

# NYAKA AIDS FOUNDATION

## 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



***“FOR OUR CHILDREN’S SAKE”***

[WWW.NYAKASCHOOL.ORG](http://WWW.NYAKASCHOOL.ORG)

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## *An Overview of the Nyaka AIDS Foundation*

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The Nyaka AIDS Foundation is an initiative of Scientific Technology and Sustainable Agricultural Development, Inc. (STSAD), a 501-c3 non-profit non-governmental organization registered in the State of Indiana, USA, with a registration number # of S.5914/5264 and EIN# of 35-2153719.

The Nyaka AIDS Foundation is the Ugandan based and registered part of STSAD. Currently our organization runs two free primary schools in Kanungu and Rukinhiri Districts of south-western Uganda—Nyaka and Kutamba schools. We believe that a quality education is the best, and often only, way for young women and men to empower themselves with the courage, self-esteem, language, knowledge, and power it takes to change the status quo for the better. Therefore, the Nyaka and Kutamba schools target for admittance children who have been orphaned to HIV/AIDS, girls, and children who are socially and financially vulnerable and have no other means of attaining a basic education. The Nyaka AIDS Foundation also serves the grandmothers and guardians of these students. We do this with the goal of ending pervasive cycles of poverty, hunger, and deprivation in these individuals' lives and their communities.

Throughout 2008 we have continued to work in collaboration with community members, students, partner organizations, donors, staff and volunteers in Uganda and the US, and supervisory board members to bring about sustainable change to the status quo.

Our Uganda national supervisory board includes:

Mrs. Emma Mugisha (Chairperson)  
 Mr. Sempa Baker (Secretary)  
 Mr. Ndyabahika Stanely (Finance)  
 Mr. Musinguzi Wilfred (Member)  
 Mrs. Pauline Rukirande (Member)  
 Mrs. Christine Turyasingura (Member)

The national board is now assisted by our staff in the national office in Kampala Uganda. Our staff includes:

Ms. Sempa Baker (National Coordinator)  
 Ms. Justine Komuhangi (Assistant National Coordinator)  
 Mrs. Jolly Babirukamu (Grannies Programs Coordinator)  
 Mrs. Byanjeru Barbara (Secretary)

In addition to our national staff STSAD has an international volunteer advisory board based mostly in the United States. The members of our international board board include:

Mr. Robert Auld (Chairperson)  
 Ms. Jennifer Thomas (Vice-Chair)  
 Mr. Rolf Dietrich (Treasurer)



Dr. Jude Mugerwa, MD (Secretary)  
Pastor David Bremer  
Dr. Nancy Collier  
Ms. Shana Johnson–Norfolk  
Mr. Twesigye J. Kaguri (Executive Director of STSAD)

Our foundation partners, include the Stephen Lewis Foundation\*, Giammalva Family Foundation, Segal Family Foundation, Barker Global Fund for Children\*\*, Global Giving Network\*\*\*, Blue Lupin Foundation. However, most of our support continues to come from individuals.

We have a management committee that ensures the Nyaka school is always running at its best. In 2008 the national staff and local community in Nyakagyezi voted in a new management committee for the school. All of these individuals who have been voted in live near Nyaka school in Kanungu District. They are well respected and known in the Nyaka community, are usually well networked beyond Kanungu District, are experts on local conditions and issues, and are close at hand to supervise the school' s activities and foresee potential problems. They have been an incredible help to the school and all our programs.

Nyaka AIDS Foundation also supports staff at the schools who do the lion' s share of the labor on the ground. These individuals have been hired most of all because of their love for and dedication to the children. They were also brought on board for their progressive and optimistic vision. These individuals include two fulltime nurses (one at Kutamba school and one at Nyaka school), two headmasters, 15 full time teaching staff, and security guards to protect the grounds of the schools.

\*Visit them at <http://www.stephenlewisfoundation.org/>; \*\*Visit them at <http://www.globalfundforchildren.org/> ;  
\*\*\* Visit them at <http://www.globalgiving.com/>



The programs that we continued to implement throughout 2008 with the hard work and dedication of our staff, donors, partners, community members, and volunteers are detailed below.

