

# HOPE REPORT

an update from  
Fields of Dreams  
Uganda



## POWER THEIR POTENTIAL

We are less than two weeks away from the kick-off of our Power Their Potential Campaign. From May 5-11 we will be sharing countless stories with you through our social media channels. You will learn about the power of our scholarships and the change created in the lives of our students when they realize that they no longer have to struggle, in often dramatic and difficult ways, for their future.

We have a goal of raising \$60,000 during this week-long campaign, and we will need every one of our supporters to turn out in full support for us to hopefully well exceed our goal. The ripple effects of a scholarship in the lives of our students impact their families as well. Hope is restored to families as funding can be shifted to other basic needs, and other children in the home can be cared for as a response to their siblings education being secure. Thank you!



## Soccer Scholarships

Sport for development has always been at the heart of our work. Using soccer to build character, teach discipline, and expose the talents of our young players, are just a few of the programmatic aspects of our work. We love when our players are identified by secondary schools, and receive both partial and full scholarships to continue their education. We have formed new partnerships with St. Elizabeth Secondary School and Mukono Kings High School, where six of our players are now receiving a highly discounted education. Thanks for all of the support!

## College Hopefuls

Pictured to the right are four of our recent secondary school graduates, all whom received their S6 results this past month. Not pictured, are two additional students in Gulu that did very well, and are also deciding what path to take in their educational journey. FoDU is honored to walk alongside these families, and we offer to pay for 60% of their tuition fees and assist in many other areas of their collegiate journeys. You will have an opportunity during our Power Their Potential Campaign to hear some of their stories and offer your own financial support and encouragement.







**Name:** Kitaka Hannington  
**Position:** Education Director

## Meet our Staff

### What do you enjoy most about your position with FoDU?

I enjoy giving my energies and support through guidance towards the children we serve in order to reach their fullest potential. I also enjoy seeing the children in the program achieving their dreams.

### Which of FoDU's core values do you relate to most and why?

I relate so well with all the FoDU core values, but Humble Servanthood surpasses all because I grew up in a family where we were taught to serve others regardless of their status and background.

### What dreams do you have for the future of FoDU's work?

To see that the children we serve continue becoming great people of high character who are role models in so many ways. The other dream is to see that the organization is able to sustain itself locally with the businesses at Banda booming and at the same time when these businesses can provide job opportunities to the people of the country.



**Name:** Brian Fleming  
**City you live in:** Evansville, IN  
**Occupation:** Engineer for Cummins

## Board Member Spotlight

### What first attracted you to the work of Fields of Dreams Uganda?

My first connection point with FoDU's work was the sport for development aspects of the mission. As a huge sports fan and someone who realized the power that team sports (baseball and basketball in my case) had on me throughout my life, I was immediately drawn to how FoDU was using soccer to make a lifelong impact on the children we served.

### Which of our core values resonates with you most in your own life?

Humble Servanthood is the Core Value I resonate with the most. This character trait that I see in our staff and our leadership is one that was modeled for me by my dad throughout his life. Our mission is rooted deeply in James 1:27 - "to care for the orphan and widow in their times of distress..." and our staff does a fantastic job of listening, noticing, and caring for the students we serve.

### What have been some of your highlights serving on FoDU's board?

I've experienced a lot of highlights over the years of traveling with FoDU. I'll never forget my first FoDU Tournament Day where we danced through the streets of Wakiso behind a brass band to open the tournament. I was a part of our very first hygiene kit distribution in 2014. And I've witnessed graduates of our programs become nursery school teachers, artists, hair stylists, mechanics, plumbers, social workers, and coaches...just to name a few!







## HYGIENE KIT DISTRIBUTION

It was an incredible joy for our organization to touch base with all of our partner schools and post-primary students during the month of March and pass out this year's hygiene kits. We cannot express to you the joy and honor that it is to look each of these brave young women in the eye as we affirm their worth and encourage them in their struggles as each item is dropped into their hygiene bags.

Our first hygiene kits were passed out in 2014, and we have since added a few more needed items such as nail clippers, brushes, mirrors, and washcloths, but the essence of these kits remains the same. We are meeting a real need in the lives of these young women, and in turn alleviating the financial burden that these girls often feel like to their families. They get to use these kits as a bargaining chip for their future, and the joy and excitement is hard to put into words.

Over the past twelve years of placing these items into the grateful hands of our girls, we continue to be humbled by just how needed these items are in the lives of our students. One of the most beautiful aspects of this program is how much our girls now identify themselves as women of SUBSTANCE, and have completely changed how they view themselves.



### ***On the Horizon*** [Important Dates & Events]

- **April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Presentation for Geneseo Rotary Club**
- **May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Private event in Rogersville, MO**
- **May 5<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Power Their Potential Campaign in US**
- **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Trip Dates for 2026 Trips will be announced**
- **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 = Executive Director sharing in Quincy, IL**
- **June 16<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Service Team in Uganda**
- **July 15<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025 = Service Team in Uganda**
- **July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 = FoDU 5K for Hope sponsorship window closes**
- **August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025 = Registration opens for FoDU 5K for Hope**
- **October 4<sup>th</sup> = FoDU 5K for Hope**
- **December 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> = Holiday Hygiene Drive Campaign in US**

***www.fieldsofdreamsuganda.org***

***@FoDUganda***







## A Word From Our Executive Director

Every single time I am in Uganda I am overwhelmed by how far we have come as an organization and at the same time, just how much more work that there is to accomplish. When you are uplifting the impoverished families of Uganda, our work in essence will never be done, and yet we continue to push. I have walked alongside many of our students for well over a decade, and I am so impressed with their growth, their successes, and their deep desire to give back to their communities. A huge thank you to all of our supporters, as your help has not been given in vain. But let us not rest in doing good!

## Finding Solace, Finding Strength

We are so excited that a recent short film entitled, **Finding Solace, Finding Strength**, is beginning to win some awards and garner recognition around the globe. This film is by Kenyan, Felix Masi, and it features FoDU's very first Ekisa Scholarship recipient, Yiga Joshua. The short film tells some of Joshua's backstory, including his connection to FoDU, and his recent success in the world of art. The film has won the Best Short Documentary Film award at the Santa Monica International Filmmaker awards, and we hope that there are many more accolades to follow.



## 2026 Trip Dates

Bringing volunteers to serve alongside our staff members is one of our greatest joys as an organization. It allows us to extend our circle of support, and your presence breathes a great deal of hope and inspiration into both our staff and student population at our partner schools. We will soon be posting our dates for the 2026 March, June and July Service Trips, and we highly encourage you to consider taking a trip to the Pearl of Africa. Each trip is typically around 12 days in length and costs just under \$3,000, including the flights. We have had volunteers from the ages of 10 to 83 serve with us. Perhaps you are ready and willing to add your name to our long list of volunteers?



## Your Giving Makes a Powerful Impact



We will be hosting our Power Their Potential Campaign during the first week of May. Our biggest growth in financial need is that of our scholarship fund. We are supporting more and more children each year as they advance in their education, and with that comes a large burden to our organization. If you are looking for a place to give that will make an immediate impact, our Ekisa Scholarship Fund is a fantastic option.

