

Mission Partner of the Month – October 2022



SIITA Nest Mother's Love Home

SIITA Nest Mother's Love Home is a community based organisation in Uganda caring for orphaned and vulnerable children. It manages a school boarding home for 40 children who attend the SIITA Nest Nursery and Primary school in Bugembe, near Jinja. It also provides support to many other children in the community, both in Bugembe and in the Sironko District in East Uganda.

Background

St Michael's Church has had a link with SIITA Nest and its founder, Alice Kisolo, since 2000. Through both the Mission Action Group and individual donations, St Michael's has been involved in the development of the Home and has supported up to 25 children each year (school fees, uniforms, study materials, food and medicines). These have included primary and secondary children and a few tertiary and professional students. We have also provided help towards the running costs of the Home in Bugembe.



Alice Kisolo



A new nursery and primary school building was constructed and opened in October 2018, with 11 classrooms. This was the culmination of a long held vision to provide education for the children in the SIITA Nest Home (thus saving school fees) and also for children from the local community.



St Michael's has also been supporting the development of the SIITA Heart of the Community Centre in the Sironko District in East Uganda. This is a multi-purpose community and resource centre to promote education and skills development for disadvantaged young people and vulnerable mothers.

Update

A severe food crisis across Africa is unfolding. There is already widespread food insecurity and famine in Somalia, Ethiopia and Kenya. Hospitals are over-run with severely malnourished young children (and their mothers). Where schools are still open, some children take their infant siblings with them to share the lunch provided by the school, which for many is their main meal of the day. Schools increasingly cannot afford the food because of extraordinary price increases. Even in Uganda many schools are struggling to stay open because of increasing costs and parents not having the money to pay the fees.

Against this background, here are some extracts from recent newsletters from Alice:

“Thank you so much for being part of the supportive team towards SIITA Nest. Thank you for helping the children and youth here in Uganda. We thank you for your prayers, messages and support.

Everything is very high in price but our income does not increase - it is a challenge. But I thank God for the provisions He has given us to see our children do not starve, because many people in the country are starving and children are malnourished and in a critical condition. In Karamoja (north east Uganda) people are dying of hunger.

The maize flour which we used to buy at 1500 Uganda shillings is now 3800. A kilo of rice was 2000 but now it's 4000. A bar of washing soap which was 3500 is now 8000.

We have had several cases of infections relating to flu, coughing, typhoid and common cold among the children. Our medical bills have been very high in the past two months.”



Lunchtime at SIITA Nest Nursery and Primary School

St Michael's has been able to send additional funds this year which Alice and her team have used to buy maize grain in bulk. This has been used both in the Home and in the school, and also for providing food parcels for families in need. They are incredibly grateful for the support from St Michael's.

Prayer points

1. That SIITA Nest can continue to obtain the necessary supplies for the Home and the school and keep the school operating.
2. For God's protection and the good health of the SIITA Nest team and the children at this time.
3. For new regular donors and support, particularly for food, utility bills, education and welfare costs, and for the completion and development of the SIITA Heart of the Community project.

Mission Action Group Link: *Alan Crofts*