

# Kitega Community Centre

In memory of Kigungu Alex and Semujju, Kitega children who passed away in 2010



2010 ANNUAL REPORT



**Kitega Community**  
Let's make it happen

'As you have done it to the least to my brethren, you have done it unto me' (Matthew 25:40)

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## *About Us*

Kitega Community Centre was founded in March 2000 by Rev. Canon Silas Musoke with the help of friends from Scotland. The centre was first under the umbrella body of the Uganda Association for the Mentally Handicapped. In 2004 Kitega Community Centre registered as an independent non-governmental organization. The Centre is a Christian organisation but serves all people without prejudice.



### **Mission**

To attain a good standard of living for the disabled children and their communities by empowering the marginalized and underserved and providing them with knowledge, strategic information, and resources to live independently and to reach their full potential.

### **Vision**

A future in which all community members have access to quality education, affordable health care and secure and sustainable employment.

### **Faith Statement:**

Kitega Community Centre is guided by faith in Jesus Christ's love for all, especially those who are sick, poor and suffering.

We believe in Jesus’s teaching that “whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Matthew 25:40

**Objectives**

- To provide education, job training and life-skills to disabled children
- To improve the parents’ economic situation so they can better take care of their children
- To improve personal and community health
- To mobilize the communities to join hands to transform their situation
- To facilitate community-owned, community-driven development
- To empower other marginalized groups in the community, including those with HIV/ADS and orphans
- To support the families of disabled children by creating a welcoming environment and eliminating stigma against disabled children and their families

**Values:**

- Faith
- Love
- Commitment
- People Centred
- Participation
- Sustainability
- Accountability
- Listening
- Common good
- Integrity
- Transparency

**Administration**

**Management**

The Centre is governed by a Board of Directors, which has decision-making authorities.

Mr. & Mrs. Nicky King,	Patron
Rev. Canon Silas Musoke,	Chairperson
Vacant	V.Chairperson
Mr. James Kalule,	General Secretary
Rev. Samuel Lwere,	Treasurer
David Clemy Kawooya,	Public Relations
Daniel Kaaya,	Program Manager
Mrs. A. J Musoke,	Member
Kennedy Bamusubire,	Member
Ms Pross,	Parents Representative
Mr. Ronald Wamala,	Member
Edith Kigongo	Local Council Representative

**Staff**

**Full-time Staff**

Mr. Kennedy Bamusubire, Occupational Therapist and Project Director  
Ms Edith K. Nalumaansi, Assistant Project Worker

**Part Time Staff**

Mrs Lutwama Milly  
Ms Susan  
Cook/cleaner

**Online Volunteer Staff**

Ms Vy Nguyen, Publicity, Communications and Online Volunteer Management  
Mr. Frank Otieno, Graphic Designer  
Mr. Anup Tiwari, Publicity  
Ms Bibiana Restrepo, Health Research Management



*Board members and staff, with international volunteers*



## *Message from Nicholas W King, Patron of Kitega Community Centre*

We are thankful for another year in which God has provided for the children of the Kitega Community Centre through the dedication of its staff, carers, committee and the many volunteers and supporters in Uganda and throughout the world. We are thankful also for the remarkable progress made in making the Kitega building a presence in the community of which we can be proud. But more importantly, we are thankful for the reputation and relationships developed with the parents and guardians of the children and with local schools, civic authorities and the community at large. These are all worthy achievements.

It is said that 'imitation is the highest form of flattery' and we can allow ourselves some joy in knowing that others are looking to Kitega as a model to follow. And this perhaps might be Kitega's greatest contribution, making a path for others to follow. Yes we have provided for and trained many disadvantaged children, but we have also made a path, a path which says that such children are of value, a path which shows others what can be done, and a path which encourages others to follow and take their part in changing the world. Yes, it is good to be known for what we have done, but it is better to be known for how and why we do it. We have built the centre with our hands, we have established its working methods with our heads, but it is with our hearts that we will influence the world.

Many years from now in all probability the centre will be worn out and in ruins and we who have been involved may be forgotten memories. But though the work of our hands and heads might pass away, the work of our hearts will endure. The Bible tells us that "*Man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart*" (1 Samuel 16:7). Our work at Kitega must be known not so much for what we do, but for how we do it, with compassion, love and integrity. And most of all, it must be known for Whom we do it. I believe that such a message is important not just for Uganda, but especially for the Western world.

