

# **THE GIFT OF A GIRL FOUNDATION**

## **(TGOAGF)**



## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

### **JANUARY TO DECEMBER**

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## 1.0. Introduction

This 2019 annual report we are glad to share it with our distinguished partners, all time supporters and all well-wishers. This report covers our walk and work from January to December of 2019. The Foundation structure runs from the Annual Assembly, 13 Board members, Executive Committee and 5 Volunteer Staff who have been tirelessly working day and night for the good of girl child. 2019 has been a challenging time for **TGOAGF** but we thank God that we have come to an end with all the girls a live and they also completed their 3three terms at school.

## 1.1. Background

The Gift of a Girl Foundation (**TGOAGF**) is an indigenous non-profit making organization. It works for the good of a girl child within the surrounding communities. It was formed after reading the plight of a girl child in the media in Ongino sub county which indicated that the bigger percentage of girls drop out of school, many conceive in their early age and they also become mothers when they are still children.

These are other factors affecting the girl child at school in Ongino Sub County include the following;

- a) High dropout rates.
- b) Low promotion rates.
- c) Low transition rates especially from primary to secondary and from secondary to tertiary.
- d) Poor performance especially in PLE (primary leaving examinations).
- e) High rates of absenteeism at school.
- f) Involvement of girl children in family and domestic chores.
- g) Early marriage/and teenage pregnancies.
- h) Poverty at household level.
- i) Push out factors from school e.g. failure to handle menstruation, buy scholastic materials and uniform.
- j) Lack of feeding from school and;
- k) Generally the attitude of parents for education of a Girl Child is lower than that of a boy child.

Some of the factors numerated above have been attended to partly by the government and the others TGOAGF in her struggle have tried to change the mind set of both the parents, guardians and the children themselves and provide Education of girls.



## **1.2. Vision**

Holistically developed and transformed status of Girls and Women in Teso region by 2020.

## **1.3. Mission**

To transform the status of a girl child through the gospel, education, training and to engage in socio-economic activities – for sustainability

## **1.4. Foundation Goals**

- i) Develop an increased understanding of career in education of girls by 2020
- ii) Strengthen the capacity of girls/women in sustainable development projects.
- iii) To instil development values and creativity.
- iv) Encourage community participation in development activities.

## **2.0. ACCOMPLISHED ACTIVITIES OF THE YEAR 2019**

We accomplish the following activities in the year 2019 though amidst a number of challenges.

### **2.1. Payment of school fees**

**TGOAGF** with the help of Ruth was able to pay the school fees for first term and the third term only for all the girls except some of those girls who finished their senior four (4) last year. Third term fees was paid but the parents who did not pay for their children second term fees in full were not exempted until they clear second term fees then TGOAGF will pay her part for term three only according to the funds received. Our contribution to all or some girls always depends on what we receive but in most cases our contribution has remains constant 210,000 for secondary and vocation schools, 90,000 for lower primary and 100,000 for some children in upper primary.

### **2.2 Ekisa school dropout and community skilling**

**TGOAGF** with her struggle to make all the children in her care to benefit from Education program; initiated the idea of girl school dropout training in skills such that they also benefit with some of our girls who are taking such courses like fashion and design, hair dressing and bead bag making.

This program began well with three sewing machines for fashion and design, two head dolls for hair dressing and seven packets of beads, three rolls of strings and some scissors for bead bag making. We had 5 students for a start and three instructor's one for each course.



*Bead bag making*



*Fashion and design tool*



*Hair dressing items*

The instructors stopped teaching due to lack of funds to pay them. The contribution of the students which we thought would help pay the instructors was not sufficient to cover the three instructors for four month (one term) and a number of students were not able to pay the fees/contributions of UGX 90,000/= per term.

We received financial assistance from Amanda through GlobalGiving which we have planned to buy one more sewing machine and repair the spoiled one. We also received financial support from Laure through GlobalGiving, it will be enough to buy for us one more machine to make five but due to absence of instructors and their pay we have decided to keep these funds until next year 2020 when the first term begins for girl's training. We hope by this time we would received some funds for instructor's salary.

### **2.3 chicken projects**

Is the project we introduced to help us raise some funds for the purpose of helping the children incase donations reduce. It is a promising project only that there is no proper structure to keep chicken and chicks safe. it has been difficult for the chicks hatched to be kept safe; many of them die due to hash whether conditions and kites. The homes where we have put these chickens find it challenging to keep the chickens. They are left on free range (move freely around and that is how they meet wild animals which eat them). At this time we have 66 chickens a live and a number of chicks have been produced, looking at how they have been hatching by the end of the year we would be having close to a hundred thirty or more chickens if the security was good.



*Chicks and chicken from one home*



*chickens from another home*

## 2.4 December seminar

The seminar was postponed to 2020 January as parents and the guardians are still trying to clear the second term fees.

We had a plan to celebrate ten years of girl school support program this year but the plan was cancelled due to the lack of funds and my poor health then.

## Challenges

- One of our girls taken for training, within two weeks she developed complications which the administration could not allow her to stay at school even after trying to save the situation a number of times the girl still opted to go home.
- Movement to homes and schools visit is difficult due to lack of transport especially when required at wrong hours in the night or needed immediately.
- Due to an avoidable circumstances fees payment delay due to the fund raising programs for this funds do not at times match with our school term calendar. Our faithfulness to pay each term and communication to various schools beforehand has help us not find problems with different schools
- Delay of some parents/ girls to submit their academic or termly report which are in turn sent to our well-wishers and Mama Ruth.
- The situation seems to be biting to the parents and the guardians because their part which they were supposed to contribute for the child fees and TGOAGF, they are not able; this has made work to move slowly.
- Maintaining the growth of chicks to maturity

## Solutions

- Staff to create more time with the parents and guardians of the children and give the girls more time also.
- Try to fundraise from the Sub County, district and well-wishers for at least the motor bike
- To avoid children sent home for fees Secretary to keep writing to the school administrators and visiting them.
- Staff to take initiative to request the school administration to keep the termly reports for the staff of TOAGF and not to give to the child.
- Engage the parents and guardians more with already project TGOAGF has started and provide them with some skills.
- Providing a good structure meant for taking care of chicken

## Conclusion

There is clear and remarkable change in the lives of these children. Their decision making has also grown to somewhere noticeable.

All the support we receive from friends and well-wishers is not wasted but it is put in good use. You are welcome to see by yourselves the good work the funds you give us have done to our children/ girls.

Now we are tasked to give them skills and that is our call to everyone to walk with us for another mile to see to it that this is achieved.

We cannot end without mentioning incomparable, unchallenged work **Ruth** has done in the lives of these girls and the love she has for them. She has prayed, paid their school fees, treated them when sick, provided school requirements and provide clothing to these girls.

We also register our gratitude to **Amanda, Matthew and Laure** for assistance in acquiring tools for the training of the girls as this is our last step of our support to the girl's/ children before they go out of our hands.

We thank **GlobalGiving** team for allowing us use their platform for raising funds to help these girls despite our mistakes they have been lenient to us..

We do appreciate **Kumi District Local Government offices** for their Cooperation.

On behalf of executive committee, board members, local authorities, staff, parents/ guardians and I (**Sam Akora**) allow us register our humble appreciation to everyone who contributed in any way to make our work easy this year, thank you so much. Please keep praying for us and the children that God remains our focus.

God bless,

For God and my country,

Prepared by

**Sam Akora**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Sam Akora', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

**Coordinator TGOAGF**