



HOPE AFRICA

Annual Report 2021

Letter from the Executive Director

“...Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”—Mark 12:44

As I reflect on 2021, I am struck by the words of Jesus from Mark 12 as he witnessed a widow give two small copper coins. Her offering seemed like nothing to the world, but Jesus saw her heart, a heart of sacrifice and generosity. This is what we have seen over and over again, from donors we would least expect, giving generously to support vulnerable children halfway across the world. It is an absolute honor to witness widows, single parents, college students, high school students, young families, and groups of children giving to bring hope to children.

Our sponsored children, their families and staff are grateful for the support they received. Because of such generosity, we were able to continue educating our children when Ugandan schools closed again in June of 2021. The youngest children were impacted the most, as children in Primary 3 or younger hadn't attended school since March 2020. But, with the resources you provided, we were able to hire private teachers to homeschool the children. In addition, we were able to provide computer tech training to our older students in Kapchorwa and various skills training at K&K. In contrast, about 1 out of 10 children in Uganda did not return to school as a result of these school closures and the economic pressures from extended lockdowns (<https://www.unicef.org/uganda/press-releases/23-countries-yet-fully-reopen-schools-education-risks-becoming-greatest-divider>). But, Hope Africa helped to keep children learning and gave relief to families so they were able to return back to school. *95% of our children skipped at least one grade and 38 of our children were able to skip two or more grades!*

In addition, our Ugandan staff and volunteers strived to keep children accountable, especially older students. We had a few students give up and walk away, losing hope that schools would open again. Our staff pursued every student, visited their homes, counseled them in the office and disciplined them in the hope which comes through personal relationship with Jesus.

We are touched by your hearts for Uganda's next generation. Your generosity is truly making a difference in their lives, demonstrating that they can hope again, they will have a future, they can go on, one step at a time. *Thank you for partnering with us to love Uganda's most vulnerable children. --Katie Keranen, Executive Director*

OUR VISION

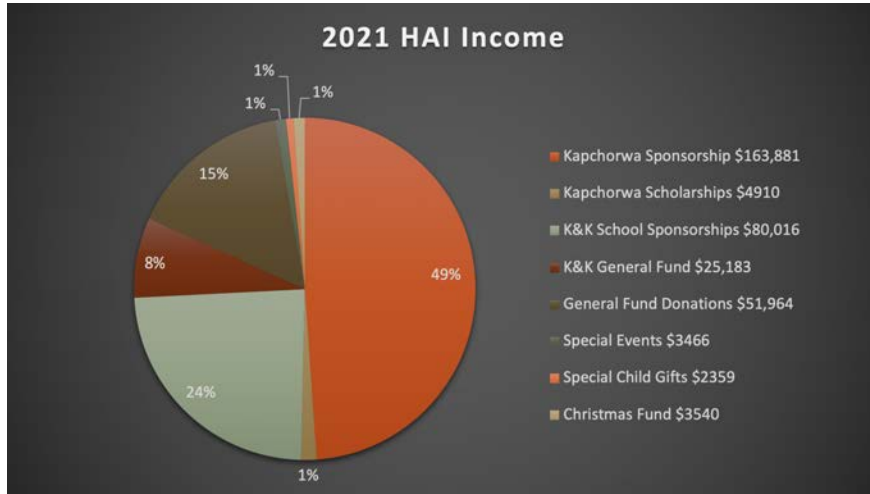
Our vision is to bring hope to destitute children through meeting their physical needs, providing a quality education, and teaching them about God's grace and mercy through His Son, Jesus. We believe transformation of communities, nations, and the world happens when we invest in children, who are the future leaders.

HOW WE DO THIS

Hope Africa International provides for school fees, meals at school, uniforms and shoes, medical care, and camps where children participate in Bible Study, health and hygiene instruction, and career counseling.



