

## Need

- demonstrating the love of God in word and deed  
to hurting and needy people worldwide -



# Uganda—Noah's Ark Children's Centre

**U**ganda is a country plagued with incredible poverty and the people ensnared by their beliefs in the spirit world. **13 million children have lost at least one parent to AIDS. More than 20 thousand children have been dragged into slavery by the rebels in the north to become soldiers or be used as sex slaves.** As a result of the 19 year Northern Uganda war, the level of child abuse and negligence has in the past few years increased drastically. This involves child rape, forced marriages, child labour and domestic violence. Many children have dropped out of school and have similarly deserted their homes. The 19 year conflict has created a hopeless generation of children with no education or a decent home. This has resulted in moral degeneration, exposing young girls to early marriages, pregnancies, AIDS & children living in the streets.

Piet and Pita Buitendijk have lived in Uganda for 13 years. Their hearts were stirred by the hopeless circumstances these children face. In 2001 they built a house for children in need called Noah's Ark Children's Center located near Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. Here, nurses and social workers care for the children. Piet is not only father to the children at Noah's Ark but their doctor as well. With love, proper nourishment, medical treatment and time, the wounds in these little souls heal and they begin to trust again. The children at Noah's Ark begin their education at age 4 or 5, and can begin to see that they have a chance at a different life through learning basics such as reading, maths and sciences, in a safe environment. All of the children learn about a God who loves them.

Currently Noah's Ark Children's Centre is home to 75 children, and growing. Thanks to your partnership, construction of a new large children's home was completed and the children moved in at the end of April, 2006. Everyone was thrilled—there is more space to run and play, new clothes and toys to play with, volunteers no longer have to live in tents, and at last everyone can enjoy hot running water. Currently, a daycare and preschool are operated out of the new home. The new school is doing well and expanding. Our new school has five classes running. Together the Buitendijks are working with over 7,000 children,



including the families of the children who live with them, and those in refugee camps in the rebel controlled north as well. The school has also been working with the Ministry of Education and Development to begin a literacy program for parents of neighbouring children.

Noah's Ark is ministering not only to the children but also to the nearby villages. They have built a family clinic which is on the on the property of Noah's Ark and is open to the village.

Piet and Pita want to have smaller homes on the property for the older children. They have completed building two of the eight homes and are looking for house mothers. Building plans for the next 2 to 3 years include staff houses, finish the building of the primary school, begin building the secondary school, and begin the second phase of their family clinic.

***Global Aid Network in partnership with GAIN Germany is committed to helping the children of Uganda by partnering with Noah's Ark Children's Centre. Will you partner with us as we need to raise an additional \$40,500? These funds will enable the building plans to proceed and provide a safe environment for more of these forgotten children.***



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