- Free Primary Education
  - Nyaka AIDS Orphans School (Primary 1–7: 206 students)
  - Kutamba AIDS Orphans School (Primary 1–3: 93 students)
  - 65% girls / 35% boys
  - 22 students graduated from p7 and 21 are now in secondary school
- Grannies Project
  - 6,280 grandmothers attended sensitization workshops on developing parenting skills, developing healthy and sanitary habits, and encouraging grandmothers to know their HIV status and their grandchildren’ s status
  - Model homes were set up for sanitation and nutrition education with the grannies groups
  - 1,911 grandmothers have organized themselves into parish self–help groups
- Clean Gravity Water System
  - 17,500 people have access to water (including three public schools, two private schools and three different church communities)
- Nutrition and Community Garden Program
  - Breakfast provided to all 299 students
  - Lunch provided to 239 students
  - Food provided from the garden to grandmothers and students
- Health & Physical Education Program
  - Two full–time nurses work at both schools
  - Two nursing clinics provided services to over 800 individuals in the villages of Nyakagyezi (Nyaka School) and Nyakashenyi (Kutamba School)
- Community AIDS Education and Outreach Program
  - Our Anti–AIDS Choir has visited and raised awareness in 32 schools this year.
  - More than 25,000 people listen to our radio program every month, according to statistics provided by Radio Kinkizi in Uganda

## *Organizational Objectives:*

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- 1.) Provide free, quality education to orphans of HIV/AIDS and other socially and financially vulnerable children.
- 2.) Enhance our children’ s future successes through providing quality, practical vocational and entrepreneurial skills training.
- 3.) Incorporate a complete Health and Safety Program for our students and their grandmothers and guardians that consists of a balanced diet of nutritious and



quality foods; easily accessed emergency and preventive medical services; easy access to clean potable water; and community gardens.

- 4.) Provide a support system and assistance for grannies through trainings in parenting skills, income-generating projects, latrine construction, and regular support group meetings.
- 5.) Provide AIDS prevention and awareness education at Nyakagezi and the surrounding communities through the Nyaka Anti-AIDS Club; sensitize the community members about the facts of HIV/AIDS, promote compassionate treatment of those who are HIV+ and, encourage community members to know their status.
- 6.) Encourage literacy and reading through establishment of a community library and media center at Nyaka.
- 7.) Build partnerships with other like-minded organizations in order to collaborate on programs, share ideas, and provide more quality services to more people.
- 8.) Be a role model for other communities by developing a program to address the problem of gender inequality and violence against women.
- 9.) Develop sustainable solutions to all of the challenges presented by HIV/AIDS.

## *Personnel and Administration*

This year personnel administration took on another interesting dimension. A coordination office was opened in Kampala. The office was opened in order to help with the overwhelming workload the national coordinator was experiencing. The staff in this office are now responsible for ensuring progress reports and information needed by the national and international staff are delivered in a timely manner. The staff in the office includes a secretary, Barbara Byanjeru, and assistant national coordinator, Justine Komuhangi. These two individuals also assist Sempa Baker, our national coordinator, with all activities he needs help with including report writing, monitoring service delivery, and coordination of communications. Since this office has opened service delivery has improved both to the donor community and beneficiaries.



In 2008 the national board recruited Mr. Byaruhanga Reuben to improve our organization's accountability in financial monitoring and reporting on the ground. We have found that it is often difficult to be in frequent contact with the school staff and



receive updated reports as often as we need them. The schools are located in extremely rural areas without access to electricity, the internet, or dependable mobile phone towers. However, Reuben resides close to the Nyaka school and is able to travel to the nearest large town to send updates. He now monitors all of the financial activities of the Nyaka school, Kutamba school, and Grandmothers programs.

In 2008 the Foundation implemented more strict volunteer selection processes. We have found that in the past we did not always match the values, priorities, and objectives of volunteers with those of the organization. Therefore, there have been some miscommunications, discontinuities, and sometimes conflicts of interest when volunteers go to dedicate their precious time and hard work at the schools. We realize how valuable such a contribution can be if the energy is focused properly. We are now thoroughly counseling and working with our volunteers before, during, and after their trips to the schools to make sure our organization and the volunteer are perfect fits for one another. Part of this selection process has been finding volunteers willing to work in collaboration with teachers and staff to provide our students with a high quality education.

