



A N N U A L  
**IMPACT**  
REPORT 2017-18



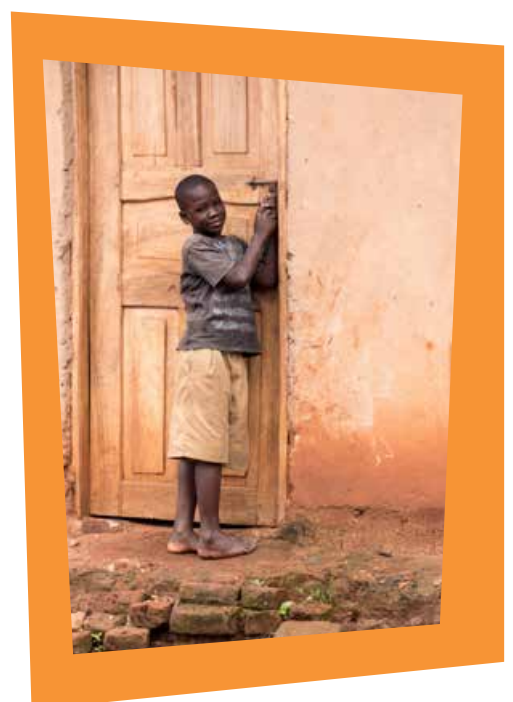


## WHAT WE DO IN UGANDA

**Child of Hope** works with families to see them come out of poverty in the Namatala slum and surrounding areas in Mbale. Its main activity is providing free education, healthcare and welfare support for children. One child from each of the most disadvantaged families receives free nursery and primary education in the Child of Hope School and is then sponsored to attend a local secondary school.

Education is not completely free in Uganda and these are children whose parents cannot

afford to send them to school. Without this education, their prospects would be entry into prostitution, crime, lifelong poverty and an early death. Their mothers are encouraged through the Child of Hope income generation scheme to begin small businesses to help their families become financially self-sufficient. Child of Hope children are given regular meals, food, clothing and medical support. There is welfare support for their families and care for orphans and other vulnerable children.



# EDUCATION

There were 499 children on roll in the nursery and primary classes at the school during 2017. Approximately 50 older pupils were supported at local fee-paying secondary schools. The standard of secondary education has been disappointing, with a decline in the children's performance. This has triggered the decision for Child of Hope to start its own secondary school.

The 2017 Primary Leaving Exam results are especially pleasing – all the children at Child of Hope School passed, with 41% obtaining division 1 passes and the rest division 2. This puts the school in the top 6% of schools in Uganda. Many of these children are the first in their families to complete primary education. This is an outstanding achievement.



## MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR 2017

A new layer of senior managers has been employed, increasing efficiency in finance and operations as the school grows.

Plans have been developed to relocate the primary school to the neighbouring slum of Namabasa, where more of the poorest children now live, and to convert the current primary school site to a Child of Hope secondary school.

The former welfare, healthcare and IGA teams have been integrated into one family support team to increase efficiency. This new team has IT support to enhance communication and record keeping. Team personnel have their own laptop, iPads, and internet access. Work is progressing on an organisation-wide database.

Due to the diligence of the family support team in following up on children who disappear from the school, a child is believed to have been saved from becoming a human sacrifice by a local witchdoctor.

The nursery department has received visits from other local government and independent schools because of its recognised good practice, especially in phonics teaching.

A fostering service commenced this year, helping half the 30 children in the Child of Hope children's home to move into families.

We built and opened an affordable housing project in Namabasa.

There has been an increased level of teacher training. The school's Early Years Advisor (Emma Stewart) has been continuously training the staff in nursery throughout 2017 and has now, in 2018, started a similar approach with the lower primary staff.



### CHILDREN LEARN BETTER ON A FULL STOMACH

Daily meals are provided to the children at school. Nursery children receive breakfast, and primary children – together with nursery children with a low BMI or specific health issues – are given a cooked lunch. They access clean drinking water at school, reducing the risk of parasitic infection.



