

- These groups counsel one another on grieving, raising their grandchildren, proper hygiene and sanitation, and getting tested for HIV.
- These groups meet 1-3 times a month to pool their savings, make handcrafts, share advise, and loan out monies which Nyaka has provided through the Micro-Finance Program.
- We have hosted countless workshops on savings skills, agricultural techniques, coping with grief and loneliness and much more with these 91 groups.
- Since 2008 we have distributed over 2,500 gardening hoes, built over 250 toilets, built 38 smokeless kitchens, lent over \$11,000 to Grandmother Self-Help Groups as part of our micro-finance program, and provided micro-enterprise and bookkeeping training to grandmother participants in the program.



That's not all! Nyaka has finished building a Community Library in Nyakagezi where community members can get information on their reproductive health, access agricultural extension services, hold community meetings and cultural events, and sit down and read a good book. We are now looking for a librarian and support staff.



To contact us e-mail us at info@nyakaschool.org or call us at (517) 899-0107.
Snail Mail: P O BOX 339 East Lansing, MI 48826

How to get involved and help

Donate your time, ideas, creative energy, or hard earned money. View our site to get details on how you can help and how other folks have made a difference at Nyaka: www.nyakaschool.org/help.php

Our book, The Price of Stones, authored by Twesigye Jackson Kaguri, Nyaka's Founder and Executive Director is coming out in June 2010! Be sure to get yourself a copy and come to one of the many signings we'll be having across the US. Go here to learn more: <http://thepriceofstones.com>

Hold a Mukaaka Party! Read more about holding your own by going here: <http://bit.ly/bMiEDL>

Collect pennies and change from friends and coworkers. Email us to see how others young and old have accomplished incredible things by collecting a little bit at a time.

What is our biggest need right now? We need to build a secondary school for our students so that we can guarantee that they will receive a higher education and go on to change their community. Email Jackson Kaguri at tjk@nyakaschool.org if you would like to know more reasons why building a secondary school is vital to our kids' futures.

Give through the Global Giving Network: www.globalgiving.com/898

Invite us to give a presentation at your local group. E-mail us at: info@nyakaschool.org

Check out all our videos and pictures on our Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/NyakaAIDSOrphansProject>

You don't need to have an account to explore our page!

Follow us on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/twejaka): twejaka

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Nyaka AIDS Foundation
"For our children's sake"

www.nyakaschool.org

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Our mission is to provide quality, free education and extracurricular activities, both formal and informal, to children who have been orphaned due to HIV/AIDS as a means to counteract pervasive hunger, poverty, and systemic deprivation.

The Nyaka School was established specifically due to the plight of orphans in the village of Nyakagezi in Uganda, East Africa. The idea was conceived in April 2001 after Twesigye Jackson Kaguri and his wife, Beronda visited Jackson's home village, Nyakagezi. Upon witnessing the extent to which the community was suffering from the loss of so many sons and daughters to HIV/AIDS, they started raising money for the orphaned children who could not afford to attend school. Initially Jack-

son and Beronda thought they would provide these children with school fees. However, as they realized the number of needy children they decided the most sustainable course of action was to establish a free primary school for them. In August 2001, 2 acres were bought where the school would be built. Construction began in October 2001. The school officially opened on Jan 2, 2003.

Nyaka uses a community-based, holistic approach and is committed to developing sustainable solutions to the challenges presented by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. We are more than a school - we are a community development project initiated by the community for the betterment of the community, and we believe the Nyaka model can be adapted throughout the world.



Primary Education Program

We run two primary schools in two rural villages in South Western Uganda, Nyaka and Kutamba school. The schools only admit the neediest children in the surrounding communities that would not otherwise be able to attend school because of the cost. Facts about the two schools:

- 64% of our students are girls.
- We provide free books, scholastic materials, instruction, afterschool activities, and tutoring services with international volunteers.
- By Jan 2010, the Nyaka school teaches grades P 1-7 to 216 students and Kutamba school teaches grades P 1-5 to 143 students.

- In 2008 the Nyaka School ranked 3rd among 143 other primary schools in the Kanungu District in academic performance.
- The Nyaka School averages a passing rate of 96% for National Primary Level Exams as opposed to 20% for other rural schools in the area.
- 48 students have graduated from the Nyaka School; 47 are now in secondary school and 1 student is in vocation school on scholarships funded by Nyaka.
- The vast majority of our students have lost both of their parents to HIV/AIDS and several live alone in child-headed households.

How are the schools doing? You can see the latest inspection report for the Kutamba Primary School here: <http://bit.ly/aloQuf> and the latest inspection for the Nyaka Primary School here: <http://bit.ly/aPBmwh>



Health, Hygiene, & Nutrition Program

We realized that our students were coming to school hungry every day, and were suffering from chronic malnutrition and stunting. So, we initiated a school breakfast and lunch program that feeds all of our 359 students everyday. Facts about our school meals and preventative health care program:

- Everyday students get milk and maize porridge for breakfast. For lunch students get one grain (maize or matooke bananas), one protein (dry beans, meat, or eggs) and one vegetable (amaranth, cabbage, carrots, eggplants, or potatoes).
- Students get supplemental food during hunger seasons.
- Students receive deworming medications, ARVs (anti-retrovirals for fighting AIDS), basic first-aid, health and hygiene advice and free products (including tooth-

- brushes and feminine products) and medications that fight malaria from the staff and nurse at the schools
- Students and their families received home visits from the school nurse for counselling and health check-ups.
- The incidents of illness and absenteeism at the schools has dropped to nearly 0% since we started this program.
- Most of our students were receiving one or less complete meals a day before this program was initiated.
- The Nyaka and Kutamba Schools are the only schools that provide meals and preventative health care in their Districts.

The Desire Farm

The farm is an integral part of the Nyaka School's sustainability plan. Through the Desire Farm, the Nyaka School will be able to produce their own food and feed all students and staff at a much lower price. As of Dec 2009 we are in the process of our first harvest season for the Desire Farm. Learn more about why the farm was instituted on our programs page on our website.



Grandmothers Program

Most of our students live with their grandmothers who often were never able to catch their breath after the death of their children. These courageous women are usually into their 70s or 80s and can barely provide for their grandchildren. 9 times out of 10 our grandmothers are widows. In 2008 Nyaka trained 40 prominent grandmothers willing to organize grannies on the ground into self-help groups. Facts about our Grandmothers Program:

- Since Jan 2008 these women have mobilized 91 active self-help groups of 6,230 women.