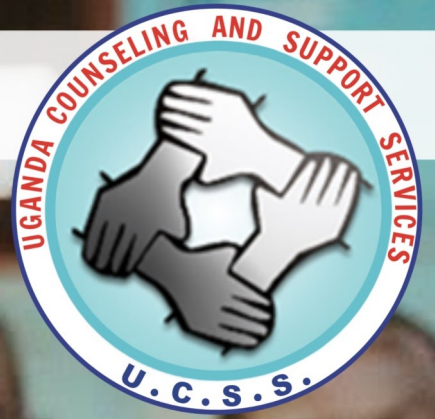


2020 Spring Report



BRINGING
HOPE
TO UGANDA

MEDICAL CARE || EVANGELISM || EDUCATION || CLEAN WATER || ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Ronald grew up in the village of Wakitaka, and every day they experienced a lot of suffering: people had no medication; there was not enough to eat, and everyone walked on bare feet. As he talked to his mom about the situation she said, "Son, what you are seeing here is not suffering. Wait until you see where I grew up."

As a teenager he went for a burial in Bulike and came face to face with true suffering. The people of Bulike had nothing. They did not have fresh water to drink. They did not have medication to treat their diseases. They did not have an opportunity to send their children to school, and they did not have anything to do economically. When they wanted water to drink, they walked miles to fetch dirty water from a pond shared with the animals. If their child was sick, they could not get medication to treat their child, even when a treatment would cost less than ten dollars. Most impactful of all is they had no exposure to the love of God.

This experience would never leave his heart, and he carried it with him everywhere he went. In 2011, Dr. Ronald finished studies in America and founded a nonprofit called Uganda Counseling and Support Services whose mission is to improve lives and spread God's love to people in remote communities by meeting spiritual, emotional, and basic physical needs.

Through the efforts of UCSS, people are being introduced to the love of Christ. We are seeing people light up with smiles and become involved in their communities. People have gone from not having anything to do and living lives of despair, to living a life of hope where they can take care of themselves.

Our goal is to continue to improve the quality of life one community at a time by providing education for the children, clean water for the community, teaching people to produce crops, and giving them opportunities to become self-supported, all the while evangelizing and make disciples and true leaders that will continue to spread the love of God in the communities.



UCSS: Changing Lives. Changing Eternities.



UCSS By the Numbers

NINE

Number of years UCSS has been working in Uganda



2035

Patients seen at medical facilities over the last six months

53

Economic Development Groups with a total of



1335

Members

580

Students enrolled in Primary & Secondary School



Thirteen Churches



150

Community Volunteers



600

Seventy-Nine

People received mental health counseling services



People accepted Christ as their Savior in the last 6 months.

60

Clean Water Wells Serving

100,000

People Each Year



Bulike Community Primary School

Since 2011, this school is impacting communities by providing students opportunities to receive an education, develop positive personal habits, and learn about the love of God. We have seen literacy rates increase for both the students and their parents, and it is evident that God is changing lives through this school.

Achievements

In the past six months, teachers and staff attended team retreats and were encouraged by new ideas and teaching techniques, and gained leadership training from visiting mission teams.

There are a total of 726 students; however, schools have closed due to COVID-19 mandated restrictions at the time of this printing.

We recruited four more staff making a total number of 19 for teaching and non-teaching staff.

