



The Linda Foundation
A child has the right to be a child!

Annual Report 2020

Introduction

The Linda Foundation (Light in dynamic Africa) works in Lira District, Northern Uganda. It is a Christian, not for profit organization with the vision to bring hope and improve the chances in life and living standards of the orphans and vulnerable children. Thousands of children have lost their parents there, due to the atrocities of the "Lord's Resistance Army" (LRA), HIV/AIDS, poverty and limited health facilities.

The team consists of 4 local employees. They receive a local salary.

The Light in dynamic Africa (Linda) Project raises funds for the work of The Linda Foundation.

Jozina van Eerdenburg is the founder of The Linda Project and of The Linda Foundation. She is chairman of the Board. She regularly stays in Uganda.

The projects of 2020:

1. SOS Programme (Send an Orphan to School)
2. Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace

We try to help as many children as possible, by providing them with (emergency) shelter, care and education. Whenever possible we reunite the children with their relatives. In Northern Uganda there is often a big gap between generations, mostly because the parents died and the children were raised by the grandparents or other older relatives. These people are often faced with looking after many orphans, while also having to look after their own family. Money is just not there to look after everybody. This results in the orphans being neglected, having to work hard, getting no schooling, not enough food and no significant, highly needed love.

SOS Programme (Send an Orphan to School)

This programme started in 2002 and supports a large group of Orphans and Vulnerable Children, among which 3 are disabled, with education, from Primary to Secondary School, Technical School and even University. The programme doesn't just pay school fees, we monitor the children, guide and counsel them, pay them visits, give them the personal and educational requirements, plus moral and medical care.

These orphans usually live with poor relatives who do not have the means to take proper care of them. If they have nowhere else to go, we will accept them in our children's home "House of Grace". However, basically we don't accept new orphans: the community and in particular the relatives should take care of them.

In 2020 the numbers were as follows:

Total number of children in S.O.S. programme	21
- of which in Primary School	4
- of which in Secondary or Technical School	13
- of which in University	4
- living in House of Grace	13
- handicapped	3

Secondary education in Uganda consists of 4 years O level and 2 years A level. In O level they study 10 subjects, in A level they choose 3 subjects from a given combination + 2 compulsory subjects. Subsequently they go to a university or college. After O level they can also join agricultural school, technical school, teacher's college, business school, etc. on a certificate level. This takes normally 1-2 years, after which they can join a diploma course. Everybody wants to go to A level, become a doctor or a lawyer, that brings money. But it is not a bright idea, because many of them simply do not have the qualifications. After 2 years they fail their A level and are back at square 1. In 2011 we have decided to stop supporting students after O level, exceptions notwithstanding.

We do offer technical education though.

The 4 students who did their O level exams in 2014 have all joined A level. In 2016 they passed their exams. In 2017 3 of them joined university and 1 went to college. Of the 5 pupils who sat for primary school exams in 2019, 3 went to secondary school and 2 pupils went to technical school (2020).

Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace

In our Children's rehabilitation home House of Grace children are accepted that have nowhere to go. They are either abandoned, orphaned, abused or alone through other causes. Three of them are physically handicapped as well.

In 2020 16 children found a home there. Most of the children have suffered. Some lived in camps, or on the street. Some have seen their parents killed by rebels, were abused and left to fend for themselves. Some are affected/infected by Aids. Our social worker, patron and matron try to rehabilitate these children. Since they are local people, they know what these children have gone through. A stable and secure environment helps these kids to become a child again and limits the consequences of being "*psychologically handicapped*" for the rest of their lives.

The Ugandan Government has decided that during vacations no children are to be residing in a children's home. Due to the fact that it has proven to be impossible for the children to be with distant relatives, as we experienced in 2017, the children have been guests of House of Hope during vacations. The children's home House of Grace has officially been closed.

The Uganda Electricity Company has kept quiet again in 2019 after coming with an offer in 2013 to buy the land they need to put a road across our premises, to install their new poles and high voltage power lines. Since 2010 we sent letters, telephoned and visited them and approached them in various formal and informal ways. Still, they proceeded with the planned construction of the 5-meter-wide road, which will be their property.

For 12,5 meters on both sides of that road we are not allowed to live.

Most probably sooner than later we have to move from there, so we are considering alternatives. As compensation they offered us \$ 8.400,00. Through our lawyer the matter is in court. We cannot agree to this and expect a much higher compensation for us to relocate.

In the meantime, the high voltage poles and lines are there, the trees are cut. We have left. When will compensation ever come? That's a good question.

Fortunately, we have been able to find and buy a new House of Grace, it's under renovation.

Realisation workplan 2020

Description	Realisation
Finance S.O.S. programme	Paid € 9.477
Finance Orphans rehabilitation home House of Grace	Paid € 13.963
Finance Office Lira	Paid € 5.101
Finance miscellaneous	Paid € 1.110
Pay off and renovate the new house of Grace	We were able to buy a new house of grace, this needs to be paid off. For the renovation we received € 20.000

1 euro = 3900 Ush

Workplan 2021

Description	Budgetted amount needed
Finance S.O.S. programme	€ 15.795
Finance House of Hope	€ 14.024
Finance Office Lira	€ 4.966
Finance miscellaneous	€ 3.026
Pay off and renovation of new house	€ 20.000

1 euro = 3900 Ush

Concluding

To prevent misappropriation of cash money we will deal with all financial matters through the bank, with the exception of petty cash and for emergency cases (visit a hospital, for example).

Our orphans and vulnerable children are extremely happy with all the support they received from various sides. On their behalf we extend our greatest gratitude to everybody, people, organizations, businesses and churches, who appreciate what we are doing and support us with funds, time, and fundraising activities. We trust this summarised report encourages all of you to continue supporting us!

**The LindA Foundation:
Care and education for orphans in Northern Uganda.**

Legal/formal status The LindA Foundation is a community based organization, duly registered by the Lira local government in 2003. (registration number L009/03) And in 2014 under registration number LDLG/2014/034 R Also registered by the Ugandan Government as NGO (registration number S.5914/4682). The registered office of the Foundation is situated in Lira city, in the Republic of Uganda.

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