

# HELPING HANDS UGANDA

<http://www.helpinghandsuganda.org/>

## News from Uganda

*Excerpts from Margaret W. Gimugu September Report*

The month of September, 2009 has been a bizarre one. At one point the farmers were celebrating because of the coming of the rain that marked the end of another long drought, but recently the same people found themselves having to curse the same rains because they utterly destroyed crops. As if that was not bad enough, there is now the much dreaded out-break of CHOLERA epidemic.

### CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

All the supported children are excited and well motivated to be at school, more especially since they are sure of having a cup of porridge at break-time and a plate of food at lunch-time. Thank you so much for your continued support that makes all this possible. Many schools in Bugiri have been temporarily closed down because of cholera disease out-break, but those where our children are attending are still open.

### CHILDREN'S HEALTH

The children are generally fine. Zaina and Sharot have since recovered from the conditions they had last month. It was Titus who had serious malaria this month but he has since responded to treatment. The cholera outbreak has forced me to make extra visits to the homes of our Helping Hands Children to sensitize the families about the preventive measures in-order to escape this epidemic.

### HOME VISITATION

I had an experience when it rained while we were at the home of William's grandmother. It so happened that the rain began dripping right inside the hut, because the grass on top of the hut is so rotten that rain water goes through it unabated. When I asked as to how she manages whenever it rains at night, she told me that in such cases, they just sit-up until it stops raining. I felt so sorry for her and William. She is not able to get 40,000 (about \$23 CDN) for buying fresh grass and labour costs.



The children show their new toys

## Who we are

Helping Hands Uganda (HHU) is a Toronto-based charity that empowers and improves the welfare of children living in dire poverty in Eastern Uganda.

Helping Hands Uganda does this through sponsorships that pay for school expenses (fees, books, uniform and shoes), medical expenses and food for children, plus an income-generating project for the child's family.

The Canadian operations of this charity are staffed entirely by volunteers, to ensure that at least 90% of funds received go directly towards sponsorship.

*Interested in helping but not sure how?*  
 Visit our website at: <http://www.helpinghandsuganda.org/>



## HOLIDAY FUNDRAISING DRIVE

This year's goal is to raise a total of  
\$1000 dollars

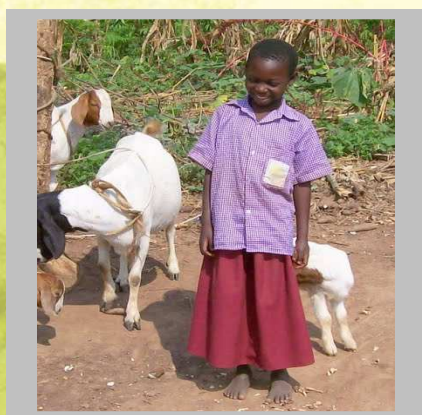
The main goal of the holiday drive is to raise funds to purchase 19 goats. As an income generating project for the families each sponsored child is provided with two goats. This project has been a fortune for some of the families who not only rely on the goats as a source of nourishment but were able to breed the goats and exchange them for cows. However, due to a rare outbreak of animal disease in many parts of Uganda some of the animals have perished. Hence our goal is to once again purchase goats for the children. Each goat costs approximately \$25.

The raised money will also be used to purchase holiday gifts for the children, which will mostly consist of new clothing. The children often do not have spare clothes to change into after returning from school and end up wearing their school uniform, which decreases its durability.

Finally, any excess funds will be used to purchase lanterns for all the children. This is an important issue as some children complete their homework by candle light, which has resulted in accidental fires.



*Margaret (Maggie) dancing with the children at a recent get-together for the children and their caregivers*



*Cecilia with her goats*





## RECENT FUNDRAISERS

### Bake, Book and Jewelry Sale

Held in May at Cancer Care Ontario and the University of Toronto raised a total of \$295!



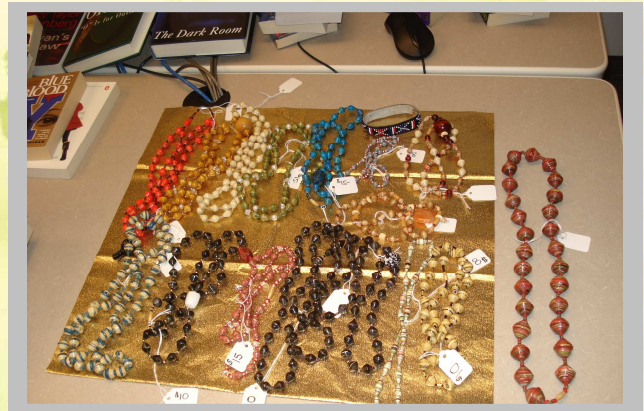
*Book and Bake Sale*

### The James Hillier Jewelry Sale

Held in June raised \$82!

### A Gala Fundraiser Event

A night full of fun with great food, raffle prizes, live music and traditional dancers held in June raised over \$1,200!!



*Handmade paper jewelry from Uganda*

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Casino Night Fundraiser

A fun night of games held this November raised \$745!

A big thanks to all of you who participated, donated to or supported these events!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

November 21<sup>st</sup> : Craft Sale at The East York Danforth  
Lions Club at St. Columba and All Hallows Church,  
2723 St. Clair Ave. E., 9 a.m.-2 p.m

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR TO JOIN OUR TEAM  
Please Visit**

<http://www.helpinghandsuganda.org/>

### Contact Us

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