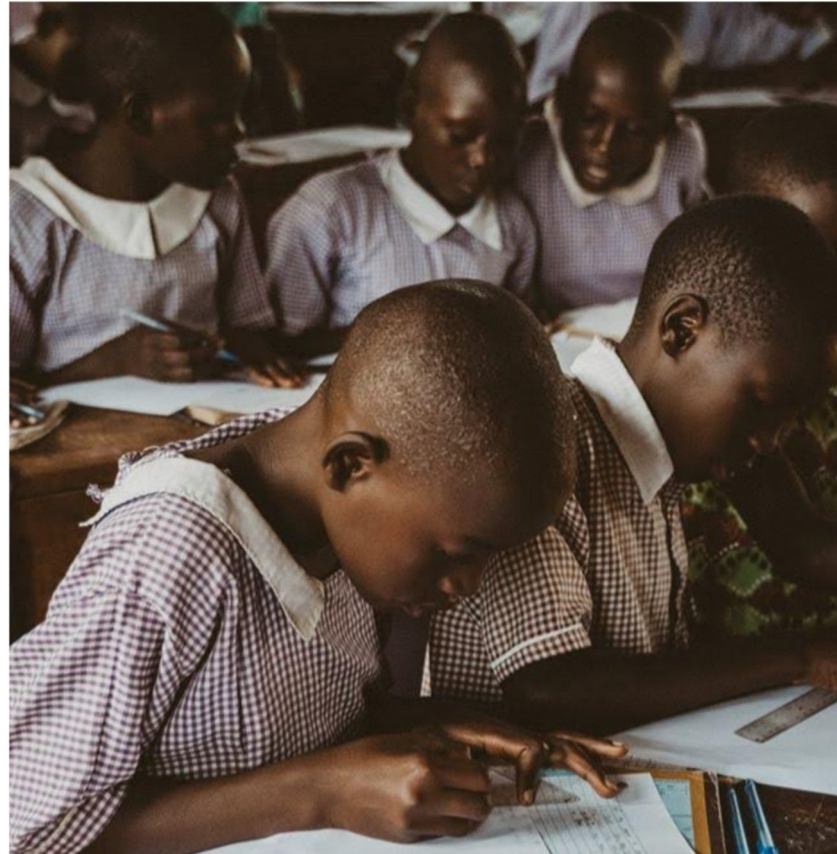
Parents have been receptive to new PTA meetings and policies which are helping to increase attendance and decrease tardiness.

We are rearing 42 goats which helps students learn about agriculture and helps offset fees.

Teachers' and students' health and well-being are being improved by providing them regular meals and medical care.

Students in their final year of primary school have been able to take their national standardized exams.

Counseling and spiritual guidance has helped improve student morale and enhanced literacy, learning, and growth.



Future Plans

We plan to bring more consistency to scheduling school programs such as debate, chapel, counseling, staff meetings, and monthly lesson planning.

We plan to construct new dorms, teachers' quarters, and a latrine pit as soon as possible to help with sanitation and safety. This also helps the teachers and students who travel great distances.

Students and teachers need new uniforms and school supplies.

We plan to have the school officially registered with the Uganda Ministry of Education so that there are less disturbances during the national exams.



Liberty Community High School

Liberty Community High School is making a large impact on the community in Buluya and the surrounding areas. Academics continue to improve as the school continues to sow Christian values in this generation of young learners.

Achievements

This school year, 45 new students were admitted and completed orientation. There are currently 124 students enrolled with an average attendance at 79%; however, schools have closed as of March 2020 in response to the national COVID-19 pandemic prevention measures.

We have 20 Staff members for teaching and administration.

Construction of the girls' dormitory block is in progress and nearly complete.

Professional workshops, meetings, and training sessions were organized for staff to empower the educators with new techniques for effective teaching and learning.

Students' discipline and behavior has improved through the application of counseling and spiritual empowerment.

Students received medical care from the Nana Health Center in Buluya.

Future Plans

Hire additional teaching staff and purchase needed materials to help complete the curriculum and boost extra curricular activities for students.

Complete ongoing construction projects such as the new girls' dormitory..

Construct a library, an additional science laboratory, boys' dorm, staff quarters, and an auditorium/hall to be able to administer national standardized exams for seniors.

Improve the school's income generating projects for sustainability (commercial banana production, piggery, and goat projects).

Need for a vocational oriented training with vocational skills such as carpentry, tailoring, construction, welding, masonry, among others.

Increase school enrollment and educate parents on the value of school attendance, healthy habits, and school work.

Licensing and registration of the school with the Uganda Ministry of Education.



