



DROPLETS IN A STREAM

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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THE STORY OF 2017

Rodney Callanan, Director

Life-changing. That's my word to describe 2017.

Every year we see lives changed, but this last year, I feel we saw lives physically transform in front of our very eyes. Some years, you invest and work really hard, but can't always see the 'results' of your labour. But not this year – and what a blessing it's been!

There have been so many highlights for me... too many to share on this page. But I think bringing Robert, Mary and Benson to Australia for their surgeries was probably one of the most rewarding moments I've experienced in the 10 years I've served on the DIAS Board. To see the smiles of joy and relief on their faces when they recovered from their surgeries will always remind me that what we do is worth it. On so many levels. They faced a life of certain and permanent disability and, in Uganda, that would probably mean poverty, rejection and possibly even further complications of disease, or even premature death.

You not only enabled a medical intervention, but in so doing, you also gave them what every person deserves: choices and opportunities to make the most of their lives. To be able to live a 'normal' life – to go to school, study for a degree, earn a living, find a life partner, and have children of their own. You've given them dignity and self-respect.

I pray as you read through the pages that follow, you'll be encouraged by the change you're bringing to children and their families.



“YOU'VE GIVEN THEM WHAT EVERY PERSON DESERVES: CHOICES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR LIVES.”

2017 IN NUMBERS

385

CHILDREN AT
SCHOOL

605

CHILDREN FED
DAILY

4

CHILDREN
SPONSORED
THROUGH SCHOOL

3

CHILDREN
BROUGHT TO
AUS FOR SURGERY

4 PARTNERS SUPPORTED

Kyampisi Childcare Ministries
[Peter Michael Sewakiryanga](#)

Bridge Christian Ministries
[Haggai Mwesige](#)

Milele Centre
[Frank Nyameche](#)

Restoration Of Hope Ministries Internationall
[Joseph Mukolwe](#)



21

CHILDREN
RESCUED FROM
TRAFFICKING



3

CHILDREN
RESCUED FROM
ABUSE



12

CHILDREN CARED FOR
IN REHABILITATION
CENTRE

38

PEOPLE PERMANENTLY
EMPLOYED BY OUR
PARTNERS



KISUMU, KENYA

Since they called Kisumu home in 2014, Frank and Lindah's Milele Centre has become a hub for their community. They run school camps; employ locals to work the farm and maintain the property; and are the "go-to" place for anyone needing counselling or advice.



2017 AT A GLANCE

- ECD House under construction
- 15 families supported through Milele farm's produce
- More than 100 young people have participated in programs hosted by Milele, including Litworld events that empower children through developing literacy.
- New microfinance businesses are being created, including three locals who have bought motorbikes to start taxi services.

WHAT YOU'VE DONE IN KISUMU

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT (ECD) HOUSE

Great progress has been made on the first ECD building, which will house 21 neglected and abandoned children under 5 years old. The vision is to give these kids a loving family environment to grow up in. At the time of writing this report, the home's roof was about to be installed. But it still needs significant financial support to get completed and see children streaming in. This is where you, our awesome supporters, come in!



MILELE FARMING

Milele's farm employs people from three families in the community, and provides food for more than 15 families. For these workers, employment on the farm has been vital – here are a few of their stories. Domtila, who is a widow with a disabled child, takes care of 13 grandchildren. She also keeps a plot within the Milele farm to feed her family and helps to find local buyers. Kevin is a 12-year-old orphaned boy who works on the farm after school to feed his siblings. Milele is also paying his school fees so he can continue his education.



NATEETE, UGANDA

Like many slums in Africa, Nateete is bustling with children. As their parents look for work during the day, these children are locked out of their shack houses and left on the streets. They get no education and no food. Haggai Mwesige saw this happening and decided to do something about it. And that's why Bridge Christian Ministries started. .