It would take too long to thank all those who have contributed to the Centre over the years, the carers, the visiting and virtual volunteers, the many material contributors, the staff and team and the committee but my thanks go to all those involved. I pray that God will bless you as you seek to bless others. I pray also that God will protect you and give you the wisdom you need to direct the Centre over the coming years.

Nicholas W King,

Chairman Kingserve Trust, Patron Kitega Centre

January 2011



*Nicholas W King*

## *Message from Rev. Silas Musoke, Kitega Chairman*



*Rev. S. Musoke*

### *“Give What You Have”*

In Acts 3:1-16, Peter and John healed a lame beggar, saying that “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you.” The beggar expected gold and silver; he never expected to walk again. When the people saw that he had been healed, “they were filled with wonder and amazement at what had happened to him.”

I boldly say that Kitega is now amazingly walking; individuals and organizations alike have been giving what they have, and community members are amazed to see what has been accomplished. And just as the disciples encountered doubters and naysayers, there are those in Kitega who still had doubts about Kitega’s mission. But with God’s blessing, they changed their minds after watching what the disabled children were able to accomplish. At our Annual Christmas celebration, one man frankly admitted, “I intended to stay here for less than thirty minutes, I didn’t expect these fools to present anything sensible.” His wife said that she had told him that he will find it difficult to leave after seeing the children, and she was right! Another parent was astonished to see the international volunteers spending time with the children while “for us who produce them (give birth to them) don’t have time for them.”

Such and many other comments from the Kitega community and beyond make me thank God that our vision of transforming the attitude of people towards the disabled has been achieved.

Kitega has graduated from the level of looking for the disabled children from their homes and communities to the level of receiving them at the centre from the same parents and guardians who used to hide and neglect them. The state and level of discrimination, malnutrition, and health have positively improved.

As we move forward, let us all continue to give what we have and make it happen in Kitega and the world at large.

Rev. Canon Silas Musoke

Chairman Kitega Centre

# 2010 in Review

Kitega Community Centre provides different services for the disabled children and the people in the area surrounding the project base. We focus on creating an environment in which the children can live happily and productively so that their parents and communities value them and recognize their full potential instead of seeing them as a curse or burden. Kitega’s services and programs are broken into these two categories:

- i. Advocacy, care and support for the disabled and their Families
- ii. Community Based Initiatives

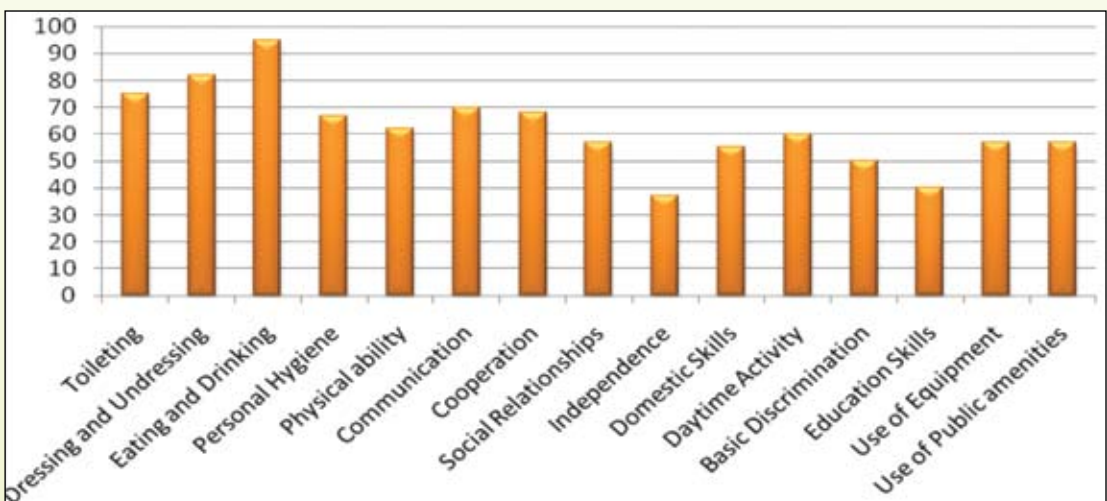
## Children Programs

Kitega children continued to make good academic and developmental progress. Many disabled children attend the centre five days a week while others come to the centre after their regular school sessions. The children received physical therapy from Kennedy Bamusubire, Kitega’s occupational therapist. This year, epilepsy was a major challenge, but a milestone was reached when we were able to secure cheaper medicine to give to the affected children.

