



New Year – New Beginnings

We are excited for what the journey through 2020 will be, as we consolidate our growth, roll out new ideas and engage in empowering the vulnerable children by giving them an education, life skills and love. Many children in the developing world are not in school because of poverty, civil wars, the HIV/AIDS scourge, and similar challenges. These are bright hardworking girls and boys, set to succeed if they are given a chance to get an education. Equipped with an education they have potential to transform not only their communities but the entire world around them.

Rosette Kirangi

Where Did We Start?

Our friend and inspiration, Ken Goyer, went to Uganda as the guest of the Rotary Club of Jinja in November 2004 to demonstrate his newly invented Rocket Stove. The Rotarian who set it all up was Rotarian Rosette Kirangi. Rosette had lots of conversations with Ken, of course. She told him that she had volunteered at an orphanage in South Africa and that is what she really wanted to do with her life, run a home for children in need.

Ken said, in Ken's usual fashion: "Well, do it!" For Ken, there was nothing impossible. So Rosette rounded up some homeless children and started her orphanage. Ken found two families in Oregon to support her and she was in business. These were the first seven in 2007.



All done, right? End of story? No! Look at this picture below from 2009. Now there were 17!

Rosette's big heart couldn't turn down a child in

need, especially the girl-child. And every year when I went to visit, there would be a few more... and a few more. When she was caring for 29 children in her small three-bedroom house, I had to tell her "No more!" The house was full and we'd reached the limit of our budget. So that's where we've stayed for the last several years. We've had nine fledglings so far and replaced them with young children.



As for Ken, it was his visit to northern Uganda that caused him to see the great need in the IDP camps and start Aid Africa that for several years supported Rosette's Kids, as we called them then. In 2013, the board of directors decided that orphans didn't fit under Aid Africa's mission and vision statement and separated the orphanage. That's when Rosette formed the Community Based Organization, Pearls

of Africa Children's Home. We formed the Pearls of Africa Children's Fund here in the U.S. in 2015 to formalize the organization for fundraising and it became a registered non-profit.

I am so personally pleased to visit these kids every year like I have for the last twelve years. It's one of my favorite things to do –to see them grow and mature! I've seen those first kids grow, mature and set out on their own life's path, well equipped for what they'll meet because of Rosette's love and care.

Peter Keller

2011



2014



2018



What's Next? Some Small Steps

Rosette and the children moved into their new home we bought for them in July, 2018. We've provided new beds, a lot of new kitchen equipment as well as a dining room table and chairs and living room furniture. But there's a few more things we'd like.

There are some things we need to complete and upgrade and a couple of things that would be nice to have:

- Convert the garage into a bedroom. Remove the garage door and put in a wall with window.
- Complete the compound fence to keep intruders out.
- Buy a refrigerator to keep leftovers safe. Also to allow buying in bulk to save money.
- Repair the kitchen door. Having to slam the door has broken a couple of windows.
- Paint the interior. It needs some brightening up – just a necessary part of our general upkeep.
- Build a cooking hut to keep smoke from entering the house. It coats the walls and no one likes a smoky home!
- Buy efficient cooking stoves. They'd save fuel and keep the air cleaner and healthier.
- Build a baking oven. It will provide bread for the children and a source of income.
- Buy a laptop computer and printer. It's time to enter the digital age and it will make communication so much easier.

A Bigger Step

There's a vacant lot right next door and the owner wants to sell it. It's completely fenced in and vacant. We could create a terrific garden to grow food for the kids and sell the excess in the community. And it will be a great learning opportunity for the children to learn about where food comes from. They're city kids!

The cost of the land is about \$10,000. We'd need some improvements like sheds, tools and seed. This project is in the category of "Future Dream." But we need you all to share our dream so that it may someday become real.



Some Closeups of Our Kids



John Kasadha



Joan Awino



Solom Waboya



Alitubera Jerioth



Esther Kisakye

All In the Family

We Have New Kids Who Have Joined Us

Meet Lydia Mukisa, John Kasadha and Raynond Mwesigwa.



Lydia Mukisa is laid back, non-judgmental and easy going. She is very brilliant too, and always tops in her class.



John Kasadha is generous, kind and likes to help with the household chores.



Raymond Mwesigwa is bubbly, enthusiastic, energetic, adventurous and kooky.

Watch These Newsletters for Updates on these three children, fortunate to have found Rosette and the Pearls of Africa Children's Home.

Rosette Says:

What drives me is my passion to shepherd vulnerable children and keep them safe. This cause is so close to my heart. I love watching the uniqueness of each of them plus the resolve they have inside them to get an education and to better their lives. I especially love their beaming, smiling faces when they graduate. That's what has inspired me to keep doing what I do diligently.

You're giving and support has helped to save the less fortunate children from suffering child labor, trafficking to the Middle East and failure to tap into and realize their potential. We know that when these children are given a chance to learn, they will seize the opportunity and realize their potential. That is why we are working to equip the with an education every single day.

PLEASE CONSIDER a Gift to Pearls of Africa Children's Fund.

- You can set up Pearls of Africa as a payee on your bank's bill paying system. Don't overlook the chance to make it a recurring monthly payment! \$125 per month will support a child's needs.
- You can donate either regularly or one time online at: PearlsChildrensFund.org/donate.
- Send a check to: Pearls of Africa, 3916 Pennsylvania Avenue, La Crescenta, CA 91214. We'd love to hear from you! Email: info@PearlsChildrensFund.org or you can call us at 818-389-6778.