

# esuubi (hope)

## Abba Father's House

Charity Registration No. 1209857

# Mid Year Newsletter 2025



### Editorial

We're thrilled to share our latest newsletter with you, coming to you from Uganda, where the children and staff extend a warm hello.

We're deeply thankful for your ongoing support, which comes in many forms - financial, practical, and spiritual. Our home is thriving, and we're grateful for a peaceful period, thanks to God's blessings. Recently, we've welcomed two new additions to our family, and you can read about their progress under the Children's Updates. Our business operations are running smoothly, despite some adjustments to navigate the challenges we face, particularly with finances.

We're thankful for your lives and for God's mercy, which has been evident in Juliet's journey, both in traveling to and from Uganda, despite long hours due to flight changes. Regular visits allow us to monitor the home's progress, maintain high standards, and ensure the staff and children receive the supervision they need, especially during times of extended absence.

## **Current Climate in Uganda**

The country is beautiful as always, with lots of greenery around. People are friendly and humble despite the changing season. It's election time, and politicians are busy doing their thing and tension is mounting in the country as African elections tend to be a bit risky, therefore we are praying for a free and fair election.

## **Home Affairs**

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the purchase of a new desktop, which arrived safely and is now up and running. The home manager was delighted to receive a replacement for the old, slow computer that had reached the end of its life.

The biogas extractor is functioning well, producing sufficient gas for household use and reducing mosquito numbers by utilizing cow dung for fertilizer and manure. We're also generating a small income from selling the manure, which exceeds our needs. The biogas has helped minimize expenses on firewood, charcoal, and medical bills. We're grateful for your support in making this possible.

The girls had solar panels installed on their house, reducing electricity costs and providing a reliable light source for children to study without interruptions. This has also reduced the cost of installing security cameras. We're now raising funds to install solar panels on the boys' house and would appreciate your assistance. Having solar panels not only saves on electricity costs but also allows children to study without interruptions caused by power outages due to rationing in Uganda.

## **Update from Juliet's Trip**

I visited Uganda on May 8th and arrived on the 9th. I'm deeply thankful to God for His guidance and protection during my journey, and I appreciate everyone who prayed for a successful trip. I was relieved to find the home in good order, with everyone, including the children and staff, safe and well. This time I was based in Jinja for a short period. Since the children were on break I had the chance to interact with the staff, children, and the local committee.



Juliet at Abba Father's House

### Staff Training

As in most organisations, staff development is a must. I held individual meetings with staff and children to determine the training needs, so I could provide refresher training to long-serving staff and introduce new staff to their responsibilities. The new computer system really helped with the training, and I'm optimistic that it will lead to improved service.



Some of our lovely staff

## **Admin, Home Checks and Maintenance**

At present, we have five staff members who can deliver services, and with the training provided, they should all be well-versed in home operations. My on-site presence also facilitated the training process, making it more effective than remote training.

## **Monitoring of Children's Progress**

Our primary focus is the well-being of the children in our care, and we also provide support to widows. I recently had the chance to interact with the children during their first term break and was pleased to see that they are being well taken care of, thanks to our staff and the local committee team. The majority of the children were at home for three weeks, allowing me to have one-on-one time with them. To help them catch up on their studies, home schooling continued at home after the long December break.

Our staff visit the children's schools and meet with their teachers to offer support. While on the ground, we received a request to take in 6-year-old Justine, whose father had passed away from AIDS and whose mother had been brutally murdered just a month before she came into our care.

We extended placement offers to Justine and Tricia, who were also had no parents, and this also allowed me to supervise staff on the placement process. Initially, Justine was visibly distraught and apprehensive, but with reassurance, she's adapting to her new surroundings. I departed, leaving both girls comfortably settled and accustomed to their new environment.

In addition, I assisted with procuring essential items such as malaria testing kits, pain relievers, and malaria medication. I also provided the boys' house with new bedding, as well as clothing for children in need.

## **Meeting with the Local Committee**

I recently convened a meeting with the local committee team, which proved to be more productive than our previous two online meetings. We discussed several key topics, including the installation of security cameras, the escalating cost of living, and the importance of supporting children, particularly the older boys. To encourage them, it was suggested that we provide small monetary rewards to children who demonstrate hard work and a willingness to help, with the goal of motivating them to purchase essential items they need, as their peers at school often receive pocket money and feel left out as a result.

Additionally, the necessity of laptops for secondary school research was brought up. We have one laptop at home, and with six children in secondary school, we're exploring ways to obtain more laptops so that each child can access a PC for their research tasks.

In addition to project work, it was proposed that the cow and pig projects be prioritized as our main projects, as they have the potential to generate income if properly managed.



The local committee members were assigned caseloads. Diana, the social worker, also attended the meeting, provided updates on the children, and committed to visiting more frequently to offer support.