## FAMILY SUPPORT TEAM

This integrated team includes health care staff and social workers who provide a holistic approach to health and welfare, following up any absences daily, working in the slum to assist pupils and their families when they are ill, struggling or in crisis. If children are abandoned or face danger, respite accommodation is offered in the Child of Hope Children's Home or foster placements arranged. Fostering is a recent innovation in Uganda and has become the government's intervention of choice, recognised as delivering better outcomes for children. Eighteen children were being fostered by the end of 2017.

Children are provided with medical and health services to give them the best chance to attend school regularly and learn. There is a nurse and assistant based at the school. Height, weight and other medical indicators are monitored and compared with the local general population; common infections & diseases (eg malaria & other parasites) are



treated promptly with medicines and first aid given for wounds, burns, etc. A full health survey carried out in 2017 shows that the Child of Hope children fared significantly better than the general Namatala community on almost all health measures.

When in-patient treatment is needed, Child of Hope pays for this at nearby Joy Hospice. Two children with sickle cell anaemia are receiving ongoing medical treatment.



Mothers are educated in basic hygiene and given family planning advice.

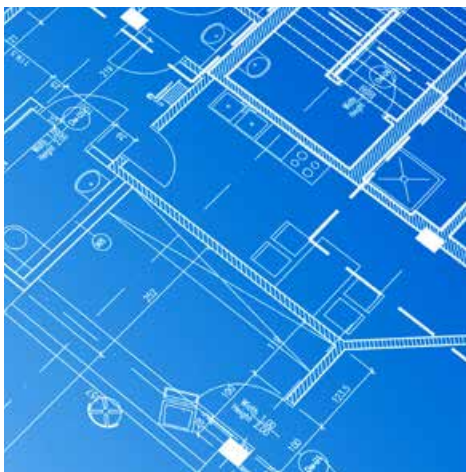
The Income Generating Activities (IGA) scheme helps mothers to set up their own small businesses. Another 46 mothers joined the IGA in 2017. They are provided with a small start-up grant of 130,000 shillings, which (depending upon the exchange rate) is around £26, ongoing business advice and a savings scheme rewards mothers with interest on the amount they invest. Currently, the mothers receive a top-up of 2,000 shillings every time they save 20,000 shillings. However, the top-ups will be phased out this year and the mothers will earn money on their savings through bank interest and through interest earned on lending to one another.



# THE FUTURE:

Greater funding would allow us to instigate new and wider-reaching programmes that will produce even greater social impact. We are careful not to 'spread ourselves too thin', but here is a list of things we would have done in 2017 if funding were available. Maybe in 2018 with your help?...

- Start our own secondary school in hired premises while we raise funds to build our own school to open in 2020.
- A better variety of menu for lunches with improved nutrition, instead of just posho and beans every day.
- More field trips for children... most have never left Mbale town.
- Build a dining hall/area for children's lunchtimes.
- Expansion of our Family Support team, for increased parent counselling/training, and to roll out Family Support programmes to the whole community.
- A respite and rehabilitation home where children can stay while our welfare team works on long-term solutions to serious problems in families.
- Our Income Generating Activities programme is in a state of flux at the moment as we move towards running some larger-scale IGA projects, including farming and something specific for fathers. IGA has huge, untapped, sustainable potential to help Child of Hope achieve its goals.



## WHY BUILD A SECONDARY SCHOOL?

Because local secondary schools have poor child management and we are better able to continue holistic support of children (health, counselling during difficult teenage years, spiritual encouragement, etc) – and also better able to manage the quality of their education. Excellent secondary education will help make real change in the community.

Despite our efforts, ex-COH pupils' reports are showing a deterioration in learning and behaviour is worsening in terms of application and effort. During this last year, there has been a growing number of teachers' strikes in Ugandan state secondary

schools, which is also having a serious negative impact on pupils' learning and opportunity to achieve a better future life.