2021 FINANCIAL OUTCOMES

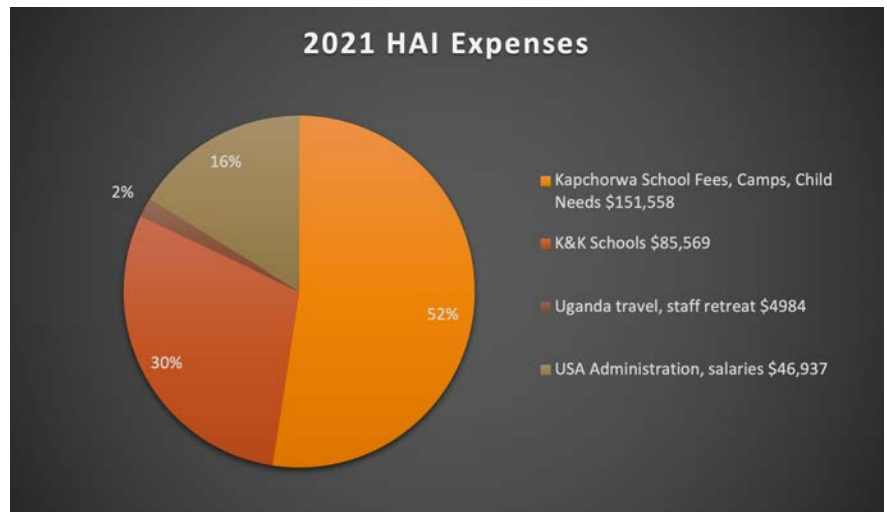


Our total income for 2021 was \$335,319, with \$248,807 designated specifically to child sponsorship. We used 95% of sponsorship donations for sponsorship expenses in Uganda including school fees, child needs, uniforms, medical, camps, Uganda salaries and office expenses.

You may ask, "How then do you provide for all the needs of the program beyond sponsorship donations?" The average cost per child for all of our expenses in Uganda is \$43, and this does not include

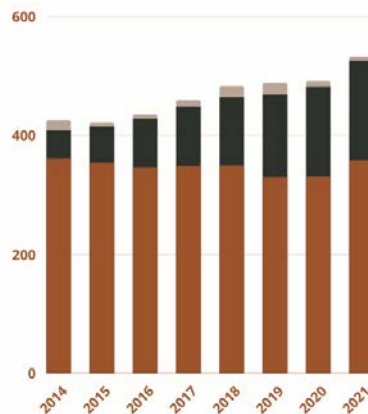
the costs incurred in the USA. But, we are able to offer sponsorship at the low rate of \$39/month because of generous General Fund donations. We operate on a set annual budget to provide for the needs of both our programs, Kapchorwa and K&K. Also, General Fund donations cover unexpected expenses outside of our budget, and we saved some of the extra income for the 2022 budget.

You may also ask, "What are USA administrative expenses?" These include two part-time employees, taxes, bank fees, credit card processing fees, website fees, postage, CPA fees, and liability insurance.



If you have any questions regarding our financials and 2021 IRS 990 tax return, you are welcome to contact us. Our financial records are available to donors upon request.

Sponsorship Growth



Since 2014, Hope Africa has seen a net (after graduations, children leaving the program) increase of 117 sponsorships.

SPONSORSHIP OUTCOMES

The total number of children we impact through both sponsorship programs in Kapchorwa and K&K has increased after a decline. In the past couple years, the number of children dropped by their sponsors has decreased. Overall in 2021, 532 children were being supported by Hope Africa, an increase from 425 in 2014!

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

- **5 Students graduated from Secondary 6, 5 students graduated from nursing school and 6 Students graduated from vocational programs.**



- **17 private teachers were hired** to carry out homeschooling and provide lunches at eleven homesites and the project office in Kapchorwa during school closures.

- **At K&K Schools**, older students received special skills training in baking, carpentry, and tailoring when school was closed. Younger students continued with math and reading.

- **Computer Tech training** was provided for all Primary 7 and Secondary 4 students, giving them skills for today's competitive workforce.

- **Primary 7 Exam Results: For the first time in Hope Africa history, 100% of our children in Kapchorwa passed their primary 7 exams, and 95 % passed at K&K, enabling them to move onto Secondary School (High School).**

- **100% of K&K and 92% of Kapchorwa Secondary 4** (high school) students passed their government exams to receive their ordinary diplomas.



- **Two Hope Africa graduates were given full scholarships**

by African Bible University.

2021 DISCIPLESHIP

"And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove your heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."—
Ezekiel 36:26

- **We held center days, where children celebrated being together, worshiped, shared testimonies and learned what it means to surrender their hearts to God.**



- **During homeschooling, local pastors and graduated students encouraged the children daily in their faith.**
- **Bibles were given to every newly sponsored child.**

MEETING PHYSICAL NEEDS

- When students were sent home again in June 2021, many children faced hunger, since they depended on meals at school. In addition, the lockdown prevented travel and daily commerce. Families quickly ran out of food. **We budgeted for this very issue and provided food for all of our families in Kapchorwa and at K&K until the restrictions were lifted.**



- We assisted with funeral expenses for a grandparent of a sponsored child and the older brother of some of our sponsored children.

- **Goats were given to every student who completed Secondary 4, as an income-**

generating project for future schooling.

