



# Global African Village

## Annual Report 2017-2018



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# A Message from the President

Global African Village is proud of its **2017-2018 accomplishments**. Uganda's Bagishu community continued to gain a great deal from our humanitarian projects. In particular, the youth gained significant work experience, additional income, and community involvement. The villagers also benefitted from good harvests.

Our **Harry Rosinski Carpentry Program**, instituted in December 2016, attracted 15 youth, both boys and girls. This was an increase from the previous year's 10 participants. For the first time, participants included 12- and 13-year-olds from our Joseph Community School. New energy was also evident as young women were introduced to the program, breaking the stereotype that carpentry is a male domain. This was a special point of pride for parents of daughters who were receiving training in beginning carpentry. More young women wanted to participate in the program, but we were unable to accommodate them because of lack of space and resources.

Recent male graduates of the carpentry training program have established small cottage businesses that provide financial support for their families. Simple jobs such as repairing windows and making doors and chairs are can now be done locally in the community.

The expansion of **Yetana Fish Pond** was another important program 2018. The villagers increased the pond's footprint by 2' x 4' and 1½' deep. This additional capacity enabled them to introduce 500 assorted fish, including tilapia and catfish. They expect the next harvest to be August 2019. Twenty youth are involved in this project. This doubles the number of stakeholders who hopefully will share the proceeds while providing a healthy food source to the community.

We are also proud that our **Joseph Community School** celebrated ten years. It began in a very humble hut with just ten day-care students. We now have a simple open-air, mud-floor building, as well as a rural satellite location, with over 250 students from pre-kindergarten to grade seven. Because donors have been so generous and our volunteer teachers are so dedicated, our school has begun to attract students from other communities because of its academic success.

The generosity of our donors also enabled us to start a **small first-aid post**. In 2017-2018, we supplied reusable sanitary pads to four female students and disposable pads to other girls. As a result, girls' school attendance has increased by about 70%. Someday, we hope to raise enough money to expand our simple first-aid post so we can bring in traveling nurses.

Finally, we are pleased to report that since the inception of our school, over **50 elementary students have been accepted to Ugandan high schools**. With your continued generous support, we can improve and empower Bagishu youth and continue to expand our curriculum to expose girls to nontraditional skills.

*Sebastian Wanzama-Piro*  
*President, Global African Village*

## Accomplishments

In 2017, we dedicated **\$6,700** and in 2018 we dedicated **\$6,055** for these projects:

- Expansion of Harry Rosinski Carpentry School
- Books, food, and school supplies for the children at Joseph Community School
- Modest stipends for our staff of all-volunteer teachers
- Sanitary supplies to enable girls to attend school all month
- Roofing materials to repair the school roof
- Over-the-counter medicines
- Tuition for Boniface Namukowa, who graduated from Mengo School of Medical Technology, Kampala, Uganda, in 2017

## Activities

- December 2017 & 2018: Participated in Alternative Giving event, St. Joseph University Church, Buffalo, NY
- February 2018: Presentation to the Rotary Club, Williamsville, NY
- June 2018: Presentation to the Westmount Rotary Club, Montreal, Quebec, Canada



## Fundraising

- Register-receipt rebate program from Dash's Market, Buffalo, NY: \$513
- Soy candle sales: \$105
- Amazon Smile: \$37.79
- Network for Good: \$20
- Giving Assistant: \$5.79
- Good Search/Good Shop/Good Dining: \$64.48

## Other Sources of Funds

- Membership dues and cash contributions: \$11,973.46
- Interest: \$9.67



## Expenses

2017: \$215.11 (or 3.5% of the funds raised in 2017)

2018: \$83.78 (or 1.3% of the funds raised in 2018)

## Contributions to other organizations

- 4 complimentary one-year memberships to National Association for Developmental Education [NADE] (two in 2017; two in 2018)
- 4 complimentary one-year memberships to the Pennsylvania Association for Developmental Education [PADE] (two in 2017; two in 2018)
- 2 complimentary one-year memberships to the Western New York Peace Center (2018)
- 1 complimentary one-year membership to Mount Mercy Academy, Buffalo, NY (2018)



## Volunteers

- Carol McPhillips – newsletter printing
- Becky Bradley – proofreading
- Robert Hochberg, REH Design – web site design

## Outstanding Supporters (\$100 or more)

- Andi DeCapua, Tampa, FLA
- Susan & James Estes, Boonton, NJ
- Cheryl & Paul Scaglione, Yorba Linda, CA
- Grace Maylin, Buffalo, NY
- Kathleen Cosgrove-Drury, Buffalo, NY
- Stephanie Olsen, Penn Yan, NY
- Anonymous, Cheektowaga, NY
- Bill Hite, Placentia, CA
- Russ Walsh, Morrisville, PA
- Dawn & Ed Northwood, Buffalo, NY
- Merle Binmore, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

# Looking ahead to 2019-2020:

An optimist by nature, I see good things in our future. My positive aspirations, however, cannot be fruitful without your support. I know it's a sacrifice to offer financial support to people you have never met. The fact that you do proves that you are indeed in tandem with our name "GLOBAL" African Village. In this day and age where strangers and people different from your own are regarded as "them" versus "us" or even told to return to their country, you have been phenomenal. The good you have done for the struggling Bagishu mountain people will follow you wherever you will be.

I suggest that we continue to strengthen what we have done in rural Uganda. Our dream is to construct a durable carpentry school that can accommodate twenty students annually. Increased donations would enable us to hire more instructors and an assistant, preferably a female. Our goal is empowerment, self-esteem, and confidence in this rural population that has been neglected for so long. Full equality can only be reached by training and educating girls.

For a long while now, Global African Village has sought donors to help us upgrade our simple first-aid post, Amazing Grace, to a community-based centre. The Bagishu people live about an hour from the closest small city (Mbale) but few villagers have transportation to travel there. Therefore, most medical, dental, vision, and mental health needs go unmet. We have not yet succeeded in raising enough money to build a simple health care outpost. However, the Bagishu villagers have started the project by volunteering their time to collect outgrown clothing for other families and distribute over-the-counter medicines that your donations enable us to buy each year. This rudimentary health and social services program could gain considerable momentum with your support. This is vital because much more can be achieved with a healthy community. Contact us at [globalafricanvillage@gmail.com](mailto:globalafricanvillage@gmail.com) for more information.

As a supporter for the past twelve years now, you are a valued member of the Global African Village family. As hosts, we sincerely thank you and ask that you continue to support our humanitarian work with the Bagishu tribe of rural Uganda.

*Sebastian Wanzama-Piro*  
*President, Global African Village*



*Information for this report was compiled by Sharon Green, Public Relations Director, Newsletter Editor, & Corresponding Secretary*