Mental Health Facilitation and Counseling

Counseling has been taking place at the Nana Health Center and is available to all age groups throughout the community. We are able to counsel people on grief, health issues, spiritual growth, economic development, education guidance, and psychosocial support.

Mental Health Facilitation (MHF): this is designed and implemented by the trained para mental health facilitators who provide first aid mental health guidance to community individuals within their immediate communities. This service is implemented in all UCSS programs such as agriculture, economic tempering groups, evangelism, schools, and Nana Health Center.

Psychoeducation for the community: this is designed to facilitate students and their parents to gain insights into their own situations and form solutions and/or health coping mechanisms. We continue to allocate all the required resources and efforts to ensure that mental health is destigmatized and prioritized to facilitate the community's quality of life.

Achievements

Hosting counseling sessions: individual and group sessions.

Offered counseling services at the Nana Health Center, the secondary school, primary school, churches, at homes, and throughout three communities including Nawaikoke, Buyende, and Buluya.

Trained a total of 200 individuals in MHF. The trained MHFs are volunteers who proactively identify individuals who may be most at risk of mental distress or illness and provide the needed first aid mental health.

Created a safe and comfortable space/platform, especially for girls to express their challenges and needs through homogeneous support groups which we are calling "girl talk sessions".

Pastors in the Evangelism Department have also been trained as Mental Health Facilitators to promote mental wellness within the church. This is done through the church counseling sessions as well as home visits.

Maternal counseling and parenting sessions are offered to mothers to enhance parenting skills, finances, family planning, HIV/AIDS, health and nutrition.

Individual counseling sessions are also conducted at the facility as well as HIV/AIDS counseling both pre and post-test.

400 pupils of Bulike Community Primary School attended psychoeducation sessions which focused on mental wellness and empowering them with coping strategies.

120 students of Liberty Community High School received psychoeducation on educational guidance and other relevant topics that promote mental health.

Future Plans

Train new teams of MHFs to support communities over the post-COVID 19 anxiety and related challenges.

Continue offering more services for people in the community and increase availability through phone service and on-site (at home) sessions.

Add seating so that more clients can receive services comfortably.



Medical Care

In the last six months, there have been 2,035 patients cared for at both Nana Health Center and the Nana Dispensary in Buluya. Additional services such as testing and training have been added to increase the overall health of the community.

Achievements

1612 patients were seen at the Nana Health Center and an additional 432 patients in Buluya.

1152 clients received laboratory testing to test for Malaria, H-Pylori, Typhoid, HIV, etc. at the Nana Health Center, and an additional 74 were tested at the Nana Dispensary in Buluya.

105 received needed Vitamin A supplements and deworming medication.

115 patients received Hep. B drugs during community visits.

84 mothers received antenatal care including supplements (16 were given mosquito nets).

137 patients received family planning/contraception remedies.

Health care advocates have visited 332 homes to help educate the community on hygiene, sanitation, and proper nutrition to fend off disease.

New inpatient ward was introduced and served 16 patients.

Community Health Outreaches continue to expand into the neighboring communities, helping improve the health of more people.

Additional beds were purchased for the Nana Health Center which includes three hospital beds, one examination table, and a labor & delivery bed.



Future Plans

Repair and replace broken windows and purchase additional equipment, including upgrading the power system.

Complete the maternity ward and add housing for the medical staff who have to travel great distances.

Introduce more medical services at Nana Health Center such as labor & delivery, dental services, eye clinic radiography (scans and x-rays), and more.

Recruit more medical staff including doctors, dentists, and midwives.

Fix broken windows and glass from storms and construct more buildings to expand the clinic in Bulike.



Economic Development

The economic development department has continued to grow and expand and currently has 53 groups totaling 1335 members. These groups have various focuses including agriculture and farming, business associations, and tailoring. They are helping communities become self-sufficient and productive.

Achievements

Economic groups are present in the community districts of Luuka, Buyende, and Kaliro.

Of the 1335 active members in groups, each district has various groups that include beekeeping, business associations, trade groups, tailoring groups, farming groups, goat keeping, cattle, poultry, pig rearing, crop growing, and crafting.

