

# ANNUAL SCHOOL FEE REPORT 2023

## PRESENTED TO FRIENDS OF REACH OUT



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## Introduction



This report provides an overview of the School Fees Program for the year 2023. The program aims to alleviate the financial burden on families facing terminal illnesses, rendering them unable to afford their children's education. Moreover, it serves as a beacon of hope for the child caregivers, enabling them to pursue education while tending to their ailing parents or guardians. Finally, also the children who are sick and have been left home without education will have a chance to go to school. This initiative ensures that children can persist in their educational pursuits, thereby contributing to the effective disruption of the poverty cycle.

And as the academic year 2023 ended, the Program had **141** learners in the different categories as shown in the table below;

Sn	Categories	Number of students per category
1	Primary section	92
2	Secondary section	37
3	Vocational	12
	<b>Total =</b>	<b>141</b>



## New entrants

IN 2023, fourteen (**14**) new students were enrolled on the fees programme at different levels Primary, secondary level, and Vocational studies. These include; Nandimiro Irene P.6, Namboira Shakira S.5, Nanangwe Mariam P.5, Nambi Alice P.6, Nabirye Sharifa P.3, Nakyogera Kevin P.4, Nabirye Shaluwa P.3, Ssekidde Tony Voc. Nambi Grace , Nakiwala Mary P.5, Babilizangawo Rashida S.2 ,Nakawooma Fatuma S.2, Anyango Barbra P.5 and Nabwire Cissy Hope P.4.

## Candidates and Performance



The Ugandan education system encompasses three key levels of examinations. The first is the Primary Leaving Examination, undertaken by pupils after completing 7 years of primary education in Class 7. This examination serves as a gateway to the initial secondary level, known as Ordinary Secondary, which spans from Senior One to Senior Four. Upon completing Senior Four, students participate in the Uganda Certificate of Education Examination, paving the way for Advanced Secondary comprising Senior Five and Senior Six. The culmination of Advanced Secondary is marked by the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education Examination, leading graduates to higher institutions of learning, including universities.

In the year 2023, the School Fees Program at Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja supported a total of fourteen (14) pupils who sat for the Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE). Additionally, our four students successfully sat for the O'Level (UCE), bringing the total number of candidates supported by the program to eighteen (18) for their final examinations. The eagerly anticipated results are expected before the conclusion of January 2024. The

For the rest of the pupils and students sat the end of year examinations, their performance was fair and most of students were promoted to the next class except a few who were advised to repeat the current classes.

The table below shows the number of candidates that sat for exams in 2023

	Primary Seven	Senior 4/Ordinary Level
1.	Kaloma Innocent	Kyakulaga Abubakar
2.	Nemwa Fatia	Alikoba Caroline
3.	Nemwa Safinah	Kisakye Christine
4.	Nabirye Swaburah	Ngiya Ali
5.	Mpaso Samuel	
6.	Nabirye Saida	
7.	Nakadama Rashida	
8.	Kyaligamba Livingstone	
9.	Balina Saidi	
10.	Kayinja Yefusah	
11.	Mbwali Sarah	
12.	Nakaima Salima	
13.	Kiberu Jovin	
14.	Nkaile Alamanzan	

## Monitoring and follow up

Throughout the year, a diligent follow-up of students in their respective schools was conducted. Each student received at least one visit per term. During these follow-up visits, our social workers engaged with both students and their teachers. The primary objective was to gain insights into the challenges faced by the students and to collaboratively explore effective strategies to support and enhance their academic performance. This hands-on approach underscores our commitment to fostering an environment where each learner can thrive and reach their full potential.



## Counselling

Students receive personalized attention, guidance, and advice on various aspects of their well-being and life spheres. Particularly for students approaching puberty and entering adolescence, comprehensive guidance is provided to equip them with knowledge on avoiding risky behaviors. These discussions encompass essential topics such as preventing early pregnancies, safeguarding against sexually transmitted diseases, and addressing other challenges associated with this transitional phase of life. Our aim is to empower students with the information and skills necessary to make informed and responsible choices, ensuring their overall health and well-being.

