



The Linda Foundation

A child has the right to be a child

Annual Report 2014

Introduction

The Linda Foundation (Light in dynamic Africa) is a Christian, not for profit organization with the vision to improve the living standards of the orphans and vulnerable children in Northern Uganda, Africa. Thousands of children have lost their parents there, due to war, HIV/AIDS and other circumstances.

The Linda Foundation works in Lira District.

The projects of 2014:

1. SOS Programme (Send an Orphan to School)
2. Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace
3. Linda Primary School
4. Other activities.

We try to help as many children as possible, by providing them with (emergency) shelter, care and education. Whenever possible we reunite the children with their relatives, but sometimes this option isn't there.

In Northern Uganda there is often a big gap between generations, mostly because the parents died and the children are raised by the grandparents or other older relatives. Due to the circumstances these people are often faced with looking after many orphans, while also having to look after their own family. Money is just not there to look after everybody.

This results in the orphan being neglected, having to work hard, no schooling, not enough food and no love to speak of.

1. SOS Programme (Send an Orphan to School)

This programme runs since 2002 and supports a large group of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, among which the disabled, with education, from Primary to Secondary School, Technical School and University. The programme doesn't just pay school fees, we monitor the children, guide and counsel them, pay them visits, give them the personal and scholastic requirements, spiritual and medical care. They live with poor relatives who do not have the means to look after them.

If they have nowhere to go, we will accept them in our children's home House of Grace.



Total number of children in S.O.S. programme	37
- of which in Primary School	11
- of which in Secondary or Technical School	25
- of which in University	1
- Living in House of Grace	27
- handicapped	3
- having an individual sponsor	25

The number of children in this programme have reduced, due to the fact that everything has become very expensive and the money to help more children is just not there.

This year 4 students sat for their O level exams, (a sort of middle school). After that they can go to A level, where they choose 4 subjects in a permitted combination. That takes 2 years. Then they can proceed to a university or institution of higher learning. After O level they can also join agricultural school, technical school, teacher's college, business school, etc. on a certificate level. This takes normally 1-2 years, after which they can join a diploma course. Everybody wants to go to A level, become a doctor or a lawyer, that brings money. But it is not a bright idea, because many of them simply do not have the qualifications. After 2 years they fail their A level and are back at square 1. In 2011 we have decided to stop supporting students after O level, exceptions notwithstanding. Of the 8 students that finished their O level in 2013, 2 are doing a certificate course, 4 went for skills training, and 2 went for A level. There was 1 student who sat for her Primary Leaving Examinations. 1 Student sat for A level in 2013, he then went on to medical college to study for clinical officer.

2. Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace

In our Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace children are accepted that have nowhere to go. They are either abandoned, orphaned, abused or alone through other causes. In 2014 27 children found a home there. Most of the children have suffered. Some lived in camps, or on the street. Some have seen their parents killed by rebels, were abused and left to fend for themselves. Some are affected/infected by Aids. Our social worker, patron and matron try to rehabilitate these children. Since they are local people they know what these children have gone through. A stable and secure environment helps these kids to become a child again. You could say that all these children are psychologically handicapped. 3 physically handicapped children are also there.



For Christmas all the children received new clothes, nice presents and excellent food. There were new mattresses, bed sheets, blankets, pillows, shoes, bags, towels and what not. Plus nice games and toys.



During the second term vacation some 12 children were reunited with their relatives and are staying with them. There was room for 5 new children.

The Uganda Electricity Company has kept quiet again this year after coming with an offer last year to buy the land they need to put a road across our premises, to install their new poles and high voltage power lines. As if there has been no communication from us through letters, phone calls and visits to their offices since 2010, one has decided to just construct the 5 meter wide road. The road will be their property! For 12,5 meters on both sides of that road one is not allowed to live, we can grow our maize! What maize? We are talking about a children's home here. The fence will be opened up, so no more security for the children. The houses (dormitories), toilets, showers, fruit trees, etc., everything has to be demolished. And as compensation they are now offering us € 8.400,00. Through our lawyer the matter is still in court. We will wait and see. Of course we cannot agree to this at all. They have to compensate us to relocate.