- **Hope Africa provided for medical needs for children** which were not covered by government healthcare. For example, we provided for a student to have surgery. In addition, every child received a medical evaluation and HIV testing.



- **We had seven HIV positive students who received regular nutritional supplements** and medication. All of these students are thriving.



- **Uniforms and shoes were provided** for every sponsored child in Kapchorwa and at K&K Schools. In Kapchorwa, this meant 337 uniforms and pairs of shoes. At K&K Schools, local women are paid to sew uniforms for over 500 students, which benefits the children and the women!

• **84**

children in extreme need received extra support with school supplies and food. These are children who are either orphans, children of widows or single parents, or children whose parents cannot provide for even these basic needs.

- **Every new secondary student received a mattress,** a requirement for boarding school.



PARTNERING WITH FAMILIES

Hope Africa International seeks to partner with families, parents and guardians to support them in raising their own children. We believe supporting families helps to build stronger communities, reduces child trafficking, reduces overcrowded orphanages, and reduces child marriages. **Here is how HAI partnered with families in 2021:**

- **A few parents serve on our Advisory Committee** which provides counsel to our Ugandan staff and HAI board.
- **When schools closed again, parents stepped up** by opening their homes to host small groups of students for learning.

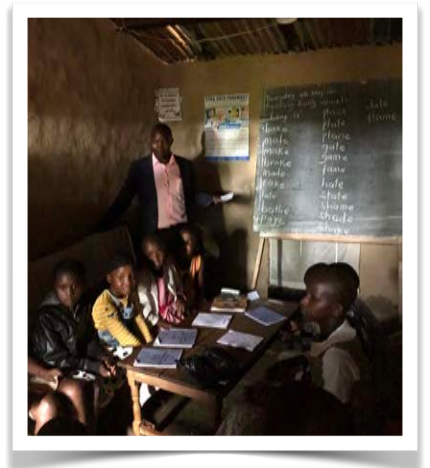


- **Multiple meetings were held between teachers, parents and staff** to plan and prepare for homeschooling.

- **HAI held parent meetings** where they received instruction on health and hygiene, Biblical parenting, and how to support their children in their education. Parents were also given the opportunity to voice their

questions and concerns with the program.

- **Ugandan Staff visited the homes of sponsored children** to check in on their living situations and needs. This also allowed them to build better relationships and mutual trust with parents or guardians.
- **Ugandan Staff met personally with parents and students** to guide them through difficulties, new decisions and to create effective solutions.
- **Ugandan Staff intervened when children were in difficult home situations** and worked within the community to find caring guardians for the children, or worked with families to improve the situations.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

- Every year, Hope Africa International raises funds for Christmas Celebrations in Kapchorwa and at K&K Schools.
- Because of COVID-19 restrictions, we celebrated Christmas in smaller groups, giving every child a snack, food to take home and bedsheets.

STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS



K&K Overseer and Project Coordinator

Mike and Phylis Chemonges worked for Hope Africa International in Kapchorwa from 2009 through 2015. Now, they oversee the sponsorship program at K&K with Amazing Grace Primary School and Amazing Grace Secondary School, in the valley below Kapchorwa. They manage 30 plus teachers and 500 plus students.



Hope Africa International in Kapchorwa

(Left to right) **Project Coordinator:** Harriet Chepkwurui since 2015, **Student Welfare:** Alice Sande since 2016, **Overseer:** David Chebet since 2017, **Accountant:** Doricas Cheptoek (also below) since 2017

Hope Africa International USA

Executive Director: Since 2013, Katie Keranen has managed donors, sponsors, fundraising, reporting from the Uganda projects, communication, trips to Uganda, staff development, maintaining child records, overseeing finances in Uganda and USA.



Administrative Assistant: From 2019-2021, **Crystal Vogt** managed bookkeeping in the USA.

HAI Board Members

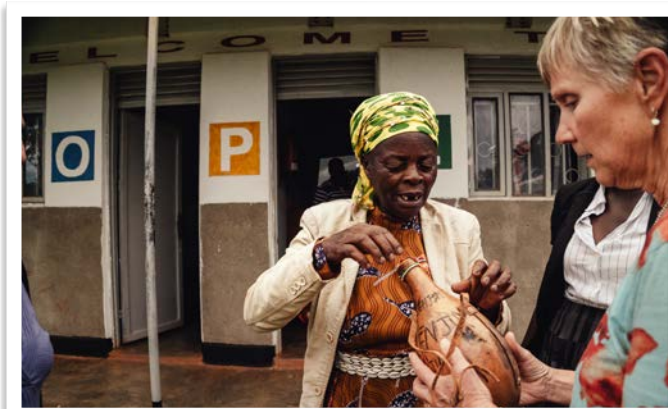


Board Member: *Mick Black* (left) travels to Uganda 2-3 times per year to assist with construction projects and to manage his fair trade coffee business, Kabum Coffee.

