

2023 ANNUAL REPORT



Africa Shades of Light

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A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Dear cherished friends of Africa Shades of Light,

As 2023 concludes, we wanted to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support throughout this first year of ministry. This year has been marked by many significant milestones.

We began our journey by obtaining 501(c)(3) tax-deductible status in the U.S. - a pivotal step that solidified our commitment to serving the underserved communities of Uganda. Your support during this process was invaluable and we are grateful for your belief in the mission God has placed on our hearts.

We then received approval as a Community-Based Organization within Uganda, attaining vital support for our initiatives, further allowing us to expand our reach and better address the unique needs of the communities we serve.

Your contributions and support were crucial in turning visions to reality as you faithfully prayed, generously gave, and selflessly served and advocated on our behalf. It is through you that lives have been touched, and by the grace of God, that hearts have been reconciled.

As we reflect on the year, we are deeply and eternally grateful for your support, care, and love. Thank you for being a part of this journey. We look forward to continuing God's work, together, here in Uganda throughout 2024 and beyond. We wish you a new year filled with joy, fulfillment, and the knowledge that your support is shaping a brighter, more beautiful future for the underserved communities, families, and children of Uganda.

With sincere gratitude & grace,

The Katongoles



MISSION, VISION, VALUES



Our daily **mission** is to address adversity through ethical, collaborative, and sustainable action to empower underserved communities, families, and children to reach their God-given potential.

Our long-term **vision** is to make disciples of Jesus to restore eternal hope in the lives and hearts of people for generations.

Our **core values** are: collaboration, reconciliation, sustainability, integrity, and hope.

MATHEW 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.



EDUCATION SUPPORT

Through your generosity, over **\$5,277.75** was raised to support and empower 13 vulnerable children and their families through the gift of education. Each child received the opportunity to attend a quality educational institute where they were provided with essential school materials, family counseling, and one-on-one mentorship.

In addition to this impactful support, over 136 additional children benefited by receiving scholastic materials every term, ensuring they were equipped with the necessary tools for a successful academic journey.

Furthermore, your contributions facilitated the purchase of over **200** Ugandan curriculum books for the community library. This addition not only enhances the educational resources available, but also contributes to the broader development of the community by promoting literacy and knowledge-sharing.

Thank you for making a meaningful difference in the lives of these children and their community.

