

Quarterly Newsletter Issue 4 April 2021

Reaching Beyond Globally Offers Access to Education. Education Offers Independence.

Unfortunately, students in Uganda have yet to return to school. As of now, they are scheduled to return April 19, 2021. In March of 2020 schools were closed and Uganda entered a lockdown. The lockdown has been effective at keeping many Ugandans safe from exposure to the COVID-19 Virus, but other issues have become very prevalent for students around the country; neglect, food insecurity, exploitation and dropping out of school to name a few. The pandemic has also put more girls at risk of being forced into child marriage, with a high number of 13-15 year old's also becoming pregnant. This is a reversal of 25 years of progress that saw child marriage rates decline. It has been difficult for the students to stay motivated and stay on track during these times.

In order to support our students staying on track, Madrine has organized Sunday gatherings with them. The students meet with Madrine at their primary school campus and spend time together. During these meetings, the students can work through their workbooks together, and with the help of Madrine. They also do creative writing exercises, discuss how they are managing their time at home, and feel a sense of community that they have lost during this pandemic.

The students have done very well with their home studying and are prepared to take their exams as soon as they are allowed. These exams are meant to test what they have learned in their first year of Secondary School and assure the schools that they are ready to proceed to their second year.

During the time they have been home, many students have taken on tasks to help their families recover from the economic pressures the pandemic has added. Students are helping to maintain the family crops, tending to their livestock and helping care for siblings all while studying and maintaining their desires to return to school as soon as they can. Some students have even started working to raise funds to help pay for their own school supplies.

Follow Reaching Beyond Globally on <u>Instagram</u> to see some fun photos and videos of the students at home.

What's next?:

Reaching Beyond Globally is working closely with the Head Teacher of the Primary School Diedre Ann Academy to select the next class of Reaching Beyond Globally sponsored students. Our aim is to sponsor all students that require financial assistance to continue their education.

Save the Date!!:

May 1st 2021, Reaching Beyond Globally will host our first virtual fundraising "Back To School Night Gala!" Be sure to be there to learn more about our students, what we've been doing to keep them going, and what the next steps are for each of them!



The P7 Class at Dierdre Ann Academy.
These students will be taking their
Secondary School exams soon and will be
Reaching Beyond Globally's second class!



The Pandemic has affected every aspect of our students' lives. Please read some comments they have made about the changes and impacts of COVID-19.

On the impact of Family:

"I used to visit my relatives like my aunt who is in Kibaale but because of the pandemic I no longer visit her. My father used to work in a shop but because of the pandemic that there should be social distancing he no longer works there, hence impacting my family." —Akampunra, Precious

"The family has lacked enough food since the money is mostly spent in buying sanitizer and facemasks." –Wellan, Amani

"I myself, I am so scared due to the people I have already heard dying day and night." – Wellan, Amani

On the impact of Education:

"The pandemic has affected me on confidence since at school they held debates which may keep me confident when I complete my studies to become a journalist." – Irumba, Martine

"The pandemic has impacted me because by now I could be at school but because of the pandemic schools were closed and now we are at home hence missing studies." – Akampunra, Precious

"I have got a disturbance in my studies and this is the pandemic COVID-19. It has greatly affected me in my studies. As by now, I would be currently in Senior Two but due to this deadly disease it has led to closure of schools which I expect to go back in Senior 1." – Mukimeiri, Shakool

On the impact of Farming:

"Farmers are crying since the price of crops has reduced by where a bunch of bananas was at 10,000 Uganda Shillings but now cause of the pandemic is at 3000 shillings." -- Irumba, Martine

"The COVID 19 has killed people who act as labor to work in crop farms. This has led to the destruction of crops due to lack of enough care given to them." – Wellan, Amani

Reaching Beyond Globally also has an official P.O. box now. Our mailing address is P.O. Box 384 San Anselmo, CA, 94960.

Reaching Beyond Globally's mission is to help any child in financial need pursue higher education, giving them the opportunity to change their life trajectory. By matching a student in need with a donor of financial means, Reaching Beyond Globally will enable each child to further their education and give them opportunities to find a career previously thought impossible.

Reaching Beyond Globally (RBG) was established as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation on January 22, 2020. In the first year of operation RBG sent ten students from Deirdre Ann Academy (DAA) to Secondary School. Vicki and Marianne first went to DAA in 2018 to teach ballet to the students of this Primary school. They fell in love with Uganda and the people they were teaching to dance and wanted to help them achieve their educational goals and ambitions.







Angela and Amani have been helping at their homes by planting and tending to their families' crops.

Students during a Sunday meeting with their notebooks for creative writing.



501 (c) (3) corporation 84-2774640 Find us on <u>Facebook, Instagram</u> and at <u>reachingbeyondglobally.org</u>