

# CHRISTMAS BASKETS 2020



Yet again through our sponsors we managed to share the joy that Christmas brings to the sponsored Children, staff, the elderly, the malnutrition program beneficiaries, the Kalagala Community and the Coffee program beneficiaries. This time round, our target was over 1500 beneficiaries each receiving a basket in the categories mentioned.

The whole program took a whole month of December handling category by category not forgetting the covid 19 Standard operating procedures and it has been the biggest ever since we started this program. Looking at the impact of the pandemic and how it has affected developing countries, all our beneficiaries in our programs needed to share the joy of Christmas.

The items in the baskets may look basic, but to the beneficiaries, it's a Christmas meal assured. Due to the big numbers, some of the beneficiaries set at 7:00am to make it on time. For cases like that, we have to organize a meal for them because, some mothers come with Children all looking forward to their Christmas basket on empty stomachs.

Our none essential staff had spent over 9 months without salaries yet most of them have Children and dependents. For the essential staff, especially the caretakers of the Children in the Children's home and the Health center staff usually send their baskets to their children or immediate family.



Above, A Christmas basket for a sponsored student.

Below, One of the beneficiary of the program with his basket.



Below, A single mother with her sponsored Children after receiving their basket





Above, Former beneficiaries of our malnutrition program



Above, One of the beneficiary of the malnutrition Program with his basket.

Under Malnutrition, we made phone calls to beneficiaries we could reach for as far as 4 years back. Here, the Malnutrition clinic was able to screen first the former beneficiaries before receiving their Christmas baskets. This was done to see how the Children were doing plus them sharing how their journey has been after the program. The Clinic was happy because of the success stories however; some of them had relapsed because of the covid 19 impact where parents had resorted to feeding Children on one meal a day.

Some of the Special needs Children with underlying diseases like HIV had totally relapsed. These, we had to enroll back in the program. The beneficiaries did not only go back home with baskets, they went with knowledge, medication, Infant formula and malnutrition feeds for those that had relapsed.



Above, Beneficiaries of the christmas baskets.

The Kalagala community as well was part of the Christmas baskets as a way of extending joy so did the small coffee farmers. For them, it was their first time was over 350 coffee farmers who had joined the Noah's ark farmer's association received a basket each. Here, the intention of forming this association was to impact livelihoods of the farmers in Kayunga district by training, empowerment, increasing productivity and securing good markets for coffee produced all this done by our youth.

We felt that it was necessary for them to be part of the Christmas baskets as a way of introducing them to our other programs but above all how NACMU was going to impact their lives and how we could work together.

The CEO reminded the team that such programs is a clear indication why Noah's Ark Children's Ministry Uganda exists. This wouldn't be possible with out our partners.



Above, A woman praising God for her Christmas basket on her way back home..



Above, an old woman after receiving her basket.

### A message from the CEO

As I looked around in Uganda, I saw families suffering with no income and no food. Up to now Uganda has few covid 19 cases. When the world went into a lock down, so did Uganda. Economic activities were stopped, support from the government and NGOs dried up .As a result of all that, many people lost their lives and others are suffered silently as many are not used to opening up.

This motivated us and the team to organize more baskets than we have ever done. The whole process took us some time to organize and the results were over whelming.

We are very grateful for all our partners in Germany and the rest of the world that spared some money to make this possible.