## Celebration of Tabitha's Education Success

2024 UCE NLSC  
U2962/014-KISAKYE  
TABITHA  
ENG - A  
CRE - B  
HIS - A  
GEO - C  
MAT - B  
PHY - B  
CHE - B  
BIO - C  
CST - B  
  
PROJECT WORK : A  
RESULT : 1

### Tabitha's Results

To mark Tabitha's outstanding achievement in the 'O' Level (GCSE) exams, I hosted a party, where she felt cherished and was thankful for the new mobile phone she received. The celebration also served as a motivation for the other children to excel, so they too could be honoured. Currently, Tabitha is in her first year of 'A' Levels and aspires to become a doctor. I informed her about the financial implications of pursuing a medical degree, which would require covering five years of university fees, but she remains optimistic that God will provide for her education.



Tabitha receiving her gift

### **Trip Achievement - Installation of Security Cameras**

As I was finishing up my school shopping, I ran into the security camera installer and with Pastor Nixon's assistance, we negotiated a payment plan that worked for us. Now we can keep an eye on the house. The only issue is the monthly internet fee, but we're optimistic that we'll find a more affordable option in the future.



View from one of the cameras

### **Trip Achievement - Connections**

Because of the time constraint, I didn't get to visit many locations, so I primarily stayed in Jinja city. I was able to connect with another local church that regularly visits the home to provide support to both the children and staff, as well as the local community leaders.

### **Our Needs - Regular Support**

Raising a child can be a life-changing and rewarding experience, but it also comes with its own set of difficulties. As the primary caregivers to our young and vulnerable dependents, we face the daunting task of providing for their needs despite financial constraints. The escalating cost of living makes it a constant struggle to allocate our resources effectively, with the current monthly cost of caring for a child averaging at £85.



That's a lot of uniforms!

This year, we have six children in secondary school and eighteen in primary, plus one in nursery. The cost of education and requirements surge as soon as they enter secondary school. Schools frequently request additional funding for expenses like field trips and after-school activities, which are often not accounted for in the school's budget breakdown. We also face unexpected expenses such as medical bills, dental care, and other emergency costs. Additionally, we need to replace clothing regularly, shoes, bedding, and other household essentials like food, toiletries, and utilities.

Please get in touch if you are able to help with these needs or are led to donate regularly to Abba Father's House.

### **Needs - Solar Panels**

According to Juliet's report, solar panels have been installed at the girls' residence. We are currently arranging for panels to be installed at the boys' house in order to support their studies.

Can you help with this by donating to the Solar Panel Project?

<https://www.abbafathershouse.org/help/emergencies/solar-panels>

## How Can I Support Abba Father's House?

It's a question often asked, and there's several ways, some better than others!

By far the best way is by regular giving via direct debit or standing order through the BACS system. This is the best because it allows us to better budget and plan, and also because there are no processing fees. Please get in touch with us, and we can advise the process.

Regular giving using a third party processor like JustGiving or PayPal is good but as mentioned above, there are processing fees to be paid somewhere along the chain.

One-off gifts are also good and warmly received. Maybe you've come into an inheritance or God is leading you to support AFH this way then please do get in touch and we can advise the best way to do this.

You'll also see specific projects highlighted in this newsletter or on the website. These are raised when they are needed so make sure that you don't miss the opportunity to help in this way.

See our latest Projects here:

[https://www.abbafathershouse.org/help/projects?category\\_id=1](https://www.abbafathershouse.org/help/projects?category_id=1)

You can also act as an ambassador for Abba Father's House at any event where a stall can be set up. Maybe at work, or a local community event. Please get in touch and we will provide all the help you need.



Juliet fundraising!

## Prayers

Please pray for an increase in our funding to ensure we can continue to deliver high-quality care to our children and widows. We also hope our staff will find joy and fulfillment in their work, which will give our children a sense of stability and security.

Please pray for children to acquire wisdom, knowledge, and discernment, allowing them to seize the divine opportunity for a brighter future. The devil often assaults by deceiving, particularly young children, to divert their attention; thus, we should pray for their safeguarding against deceit and its potential to thwart their success.

Please pray for people to get interested in visiting the home as that increases the excitement of staff and children in receiving visitors from UK and from other parts of the world, and they also benefit from the skills that visitors may have to offer.



Tukutuku - say it like it sounds

Please pray urgently and fervently for financial support and innovative fundraising strategies, as our current partner base is not as extensive as we hope, while the demand for assistance continues to grow. We have several pressing needs that remain unfulfilled, including the plastering of the girls' home, acquiring a tukutuku transport to supply feed for our livestock, installing a water harvesting system to reduce our water expenses, and equipping the boys' house with solar panels.



Thank you so much for your continued support to the ministry of AFH, may God richly bless you all.

Juliet and the team at AFH

## Abba Father's House



committed to making a real difference

[www.abbafathershouse.org](http://www.abbafathershouse.org)