase Christmas gifts for 50 Ugandan orphans in foster homes and to help refurbish Hope House, the residential facility/technical school for orphans in the Diocese of Kabale. This year our goal is \$2,500, with which we will purchase gifts for all of the 100 orphans we are currently supporting. We've set our sights lower, rather than higher, in order to spread the Joan of Arc generosity to benefit other important programs:

St. Joan of Arc Parish has four outreach programs that will be part of the Christmas Giving this year:

- UAOCF's 100 foster home orphans

- About 20 needy families in the parish
- The day laborer families at the Day Laborer Center on Sepulveda Boulevard
- Abused women and their families who are sheltered by OPCC in Santa Monica

There will be one tree at each of the two entrances to the church (main entrance and Gateway entrance). Our Uganda ornaments will be placed on the trees on **Saturday, October 29th**, with **November 20th** as the deadline for return of your gift. This may seem early, but the early deadline will allow us to send the money to Uganda in time for the gifts to be purchased for the 100 children

before Christmas. Ornaments for the other three outreach programs will be placed on the trees beginning November 13th, with a deadline of December 18th for returning your gifts.

We are asking for \$10 and \$20 donations. You will recognize our ornaments by the animals and children's pictures on them. Please be generous with all four programs, as you always are! Also, please consider adopting an orphan for yourself or as a Christmas gift for someone who "has everything." Remember, in just this part of Uganda alone, over 30,000 children have lost a parent. The cost is \$300 for a full year of support to an orphaned child.

Seven-Year-Old Lost Both Parents, Needs Assistance

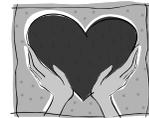
When Robert M. was only three years old, his father died of a disease that is highly feared and stigmatized in his village: AIDS. Just two and a half years later, his mother fell victim to the same illness, leaving Robert and his three siblings parentless. Their grandfather, a peasant, now takes care of the children. It's a task that can be difficult for a strong young parent, and even more so for an impoverished grandparent who suddenly finds himself with so many small mouths to feed—two of them even younger than Robert, who will turn 8 on October 12th. Robert himself has battled malaria,

a common malady in Africa and a leading cause of childhood illness and mortality there.



Seven-year-old Robert, his brother and two sisters live with their grandfather, who struggles to take care of them.

Robert is one of 24 orphans that UAOCF has put on the top of the list of children we hope to find sponsors for. His hope for the future lies in getting a good education now, in getting enough to eat and having the basic things that every child needs to grow and thrive. You can give this to him! Won't you help? To "adopt" Robert, or one of the other 23 children who need sponsors, contact UAOCF by phone at 310-479-8396, by email at admin@uaocf.org, or by postal service at P.O. Box 64485, Los Angeles, CA 90064. You can help change the course of these children's lives, and give hope to orphans who have lost so much.



P.O. Box 64485
Los Angeles, CA 90064

