



Newsletter Obumu Nederland – Uganda December 2020.

Corona is changing the world, also in Uganda.

How is the nursery- and primary school St. Charles in Uganda in this corona era?

During the last visit to St. Charles Lwanga school in Kifukamisa in January 2020, the construction of one of the last classrooms started. Corona was also detected in Uganda at the end of March and the entire country was immediately thrown into lock-down. Still, the school board managed to finish this classroom and provide it with furniture. The renovation of an old classroom into a reinforced concrete classroom as a computer room could also be started and is now finished. For security reasons, the installation of a few computers will be delayed until the schools reopen completely. Thanks to all donors who made all this possible!

Currently, there have been around 20,000 Corona cases in Uganda, not many in a population of 42 million people. Still, the country is largely locked up, but politics plays a major role in this, because there will be Presidential elections in January 2021. You understand what this means during a 7-month lock-down that is far from over! The effects are now disastrous for the residents. Due to the lock-down, many have no work. There is no support like here. There is hunger! A doctor and / or medicines cannot be paid. Theft, domestic violence, even rapes of young girls, prostitution, etc. are commonplace. HIV / AIDS is on the rise again.

A cry for help from the school reached us. The school itself had already made the groundwater on the school grounds available to the poor residents. Together with the school board, Obumu has examined how we can temporarily support the school within our “education” objective in combating the effects of the lock-down, such as mouth masks, disinfection material, soap, plastic gloves and information. There is a lack of this and for most of them not affordable. A program was set up in which the women who normally attend school within the “Empowerment Women Project” play a major role. They now make masks and soap at school, in groups of 6 under supervision and at a distance. The masks and soap are sold to the residents for a small fee. These women and the inhabitants are given information about Corona and how to protect themselves against it by a hired nurse. But attention is also paid to protection in other areas, such as sexual education and general hygiene, which can protect the inhabitants from the many dangers that this situation entails. Thanks to all who made it possible to relieve this need.



The new Class.



Making soap.



Mouth masks.



Information classes.

The pictures tell enough.

From the beginning of November, the lock-down was only lifted for the highest class of Primary Education and the final exam classes in Secondary Education. At the kindergarten and primary school St. Charles a catch-up program has been set up for the 20 pupils, who will leave the school after the exam in April. This means that the children have to stay at school longer with all the dangers that entails. This was solved by letting the pupils and teachers sleep at school during the weekdays. But this means that the school must ensure that these children and the five teachers have meals three times a day. Parents do their utmost to pay some school fees, teachers have given up half of their already low monthly salary. You can imagine how big the problem is and what it all means. Fortunately, Obumu was able to transfer 300 Euro in November so that the school board could give these students and teachers three meals a day at least until the Christmas holidays.

I certainly cannot fail to thank you all very much for your financial help on behalf of the school board of this nursery- and primary school St. Charles Lwanga.

The first months of 2021 will also be very difficult for them, despite the fact that there are plans to become self-reliant with regard to food by setting up a mixed business, which of course costs time and money.

The first part of this plan is to create a vegetable garden with different vegetables, so that the one-sided nutrition for pupils and teachers is prevented in the future. The costs to set up this are 900 Euro. Obumu would like to support this plan in 2021.

At the beginning of 2020, Obumu was able to transfer a gift of 1000 Euro to the RSCJ Secondary School in Kalungu to supplement the teaching material, there is a great shortage. Obumu wants to continue with this in 2021. Education at a good level is so important!

Many thanks also from the sisters for your support.

Gifts, large or small, are always welcome at:

Obumu Netherlands - Uganda,

Bank account: NL47RABO 0323995020

With mention: "Emergency fund St. Charles" or "Rscj Kalungu".

I sincerely wish everyone, also on behalf of the other board members, a lot of reading pleasure, a good health, a warm Christmas and a prosperous 2021.

Hermine van Asten - Wennekers
President.