We aim to operate our own secondary school in the Namatala slum, opening in January 2020 by building another primary school in the neighbouring Namabasa slum and converting our current school to secondary.

It will cost £102,550. By the end of 2017 around 50% of that amount had been pledged and we are actively seeking other funding opportunities.

## RUNNING THE CURRENT SCHOOL IN 2018

**What it takes:** Constant monitoring of quality & efficacy of programmes; regular review of 'best practice' (internationally and nationally), followed by regular staff mentoring/supervision & training to improve programmes; daily analysis of costs and scrupulous checking of expenditure; objective compassion in dealing with problems arising from families living in extreme poverty; thorough understanding of the local community and preserving a high reputation within it; prayer; blood, sweat and tears!

**What it costs:** During 2017 our nursery/primary school and Family Support team cost in the region of £118,000. This does not include secondary education costs.



### UGANDA:

COH Outreach Uganda is a registered Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in Uganda and currently employs more than 70 staff in Mbale, eastern Uganda.

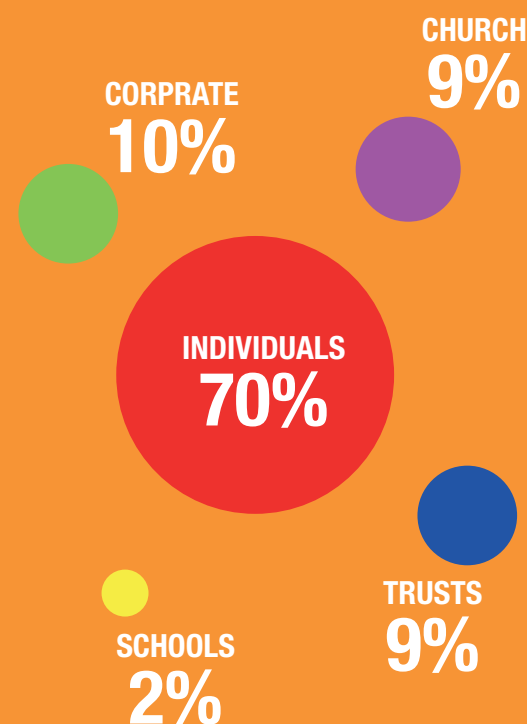
There are three arms to Child of Hope: the nursery school, the primary school and the family support unit. All of these programmes are supported and served by the administrative and site management departments. Each of these sections has a manager to oversee them,

usually with a deputy manager. The executive director, assisted by the Strategy and Programmes advisors and supported by the Operations and Finance managers, oversees the organisation as a whole.

The primary and nursery schools, founded and owned by Child of Hope Outreach Uganda, are legally obliged to be governed by their own management committees and are overseen by the Child of Hope Outreach board of directors.

### WHO PAID FOR ALL THIS?

During 2017, this was the split of our donations:



### UK:

In the UK, a team was developed to support the Ugandan operation and registered Child of Hope as a UK charity in 2010. That team now consists of seven

trustees, two part-time paid roles of director and administrator, a part-time fundraiser who applies for grants, and a handful of volunteers.

## THE COST OF WORK HANDLED BY STAFF AT BOTH ENDS

During 2017, Ugandan costs totalled £133,709, and in the UK administration and marketing

cost £24,175, which was just 15.6% of the total income of £154,758.

# IT'S OUR SUPPORTERS WHO HELP MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN...

A huge thank you to donors, trusts, child sponsors, programme sponsors, volunteer fundraisers, cake-bakers... and everyone else who helps us do all this.

Child of Hope relies completely on the good will of donors, and the result is huge change to individual children's lives, family lives, and the community as a whole.

## COULD YOU HELP?

If you are reading this document because you are interested in supporting our life-changing work in Ugandan slums, it's a good thing you are doing! We will happily answer any questions you may have; please get in touch with our UK director Phil Dowding on (01202) 697201 or email him on [phil.dowding@childofhopeuganda.org](mailto:phil.dowding@childofhopeuganda.org) – thanks!



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