



Context

Uganda was one of the first African Countries introducing Universal Primary Education (UPE), which has increased the enrolment rates. But yet, Uganda has one of the highest percentages of primary school dropouts in the world. According to UNESCO, only one third of children starting together in primary 1 are still together when finishing the primary cycle in primary 7. The biggest challenge is poverty. Actually, UPE has never been truly free. Parents not only have to spend money for school uniforms, books, and writing materials; but also pay fees, because the schools are chronically underfunded.

Strategy

Joy for Children Uganda (JFCU) is a non-governmental organization that advocates for the rights of children. JFCU implements projects in Kampala, Uganda's capital city, and in Kabarole District (Western Uganda). Through close interaction with the communities, the field workers of JFCU identify vulnerable children, who are at risk dropping out of school, because their parents live at a subsistence level (on less than \$2 per day) and cannot afford paying school fees and school materials. JFCU brings together individual sponsors with vulnerable children.

With a contribution of \$79/term (or its equivalent) for primary school, and \$200/per term for secondary school, a child will be guaranteed an education. The contribution pays for school fees, books, pens and pencils, a geometry set and uniform.

JFCU encourages a personal relationship between the child and its sponsor. The sponsored child regularly writes letters to its sponsor and also sends its school reports.



Results

- About 100 children are enabled to attend school thanks to their individual sponsors.
- Over 200 children are on the waiting list for sponsorship.

Impact

Education is not only a basic human right, but the foundation for development. Without successfully completed school education, the cycle of poverty will be continued. Children, whose parents live on less than \$2 per day, are in particular vulnerable of leaving school early because their parents cannot afford paying for school.

Sponsorship ensures that children are able to complete their education which open doors to a better paid job and a way out of poverty.

Our partners

- Joy for Children UK
- Kampala Slum Community