Kennedy also carried out assessments to document the children’s progress. He used assessments such as the International Classification and Functional of Disability and Health and the Functional Instructional Measurements. Kennedy noted that the children have made improvements in all life spheres, including social interaction.



*Kennedy examining a child*



*STAR profile assessment for the disabled children in 2010, (average of 30 children’s scores)*



To date, 32 disabled children receive care and services at Kitega centre. In 2010, these children, along with other disadvantaged children in the surrounding areas, participated in arts and crafts projects, making intricate bracelets, baskets, and rugs. They participated in music and choir programs organized by international volunteers, cultivated the community garden, and educated the community about HIV/AIDS. The children presented plays, posters, speeches, and dramatic performances for community members, guest and visitors, demonstrating that disabled children can do great things if given the chance.



*Top left: Crafts session Top right: cooking lesson  
Bottom left: HIV/AIDS performance Bottom right: HIV/AIDS posters by children*

It is important to integrate disabled, orphaned and poor children into the community and to give them opportunities to experience things that other children are privileged to experience. Thus, with the help of international volunteers, Kitega staff organized a field trip to the zoo and the local airport for the children. Staff and volunteers also organized a football match between Kitega children and Katungulu children (alas, Kitega lost 1-0).



*Top: children participate in football game*

*Bottom: Children at the zoo*

Lastly, the rural children also joined their international peers in celebrating Global Dignity Day, which was designed to reinforce the idea that disadvantaged children deserve dignity in their lives and that their lives have value. On Global Dignity Day, many children shared their stories of personal hardships and struggles as well as triumphs, and all the adults involved used the event to validate the children's dreams and to encourage them to have faith in themselves and to work hard to achieve their dreams.



*Children discuss the concept of dignity on Global Dignity Day*

The children ended the year on a high note because the Annual Christmas celebration was a great success. The celebration started with a service led by the area parish priest, followed by music and entertainment from the children, both the disabled and the disadvantaged. Father Christmas was also present at the occasion and gave the children a number of presents. For many it was the first time they had seen Father Christmas.

The event attracted over 400 people, including both religious and local political leaders. Food and soda were served, and the children danced and sung, and excelling students were awarded gifts and certificates, including certificates for Perseverance, Academic Progress, and Hardworker. People were so happy and the parents of the disabled thanked the centre for the noble role of removing them from where they were hidden and bringing them out and having a large crowd listen to them as they sung.



*2010 Christmas celebration*

## *2010 in Review: Community-Based Initiatives*

### *Community Health*

Good health is an essential component of social and economic development. Poor health increases school absenteeism and prevents adults from working and childcare. Lack of medical care also causes preventable child and maternal deaths. In fact, in 2010 tragedy struck Kitega community when two young children died, one from throat cancer and the other from malnutrition. Other serious illnesses, such as malaria and HIV/AIDS, threaten to take more lives and to tear families and community apart. In response to these challenges, Kitega centre implemented several approaches to improve community health.

In 2010 Kitega centre staff and volunteers continued to work toward finding ways to bring affordable health care to Kitega community. A team of online volunteers researched health care co-op models and community health insurance schemes. The team put Kitega staff in contact with health centres in Bushenyi in western Uganda. David Clemy, Kitega's Public Relations Officer, traveled



to Bushenyi in November to visit the clinics. He was amazed at how the centres were able to provide medical services for rural populations at affordable prices. For example, at a centre in Iraramira, blood tests and treatments for the cold and for malaria ranged from \$1 to \$3. At a health centre in Kitabi, more than 2,000 people have health insurance with a premium of only \$2. The visit to Bushenyi was eye-opening for David because it showed that it is possible to provide affordable health care services to people in poor rural areas.

