



## **‘With a Little Help...’**

**End of Year Report 2018**



Freedom from illness ... Eva can now walk and work thanks to treatment support she received from Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja

Submitted: 15 January, 2019

## **ABOUT RAYS OF HOPE HOSPICE JINJA**

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja is a non-governmental organization founded in August 2005 to provide palliative care to patients with life threatening /life limiting illnesses, mainly cancer and HIV/AIDS.

In 2018 RHHJ cared for an average of 550 patients per month in 10 districts of Busoga Region across an area of 10,000km<sup>2</sup> and a population of 3.5 million people. Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja is currently the only provider of home based palliative care services relieving immense suffering among terminally ill patients in the Busoga region

## **BACKGROUND ABOUT THE GRANT**

The grant is a response to the increasing number and needs of the terminally ill patients and their families. The grant that run from January to December 2018 was in line with the mission of Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja “To provide palliative care and improve quality of life for all people with life threatening/limiting illnesses in Busoga region.

The support areas included in the grant were:

1. Treatment support for 12 poor patients with terminal illnesses are faced with financial and bureaucratic challenges to access treatment
2. Provision of food and comfort fund to 30 needy patients and family
3. Purchase a vehicle for psychosocial activities
4. Fuel for social support vehicle
5. Driver for social support vehicle
6. School fees support to 4 children

## **2018 PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT**

### **i. Treatment support**

Many of the people coming to RHHJ have a condition which is treatable, however, due to lack of finances, they cannot access the treatment they need. Access to health care is a human right and RHHJ has therefore a well-established programme where poor people will be given help, so that they can get the best possible treatment. The support given varies according to need – some may even need transport to Mulago, upkeep at the hospital and required diagnostic tests, others can pay for part of treatment.

Support is given whenever needed and required for the patients to be cured or be given palliative treatment to improve the quality of life of the very sick.

With support from WALH and other funding sources, a total of 55 patients were helped to access treatment in 2018. The average support given per patient was UGX 465,272 (813 DKK).

WalH donated for 12 patients giving on average UGX 1,000,000 (DKK 1758). We are happy that more than double as many patients as expected have benefitted from the WalH donation for treatment.

**STATUS OF PATIENTS AFTER AND DURING TREATMENT**

treatment referrals were made to Uganda Cancer Institute, Nalufenya Childrens Hospital, Nile International Hospital, Kamuli hospital, Mbale Regional Referral Hospital, St Francis HIV/AIDS services, CoRSU and Jinja Regional Referral Hospital. Most frequent treatment cases include Kaposi Sarcoma, Breast cancer and cervical cancer.

Diagnosis	Number of patients	Status of patients	Number of patients
Cancer	39	Improved	31
HIV/AIDS+ Cancer	12	Fair	10
HIV/AIDS	4	Sick/Weak	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	Death	1
		Defaulters of	6
		Stable	2

**The RHHJ treatment rogramme helped Stanley back on the road to health**

Stanley is 38 years old. He was diagnosed with HIV/AIDS in January 2018. He was started on AIDS medication, but as he did not want to accept his diagnosis he stopped taking the medicines after 3 months.

RHHJ met Stanley first time Buyende, one of the far districts of Busoga Region in August 2018. He had developed extensive, painful lesions of Kaposi's Sarcoma all over his lower limbs and genitals, upper limbs trunk and the neck. His two wives had left him thinking he was bewitched. Thankfully his elderly mother had stayed at his side, supporting him from the farm work she was still able to do.

RHHJ clinician helped Stanley to understand the importance of the AIDS medicine and got him re-started on the correct medication. Stanley and his mother live in absolute poverty, but through the RHHJ the treatment program Stanley was helped to go for cancer treatment at Mulago Hospital, where a biopsy was done, confirming Kaposi's Sarcoma and the patient was started on chemotherapy.

Stanley has now received four cycles of chemotherapy and the lesions are decreasing. Three months after we first met Stanly he is taking his AIDS



medication excellently – and his children and one wife have returned. The clinical team visits every two weeks to check on him, greet his mother and support his family to understand the disease.

Stanley will soon go back to work in the fields and soon he be able to provide for his mother, wives and seven children.



## 2. Psychosocial support - Meeting the patients basic needs



**When Food is the First Medicine:** Esther had little hope when we first met her in October 2018 – after getting food from RHHJ and was explained about taking her AIDS medicine correctly, she started to look and feel much better in a very short time.

Most of Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja enrolled patients are poor and lack the most basic needs of food, clothing and decent shelter. Patients in such distresses live in miserable conditions and are unable to adhere to medication correctly.

With support from help of WALH, RHHJ reached out to 30 patients to meet their most important needs through provision of a monthly food basket of 3 kg rice, 2 kg beans, 1 kg sugar and one stick of soap. In addition the very poor will get a financial gift of comfort fund to help them purchase some of their other basic needs.

In our work we continually experience that food is the first medicine and must be sustained if the patients are to adhere to medication – at times the effect of food and caring for basic needs seems almost miraculous.