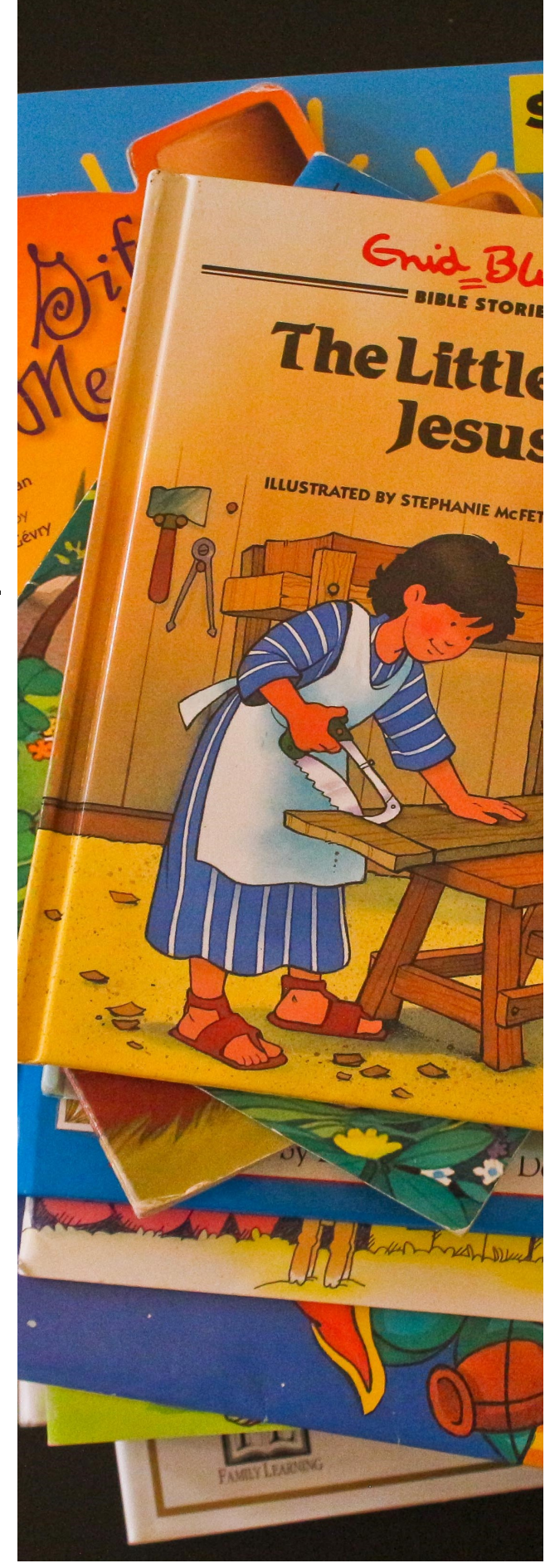
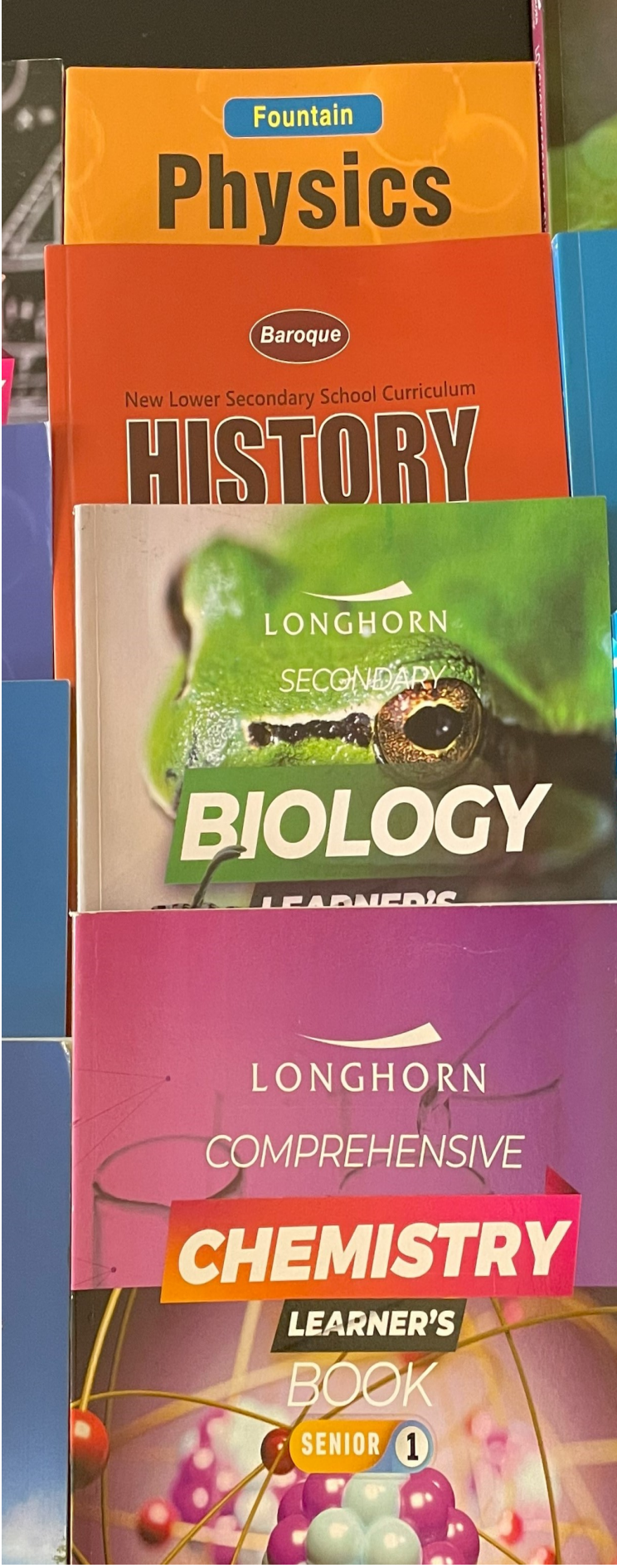


LIBRARY INITIATIVE

In addition to the substantial donation of over 500 gently used reading books and over 120 academic books aligned with the Uganda curriculum, our commitment to enhancing educational resources in the community extends to the incorporation of spiritual guidance. Alongside the diverse collection of new curriculum school books for primary and secondary learners and teachers, we have taken the initiative to include materials that provide an opportunity to avail God's word within and through our community library.

By integrating religious texts such as the Bible and other relevant literature, we aim to offer not only educational support but also a platform for spiritual exploration and growth. We believe that the inclusion of God's word in our library will contribute to the holistic development of individuals within the community, fostering not only academic excellence but also moral and spiritual values.

Our aspiration is that these resources, collectively, will not only facilitate learning and academic growth, but also serve as a source of inspiration, guidance, and reflection rooted in the teachings of God's word. This comprehensive approach reflects our dedication to the well-being and development of the community, acknowledging the importance of both intellectual and spiritual enrichment in the lives of the children, learners, teachers, and the broader community.



CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Throughout 2023, our impact has grown to engage over 170 children weekly through our programs.

Our programs are **Christ-centered**, ensuring at each gathering the Gospel is shared; they are **future oriented**, training and teaching youth and children both valuable and practical skills; and they are **community driven**, fostering an inclusive, fun, and friendly atmosphere through games and activities.

Additionally, we expanded our reach to over 400 youths across various communities, focusing on encouraging virtues of patience, unity, and faith. These core values were conveyed through interactive sessions, promoting personal growth and community support. In line with our commitment to holistic development, we incorporated interactive activities, providing a space for building friendships and creating a sense of belonging.

Looking forward, we plan to extend our outreach, introduce new skill initiatives, and reinforce our core values. The children and youth programs remain steadfast in creating an environment where young individuals can grow spiritually, acquire essential life skills, and establish lasting connections.



COMMUNITY OUTREACHES

ACTS 20:35

“In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

A CHRISTMAS FOR JAJJA

In our ongoing commitment to enhance the well-being of the elderly in our community, we organized a Christmas meal initiative to serve the elderly and most vulnerable families. We were able to serve over 50 Christmas meals in the communities of Kasanjja, Muguluka, Katoma, Kyempiki and Kamasvu which not only cultivated a sense of joy, and connection, but also provided a festive meal while creating an opportunity for them to enjoy and feel cherished in the holiday season.





SPECIAL NEEDS INCLUSION

Throughout the year, our dedicated team has been actively involved in reaching out to families, offering support, and promoting awareness about the importance of inclusion.

Over 15 children and families were met with and encouraged in 2023.

By engaging with these families, we aim to create a network that understands the specific needs of each child, creating empathy, understanding, and building a sense of community.

Our advocacy for children with disabilities extends beyond awareness campaigns by reaching into the lives of these families through tangible initiatives.

During this past Christmas season, we embarked on a heartwarming initiative to spread joy and love among the children we serve. The spirit of giving took center stage as we extended a special love gift to over 26 children with disabilities and their families in our community.

These packages were not just presents: they symbolized our commitment to ensuring that every child feels valued, cherished, remembered, and included in the festivities.

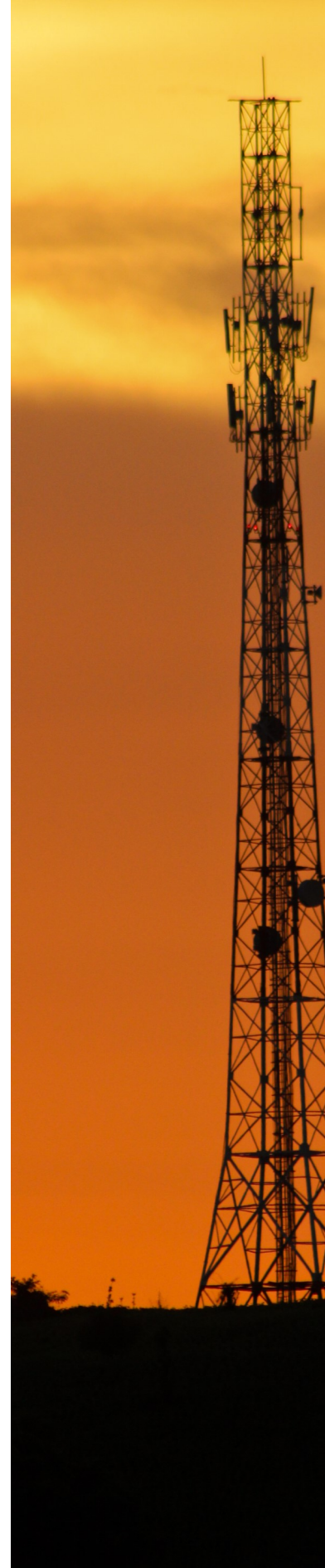
THE SHADE COMMUNITY CENTER

Our new community center, located in Muguluka, Sembabule district, is a 2.5 acre piece of land we envision will become a dynamic space open to all to cultivate a sense of unity. It will be a multi-faceted hub to welcome children, youth, women, and the entire community to engage in a variety of activities from skill-building and educational programs to dedicated play areas promoting physical wellbeing. The center is designed to cater to the diverse needs of our community members. The center will also serve as a safe space for teenage girls and mothers and as a hub for social connections, encouragement, collaboration, and a shared sense of purpose.