Building a health care centre in Kitega community is a long-term approach to improving community health. In the short-term, Kitega centre also took steps to meet the immediate health needs in the community. For example, with the support of Samaritan's Purse, Kitega centre distributed mosquito nets to Kitega families. The mosquito nets have helped to reduce malaria among the beneficiaries; in 2010, only 25 out of 180 Kitega children reported being ill from malaria. To combat HIV/AIDS, Kitega staff used International AIDS DAY to educate the community about HIV/AIDS and to provide HIV testing with the help of medical staff from Kawolo Hospital. Kitega also benefitted from the help of sponsors such as the Church of Latter Day Saints, who provided a 1,000-litre tank for the community to store clean water in order to reduce water-born illnesses at the Katungulu C/U primary school.

Jiggers, a flea-like bug, were also rampant in the communities, and some of the homes were infested. Jigger bites can cause painful sores, inflammation, legions and infections and can lead to more serious problems like gangrene, tetanus and loss of limbs. To fight jigger infections, the centre bought a sprayer and insecticide to spray some of the affected areas, and this helped to reduce jigger infections.



*Health centre in Bushenyi*



*Mosquito net distributed to community*



*Children gather to observe International AIDS Day*

## *Economic Development*

Generating income and creating jobs are central to Kitega's mission to alleviate poverty, and in 2010 Kitega community witnessed the success of VICOBA, the village community banking program. VICOBA is a community bank that came into being when a group of village women pooled their savings to form a community bank. With the help of donations from Kitega supporters, VICOBA built up enough reserve to enable the bank to make loans to support micro-enterprises. The VICOBA program has been a great success, and Kitega staff was thrilled to document the variety ways that program participants used the funds to start small businesses. Successful microenterprises included the following: a quarry mining business, a grocery store, a cabbage farm, a poultry farm, a banana farm, and a distillery business.



*Kitega women receive certificates after completing VICOBA training.*

By the end of 2010, 25 more people have received training in order to prepare them to effectively participate in community banking and micro-enterprises. The VICOBA program has enabled community members to realize their dreams of financial independence and security. It has increased family income and helped reduce poverty in the community. The VICOBA program has also improved financial literacy in the community and has helped to instill a culture of savings and entrepreneurship in the community. Most importantly, it has provided hope and inspiration for community members. The program shows that villagers possess the knowledge and motivation to solve the community's economic problems and that with the right support and capital investment, it is possible to improve the standards of living in Kitega.

At the 2010 Annual Christmas celebrations, VICOBA participants were recognized for their achievements. Here are some of their thoughts on VICOBA:

***"I have learnt the power of working together and saving" ~ Aidah Nakibuule.***

***"I have learnt how to save the little resources I have and building a dream" ~ Nakazibwe Esther.***



"I have learnt business accounting, record keeping, budgets and how to make profits" ~ Namuddu Teddy

"I have learnt budgeting for a business" ~ Kizza

"I have learned budgeting, aiming to make profits" ~ Nabukenya Ruth

"I have learned expanding business, to expand dreams, using money borrowed and how to pay back" ~ Salaama Semwogerere.

"I trade in small fish, and I have learnt to manage my business, and I hope to expand my business" ~ Florence Nambowa.

"First I have learnt to use the resources I have, and not to fall in debt, I have learnt the borrowing technique" ~ Nanseera Edith

"I have learnt to save and borrow from a reliable source, market research, and also to pay back my loan" ~ Sylvia Zawedde.

"I have learnt business planning with the funds I have, and the experience of a simple cash book to make profit" ~ Christine Namatovu.

"I am happy to learn the cash in and cash out analysis and cleanliness as a local ice cream seller, I also believe I can begin with anything I have to achieve my dreams" ~ Kabwo Eunice.

"Planning before beginning with anything, to help me know what to use and what profits to help me reach my dream" ~ Pastor Viani Muwanguzi.

"When our beloved brothers and sisters from Kitega Community Centre introduced village community bank in Katungulu village, I was transformed from a peasant farmer to a progressive farmer... For the first twelve weeks our brothers from Kitega sacrificed their time and trained on financial literacy" ~ Mr. Kafeero.