### **Food Support and Care gave sparkle of HOPE FOR THE FUTURE for Nusula and her three children.**

*Nusula's husband died of in July 2018. Nusula , 34 years old and illiterate, was weak herself and when she went to the health center she too had HIV/AIDS. We met her for the first in the beginning of October ..... and she had totally given up hope – even if she has three young children. There was no food except what the neighbours give her and the house is very small and leaks when it rains.*



*Thankfully, we had an extra ration of food to give her at the first visit, and at the next 2 weeks later we brought her two mattresses – the children were just sleeping on the bare floor. There was only space for one mattress in the house but still Nursula was delighted for the children to get something to sleep on.*

*Nursula was extremely weak at the first visit – much better at the second. This cannot be explained medically – probably more the food along with the power of the mind, and how a little love and attention has given her hope enough that she can live. At first visit she had refused to take her AIDS medicine, but now she is very keen to take it correctly.*

*Rays of Hope will continue visiting her to support her in taking the AIDS medicine correctly. It is our hope that we shall find funds to build a better house for her, so the family can stay dry. Also, her children need to go to school, so that they can have a chance to get out of the deep poverty.*



### 3. Acquisition of vehicle for psychosocial support activities



The WaLH support and funding towards the acquisition of a Toyota Hilux Double cab for psychosocial work was a major achievement in the history of RHHJ and the car has been put to good use ! The vehicle has allowed for the effective implementation and monitoring of the psychosocial activities of the organization. Busoga Region is vast – around 10,000 km<sup>2</sup>, but with the car for social support in place we now have a well-established school fee programme with regular visits to school and school children and interaction with school administration. Also patients' counselling, house construction monitoring, transporting for day care, cervical cancer screening and other activities have been possible and effective with the Toyota Hilux vehicle in place.

We are also grateful that WaLH has been supporting the social support programme with a very experienced driver as part of the social support team and fuel for moving around the region.

#### 4 .School Fees support



Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja Social Worker and some of the children on the school fees support program

With the support from WaLH, Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja was able to solicit school fees for 4 children Kisakyee Vivian, Muwanguzi Arnold, Kidubuka Ivan and Mirembe Winnie.

**KIDUBUKA IVAN**, 17 years old, studies from St Peters High school in senior three. He is expected to finish Ordinary level in 2019 when he will sit his Senior Four examinations. Ivan did fairly well in the beginning of the school year, but the results from the last two terms are not as good. The social worker will be counselling him to work much harder.



Kidubuka ivan

Ivan's grades for term 1, term 2 and term 3 are shown on the table below

	TERM-1		TERM-2		TERM-3	
Subjects	Exam	Grade	EXAM	GRADE	EXAM	GRADE
English Language	76	D1	32	F9	47	C7

English Literature	60	C4				
Religious Education	70	D2	84	D1	79	D2
History	82	D1	53	C5	60	C4
Geography	70	D2	48	C6	40	P7
IRE	40	P7				
Mathematics	66	C3	8	F9	11	F9
Agriculture	74	D2	44	P7	41	P7
Physics	60	C4	22	F9	30	F9
Chemistry	73	D2	20	F9	38	P8
Biology	69	C3	52	C5	37	P8
Art	50	C5				
Computer						
Commerce	89	D1	57	C5	74	C3
<b>3. TOTAL</b>	<b>4. 790</b>	<b>5. 37</b>	<b>6. 420</b>	<b>7. 47</b>	<b>8. 457</b>	<b>9. 45</b>

**Muwanguzi Arnold** is 12 years in primary four, schooling from Jinja Happy Hours primary school. He has maintained his academic scores



He was new in the school and took time to adjust, I hope he will perform better next year because he has settled and gotten used to the environment and teachers.

Subject	English	Science	Social Studies	Maths	Median
Term 1	66	53	47	85	60
Term 2	61	55	70	79	66
Term 3	67	53	62	82	65



**Kisakye Vivian** is 5years and has been in kindergarten. She performed very well in that she was promoted to primary one after scoring above average in all the subjects and was awarded with A+

Subject	English	Science	Social Studies	Maths	Median
Term 1	A	A	A	A	A+
Term 2	A	A	A	A	A+
Term 3	A	A	A	A	A+

**Mirembe Winnie** is 7 years old going to primary three, her academic performance was slightly above average and she tried to maintain high scores in English.



Subject	English	Science	Social Studies	Maths	Median
Term 1	84	60	76	52	68
Term 2	72	87	68	60	70
Term 3	88	62	58	56	60

Children on the school fees support program were monitored at school and this helped the pupils to keep in school and perform fairly well.

Continued follow-up and counselling is necessary as children in school and those in adolescent stage need continued counselling to make informed decisions about life. Bonding between social worker, children and school administration was prioritized.

2018 has been a good and busy year, where RHHJ has been able to reach more patients with better care than ever. We could not do it without your help

**Thank you 'With a Little Help...' and all of your supporters from all of us in RHHJ – we are looking forward to continue our collaboration in 2019.**



We are very grateful for your support to the patients of Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja and their families. With your help many patients have breathed easier and have truly felt that there are somebody who cares for them.

The need is still very big, but together we shall continue to make a difference in the lives of our patients.

**EXPENDITURE REPORT-Teddy can provide one she will be in office**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE SHS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE USD</b>
TREATMENT SUPPORT	12,000,000	3,205,500	
COMFORT FUND	3,600,000	280,000	
FOOD SUPPORT	10,800,000	3,320,000	
SCHOOL FEES SUPPORT	2,610,000	2,610,000	
SOCIAL VOLUNTEER	1,500,000	1,650,000	
SOCIAL WORKER	9,670,500	8,100,000	
VEHICLE	55,000,000	55,000,000	
FUEL AND MAINTENANCE	12,000,000	11,809,800	
	107,180,500	85,975,300	