

The Secondary School Dream

For over 19 years now, REACH for Uganda and our sister organization in Uganda, the Arlington Academy of Hope, have worked hard to lift education standards in eastern Uganda. Our two primary schools have an enrollment of over 800 students each year, providing untold opportunities for hundreds of kids who would otherwise not have a chance to advance. Students who complete our primary school program travel to boarding schools far away to continue their education. Our dream since we started has been a secondary school or high school of our own, in our region, so our kids can complete the equivalent of a K–12 education before we release them to college. Today, that dream is closer to reality.

In 2021, USAID awarded us an \$800,000 grant for the construction of a secondary school of our own. Our leadership team and major donors have pledged \$900,000 toward construction costs. Our budget for the first construction phase is \$2.7 million, which means we are almost 68% there. We now need to raise \$1 million to complete this first phase.

We appreciate any amount of support to reach this goal! Our environmental and monitoring plans were approved by USAID and our team has selected a construction firm. Our President, Dick Burk, is in Uganda ready to sign a construction contract. Your generous support will help provide a secure, permanent learning place for our students and ensure that the academic excellence we have introduced at primary school continues through secondary school.

Making this dream a reality is a team effort that will involve all of our longtime supporters. No amount is too small or large and all donors will receive a personal letter of thanks. If you can organize a small fundraiser around this project, please do. We look forward to hearing your creative fundraising and outreach ideas in the coming months. Please check our website for all the different ways to give. We will also be sending out more detailed information by mail to all our supporters in the next month or so.

[Click here to Donate to our Secondary School Building](#)

Below is the Architectural design of our secondary and vocational school. Please help the dream come true for thousands of children who will benefit from this program. **[Watch a brief video of how you can be involved in this project.](#)**



SAVE THE DATE: **REACH for Uganda Gala October 6**



As we start on preparations for our gala on Oct 6th at the Washington Golf and Country Club, we want to make sure you know about the dress code. The theme is *Sunset over Santa Fe* and the dress code is cocktail or Elevated Cowboy. Stay tuned for more information in August. If you have season tickets to any local sporting events, please consider donating tickets to the gala. To donate tickets, contact [JoAnn Willis](#).

Your letters to your students open a window to another world

You can still send letters to your students! [Please watch this video to learn more about our letter exchange](#) and how to send letters online.

Adult and Family Trip Take Off



John and Joyce Wanda saw off the Adult and Family Trip when they took off this week for Uganda. They are led by our hard-working President, Dick Burk, and his wife and board member Carole. They are accompanied by New Jersey residents and long-time REACH child sponsors, Richard and Debbie Hluchan, plus child sponsor, Brian Carpenter, coming all the way from Arizona. They will visit our programs and check in on the progress of the secondary school construction program. They will have to immerse themselves in the Pearl of Africa. If you have been thinking of visiting our programs in Uganda, be sure to sign up for the Adult and Family Trip next year around the same time or one of our other trips. Email us for details at info@reachforuganda.org.

Thank you for Packing your Suitcases

Every year, we receive beautiful books from schools and libraries, but getting them to our students is always a constant challenge as shipments by ocean take forever to reach Uganda. We rely on travelers to get these materials to our students. We thank all the volunteers who turned up to pack suitcases alongside our Teen Trip participants and their parents, plus our reading challenge Authors. If you're traveling to Uganda and you can take an extra suitcase for REACH, we would be very grateful. Just email us and we will make the necessary arrangements to get it to you.

Thom and Carol Goertel's Photo Fundraiser



REACH board members and volunteers joined renowned DMV photographer with international experience for a wide range of brands Thom Goertel and his wife Carol at Truro Annandale community as Thom shared his incredible journey to East Africa. He highlighted his visit to Uganda and showed some of the images he captured. Thom not only shared the AAH story in an authentic way but also put on a fundraiser which he shared with friends to help support students in REACH.

AAH Uganda marathon in support of the secondary school building fund



The leadership team of our partner organization, the Arlington Academy of Hope Uganda organized a walk/run around Bududa ring road in support of the secondary school building campaign. Many people in this region understand what a quality secondary school would mean for this region and are very committed to ensuring they do their part to support the work of REACH and AAH Uganda in constructing the secondary school. We are encouraged and grateful for all who participated and donated towards the school building fund. The journey is just beginning, so let's keep it going.

Meet our new Interns

Casey Ruggiero will be interning with us and learning all aspects of nonprofit management. She graduated from University of Tennessee at Martin this year in May and plans to apply to law school next fall. She and her family have supported REACH since Casey was in elementary school at Arlington Traditional School.

Aaditya Srivastava graduated from Georgetown's MBA program and will be interning with REACH for six months before starting work. We're grateful for the dedication of many of our volunteers and interns who make the work of REACH for Uganda possible. We are grateful for their volunteer time working with REACH.

Join Us at our Upcoming Events

- [Sign up here to host a small gathering/ Dinner](#) with your friends and invite a REACH board member to join you. We shall provide the materials - email Amy at: amya@reachforuganda.org for additional information.
- [Arlington County Fair August 18-20](#) at Thomas Jefferson Community Center. [Sign up to volunteer here](#)
- [Mike Love concert benefiting REACH for Uganda and Unite to Light:](#) Sept 18th at Soho Music Club, Santa Barbara, California.
VIP Dinner Meet & Greet 6:00pm and show: 8:00 pm.
- [Gala - Sunset over Santa Fe: Oct 6, 6-10 PM](#) at The Washington Golf and Country Club. More information coming soon. Email our Gala chair JoAnn Willis [here](#) for additional information or how you can support the gala efforts.

Thank you for being a valuable member of our team. See you soon!

Program

About Us

Get Involved

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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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