GOALS FOR 2024

- ⇒ We are dedicated to being the **LIGHT OF THE WORLD** as we minister to vulnerable children, women, and youth, transforming communities with the love of Christ. Through empowering initiatives and practical guidance, we strive to illuminate lives and catalyze lasting positive change, radiating hope and transformation.
- ⇒ **MENSTRUAL HYGIENE** for teenage and adolescent girls workshops tailored for teenage girls to break taboos and promoting positive attitudes towards this natural aspect of growing.
- ⇒ **SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** for 15 vulnerable children to attend and attain a valuable, necessary, and wholesome education.
- ⇒ Collaborate and facilitate **READING AND BOOK CLUBS** in schools as we provide educational support and empowerment for young minds as they pursue a brighter future through academics.
- ⇒ We are committed to **EMPOWERING SINGLE AND VULNERABLE MOTHERS** through skills training, and community development.
- ⇒ Advocacy for **CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES** wherein we strive to build an inclusive community where every child is seen, heard, and valued and caregivers are encouraged to care for and advocate for their child's specific needs and abilities.
- ⇒ We are dedicated to empowering youth by providing meaningful education and encouragement to live **PURPOSEFUL LIVES**. Through various initiatives, we aim to inspire, teach, and support the younger generation in discovering their unique paths. Together, we desire to nurture a community where every youth can thrive and contribute to a purposeful future.
- ⇒ Pray with us for **GOD'S GUIDANCE AND WISDOM** to lead us in 2024 as we engage in these activities and initiatives.

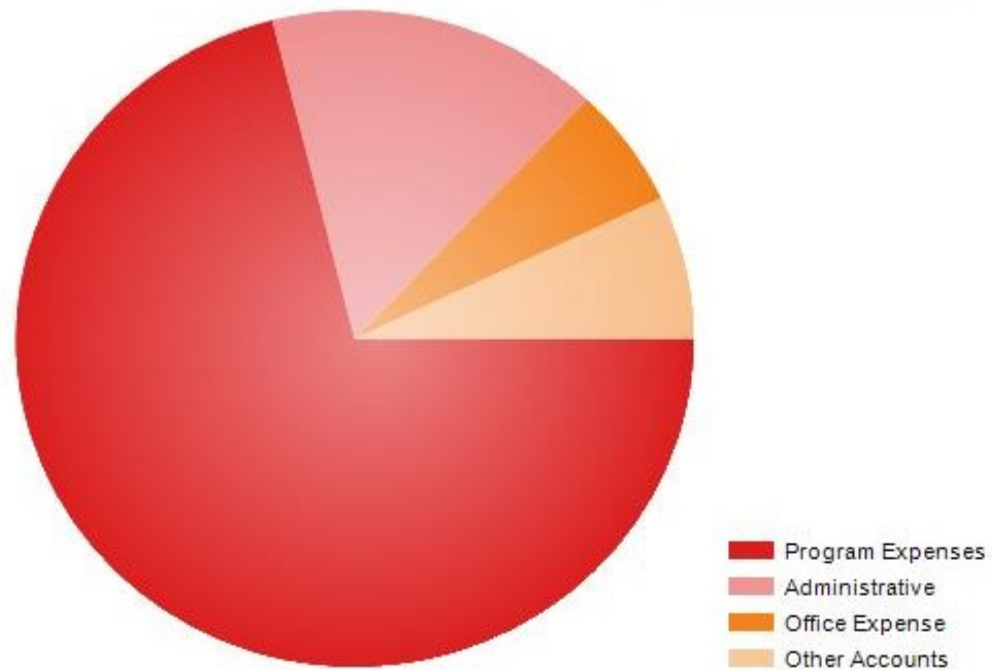


YOUR FINANCIAL GIVING 2023

Gifts and Donations Income

Community Outreach & Empowerment	733
Education Program	5,277.80
General Ministry Fund	18,513.70
Katongole Fund	13,839.80
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Total Gifts and Donations Income	38,364.30

FUNDS DISTRIBUTION



	Expense
Administrative	4,829.14
Equipment Rental	171.40
Medical Aid	37.40
Miscellaneous Expense	263.7
Office Expense	1,806.80
Program Expenses	21,570.30
Repairs and Maintenance	42.9
Travel and Meetings	738.90
Vehicle Expense	882
Total Expense	30,342.54

OUR DEDICATED TEAM



BETTY NABULIME
Community Director



REVERAND FRED MUSAAZI
Advisor



NICOLE & ACRAM KATONGOLE
Founders & Directors



JOHN KATONO
Youth Volunteer



MARTIN KAMYA
Children Volunteer

AFRICA SHADES OF LIGHT

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WEBALE NYO

THANY YOU SO MUCH

MUKAMA AKUWE OMUKISA

MAY GOD BLESS YOU