3. LindA Primary School

In 2014 there were 90 students, 11 from House of Grace and the rest from the community. As the children from House of Grace move on to secondary education, the number of children from House of Grace studying in LindA Primary reduces steadily. But the community at large is very happy with our school. Since the community has many orphans and is very poor, we are shifting our SOS support to this school and their students. That way a whole community is benefitting. The pupils live at home with their relatives. We monitor them as usual.

This year we participated in "the day of the African child", on June 16. This was very well received and we hope to make it a tradition.



The school walls are made of wood and provide a nice meal for the termites. We try to repair this with iron sheets. All is going on well, but a school made of bricks would be much better. So, this year we started building a school made of bricks. All the parents are helping, it will be their school.

4. Other activities



We also give counseling and do testing regarding hiv/aids, counsel on hygiene and the importance of clean and safe drinking water. In that respect all children and staff have been tested on hiv. The children were ok. And the water comes from a water purifier system donated by Tusaidiane Foundation.

We try to grow banana's, oranges, mango's, tomatoes, maize and cabbage among others for our own consumption.

We have chickens and sheep. And not to forget: cats.

We suffered serious flooding this year. Our access was severely limited.

Realisation workplan 2014

Description	Realisation
Finance S.O.S. programme	Paid € 24.098
Finance Orphans rehabilitation home House of Grace	Paid € 16.869
Finance Office Lira	Paid € 4.000
Finance miscellaneous	Paid € 4.625
Running of LindA Primary School	Paid € 5.984
Raising funds for a new Primary School (bricks)	Busy with it
Planning and raising funds for the construction of a new House of Grace because of the plans of the Uganda Electricity Company	This has been put on hold
Capacity building for teachers, social workers and administrative personnel	Not yet
Buying a school bus	Not yet
Buying a pick-up truck	Not yet
Fundraising for a farm and a vocational school on the new land.	Not yet

1 euro = 3200 Ush

Workplan 2015

Description	Budgetted amount needed
Finance S.O.S. programme	€ 26.424
Finance Orphans rehabilitation home House of Grace	€ 18.636
Finance Office Lira	€ 4.894
Finance miscellaneous	€ 5.152
Running of LindA Primary School	€ 23.031
Raising funds for a new Primary School (bricks) and building it.	€ 100.000
Planning for new land and construction of new House of Grace because of the plans of the Uganda Electricity Company	€ 300.000
Capacity building for teachers, social workers, administrative personnel	€ 10.000

Buying a schoolbus	€ 80.000
Buying a pick-up truck	€ 40.000
Fundraising for a farm and a vocational school on the new land	€ 100.000

1 euro = 3300 Ush

Concluding

On behalf of the children we would like to extend our greatest gratitude to everybody, people, organizations, businesses and churches, who appreciate what we are doing and support us with funds, time, and fundraising activities.

The Linda Foundation **Care and education for orphans in Northern Uganda**

Legal/formal status The Linda Foundation is a community based organization, duly registered by the Lira local government in 2003. (registration number L009/03) And in 2014 under registration number LDLG/2014/034 R Also registered by the Ugandan Government as NGO (registration number S.5914/4682). The registered office of the Foundation is situated in Lira town, in the Republic of Uganda.

Address: Soroti Road, Gweng Abara, Angwetangwet, Adekokwok, P.O. Box 895, Lira

Tel. : 0784 – 593426 Lynn Dreih Adea (Acting-Chairman)
0784 – 841954 Patrick Opio (Secretary)
0712 - 566786 Jozina van Eerdenburg (Treasurer)
0774 - 671121 Kenneth Kaunda (member)

Email: lindafoundation@yahoo.com

Internet: www.lindafoundation.com

Bank information: Centenary Rural Development Bank, Lira Branch
Account number 1020100031