In order to develop our teaching staff' s capacity we conducted a teacher workshop in Sept 2008. This workshop focused on developing our staff' s ability to care for children with special needs. Many of our students suffer from loneliness, poor self-esteem, and grief. We also have several students who are physically handicapped and experience social stigma. Our students can often be associated with HIV/AIDS because most of them are orphans, and regardless of their HIV status they may be stigmatized by community members and other children as if they were infected. For these reasons, we find that most of our students need a little extra love and care above and beyond a quality education. Seventeen of our staff members at Nyaka and Kutamba schools participated in the workshop.

## *Education Programs*

The Nyaka AIDS Foundation continues to serve students at Nyaka and Kutamba schools. In 2008 we educated 206 students through grades p1–7 at Nyaka and 93 students through grades p1–3 at Kutamba. They continue to receive all of their text books, uniforms, exercise notebooks, and other writing materials free through the schools. We retained all students who attended the

Nyaka graduates proudly shake the hand of Professor Mondo at their graduation ceremony.



schools from the year before. We are extremely excited to inform you that on Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 2008 we celebrated the first graduating class from Nyaka school. 22 students graduated and 21 of them passed their national exams to enter secondary school. We gauge the success of our educational programs by our students' successes. So, we are very proud of their accomplishments, and we are encouraged that the two schools are doing a wonderful job. Our chief guest at the graduation ceremony was Professor Mondo George Kagonyera. Professor Mondo is the Chancellor of Makerere University which is one of the largest and most prominent universities in Uganda.

2008 has brought several expansions in our teaching capacity at Nyaka and Kutamba. We hired four more teaching staff for Nyaka: Mrs. Bagyeruka Alice Karuru, Mr. Kwizera Aggrey, Ms. Ahumuza Annet and Ms. Kyomugisha Monica. We hired three more teaching staff for Kutamba: Mr. Turyashemererwa Dickson, Mr. Niwamanya Nicholas, and Ms. Atukwase Judith. The local committee also appointed a new headmaster for the Nyaka school—Mr. Stephen Kagaba. The school staff has found that he is extremely ambitious about the students' academic performance. Compared to the previous headmaster, he cares far more for the children's wellbeing and futures. So, by raising the bar on academic standards and care for the students, Headmaster Stephen has greatly improved the performance of the school. The local management committee has brought on an inspector for our schools. The inspector provides an outside perspective on the professional caliber of the school's activities as well as advice on how to make the school more efficient and effective. This advice has proved invaluable to our teaching staff.

In order to enhance the academic experiences of the students, build confidence and self-esteem, and breed dreams and excitement about the future, students in the upper levels of Nyaka have had several educational excursions throughout Uganda. In 2008 uprising student to primary 6 took a trip to Kampala (the capital of Uganda) and Entebbe. They visited the Makerere University campus, several historical sites including the Kasubi tombs, the zoo, and toured the cities. Often these trips are the first time the students have travelled outside the village and especially the first time they have travelled to a big city.

Nyaka staff prepare the bus for the primary 5 students' trip to Kampala.



## *Nutrition and Gardening Programs*

All of our students continue to receive breakfast and lunch throughout 2008. Our students are fed a balanced diet despite the recent hike in food and commodity prices in Uganda. The menu changes from day to day to provide some variation, but the menu also depends on the foods that are in season. The students are fed a balanced combination of the following: dry beans, peanut paste, peas, meat (once a week), greens (daily), Posho, rice, banana paste, sweet potatoes, and/or Irish potatoes. Food service providers are hired to ensure the food is prepared and served in a clean environment and in a timely manner. One teacher is tasked daily with supervising the purchase of food and food preparation.

Students cannot learn on empty stomachs. So, the school meals program has enabled the students to enjoy school and perform well. Since attending school is not mandatory in Uganda the free meals also encourage guardians to send their children to school. For some of the students who live alone without guardians or who live in extreme poverty these meals are the only meals they get in a day. Many of the children who get meals at home do not get balanced diets, and prior to receiving meals at Nyaka, they often suffered from chronic malnourishment. 2008 was the first time that Kutamba was able to provide meals for their students. The performance and welfare of the students and teachers at Kutamba has greatly improved because of this program.

The larger community often suffers from poor nutrition and chronic malnourishment. Therefore, the Nyaka AIDS Foundation continued building community gardens into 2008. The Nyaka students work with their guardians at the school garden and are able to take produce home. Normally it would be possible for guardians to grow their own vegetables. However, many do not have the land, and land is very expensive to purchase.

A primary 1 Nyaka student takes her breakfast.





