



# 2019 Annual Report



# From the **Board President**

Dear Friends,

The year 2019 was significant for the Arlington Academy of Hope, marking the organization's 15 Anniversary. In such a short time, the organization has achieved so much. Built upon the principle of a model education program, AAH has been able to measure its impact and expand its efforts—and looks toward a very bright future.

Since AAH's inception, 100% of our primary school students have passed their Primary Leaving Exam, and each year have climbed in the district rankings. This year, our student scores were the highest in the organization's history. Our outreach program has grown to include over 26 schools, with over 20,000 students touched by our education program. We have cultivated girls' mentorship programs to ensure girls are able to complete their educational curriculum and go on to achieve a post-secondary

education. This year we celebrated two female university graduates in science and engineering programs.

Looking forward, AAH will continue its commitment to community development by implementing a solar program as well as expanding its outreach schools. We know the importance of not only helping our students, but also the communities in which they live. When we invest in community, we lay the groundwork to positively impact the local economy and establish a self-sustaining and vibrant community.

Thank you for being part of our journey, and we hope you will join us for our next 15 years!

Warmest Regards,  
Dick Burk  
Board President



# Vision and Core Values

## Vision

By engaging a community of caring volunteers and committed professionals, AAH's educational, healthcare, and vocational programs transform impoverished villages into vibrant, self-sustaining communities.

Specifically, we seek to:

- Develop sustainable educational and healthcare models for local communities.
- Set high standards of academic excellence and prepare the children for adult lives that strengthen both their communities and the world.
- Support our students as they progress to higher levels of learning and professional careers.
- Establish clinics and community health programs that provide access to modern health care, medicines, and a higher quality of life.
- Encourage our AAH outreach villages to employ technology, building, and farming techniques that increase environmental awareness and stewardship.
- Foster greater cultural understanding on local, national and international levels through shared learning experiences.

## Core Values

**Respect:** We practice and teach respect for people, culture, gender, health status, and the environment.

**Partnership:** We partner with others within and across our communities, as well as with our sponsors and donors.

**Integrity:** We practice and teach integrity in our programs, funding, and communities.

**Transformation:** We work to transform the future of our communities, as we ourselves transform to better serve all our partners.

**Community Engagement:** We set priorities and build progress collaboratively in Africa and around the globe to engage communities by raising awareness and involvement.

**Sustainability:** We ensure the future health of our programs and their participants, as well as the surrounding natural environment.



# Background

AAH began as a grassroots effort by Ugandan immigrants John and Joyce Wanda to support quality education in Uganda's rural districts of Bududa and Manafwa. Working with a network of supporters in their local communities in Arlington, VA, they decided that the best and most effective way of making an impact on local education in Uganda was to start a school in their community that reflected the high standards they'd seen in the USA. With funds raised through their network of supporters, they began building a school they named Arlington Academy of Hope, in honor of their new U.S. home and to reflect the standards they wanted for the school. The school opened in February 2004 with 78 students. Today, AAH supports more than 800 children in primary, secondary, and tertiary schools. Over the years, AAH has grown to include a secondary school scholarship program, a post-secondary program, two health clinics, an outreach program to schools, and a women's microfinance program.

In the US, AAH is registered with the IRS as a 501c3 organization and has a well-established infrastructure that includes a U.S. Board of Directors, a U.S. Advisory Board, a salaried Executive Director, and four core committees staffed by volunteers covering Education,

Health, New Ventures, Fundraising, and Outreach. These committees develop policy guidelines and strategic plans. An Executive Committee of the Board meets monthly and provides oversight over U.S. and coordinates Ugandan operations.