## Re-usable sanitary towels for the girl child and beddings



Elder female students were provided with reusable pads to offer them essential support during menstruation. This initiative is aimed at promoting consistent school attendance and mitigating potential risks associated with menstrual hygiene. In addition, select students were also furnished with bedding, including mattresses, blankets, and bedsheets. This thoughtful provision not only ensures a more comfortable night's sleep but also contributes to the overall well-being and conducive learning environment for these students.

## Boarding section

To address the challenges of instability and security concerns faced by 20 students at home, a strategic decision was made to enroll them in the boarding section during term 3. This intentional move aimed to provide a stable and secure environment, allowing these students to concentrate more effectively on their studies, especially as they prepared for their final examinations. By offering this additional support, we endeavored to create a conducive learning atmosphere that prioritizes the well-being and academic success of these students during a crucial period in their education.

## Exposure and Experiential learning for the children



Four of the students had the opportunity to participate in a three-day regional Youth Symposium for Youth Living with HIV/AIDS. This Symposium, organized by St. Francis Health Care Services in Njeru, had a central goal of inspiring youth to assume a prominent role in HIV decision-making processes, aligning with the 2030 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The event provided a platform for these students to engage

in discussions, share experiences, and contribute to the collective efforts aimed at addressing HIV/AIDS challenges within their communities and towards the broader global objectives.



## Industrial Training

Students from the Vocational Institutions were all enrolled for industrial training, a practical training during the holidays for exposure into the business world. While it's good practice, it comes with a cost since there are payments done each time they go for practice.

## Christmas package



We also managed to visit and provide a Christmas package to all our children on school fees program, the package shared included, 10kgs of rice, 2kgs of sugar, beef worth 20,000/= and a bar of soap to make sure proper hygiene is maintained.

## Sports and leadership

Our students are getting involved in Music, Dance and Drama, sports and leadership in their different schools. Some have great talent and passion in various sports such as athletics, football, chess, netball, as well as participating in drama! While others are practicing their leadership skills by vying for elections in various positions such Time keeper, sanitation perfect, etc.

## Expenditure Report 2023 – Primary School

	UGX	USD
School Fees	45,268,700	12575
P.L.E Registration	690,000	192
School Supplies	20,410,800	5670
Transport/Fuel	10,545,000	2929
Printing/copying	2,198,000	611
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>79,112,500</b>	<b>21976</b>
<b>Remaining Funds</b>	<b>86400</b>	<b>24</b>

## Challenges

### Dropout rate

Regrettably, four of our primary pupils faced challenges that resulted in their dropout from school. Despite our concerted efforts to retain them in the educational system, Kwagala Gift – P7 and Mwendu Esther ultimately left school and entered into marriage, while Kyazike Rose and Kantu Emmanuel also discontinued their education.

The prevailing economic climate in the country, characterized by an increased cost of living and widespread economic constraints, has exacerbated the challenges faced by our school program. The escalating costs of scholastic materials and rising school fees have placed a significant strain on our overall school fees support program and within the budget we have not been able to enroll as many students as we had hoped for.

Compounding these issues, some parents and guardians of the school beneficiaries have demonstrated neglect and abandonment of their responsibilities. They seem indifferent to their children's educational needs and the requirements for success while in school. Consequently, Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja bears the entire burden of caring for many of these children on the program, placing an additional strain on our resources. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to finding solutions and providing continued support for the children under our care.

**Appreciation**

The RHHJ team extends profound gratitude for the invaluable support received from ROSE, Michele Mertz, and Mr. Lieber. Your unwavering commitment over the years to support children in primary school has made a lasting impact. Our heartfelt thanks also go out to our donors for secondary and vocational education, who have empowered children to pursue further studies beyond primary school.

Education is a gift for life and a potential stepping stone out of the deep poverty these children were born into. Your steadfast support has played a crucial role in enabling these children to persist in their education, even amidst the challenging circumstances posed by illness within their families.

Together, we strive to assist as many children as possible. This collaborative effort serves as a way of lifting these children out of the poverty trap, fostering a brighter and more promising future for each of them. The generosity and collaboration of you our donors are pivotal in creating a positive and lasting impact on the lives of these children, and we are deeply appreciative of your continued support.

**THANK YOU**