Nyaka students hand prepare the fresh soil for the Nyaka school garden.

## *Healthcare and Education Programs*

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Between March 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 2008 the Nyaka AIDS Foundation organized general clinics that were open to the public at the Nyaka school. We did this in collaboration with visiting nurses from the United States, Carol Auld, and Kambuga hospital staff. They conducted medical examinations and blood tests. They provided treatment and medication for the many community members who came. Students from both schools were examined. All students and community members were counseled on getting tested for HIV if they did not already know their status. All students were tested for HIV. More serious cases were referred to Kambuga Government Hospital.

The school clinic at Nyaka continues to care for the students and their guardians. Three students are on anti-retroviral medications. One student in primary 5 at Nyaka, Orishaba Rachael, was admitted at Kambuga Hospital for treatment of her chronic bronchitis. She is on review by TASO management and doctors at Kambuga Hospital. Below are the numbers of patients treated by the Nyaka school nurse in each term of 2008:

1<sup>st</sup> Term: 135 students and 71 Guardians.

2<sup>nd</sup> Term: 146 students and 99 Guardians

3<sup>rd</sup> Term: 136 students and 87 Guardians.

The Nyaka nurse also conducted home visits in the surrounding villages of Kashayo, Rutoma, Kayenje, Kirundwe, Nyakagyezi, and Kagongo. During these home visits the school nurse continues to advise the students and guardians about proper personal hygiene, balanced nutrition, drinking clean water from clean containers, good personal habits, and vaccinations against childhood illnesses. The Nyaka school has garnered



valuable information about the students' living conditions from these home visits that they hope to use to improve the health and wellbeing of the students. Many of the students and grandmothers do not have latrines, kitchens, bedding or proper bedding, or mosquito nets.

## *Water (Clean Water Gravity System)*

Nyaka students wash up at the Gravity fed system tap after taking their breakfast.

We realized in 2008 that the gravity fed water system was occasionally blocking up. So, we decided to engage the communities who benefit from the taps to take a more active role in the maintenance of the systems. A person was tasked with monitoring and maintaining the system. This person is now responsible for ensuring community members realize the benefits of a well-functioning system and know how to care for it. He also collects maintenance fees from those who use the taps in order to maintain the system regularly.



In collaboration with Kanungu District Water Management we were able to extend the gravity fed system to an additional 8,000 residents. The new extension now serves two schools, one church, as well as the wider community. A shallow well was built at Kutamba to serve the school and the surrounding community.

## *Infrastructure Development*

In 2008 we began construction of the new Kutamba school on the land that was bought in 2007. Mr. and Mrs. Auld initiated the construction at the ground breaking ceremony in Jan 2008. Mr. and Mrs. Auld spearheaded the fundraising campaign which made the construction of the school possible. Also in attendance at the ceremony was the mission team from an Indiana community church led by Pastor Pontius. He led pray to request God' s blessing on the

The finished Nyaka school guest house.



land and community. In Feb 2009 the students were able to start the new school year in the finished classrooms of the new school.

The school building was designed by Mathew Miller from Architecture for Humanity. The finished building will have two blocks of three classrooms, a kitchen, a four stall latrine, and a water pump house. The campus is supplied with clean water from a gravity fed system sourced at a spring nearby.

The guest house at the Nyaka school was completed in 2008. Construction on the school kitchen and dining area is still in progress into 2009, but the structures are usable.

## *Community HIV/AIDS Sensitization Programs*

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The Nyaka AIDS Foundation continued to use local radio stations as a means to disseminate information and stimulate discussion on HIV/AIDS related issues, hygiene and sanitation, use of modern agricultural techniques, and the plight of orphaned children and the elderly in the community. We also did some programs in 2008 on the orphaned child and the roles of grandmothers and the elderly in the community. The radio programs reach more than 250,000 people in Kanungu district.

Both Nyaka and Kutamba anti-AIDS clubs continued to educate their communities throughout 2008. The clubs went to schools, churches, social gatherings, and onto radio programs to pass the message on about safe sexual relationships, staying faithful, knowing one's HIV status, staying celibate until one is done with school, staying in school, and treating those infected with HIV with compassion and kindness. Their dancing, singing, and dramas have brought HIV/AIDS issues out from the shroud of taboo

and into the public sphere. Many more community members are comfortable discussing HIV related issues now than ever before. The Nyaka and Kutamba clubs visited 32 schools and churches in 2008 and presented at many holiday celebrations including Woman's Day, Hero's Day, Independence Day, and during a presidential visit to the sub-county.



