

The Umbrella of Hope Foundation

Project Report: People with Albinism Matter



the
Umbrella of Hope
F O U N D A T I O N

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Partners:



globalgiving



Project Background

In Uganda's rural communities such as Iganga district, people with Albinism face many challenges. In addition to the health considerations of their skin condition and unique condition, people with Albinism are also hunted and used for ritual sacrifice in Ugandan villages.

The lives of People with Albinism matter – the Umbrella of Hope Foundation believes in helping the most vulnerable have equal access to education and life's opportunities. People with Albinism need a place to learn skills that will help them to become more independent and reduce their reliance on their families and communities.

However, many children with Albinism miss out on school because of social misconceptions and taboos; they are considered as "curses" and "misfits" in the family, and their families end up not paying for their scholastic materials and fees. Children with albinism are discriminated against regularly and frequently miss school because of neglect, witch-hunting and poor vision. **Through fundraising we received donations of \$105 through GlobalGiving and from individual donors for these children to attend school at Barkley Girls School in the Iganga District.**

Reporting period: July 2016

Project Objectives

- 1 Enable children with Albinism in Iganga district to access education including reducing barriers to education (school fees, uniforms, books).
- 2 Economically empower people with Albinism to access training to assist in employment.
- 3 Provide welfare assistance in provision of school meals.

Activity 1

Title of Activity: **PROVISION OF SCHOLARSHIP FEES AND WELFARE TO CHILDREN WITH ALBINISM**

Date(s) conducted: July 2016

Location(s)/venue(s): Mulanga Village, Iganga District.

TUH staff involved in the activity:

S/N	NAME	DESIGNATION
1.	Namaganda Rachel	Programme Officer
2.	Susan Naisanga	Community Volunteer

The donations enabled 2 children with albinism to join school for a term

- School fees which all enabled them to attend lessons without any disturbance.
- Purchase of new school uniforms,
- New shoes, books, pens, pencils, a mathematical set
- Two children (Mary and Shunat) to get meals at school (breakfast and lunch)
- Mercy (aged 20) skills training and capital to start a business in tailoring

Challenges: There are more vulnerable children with albinism than project funds available can support.

Beneficiaries

Namugwana Shunat (aged 7)

Shunat was abandoned when she was 1 day old. Shunat was abandoned by her parents when she was 1 day old. She has grown into a lovely, kind and intelligent girl. Shunat wants to become a computer engineer.

In her own words Shunat says that *“I have no family to help me and I want to become good at computers. This support has given me hope that one day my dream will come true...Thank you to all those who donated to me”*.



Meet Kwagala Mary; A Girl with Albinism and Blind

Mary (aged 4) is a lovely and cheerful girl who was born with albinism. Mary is from a very poor single mother family. She is blind and her mother was sent away by her husband after giving birth to two children with albinism. We were able to support Mary with scholastic materials to enable her go to school for visually impaired children.



Meet Namugwere

A single and loving parent of two children with albinism, Namugwere has had a lot of difficulties raising and providing for these children. wants to start a business in order to take care of her two children.



Since they live in a community where people with albinism are discriminated against and hunted for ritual purposes, it's been difficult for Namugwere to work in the scorching sun on the farm to grow food for her children.

Through donations we were able to assist Namugwere with a skills training and capital to start a business in tailoring.

She says "My family can live again...I am so grateful to everyone who donated to us" She was indeed grateful.