

HOPE REPORT

an update from
Fields of Dreams
Uganda



BOYS HYGIENE KITS

Although we started distributing our girls hygiene kits in 2014, our first boys kits did not reach our students until the summer of 2017. Since that time we continue to conduct our Men of INTEGRITY training and distribute our kits to the older male students at our partner schools. This gives our staff an excellent opportunity each year to provide character development for our students and teach them how responsible and caring men should act in their communities. With so much worldwide attention on girl empowerment it is essential that we also take the time to uplift, encourage and challenge the young men of Uganda to reach their fullest potential. These \$10 kits give so much hope, dignity and joy to the young men in our programs from P5-P7, as well as all of the post primary students that remain in our programs. Thank you for this ongoing blessing!



Graduate Spotlight

Mwenze Judith is a former footballer and scholarship recipient of FoDU. She sat her primary school at Wakiso Children's School of Hope, her secondary schooling from Rines Secondary School, and graduated from Lady Valeria Vocational School in 2020 with a certificate in Early Childhood Education. She is now gainfully employed as a teacher and coach at Rapha Primary School in Luweero. She is an active alumni and continues to help during our FoDU Championship Tournaments. A big congratulations to her on her recent wedding and all of her success.



Graduations & University Placements

What a joy to celebrate our recent graduates this past month during a dinner celebration with their families in Gulu. We are so proud of these five individuals and thrilled that all of them have already lined up gainful employment since their graduation. You are making your FoDU family so very proud!!!

- We had five new students join vocational school, and two students join training with local artisans in May
- We had one new student join Nursing School in July
- We will have five new students join university programs in August



Meet our Staff



Name: Onencan Kennedy

Position: ICT Coordinator in the Northern Region

What do you enjoy most about your position with FoDU?

I love working with the children and giving them what I have learned and know. In my case, I started learning ICT when I was sitting for S4. Giving the students at our partner schools the opportunity to start learning from their childhood, they can be more perfect than me by giving them the skills that I didn't have the opportunity to learn early.

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

In the situation we have passed through in the northern region, compassion needs to be central to my work. I want to tell the children that despite the situation they are going through, they are going to make it and succeed.

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

I dream for FoDU to be a nationwide organization that cuts across the whole country, so that everyone has the opportunity to receive their programming.



Board Member Spotlight

Name: Chris Jackson

City you live in: Mountain Grove, MO

Occupation: Materials Planner at McCormick/French's

What you are most looking forward to for your July trip to Uganda?

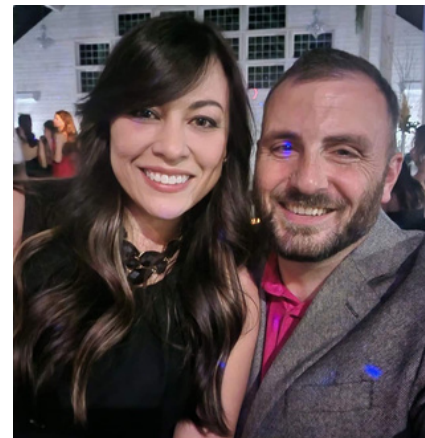
I am very excited about meeting the great people in the country of Uganda. Although I have never been yet, I have heard many stories about the friendliness of this nation. I look forward to seeing life from a new perspective and gaining brothers and sisters from across the globe.

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

Humble servanthood. I believe it is a true reflection of peoples' hearts in the way that they serve and help others. God created us all as equals, under him, and it is important to remove your pride and serve those around you with the unique gifts you were born with.

What excites you most about serving on our Board of Directors?

I am excited and grateful for the opportunity to experience a world outside of my own, and the challenge of doing something outside of my comfort zone. Also for joining alongside the other board members and FODU staff that are passionate about empowering others.

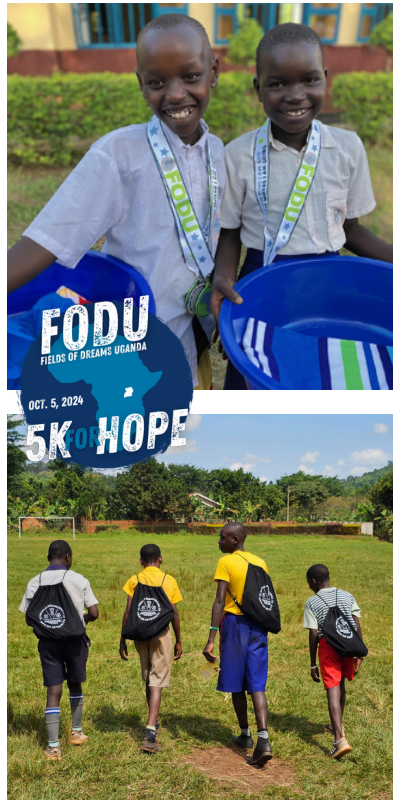




MUSIC, DANCE, & DRAMA

In the summer of 2015, we added Music, Dance, and Drama competitions to our annual programming. Over the years we have continued to pour resources, training and encouragement into our partner schools, and the results have been quite incredible. One of our partner schools, Pageya Primary School in Gulu, received the ranking of 9th best school at the National Competition this past year. The festivals that we host in both June and July allow our partner schools the chance to compete with one another, focus a bit on our annual theme, and prepare for the country's MDD competitions that happen in late July across Uganda.

In a nation that loves football, their passion for the musical arts comes in a very close second position. Each school is allowed to bring 50 students to compete in the festival in five different events. They each prepared a poem, an instrumental piece, an original composition, a folk dance, and a traditional dance. We were humbled by the talent and passion of the staff and students in Gulu last month, and we cannot wait for the 26th of July to cheer on our students in Wakiso.



On the Horizon [Important Dates & Events]

- **July 18th - 28th = Service Team in Uganda**
- **July 26th = Central Music, Dance, and Drama Festival**
- **July 31st = Closing of our FoDU 5K for Hope Sponsorship window**
- **September 16th - December 6th = Term III at partner schools**
- **October 5th = FoDU 5K for Hope in US & Uganda**
- **December 3rd - 9th = Holiday Hygiene Drive Campaign in US**
- **February 19th - 23rd, 2025 = STS Online Auction in US**
- **March 4th - 21st, 2025 = Service Team in Uganda**
- **May 5th - 11th, 2025 = Power Their Potential Campaign in US**
- **June 17th - 28th, 2025 = Service Team in Uganda**
- **July 15th - 26th, 2025 = Service Team in Uganda**

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A Word From Our Executive Director

We hope your year is going well, and we want to thank you for all of your help pushing our work forward across Uganda. I was recently on the ground in Uganda in mid-June and I was blessed richly through my interactions with our students, staff members and volunteers on the ground. One of the richest blessings was watching the children that I have poured into over the years in turn pour life into my youngest son, Solomon. It is humbling as our beneficiaries have taken all of our lessons, yearly themes, and words of encouragement to heart, and they are becoming leaders and change-agents in their own communities.

Substance Salon Opening

On June 14th we had the honor of opening yet another sustainable business at our Hope Empowerment Center in the form of the Substance Salon. This salon is already providing fulltime employment to five individuals and offering hairstyling, beauty treatments, and nail services to the surrounding community. So many women from the Bbanda community joined us on opening day, and the salon has stayed very busy since the doors were opened last month. Both the atmosphere and services are first class, and the community members are so appreciative of another quality business in their area.



2025 Travel Dates

Traveling to Uganda is not a decision that should be taken lightly, but it is certainly a decision that could have a profound impact on your life. We have had volunteers under the age of 10 and over the age of 80, and we want you to prayerfully consider joining us on a future trip. It is hard to understand until you are on the ground in Uganda, but your presence gives hope to the children we serve. Your kindness and affirming words bring dignity and a sense of worth to their lives. Dates for 2025 are on our website and are listed in the newsletter. We would love for you to step foot in the Pearl of Africa in hopes that you gain perspective and change some lives, including your own.



Your Donations are Changing Lives



We cannot thank you enough for your support and generosity toward our work. Please know that lives are being changed and our mission of providing hope, empowerment and a future to the vulnerable children of Uganda through soccer and education is being more than accomplished. We value you as a donor and appreciate your kindness and generosity.