The Anti-AIDS Club performs for visitors at the Nyaka School.



## *Volunteer & Visitors*

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At the beginning of 2008 we received Mr. and Mrs. Auld. They not only initiated the construction of the Kutamba school and helped organize the temporary clinics in March, but they also taught subjects at the Nyaka school for the first term. Brittany Linville came to volunteer for the first term and worked hard on the English of the students. Along with these visitors came the mission team from an Indiana church. They all assisted with the construction of the Nyaka school kitchen and with repairs to the road between Zeituni church and Nyaka school. We received several Japanese journalists who were covering HIV/AIDS issues and the use of ARVs. They were impressed with the work Nyaka AIDS Foundation was doing. They took a keen interest in child headed families and went with Nyaka staff to visit the Abiah family. Two young girls who are students at Nyaka live together without guardians in this family. They planned out their planting season and talked about their future plans. One of the girls plans to be a teacher while the other a nurse. We also hosted Sandra Olansky from Boston. She spent two weeks at the Nyaka school teaching fine art and music to grades p1–6. Fifteen members of a mission group from Kenya Kakamega came to stay at Nyaka for two days. They run a similar initiative in Kenya to what we run in Uganda. The Nyaka staff and these visitors shared experiences and learned from one another in their short time together. The Nyaka school hosted four young women from Prince Edward Island University in Canada. They came for a month to gain teaching experience. Their supervisor Dr. Graham Pike visited them for a week. We later hosted Sandra Olansky from Boston and concluded the year with many guests to the graduation ceremony in Dec. 2008.



A volunteer from Prince Edward Island University and an Nyaka student work on English together.

## *Grannies Programs*

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Our Grannies programs did very well in 2008. Nyaka AIDS Foundation Grannies program now constitutes 55 and 36 active registered grannies groups in Kanungu (Nyaka) and Rukungiri (Kutamba) respectively. The registered number of Nyaka grannies at the beginning of the year 2008 was 3,216 for Nyaka and 2,168 for Kutamba. Unfortunately 12 grannies in Nyaka and 3 grannies in Kutamba have since then died. Below are some of the achievements we have accomplished in 2008:

Formation of parish associations.



In 2008, we were able to form 36 parish associations in Rukungiri District.

#### Training of trainers.

In Rukingiri District we were able to mobilize and train 40 grannies trainers at the sub county level. In Kanungu District we were able to train grannies all the way up to the parish level (an organizational level above the sub-county).

In January 2008 we held a week long Training of Trainers workshop (ToT) for the grandmothers in Kanungu district. This workshop's aim was to mobilize at least 2 grandmother leaders in each of the sub-counties of Kanungu district, network them into a powerful grandmothers coalition, and equip them with the knowledge and tools necessary to organize grannies in their own sub-counties into parish self-help groups. A second set of workshops were conducted in May 2008 at the sub-county level by the

The Jan 2008 ToT workshop in Kanungu District.



trained Trainers with the aim of mobilizing grannies at the grassroots level into networked parish self-help groups. We held another ToT in Sept 2008 for the grannies at Kutamba. The issues discussed in these workshops included handling the emotional and physical stress that accompanies carrying for an orphan, raising up orphans in a loving household, handling grief and depression, taking orphaned grandchildren for HIV testing as well as getting tested themselves, and home based care for HIV positive family members. The grandmothers learned how to start up successful income generating projects,

modern agricultural skills, maintaining household sanitation, and personal hygiene.

At present, over 5,384 grandmothers have been trained through these initiatives. The grannies both in Nyaka and Kutamba have well functioning parish associations with democratically elected leaders including a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, treasurer and community mobilize.

During these training workshops in 2008 the grannies program staff and Nyaka AIDS Foundation have learned a lot about the conditions under which the grandmothers live. Many of the grandmothers suffer from chronic malnourishment, depression, grief, low self-esteem, social stigmatization as caretakers of HIV/AIDS orphans, back problems, poor eyesight, chronic and reoccurring illnesses, and famine. However, by knowing the



pressing and immediate needs of these grandmothers, the Nyaka AIDS Foundation has been able to target these issues and alleviate some of these burdens.