In Uganda, AAH is a fully registered NGO, with a Ugandan Board of Directors composed of five members, representing various constituencies of AAH. These include a Parent Teacher Association, a School Management Committee, and a Clinic Advisory Board, each of which chooses a representative to the Board. The head teacher of the Arlington Junior School also sits on the board. Other senior staff in Uganda include a Medical Director, a Secondary and University Coordinator, an Accountant, and a Purchasing Manager. The total number of staff in Uganda—including teachers, nurses and administrative and support staff—is about 72. AAH has vibrant and growing relationships with local and national government officials, entities, and professional people in Bududa district and Kampala.



# Key Stats Education Reach – 2019

## Arlington Junior School Enrollment

**400**

## Secondary School Enrollment

**349**

## Tertiary Enrollment

Vocational Enrollment **68**

University Enrollment **95**

## Academic Achievement

**25**

Certificate **6** Diploma **2** Bachelor's **17**

## Local or Government Scholarship

**10**

## Outreach Schools

**25**



In 2019, 100% of Arlington Junior School P7 students passed the Primary Leaving Exam.

# Key Stats Health Care – 2019



**Total Patients**

**29,410**



**Babies Delivered**

**238**



**Malaria Treatment**

**2,398**



**Postnatal Care**

**370**



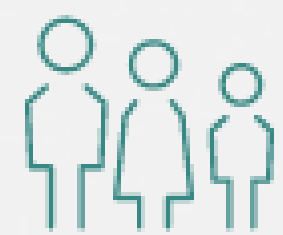
**Immunizations**

**684**



**Healthy Homes**

**114**



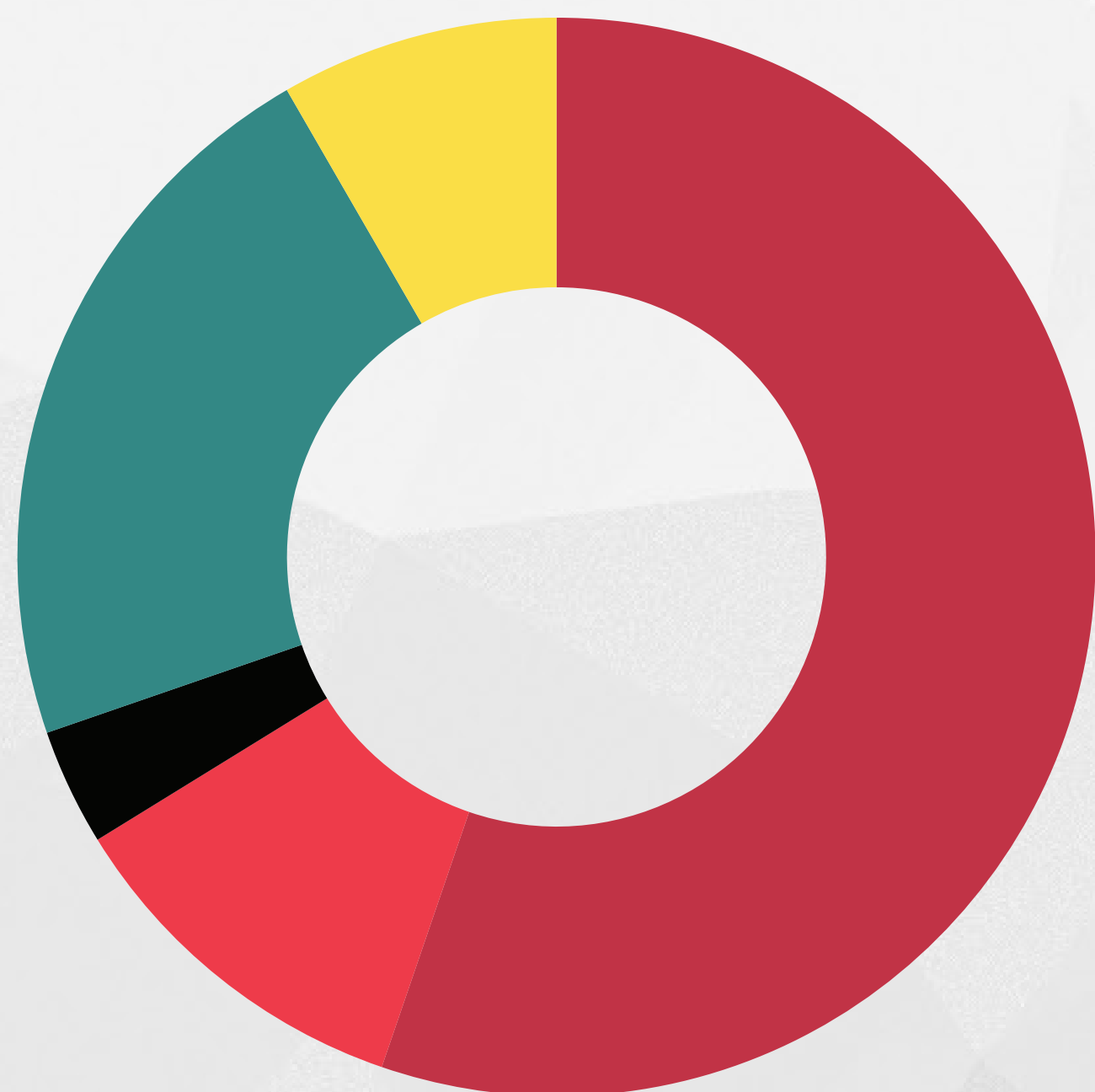
**Family Planning**

**1,612**



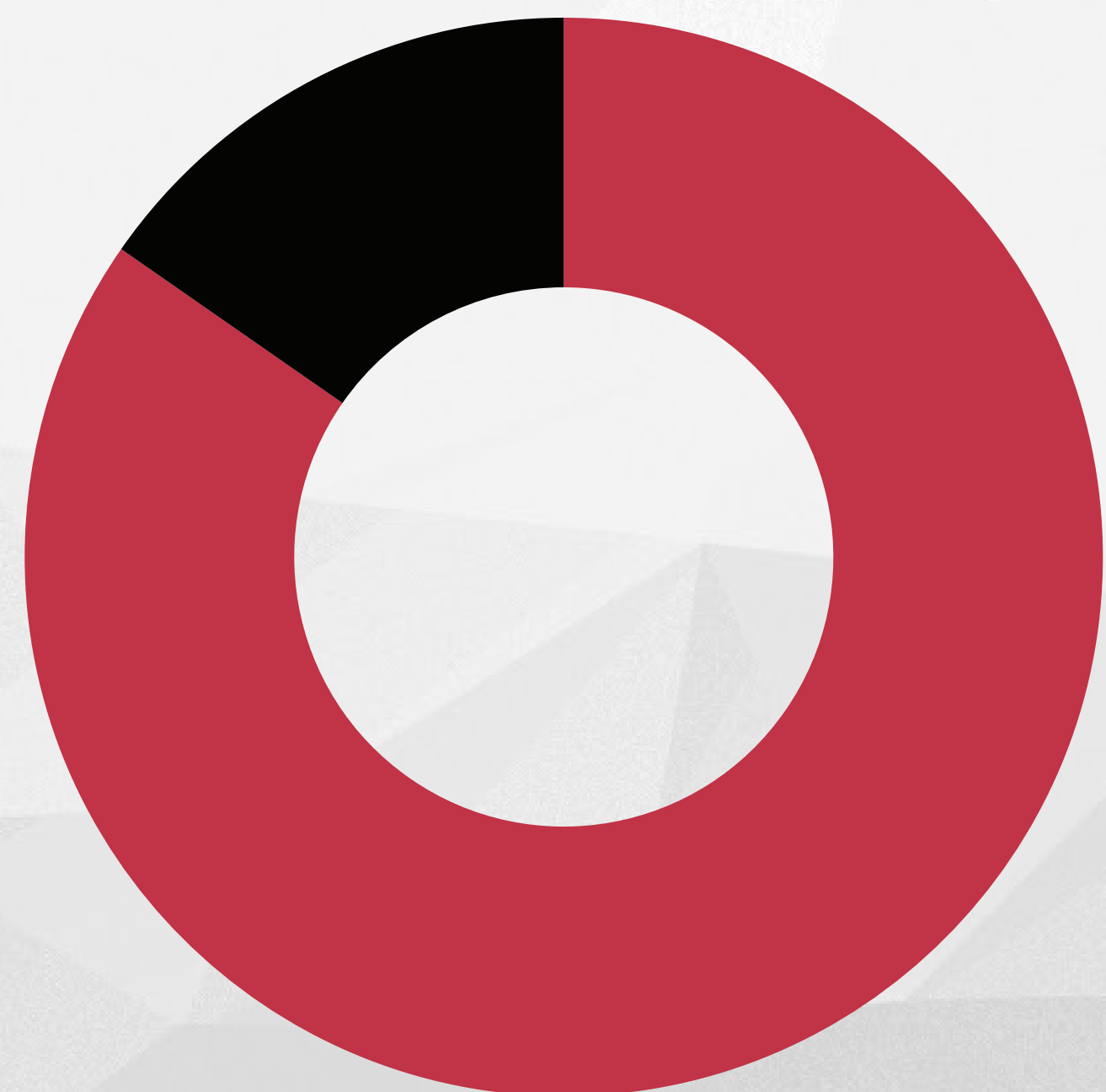
# Key Stats Contributions & Expenses – 2019