## *International Volunteers*

2010 was a great year for Kitega's international volunteering program. Both online and in the fields, international volunteers made a tremendous contribution to Kitega programs and mission. Kitega's team of online health researchers won the United Nations Online Volunteering Award for the second time in a row. The team helped Kitega centre by researching the best methods of providing health care to poor rural areas. They provided Kitega staff with information on health care co-operatives and community health insurance programs, and they connected Kitega staff to health centres in Bushenyi. Without their help, Kitega might not have heard of successful health care models right here in Uganda. Online volunteers also helped to spread awareness about Kitega centre by making promotional videos for Kitega centre, creating and maintaining online fundraising websites and platforms for Kitega, and integrating Kitega community into their social networks, both online and off-line.



On the ground, Kitega community hosted international volunteers from all around the world, including South Korea, Spain, the United Kingdom, France, the United States and Latvia. Volunteers taught the children, created music and choir programs, did home visits, helped in the community garden, organized a field trip to the zoo for disabled children, and helped to remodel the centre's facilities. The volunteers brought a ray of hope to the community and were good role models for the children.



### *The volunteers for the year included:*

1. Kena Achieng, USA
2. Jae Won Lee, South Korea
3. Ahram Cho, South Korea
4. Ananda Conde, Brazil
5. Julia La Manchenga, Spain
6. Sarah Jambert Gray, UK
7. Will Hack, UK
8. Claire Shearman, UK
9. Jordi and Irene Oms, Spain
10. Maria Boadella, UK
11. Lorna Elizabeth, UK
12. Dmitrijs Jadrocs, Latvia
13. Nils Bucknell, UK
14. Chad Dahne, USA
15. Jackie Beavers, USA
16. Lawrence Cheung, Hong Kong



### *Visitors for the year included:*

1. Kylie Dirks, USA
2. Ms Dorthe Buknell, UK
3. Brock Houlahan, Australia
4. Andrew Philip, Tearfund International, UK
5. Friends of a Friend (organization), Kampala, Uganda



## Partnership, Coalition-Building and Staff Development

### Partnership

Kitega centre is blessed to have received help, support and encouragement from development partners both in Uganda and abroad. We are honored to have the chance to work with these organizations:

1. Kingserve Trust Scotland
2. Global Dignity
3. UN Online Volunteering Service
4. God's Vision for Africa Kenya
5. Samaritan's Purse
6. Tearfund Inspired Individuals
7. Kawolo C/U Primary school
8. Riki Tiki Tavi Spain
9. Katungulu C/U primary school
10. Kitega Parish Church
11. Kawolo Hospital
12. SS Peter and Paul Hathern Church



*Will Hack behind, with the group of SS Peter and Paul Hathern church.*

*When Will and Claire visited the centre, they left passionate to fundraise , and Will linked the centre to children of his church. The children have embarked on raising funds to help the centre rear goats and distribute them to the beneficiaries as a means of economic empowerment.*