Income generating projects.

Nyaka grannies were taught how to build successful income generating projects. A reasonable number of grannies have started rearing goats, piggery, handcraft making, and trading so as to earn a living.

The grannies were trained on how to start rotating savings and credit coops with other women, how to keep financial books, and how to maintain the groups' healthy functioning to the benefit of all the members. The grandmothers have been extremely successful at maintaining these savings and credit coops, and many grannies have been able to access small low interest loans through them to start income generating projects. All of the parish associations have now formed savings and credit coops. In 2008 alone, Nyaka Grannies program injected small sums of starter funds for the revolving fund amounting to 14,400,000 UGX ( $\approx$  6,338 USD).

A grandmother proudly displays her pregnant doe.



Improvement of grannies standards of living.

Here the Nyakagezi grannies self-help group is making handicrafts and learning new designs.



Before Nyaka grannies project started, very many grannies had no domestic eating or cooking utensils. Once the grandmothers had mobilized into groups of women they knew and trusted they began to pool funds at their monthly meetings. The groups have taken these small funds and used them to purchase necessities in bulk at a lower price per item. Then they have distributed the utensils to the grannies that have contributed. For example, in 2008 the grannies groups were able to distribute plates and cups to 203 granny families in the sub-county of



Mpungu. However, there are still many grandmothers who are too poor, elderly and sick to contribute to the pooled funds and so cannot purchase these utensils.

The ToT workshops and the grannies monthly association meetings have emphasized that the grandmothers should focus energy on their personal hygiene and household sanitation. The grannies have since adopted the habit of boiling drinking water and washing their hands with soap after visiting the toilet and before taking meals.

In 2008 the Nyaka AIDS Foundation was able to construct 31 good pit latrines in Kanungu and 40 in Kutamba for the neediest grannies. In addition, 230 water-harvesting tanks for capturing rain water have been distributed to grannies in Katete, Kihihi Town council and Kihihi Sub County.

The grandmothers have also been encouraged to know their HIV status and the status of their grandchildren. Grandmothers often live on the edge and their ability to plan for the future often determines their ability to manage and prepare for risks. However, after all that these women have been through with the loss of their children, the idea of taking their grandchildren to get them tested for HIV can be terrifying and immobilizing. Not knowing their grandchildren's status can also weigh heavily on grandmothers for years. Many have gathered courage through the parish self-help groups and have taken their grandchildren to get tested. Some women have accessed ARVs and are continuing courageously on.

A latrine built for a granny made entirely from local materials. Cost ≈ 500 USD



The grannies have been encouraged to start kitchen gardens in their homes. They have made it a rule among their self-help groups for every Nyaka granny to own a vegetable garden. They have been particularly successful with this initiative, and the groups have said the women are now eating more balanced diets.

Before the inception of Nyaka grannies project some orphans had been chased away from home by their grandmothers for their bad behavior. Often the grandmothers are well into old age when they take on young children. Often there is conflict between the children and their grandmothers because of the age gap between them, poverty, stress, and grief. The grannies decided they needed help in raising these children since caring for the children requires extraordinary parenting skills. So, we organized workshops and discussions where the grannies could build their parenting skills and confidence. Due to these counseling sessions many grandmothers say they are now living more in harmony with their grandchildren.



Jolly, our Grannies programs Coordinator, demonstrates advanced gardening



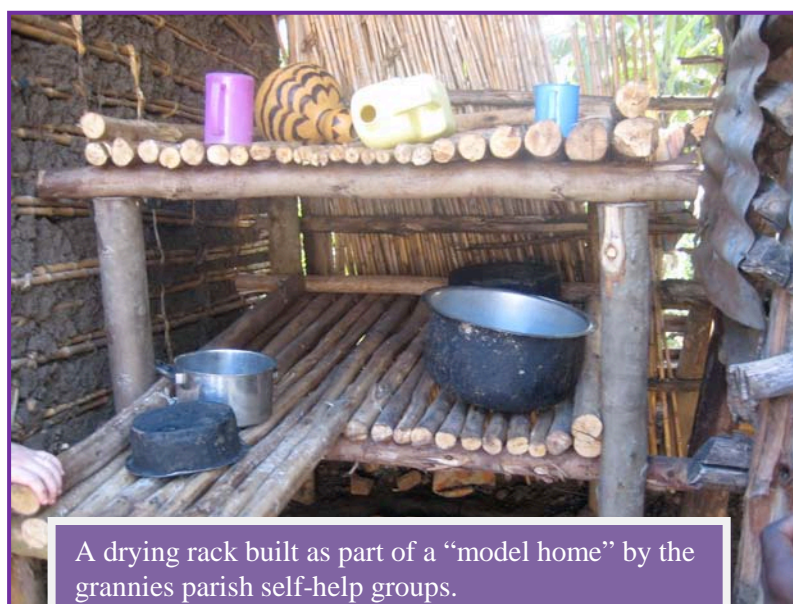
The Nyaka AIDS Foundation has facilitated educational sessions with local farming extension offices. The grannies have acquired knowledge about sustainable agricultural practices and have started to maintain gardens of sweet potatoes, cassava, beans, maize, rice and groundnuts. These gardens as well as the vegetable gardens encouraged by the parish self-help groups have increased the food security of their families and reduced stress.