Tailoring and craft groups have been able to continue making items such as necklaces and bags that they can sell.

Two new diesel motor engines for maize and rice mills for farming were received and will be installed after COVID19 restrictions are relaxed.

Students are being integrated into the program so that they have options for hands-on trades/skills after completing school.

Received six laptops from our friends at Christ Church Sugar Land, Texas. These are providing economic leaders with opportunities for research and improvement in data collection/storage.



Shop UCSS

Shop today and get a little piece of Uganda.

When you purchase unique items from our online shop, you are helping these artisans become self-sufficient. Each item is hand crafted and made by people in our economic groups with skills they have learned through UCSS training.

www.ugandacss.org/shop



Future Plans

We plan to open a marketplace to sell the produce and products created by the groups.

Organize business plans and goals to help the groups stay on track and evaluate progress.

The tailoring group would benefit from some updates to their building.

There is a need to acquire economic group equipment, reliable transportation, and furniture.

Clean Water

Access to clean water saves lives and offers people opportunities to produce an income. Water allows for general health of the community, as well as farming and agricultural development including livestock and trades such as brick making. To date, we have drilled 60 working water wells and prepared 13 new sites for new wells. We are seeing waterborne illnesses decrease significantly in communities with adequate access to clean water.

Achievements

Hydrosurveyed 13 sites and purchased all the required materials (pipes and pumps) in preparation for water well drilling.

In partnership with the ministry of water, we have identified and selected a team that will be trained as drillers. Training will be done post-COVID-19 crisis.

We hosted several visitors at various wells to introduce them to our methods including a journalist, a team from Israel, and a water engineer.

We are continuing to see a significant reduction in water-related illnesses.



Future Plans

We plan to drill 25 more wells this year to meet the needs of communities that desperately need them.

Acquire a truck to solve transportation issues of the drilling rig, drilling equipment, and staff.

Set up a fund to purchase replacement parts for the drilling rig and purchase a DSLR camera to aid in our communication and reporting efforts.

”33% of Children in Uganda do not have access to safe water.”

UNICEF UGANDA



Evangelism and Discipleship

The evangelism and discipleship team is bringing hope to the communities through Bible studies, church services, children and youth ministry, women's ministry, prayer services, planting churches, and hosting a variety of meetings throughout the week. Over 12,600 people have given their lives to Christ and are being disciplined. There are 13 churches throughout several communities. Two of these are permanent and nearly completed church structures.

Achievements

In the last six months, 600 people have given their lives to Christ, and 50 people were baptized. Praise God!

Churches have seen an increase in regular attendance with an average of 72 people per church and approximately 42 individuals doing door-to-door evangelism every week.

Children's ministry is being conducted with an average of 46 children actively participating.

Bible studies are regularly being conducted.

Youth ministry is equipping youth and training up young, God-fearing leaders in the community.

Women's ministry has been participating in church activities, special women's intercession, and marriage and leadership events regularly.

We have been involved with a new church plant in Nakalongo.

Hosted three mission teams from the states.

Hosted one sporting event with 400 people in attendance.

Conducted monthly seminars on topics such as leadership training, marriage, and all pastors' fellowships.

We hosted 30 days of prayer and fasting in February in conjunction with the stateside team.

The leaders were involved in schools through chapel, counseling, intercession, Bible studies, and leadership training.

There are two permanent church buildings and 13 total churches using borrowed land or temporary structures.

Future Plans

We plan to continue training leaders and encouraging them in their giftings.

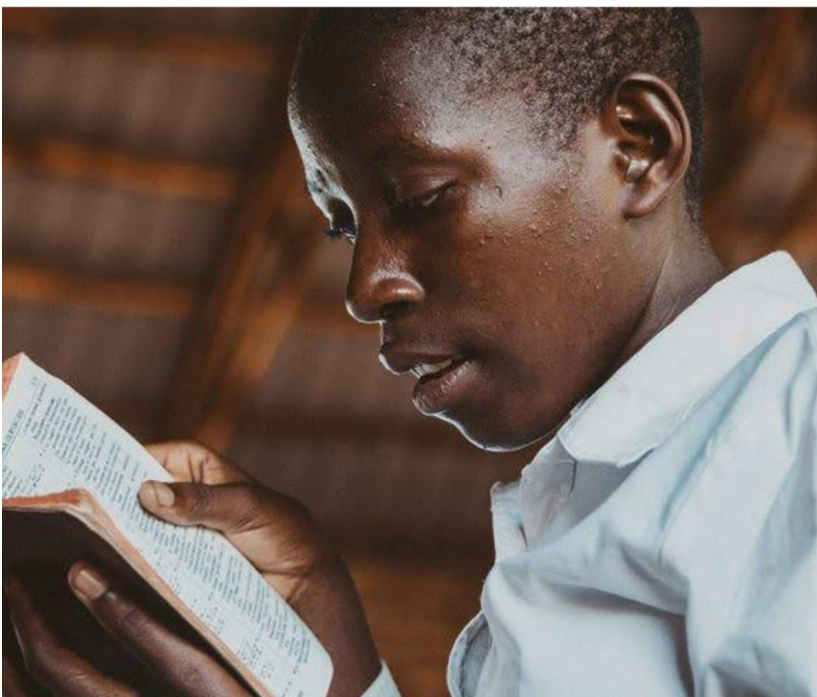
Help congregations to purchase a generator, acquire land, and build permanent building structures to replace temporary ones.

Distribute more Bibles to the community.

Continue conducting crusades/revivals.

There are plans to construct a Sunday school structure for each church and continue to equip Sunday school teachers.

We plan to purchase Bibles and seats for the churches as well as find transportation for evangelists.



Agriculture

This year the UCSS farmers conducted several meetings in different locations. These meetings helped achieve the following objectives: to improve the farm food production, promote farmers' cooperative spirit, identify partners to work with, improve the tree coverage on our farms, maintain the farms, and work with the community. As a way of improving the living standard of the farming members and generating income for the community, we continued to plant bananas and plantains which are sources of food that helps to generate income. Additionally, we managed to have a project in agriculture which united us with an organization called Syngenta. This organization helps to train farmers and the community at large on how to grow vegetables rather than using the rest of the available land growing sugar cane. In this, the pastors under agriculture planted tomatoes and cabbages.

Achievements

Planted 300 more banana and plantain plants than last year.

We have eight cows and 42 goats.

The community workers planted trees on different farms to prevent soil erosion and boost soil fertility.

Digging has been done on Deborah Farm and John Farm in Mbulamuti and Adam Farm in Buluya.

The United Nations Development Programme recognized our reforestation models in fighting deforestation and soil erosion.

Future Plans

We plan to open a market as a place to sell the crops and produce grown by the groups.

Convert maize and rice mills to be powered by electricity for more efficiency.

Establish a preservation and processing facility to package and add shelf life to farm produce.

Buy more land for food production and animal rearing to generate income for the community and support the ministry activities.

Improve the breed of animals on the farm.

Introduce and improve veterinary services in the community and the region at large.

Purchase additional machinery including more tractors and cars so that the groups have ways to get between the farms for better collaboration.



You Can Make an Impact



We are excited and challenged by all that is still to be done in these communities. We have the vision and the plans to get results and impact more lives, but we need your help to make it happen. We ask that you prayerfully consider becoming a monthly supporter or choosing a specific project to support in 2020.

To keep transforming the youth of Uganda, we are still believing for 220 new sponsors in 2020. You can help make this happen by becoming a sponsor for \$25 per month; please consider joining our student sponsor team. This monthly donation provides a holistic education for a child that includes clean water, meals during school, quality teaching, health wellness visits, and counseling.

If you have any leads on available grants or speaking opportunities that would be a good match for UCSS to pursue please email ucss@ugandacss.org.

Your generosity is felt and appreciated by everyone in these communities and we are so grateful.

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