Board Chair: *DC Lundy* (left) travels to Uganda 2-4 times per year to assist with construction and ministry projects at K&K and to encourage all HAI staff.

Board Vice Chair: *Troy Smith* (right) lived in Kenya for over 2 years managing an orphanage for street children and is a former pastor. Troy volunteers his time helping to coordinate legal and administrative

assistance in Uganda to ensure accountability for the program.



Board Secretary (left): *Karen Williams* travels to Uganda about once a year and is the Children's Ministry Director at Sisters Community Church. She has deep passion for children and education.

Board Treasurer (Not Pictured): *Garth Tosello* was on one of the early teams traveling to Uganda from Sisters,

OR and supports Hope Africa through his small business.

Board Member (Not pictured): *Mack Jenks* previously worked in corporate marketing. He has diverse cross-cultural experience, having served in Honduras, Mexico, Turkey and Tanzania.

Board Member (right): *Pam Lundy* is a nurse practitioner and has served with her husband, DC Lundy, at K&K, especially during medical missions.

All HAI board members have cross-cultural experience, particularly in Africa, and have a passion for physical and spiritual development in Africa. Board members are diverse in experience with business, construction, education, medicine and Church ministry. None of the board members received any compensation from HAI during 2021.



DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE

- **Improved Academic Performance:**

- We continue to raise our expectations for better performance. 2021 was once again a difficult year with schools only open for a short time and not for every grade. Our students' government exam results improved significantly, and we planned to implement private study sessions in 2022.

- **Reduced Drop-out:**

- Because most of our sponsored children come from difficult family situations, in years past, we have had students drop out before completing their education. This increased slightly in 2021, as older students became discouraged and distracted with school closures. We also were unable to hold our regular camps for the students (due to restrictions), so it was difficult to keep them engaged. In 2022, we planned to engage trusted teachers to disciple children at school.

- **Increased Interaction With Families**

- Our goal is for staff or volunteers to visit the homes of sponsored children at least once per year. We have not quite accomplished this goal and see the vast need to increase our transportation budget to make this happen.
- Improved Parent meetings where parents are encouraged and instructed on Biblical parenting and career and school guidance for their children. Increased interaction means intervention to prevent abuse and abandonment of sponsored children by their families.

- **University Scholarship Fund**

- Providing scholarships for students who wish to attend university has been an ongoing dream of ours. As our support base strengthens, we hope to begin a scholarship fund to assist those who qualify for higher education. In 2021, three female students were given full-ride scholarships by African Bible University in Uganda, a gift from the former President, Dr. Paul Chinchon.

- **Our Own Building in Kapchorwa**

- In 2006, Testimony Primary School was built by donors from Sisters Community Church. This was the school all our sponsored children in Kapchorwa previously attended. Due to the lack of financial accountability of the overseer of the program, we had no choice but to remove the children from the school in 2014 and enroll them in other private schools in Kapchorwa.
- Since 2014, we have implemented rigorous financial and administrative procedures and staff training to prevent this from happening again. Our current Ugandan team has proven to be faithful to the children and the program, validated by professional annual audits. *Our relationship with staff is spiritually and emotionally healthy as we work together for the benefit of children.*
- *Our project overseer, David Chebet, started a new church, Destiny Church, specifically to benefit Hope Africa's children. Destiny Church has been saving to purchase land. In addition, parents of sponsored children have pledged to raise money for land. Their hope is to build a building to be used by Hope Africa and Destiny Church for offices, services, center days, camps and educational support. The church members are utilizing their own resources to pursue this dream! Parents have committed to raising a portion of money by soliciting their family members and neighbors. The Advisory Board is going to request pledges from local schools and government officials. We believe the community of Kapchorwa will contribute because they have personally seen the impact Hope Africa is*

having on the lives of vulnerable children, and they have seen Hope Africa operate with integrity since 2014.

- **More Sponsorships to Sustain K&K Schools**

- Amazing Grace Primary and Secondary Schools collectively educate over 550 students, but as of the end of 2021, only 167 of the children were sponsored. While some students pay full school fees to attend the school, most of the families at K&K do not have the ability to pay. Our goal is to see all of the neediest students sponsored to better provide for the needs of the school for an excellent education.

Contact us

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- Follow us on Facebook @HopeAfrica
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