The grannies testify that well nourished bodies can work harder and produce more for the home. In addition to extension services, the Nyaka AIDS Foundation has distributed 765 garden hoes to grannies in Rugeyeo, Kirima and Kabuga sub counties in 2008.

Construction of model homes.

In order to improve the health and social standards of grannies, Nyaka grannies project has assisted 74 grannies in Kanungu district to each construct an energy saving stove and a drying rack in her home. Grandmothers use wood to light stoves and cook with. She, or a grandchild, may spend hours a day walking to fetch that wood and bring it home. So, conserving the energy that wood gives off is extremely important for lightening grannies' workloads.

Also, to keep plates and cups clean, grandmothers need clean surfaces to put them on once they are washed. That is what these drying racks are used for.



A drying rack built as part of a "model home" by the grannies parish self-help groups.

Although the above 2008 accomplishments are an overwhelming boon for the grannies and we are extremely proud of all of our staff and grandmothers, we would have accomplished more if not for these barriers we still face:

- Lack of market for grannies finished handcrafts.
- Lack of enough loan able low interest rate funds.
- Diseases more especially malaria.
- Lack of agriculture tools and equipments.



- Lack of steady income that has resulted into increased school drops outs.
- Lack of protected clean water and fire wood sources.
- Drought and other uncertainties like hailstorm.

Nyaka Grannies have a common voice.

Before the inception of Nyaka grannies project, these grannies were not united and not known. The grannies now have a common voice from the village up to the district. This has enabled the grannies to get registered with their respective sub-counties and open up saving accounts with village banks. In some sub counties like Kirima, Kihiki Town council, and Kihiki sub County, Nyaka grannies have been allocated a share of improved rice and maize seeds.

Other Interventions:

In the other support programs, Friends of Nyaka in USA have contributed funds to assist Akamumpa Allan who is disabled to enable him travel to USA for an orthopedic surgery. He traveled in November 2008 and we are praying to see him walking by himself when he comes back.

On this note, we wish to extend our sincere gratitude to all individuals and groups involved in our work. We pledge to continue working hard for the sake of our children, their grannies, and all the communities we serve.



## 2008 Financial Statement

### Revenue

Contributions, gifts, grants and similar amounts	\$396,161.00
Investment income	\$418.00
Other income	\$50.00
Less returns and allowances	(\$2,500.00)

**Total Revenue** **\$394,129.00**

### Expenses

Program services	\$301,043.00
Grants and similar amounts paid	\$0.00
Salaries	\$43,231.00
Occupancy, rent, utilities, maintenance	\$2,640.00
Printing, publications, postage, shipping	\$5,475.00
Other expenses	\$8,123.00

**Total expenses** **\$360,512.00**

### Net Assets

Excess or (deficit) for the year	\$33,617.00
Net assets or fund balances at the beginning of the year	\$136,792.00

**Net assets or fund balances at the end of the year** **\$170,409.00**

### Balance Sheets

Current assets	\$92,186.00
Long-term assets	\$10,760.00
Other assets (endowment)	\$69,000.00
Total assets	\$171,946.00
Total liabilities	(\$1,537.00)

**Net assets or fund balances** **\$170,409.00**

In addition to funds on line 4 above, we also received \$211,649 from The Stephen Lewis Foundation and \$75,000 from Blue Lupin Foundation. These funds were sent directly to Uganda and do not appear on STSAD 2008 990.