## Contributions



Sponsorship & Donations	55%
Fundraisers	11%
Programs	4%
Grants & Partners	22%
Other Gifts	8%

## Expenses



Support to Uganda	85%
Staff & Operations	15%



# A Focus on **Girls**

AAH's enrollment is now 55% girls, the first (and probably) only school in the region to have more girls than boys. Since girls have been given the tools and resources to succeed, they have performed just as well as the boys in the PLE and other exams.

AAH Uganda has developed a Girls Mentoring program that supported girls to stay at school. To support teachers, female AAH Ugandan staff attend conferences and professional development that focuses on increasing the quality and quantity of girls' peer-to-peer mentorship.

To meet the health needs that create disparity for girls, AAH Uganda developed an Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) curriculum divided into 3 units: Life Skills, Growing Up, and Sexual Health for its primary and outreach primary schools.

Girls in developing countries often do not have access to basic hygiene items, especially menstrual products, which can prevent them from attending school. AAH makes and distributes sanitary pads to girls to ensure our female students can take full advantage of their education. In addition, teens in the U.S. raised funds for this initiative to ensure the program is sustainable.

In 2019, a female university graduate received her degree in Telecommunication Engineering; she was the best performing girl at P7 at Arlington Junior School. Another female university graduate is now enrolled in a master's program and was given a scholarship to KEPCO International Nuclear Graduate School in South Korea to study for a Masters of Science in Nuclear Power Plant Engineering.





# Snapshot of **Achievements** Uganda

**Each year, Uganda administers Primary Leaving Exams (PLE)** to determine if students have passed the primary grades and can move on to secondary school. AAH provides three practice exams to over 1,200 students across our outreach schools. In 2019, Arlington Junior School scored 8 in 8 and a total of 10 in the 10 subjects on the PLE for the first time. Since implementing our outreach program in 2014, Bududa district has risen from 124th to 67th in academic achievement in Uganda.

**This year's reading carnival theme was "Blast Off to Reading."** Students selected and read books based on their own interests. The annual carnival fosters an enthusiastic reading culture, and our focus on literacy nurtures lifelong readers.

**One 2019 AAH graduate received a coveted government scholarship** to pursue a bachelor's degree in medicine and surgery at Uganda's top undergraduate school, Makerere University.





# Looking Ahead

## Solar Project

Looking ahead, AAH will continue to champion the implementation of sustainable resources to our community in Uganda. The first, in partnership with the Colorado School of Mines, is to install 45 solar light posts to light the business area of Kikholo. This year, the first solar light was installed as a pilot test, and has already transformed women's businesses, enabling them to sell for extended hours. The lights will allow for extended hours for business activities and provide evening time access to the health clinic and safety for the children traveling to/from school in the early morning and late evening. Additionally, AAH will install solar panels around our clinic in Bupoto. This initiative will support the effective use of medical technology and provide a reliable power source to maintain refrigerated medicines, secure lighting within and around the clinic to enhance safety, and ensure that devices can be charged and ready for use.

## Outreach Schools

To date, AAH has expanded its reach to 26 local primary schools across three districts with over 20,000 students. AAH helps to provide teacher training workshops, school lunch program subsidies, secondary scholarships, library assistance programs, and mentorship workshops to many of these impoverished students and schools. AAH has also partnered with Marymount University, whose faculty recruits volunteer teachers and visit Uganda each year to train local Ugandan teachers and introduce American concepts in classrooms. Currently, AAH has four US based sister schools (Arlington Traditional School, Tuckahoe Elementary, Nottingham Elementary, and Halley Elementary).





# A Model Education Program

The Arlington Academy of Hope (AAH) school in Bumwalukani, Uganda, delivers high quality education to primary age children in a rural setting in Eastern Uganda. Refined over fifteen years and serving more than 400 students annually, AAH has enabled both boys and girls to master the national Primary Leaving Examinations (PLEs), to excel at superior Ugandan secondary schools, and to perform well in non-academic regional and national competitions in art, music, dance and sports.

## The critical components of the program include:

1. **Competent Teachers**
2. **Full School Day**
3. **English Taught at all Grade Levels**
4. **Clean and Safe Classrooms and Grounds**
5. **Small Class Size**
6. **Provide Lunch and Snacks**
7. **Parent Teachers Association**
8. **Rewarding Excellent Performance**
9. **Scholarships for AAH Students and Community Schools**
10. **Girls Mentoring Program**





# Outreach – Community Development





# Where We **Work**



## **Namisindwa**

- Outreach Schools



## **Bududa**

- Arlington Junior School
- Outreach Schools
- Clinic



## **Matuwa**

- Matuwa Junior School
- Outreach Schools
- Clinic



# 2019 Snapshot of Financials

## Assets

Bank Accounts (Cash on Hand) **\$696,344.12**

Accounts Receivable **\$73,657.31**

Total Other Current Assets **\$6,329.70**

Total Assets **\$776,331.13**

## Liabilities and Equity

Total Liabilities **\$500.00**

Total Equity **\$775,831.13**

Total Liabilities & Equity **\$776,331.13**



# Funding Partners

## Funding Partners (Past and Present)

The Advent School

Global Giving

So-Hum Foundation

Ahead Energy

Halley Elementary School

Tom's Shoes

Aid for Africa

The Kamal Foundation

Tuckahoe Elementary School

Arlington Traditional School

Marymount University

USAID

Asante Mariamu

Microsoft

USTTI

The Culture Connection Project

Nottingham Elementary School

Women's Microfinance Initiative

EMR4DW

NutriSwiss Foundation

Energy Bar Association

She's the First

FIMRC

Segal Family Foundation



# Board & Staff

## Board of Directors

Richard Burk, President

Holly Hawthorne, Vice President

Janet Hansen, Treasurer

Syril Pettit, PhD, Secretary

Casie Arentsen

Ani Maria Arsoomanian

Carol Ann Bischoff

Carole Burk

Barry V. Carroll

Bruce Leighton

Sarah Osinski

Dean Scribner

John Wanda, Co-Founder

Joyce Wanda, Co-Founder

Amy Brecount White

Audrey Whittington

JoAnn Willis

## Staff

Shannon Bryant, Executive Director (2019)

Laura Barrantes, Consultant (2019)

Courtney Brooks Kamin, Executive Director (2020)

Bethany Hu, Operations Manager