

St. Nicholas Uganda Children's Fund Newsletter

April 2023

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"Determination over negativity is a belief that anything is possible no matter who you are or where you come from."

—Donovan Mitchell



All is Possible

Susan's story begins with her brother, Wycliff, who came to us two months after their father died. (They had lost their mother seven years previously.) Wycliff had two years of high school remaining and had no financial support to complete his education. Susan was fourteen at the time and her younger sister, Lynette, was eleven. The two girls were sent to live with a grandmother in the village while Wycliff remained in Kampala with an aunt.

We sponsored Wycliff through high school and medical school, where he earned a Diploma in Clinical Medicine & Public Health. In his final year of high school, the village relatives were no longer able to support the girls and the responsibility fell to the brother. Wycliff appealed to us for help, and we agreed to bring the girls to Kampala and continue with their education.

We sponsored Susan through high school and vocational school. After graduation, she worked for two years as a receptionist at a downtown hotel. She saved her money and started her own business, a retail shop which she named "All Is

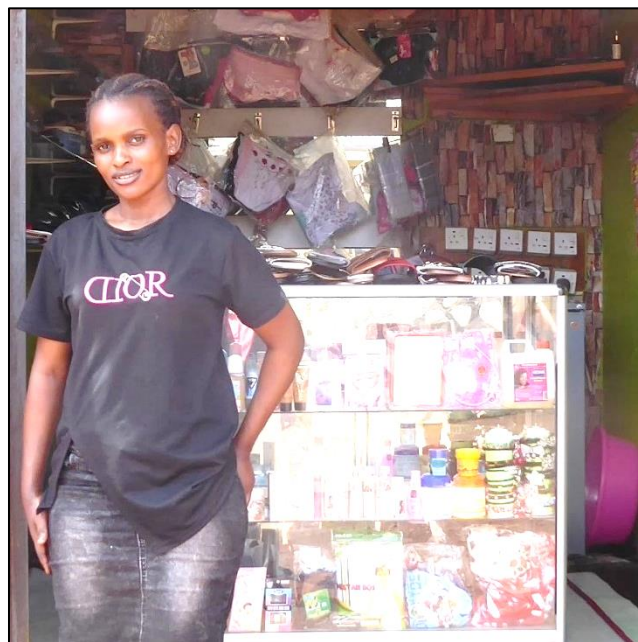


Susan in high school

Possible General Merchandise." The shop sells inexpensive cosmetics, purses, lingerie, sandals, bottled water, and soft drinks. She is also an agent for mobile

money, which has become the primary channel for personal financial transactions in Uganda.

Susan's business survived the COVID disruption and lockdown only to be robbed last year. The thieves took everything but the counter and shelves. Undaunted, she used what little she had saved, restocked, and opened for business again.



All Is Possible General Merchandise

Wycliff is now working as the HIV/TB Treatment Officer for the Buvuma Islands in Lake Victoria. Lynette will graduate in October from Nkumba University with a degree in Business Administration.

The confidence and determination of so many of our graduates is a testimony to the effectiveness of parental involvement and financial support. Their success is our joy.

Consistent Excellence

Leticia's father died when she was four years old, leaving her mother HIV positive. She joined our program in third grade when her mother became too ill to support her in school. She has two older sisters who were also sponsored by our organization. Dorah graduated from university with a degree in Electrical Engineering and is now a field

supervisor with Uganda’s National Building Review Board. Lilian graduated this past year with a degree in Accounting & Finance.



Leticia was our top student in the national exams for O Level secondary school, ranking in the 1st Division (out of four). She went on to repeat her success on the A Level national exams, not only as the top student in our program,

but also was one of the top four students in a class of more than one hundred in her secondary school. She decided to emulate her sister Lilian and has been accepted at Ndejje University for a bachelor’s degree in Accounting & Finance.



Our new university students

Fifth-Grade Stars

Our students attend Alund’Entono Nursery & Primary School which is located very near our office. The fifth-grade class has seventy students enrolled, and when report cards were issued, our students took four of the top six spots.

Miracle earned the honor of being the number one student in the class. She earned Distinctions in all four of her subjects with an average grade of 95%. She stays with her grandmother who is also caring for Miracle’s sister and two cousins. Tragically, their grandmother has no



surviving children. She supports the family by selling water from a tap that Miracle’s late father had installed before he was killed in an workplace accident.



Rose (3rd)

Daniel (5th)

Amon (6th)

Rose is a very bright girl who always ranks at or near the top of her class. Like Miracle, she also earned Distinctions in all four of her subjects, with English being her best at 97%. Her older brother, Peter, and younger sister, Esther are also excellent students.

Daniel joined our program three years ago shortly after his father died. He struggled to improve his performance each term and finally cracked the Honor Roll this year, ranking fifth in the class.

Amon rounds out our top four students. He and his older sister were abandoned by their father when Amon was two, and their hardworking mother walks through the neighborhoods selling second-hand ladies’ clothing door-to-door. Amon is an Honor Roll regular.

These achievements would not have been possible without your support. Thank you!

Peter & Sharon

We welcome your donations.

Checks may be sent to:

St. Nicholas Uganda Children’s Fund

P.O. Box 285

Chardon, OH 44024-0285

Or you can donate online at

www.ugandachildrensfund.org

The St. Nicholas Uganda Children’s Fund is a registered non-profit 501(c)(3) organization eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions.