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Celebrating 20 years of Helping a child in Uganda **REACH** for a better future.

Hello Joyce,

This year is our 20th anniversary of making transformative change in rural Uganda. We thank you for being part of this transformation. We have lots of events planned and hope you can join or host us at a city near you.

Join REACH for a 20th Anniversary kick off event this Sunday Jan 21st in Boulder Colorado!

Come join us in Boulder this weekend. **Please RSVP here** to attend. Join Professor. James Mittleman and our REACH friends in Colorado at this event. Come meet REACH Co-founders John and Joyce Wanda, board member Ani Arzoomanian and long time supporters. Get updates on the program and next steps for REACH. Enjoy East African cuisine and latest Uganda music!

A REACH student is heading to the US in Chicago



Godfrey Natseli, a 5th year student at Makerere University Medical school was selected for a five week internship with **Feinberg School of Medicine** at Northwestern University in Chicago as part of the study exchange program. He will have daily rounds at the Lurie Children's hospital in Chicago during this period. We're thrilled to have him get this experience. Godfrey will arrive on January 20th and will stay until February 23rd. Please join us in welcoming Godfrey to the US.

Thank you for supporting REACH in 2023

Your support last year allowed us to successfully run our education, healthcare and community development programs in Uganda. More than 1,300 students are enrolled in our primary, secondary and tertiary education programs. We are grateful to those who sponsored students in 2023.

A sponsorship allows a family to experience the joy of building a relationship with a child in Uganda while changing their lives for the better and hopefully, changing your own life too.

We treated over 32,000 patients in our two Beatrice Tierney clinics. Thank you for being a true partner in helping us transform one community at a

time. We look forward to greater success in 2024!

Arlington Secondary School Construction Progress



Construction of the AAH Secondary and Vocational School continues this month, with walling, initial installation of windows and doors, and plans for roofing. The classroom block is the more advanced at this time, with walling of the third floor almost complete. The boy's dormitory is at the second-floor slab, while the girls dormitory is still at second floor walling. All three buildings will be roofed by the end of March, whereafter the complicated details of mechanical and electric works, plumbing, plastering, and final finishes begin.

Our funding needs as we enter this critical phase of construction are acute. We need to buy materials for all finishes, including electrical and mechanical. We need to ensure all windows and doors are in place. Above all, we need to ensure that the overall construction program is on schedule. Any delays cost us labor hours, and backlogs cascade and create scheduling challenges. We need your help to keep this project going and to ensure that the school will open on February 2025 as planned. We invite you to be part of this project. To learn more, please reach out to **John Wanda** or **Dick Burk**.

Trip Registration Deadline January 31st

If you have been thinking about visiting our programs in Uganda, now is the best time to commit. Save yourself a spot on our upcoming trips below. Learn more about each trip [here](#). Spots are still available- connect with us for additional information. Secure your seat by paying [a deposit here](#).

Teacher Trip

3/20/24-3/30/24

Led by Dr. Shannon
Melideo.

Adult and Family Trip

6/27/24-7/11/24

Led by REACH
President Dick Burk &
Carole Burk

Teen Trip

7/16/24-8/5/24

Led by Board Member
Ani Arzoomanian

Adult Working Trip

8/1/24-8/30/24

Led by Co-founder,
John Wanda

More information can be found here:

<https://reachforuganda.org/getinvolved/trips/>

Sponsor A Student

Tax statement for 2023

We are grateful to all of you who gave in 2023. We have mailed a tax statement to your home address. Reprints can be done from your donor **portal** **here**. **Watch this video** to learn more. If you have a challenge signing in, please **email us** or **call us**.

New Staff on US team



Casey Ruggiero joins our team as an Executive Assistant. She has been volunteering with REACH before transitioning to fulltime staff. She grew up in Arlington VA and travelled alongside her parents who had careers that took them all over

Celebrating the life of John Wanda's mom



On January 5th, 2024, we lost Agiri Wamundu, mother of REACH co-founder John Wanda. She was a devoted wife and mother and force behind AAH programs in their

Africa. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Tennessee in 2023 with B.A.s in International Studies and Philosophy. Casey is passionate about the environment, education, and service.

earlier years. She is survived by 5 children and 28 grand children. She was 82 yrs. In lieu of flowers and cards, a donation can be made to REACH in her honor.

Upcoming Events

Date: Jan 21st- Kick off 20th anniversary celebrations in Boulder Colorado

Date: Jan 27th- Event gathering hosted by Wolfson family- Arlington, VA

Date: Jan 28th- Event gathering hosted by Cromwell family- Woodbridge VA

Date: March 21st- Secondary school fundraiser - Golf Hotel Kampala- Uganda- More info to follow.

Date: April 21- 5k Global Strides at Bluemont park- Arlington VA

If you can host an event for REACH, please reach out to us at: info@reachforuganda.org

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