2017 AT A GLANCE

- 35 children at school
- Land developed into a playground for the school
- Recording studio set up
- New Seasons Nursery School expanding

WHAT YOU'VE DONE IN NATEETE

NEW SEASONS NURSERY SCHOOL

Through the generous donation from a single long-time supporter, we funded major renovations to the school and also the provision of a reliable source of drinking water to the facility. Thanks to funds raised at a 2016 fundraising dinner, BCM has bought three adjoining properties, which can now be used as a playground, car park or function area for the school.



RECORDING STUDIO

Haggai and his team have set up a recording studio to challenge youth in Nateete and give them an opportunity to explore new talents. Haggai's office has been halved with a partition and he's set up a soundproofed studio with basic equipment. As an added goal, the team intend to record some artists and use the profits to fund the church upkeep.

PHARMACY

Unfortunately, the pharmacy that opened in 2016 to fund teachers' wages has not become a viable income stream, so we are exploring other possible income-generating businesses to make the school self-sustainable.



MOLLIE'S STORY

KISUMU, KENYA

Molly is just 6 years old but must face a situation that's almost unthinkable.

She's one of four siblings, and two of the four are HIV positive. Both of their parents have died of AIDS, creating what is sadly the all-too-common reality of "child-headed" families. Milele is supporting Molly to go to pre-school and to attend hospital visits.



ALEX'S STORY

NATEETE, UGANDA

Alex was 13 years old and living on the streets of Nateete. His only way of surviving was to steal whatever he could get his hands on... phones, bikes, anything. But when he met Haggai, his life took a different turn.

They soon became friends, and through that friendship, Haggai began to share values with him. But before Alex had changed his ways, Haggai took him into his home, and raised him like a son. The only life he knew was the street life, whereby you survive by using force or by stealing from someone. Living on the streets made it hard for him to easily change, so bringing him close gave Alex an opportunity to see another life. Haggai became like a father to Alex. And he shows that any person can change, as long as there is an atmosphere of love.

Alex is in his early-thirties now. He finished school, went to university, now he's started his own company. He is travelling all over the world and has about 30 employees.

KYAMPISI, UGANDA

Peter Michael started Kyampisi Childcare Ministries (KCM) with one goal: to serve children. Now, more than 300 children attend KCM's school. St Paul's Rehabilitation Centre is home to at least 10 children at any time. And KCM runs End Child Sacrifice campaigns where they rescue victims of abuse, lobby Government to take action, and help in investigations. .



2017 AT A GLANCE

- 3 children brought to Australia for surgery
- 12 children cared for in rehabilitation home
- 320 at school
- 320 fed daily
- 21 children rescued from trafficking

WHAT YOU'VE DONE IN KYAMPISI

BRING THEM TO AUSTRALIA

Mary, Benson and Robert came to Australia for life-changing surgery in 2017. Surgeons and hospitals in Brisbane and Newcastle offered to operate for free. Airlines offered free flights. And on top of that, you helped raise over \$35,000 to cover various costs.

KIDNAPPED CHILDREN RESCUED

21 children were cared for at KCM's Rehabilitation Centre after being rescued from traffickers. They were sick, injured, malnourished, and some sexually abused. KCM gave social and psychological support before the children were reunited with their parents. Our supporters provided a clothing pack for each of them and funds to provide all necessary initial medical care.

MAIZE SHED

A Maize Shed has been built to pay for the ongoing running costs of a maternity clinic already built on KCM's land. Construction started in June 2017, and by the end of 2017, the roof was completed and the first maize purchased.

ST PAUL'S REHABILITATION HOME

KCM currently rents a house for its Rehabilitation Centre, but plans to build a new facility are being architecturally designed. This new centre will house 48 children and four staff.



BUNGOMA, KENYA

Based in Bungoma, Restoration Of Hope Ministries International (ROHMI) ministers to and daily feeds 250 of the approximately 270 boys that live on the streets. About 60 of these street boys are orphans who have left their homes seeking 'safety' on Bungoma's streets..



