

# REACH FOR UGANDA

Formerly Arlington Academy of Hope



Resources • Environment • Academics • Community • Health

## A New Academic Year Begins!



A new academic year has started in Uganda! Arlington Junior School opened on February 6th. Our secondary and tertiary students also resumed their classes in February.

The students were excited to be back at school. Teachers, who returned to school a week earlier were on hand to receive them back. AJS enrollment this year is 500 students, including a brand new new P1 class. All students are eager to learn and looking forward to taking on new responsibilities.



At Matuwa Junior School, the euphoria of having all students in first P;7 class pass the 2022 Primary Leaving Examinations in the top two divisions is still there. Many of these students did not have sponsors and their families could not afford to send them to secondary school on their own. There was great excitement at tears of joy when a longtime friend of REACH for Uganda stepped in and provided initial funding to allow these children go to secondary school this year. We are so grateful for this support. While this year's tuition is covered, **we need sponsors** for these new secondary students now to allow them remain at school. If you are able to help, **please select a student here.**

**Upcoming Book Drive for Matuwa Junior School's Library**

## Book Collection & Packing Event

March 12, 2023

1 – 3 PM

**JOIN US!**



We need your help to collect, sort, and pack books to send to the Matuwa Junior School in Uganda

### Two Locations:

**Pankaj Family Home**  
1906 N Nottingham St.  
Arlington, VA 22205

**Wanda Family Home**  
511 N Edison St.  
Arlington, VA 22203

Over the past year, Arlington families have donated books to fill the new library at The Matuwa Junior School. Please help us out by joining this fun event to sort the books, pack the boxes, and draw pictures or write a note to our friends in Uganda. Children are welcome to join the event!

*You are also welcome to bring additional books for our collection!  
(Science, math, early readers and non-fiction books preferred)*

**Help us to send the books to Uganda by donating \$50 to cover the cost of sending 1 box of books!**

If you can't make the event in person, please consider donating online (select "Library" under Purpose):

<https://reachforuganda.reachapp.co/donations/>

Donate here!

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## Updates from our Partner Schools in Arlington, VA

Parents and volunteers from our partner schools led by Arun and Bobbi Jo-Pankaj (Cardinal Elementary School) and Janine and Tim Hartman at Tuckahoe Elementary School are organizing a book drive for our newly completed Marianne and Jeremy Rusk library at Matuwa Junior School. You can join them at either of the two locations in the above flyer. **You can also donate \$50 or more here to cover shipping costs and to buy books in Uganda.**

At Nottingham Elementary School, parents and teachers led by Mark Jones have organized a school wide letter exchanges with students at Matuwa and letters have already been sent to Uganda. We are very grateful to the teachers, staff and parents at Nottingham for their dedication and support to this program.

And at Arlington Traditional School, Assistant Principal, Inga Schoenbrun and 5th grade teacher Jennifer Leach, will be travelling to Uganda in March with a team of other teachers on the REACH Teacher Trip led by Marymount Professor, Dr. Elizabeth Langran. They will

participate in teacher training workshops, work with students and visit their sponsored students. As Inga prepares for this trip, she organized a fundraising drive to provide a special meal for students at AJS and MJS schools, and invited ATS parents to donate supplies. In her own words:

"My desire to travel to Uganda and visit ATS's sister school began in 2010 when my child entered kindergarten. My husband and I enjoyed our dinner conversation as our child taught us all about AAH. Over the years, our child raised funds or organized a pencil drive to support the students at Arlington Junior School. Now 13 years later, our family sponsors 3 students whom I will be honored to meet in person during this trip. Over the past few months as I shared my trip plans with family and friends, they have asked how they might support my trip. Through their generosity, we raised \$1,700 in just 2 weeks to sponsor meat meals during our visit. The ATS community has purchased most of our Amazon wish list items. These include math games, soccer balls, jump ropes and card games. We will be so honored to deliver these items in person. This trip has been years in the making and I look forward to the experience and the impact it will have in my soul."

You can get involved by **sponsoring a student on REACH for Uganda program at: Primary, Secondary or Tertiary program here.**

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## **Makerere Medical Student to Bududa!**



In Uganda, a team of medical students from Makerere University organized an outreach event at the Beatrice Tierney health clinic in Bududa to offer services to the community. More than 62 students participated. Over 1,000 residents from across Bududa showed up to take advantage of this service. The group was led by 4th year medical student and AAH graduate Godfrey Natseli. We thank them for the service and opportunity to give back to the community.

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR  
FEBRUARY 2023 GRADUATES**

Dreams do come true! A 5th medical doctor, a bio tech engineer, an accountant, a science teacher, a graduate in business administration, we got them all. Congratulations to our Makerere University graduands for 2023 and all donors who support them through their education journey. We are very proud of you plus all the 243 others who graduated in past years. Below are some of the new graduands and their sponsors:



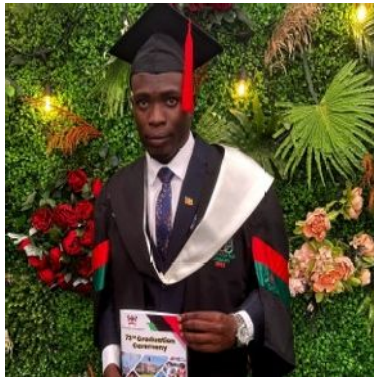
**Lorna Bisikwa**  
Bachelor of Commerce



**Dr. Godfrey Mutunga**  
Bachelor of Medicine &  
Surgery  
Sponsored by Jim and Amy  
Angel



**Gloria Nambozo**  
Bachelor's in BioTechnology  
Sponsored by Martha Moore  
and Paul Gade



**Kelvin Kuloba**  
Bachelor of Business Administration  
Sponsored by Mac and Michelle Anne  
Riley



**John Joel Walububa**  
Bachelor of Science & Education

If you would like to experience the joy of sponsoring a student, [start here](#). Change a child's future and they might just change your own life too. Want some inspiring stories to get you started, read the journey of [David and Ann Godlewski](#) and how their experience has been sponsoring their student from P.1 to Law school.

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## MEET REACH NEW BOARD MEMBERS



## DR. JAMES ANGEL - TREASURER

James J. Angel, Ph.D., CFP<sup>®</sup>, CFA is a finance professor at the McDonough School of Business at Georgetown University. He has served on corporate as well as non-profit boards. Jim earned his BS from the California Institute of Technology, his MBA from Harvard Business School, and his PhD from the University of California at Berkeley. He has also completed Harvard's *Making Corporate Boards More Effective* program. [Read more here](#)



**AMY ANGEL**

Amy has been to Uganda three time visiting and working on the programs. She is a connector of people, resource builder, and educator who has supported REACH for Uganda since the very beginning. She brings nonprofit volunteer organization and leadership skills and an abiding commitment to empowerment and education for all. Amy has a BA (University of California at Berkeley) and a MS (San Francisco State University). [Read more here](#)

## BEATRICE TIERNEY STRADLING

Beatrice has been with REACH from the very beginning and has championed the work of the Health Clinics. She is the founder and CEO of Children's International Schools. This is Beatrice's second stint on the REACH Board. She previously served on the board from the organization's founding in 2004 to 2012. [Read more about her here](#)



**G. TOMLINSON STRADLING III**

Tom has supported REACH for Uganda for many years and has visited Uganda and spent time at the clinics and schools. He is a successful business owner who retired from his business as funeral director, owning and operating three funeral homes in Lancaster County Pa. for 48 years. Tom also branched out in a sister business starting a monument company as well as a pre-need insurance company. He served 6 years in the active Army Reserves. He is a former Rotarian. He graduated from Wesley College in Delaware and Pittsburgh Institute of Mortuary Science. [Read more here.](#)

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## **Letters from your sponsored students**

Our students, except tertiary students, wrote their letters to their sponsors during the holidays. All letters have been uploaded on the donor portal on the REACH App. Please login to your donor [portal here](#) to read and reply to your student. They can't wait to hear from you. If you are not familiar yet with the donor portal, please [watch this video tutorial](#). Your donor portal is where you find all your donation history as well as letters from your student. To login, simply enter your email address and click forgot your password. You will receive an email to reset your password. Your student's letters are stored in your inbox. If you have a challenge signing in, please [email us or call us](#).

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# Last call, would you like to come to Uganda this year?

There is still time to join our trips this summer. Plenty of seats still left on the Adult and Family Trip and Working trip. Only one slot still left on the Teen trip. If you still have questions about the trip, **please reach out to the trip leader.**

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## USAID and other Visitors in Uganda

AAH Uganda was delighted to host Carol Zurawski, the USAID Bureau Environmental Officer and her team from Washington, DC, and staff from the US Embassy in Kampala. They were there to visit the proposed site for the secondary school to assess our readiness and compliance with USAID environmental requirements. The team was met by AAH Uganda staff and a team of experts on environment and water issues for the school. Thom Goertel, a professional photographer from Annandale, Virginia was on hand on a separate REACH assignment when they visited. Carol and her team first visited Arlington Junior School before touring the proposed site for the secondary school. The students and staff were delighted to welcome them all and to take them around. We thank our staff, and environment and water experts, Henry Massa and Stanley Watenga, for welcoming the visitors and for all the work being done to prepare for the secondary school.



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[www.reachforuganda.org](http://www.reachforuganda.org)

[Give to REACH for Uganda](#) and help transform a life of a child. [Sponsor a student today](#)  
[Learn about other ways to give](#)

Make your legacy count and felt for generations. [Contact US](#) to learn about including REACH for Uganda in your will, or making REACH a beneficiary of your retirement fund or life insurance policy.



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