# Staff Development

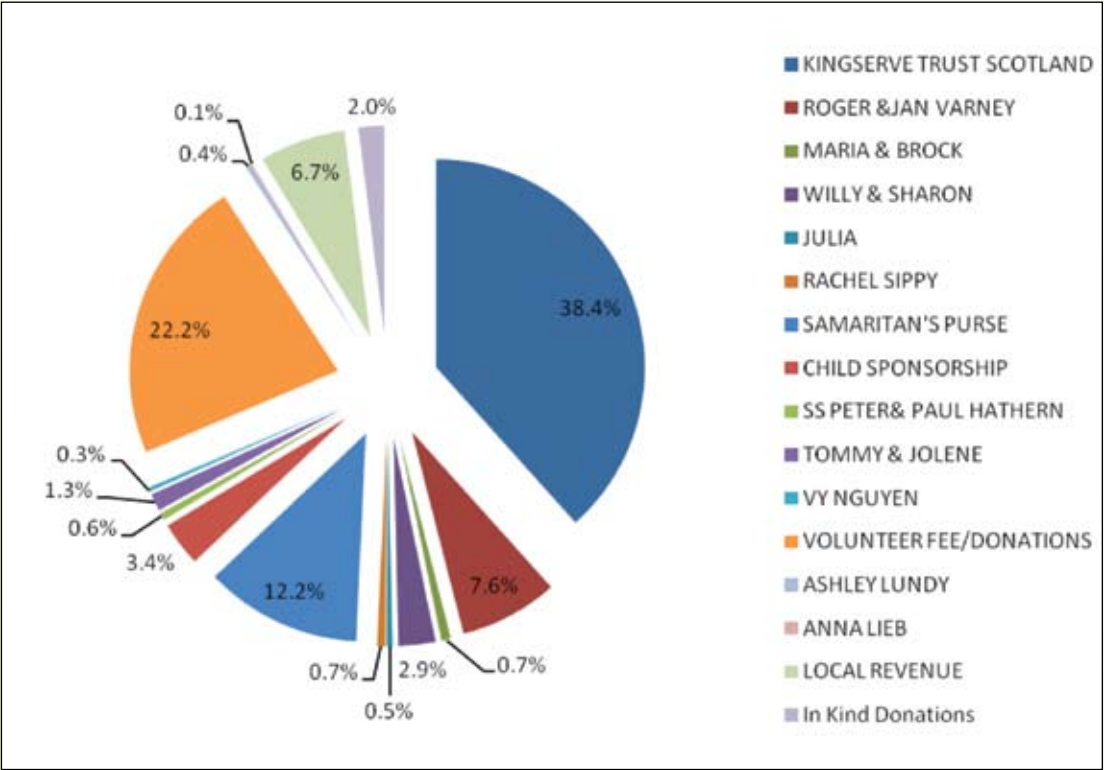
Professional development is an important goal for any development organization. As part of staff training, a workshop was held on special needs education. Centre staff and volunteers attended the workshop to learn new techniques and advance skills to better meet the needs of the children.

In 2010, Kennedy, the centre's Project worker, was also elected president of the National Association of Occupational Therapists in Uganda. Meanwhile, David Clemy was selected as a Christian social entrepreneur by the Tearfund Inspired Individuals initiative (T3I ). He was invited to South Africa to receive training in church and community mobilization.

# Donors and Supporters Recognition

Throughout 2010, people have contributed to Kitega's mission in a variety of ways, from material donations, financial donations, and volunteering their time and knowledge. This contribution helped make it possible to run programs and activities throughout the entire year. There was an increase in revenue of over 20% from 2009, and hopefully this will continue in the year 2011. We would like to thank all those who made 2010 happen.

Below is a summary of revenue inflow by percentage in 2010. *(More details will be given in the financial report in March 2011)*





## *Looking Ahead to 2011*

### *Future Projects for 2011*

In 2011, we will be reaching out to existing and new partners for support and funding to make these projects possible:

#### **Community Radio Project:**

Project partners have expressed an interest in visiting Kitega to assess the layout of the land and to see the needs of the community. In 2011, we hope to write up a plan for how a community radio station can help Kitega centre to expand our reach into the outlying villages.

#### **Health Centre:**

Now that we have identified a health co-op and community health insurance scheme as effective methods for providing health care to poor rural population, it is time to take concrete steps to bring medical services to Kitega and surrounding areas. We have identified a room in Kitega village that can serve as the beginning of a health centre. We shall need to find funding, equipment donations, and volunteer medical workers to make this plan a reality.

#### **Play area and therapy room for the children:**

This will provide a space for leisure activities and physical therapies for the disabled children.

#### **Centre Kitchen and Store:**

This will provide storage and cooking space inside the centre, which will better help us to serve the beneficiaries, guests and visitors.

#### **Clean Water:**

Many people continue to walk long distances to access water. In most of the homes that we visited, the average distance of a water source is 1 kilometre, which is a considerable distance. With funding, we hope to create a water source closer to the people.

#### **Shoes:**

Jigger-infections continue to create problems for the children. One way to prevent jigger bites is for the children to wear shoes. We will be reaching out to developing partners for shoes donations.

#### **Children's Scholarship Program:**

There are many children with potential in Kitega who currently cannot attend schools because their parents lack funds. We believe that a scholarship fund will ensure that these children will receive the education and training they need to better themselves and their families. A scholarship fund is an investment in human capital, and we plan on reaching out to development partners who share the goal of investing in the future by providing education to disadvantaged children

# report



**Kitega Community**  
Let's make it happen

Kitega Community Centre

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