2017 AT A GLANCE

- ROHMI is run by Joseph Mukolwe
- 30 attend school
- More than 250 fed daily
- 4 former street boys top of the class
- 6 boys graduated to high school

A NEW PARTNERSHIP FORMED

In 2017, DIAS agreed to partner with ROHMI after several board members visited them on the ground. ROHMI has been financially supported for many years by Melissa and Grant Edwards, their business partner Milton Young, and through their company Buildsafe. DIAS is overseeing ROHMI's work, helping develop a long-term strategy to reach and assist more children, and finding additional accommodation and educational opportunities.



THE IMPACT

HOME & SCHOOL

ROHMI operates a home for 30 boys, and gives them education, clothing, food and safe shelter – just like a normal family. They attend school every day and attend church services every week. In 2017, boys from the home performed exceedingly well in their end-of-year exams. Four were top of their class, two were second, and one was third. News of the boys' achievements has spread around the entire Bungoma county because many find it hard to believe that street kids can be transformed.



MEDICAL CARE

Many of the boys lack proper nutrition and medical care while living on the streets, so ROHMI provides health services to them as they often contract malaria, typhoid and many skin infections.



ROBERT'S STORY

KYAMPISI, UGANDA

Back in June 2014, Robert was lying in a coma-like state in a hospital in Kampala after being rescued during an attempted murder. He was stabbed in the neck in what was believed to be an attempt to drain his blood for a witch doctor's ritual.

The stabbing had damaged a nerve in his neck, causing him to be a quadriplegic. He could only drag himself around on his knees and bottom, and only use his hands for the simplest of tasks. After leaving hospital, he moved into the St Paul's Rehabilitation Centre at Kyampisi, where the staff looked after him and gave him physiotherapy.

In June 2017, Robert arrived in Australia to receive surgery in Newcastle. And now, he can walk unaided and use a pencil to draw! He still has a long road of physiotherapy ahead of him, but each day we can see improvement.

Left alone, Robert would probably have become a crippled beggar on the street corner, but that's not his lot on life. Instead, because of you, he can walk and write, and in 2018, will start attending school.

JOSPEH'S STORY

BUNGOMA, KENYA

"In 2002, I had a dream. In this dream, I saw African children, mostly boys, in a very big pit. And the pit was sinking. It was like a dumping site. These kids were crying for help. They wanted someone to hear them and help. People were just passing by... some people could hear the cry, but they would not stop.

"When I reached there, a voice told me to take the children from this pit. So I knelt down, stretched down my right hand, and began pulling them out one by one. And when they were out, they were very happy.

"When I woke up in the morning, I was disturbed by the dream so I prayed to God about the meaning of the dream. That day, God gave me love for street kids. Whenever I go around town and meet these boys, I talk to them, ask them why they are on the streets, and each boy tells me his story. I have that love for them."



FINANCIALS

	2017	2016
TOTAL REVENUE	\$316,439	\$255,036
FUNDRAISING REVENUE	\$31,178	\$89,544
DONATIONS REVENUE	\$288,261	\$165,492
FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD FROM PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR	\$35,890	\$28,639
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$340,494	\$219,147
PARTNER PERSONAL SUPPORT	\$23,487	\$24,526
PROJECTS		
BRING THEM TO AUSTRALIA	\$10,246	\$12,965
	(BALANCE = \$15,032)	
WEEMA MEDICAL CLINIC	\$7,530	\$7,384
MAIZE MILL	\$35,400	\$4,137
NEW SEASONS SCHOOL	\$12,814	\$41,325
RESCUED TRAFFICKED CHILDREN	\$5,991	\$0
ORGANISATIONAL SUPPORT		
EDUCATION	\$20,120	\$10,000
HEALTH & WELFARE	\$42,675	\$47,623
CHILD SUPPORT	\$155,016	\$14,610
DIAS SUPERVISORY TRIP COSTS (PAID BY INDIVIDUALS)	\$21,801	\$20,540

A more detailed financial report can be obtained by contacting the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission.