

Frequently Asked Questions - Sponsorship

What makes NHU sponsorship unique from other sponsorship programs?

- 1. Our program is small (500-600 children), more personal, & family-oriented. Our sponsorship coordinators and staff in Uganda have close relationships with the children. Our care of children who are orphans is based upon the family group structure. Children living on site grow up with parents and siblings. Even those in our program who come to us from the community we consider sons and daughters.
- 2. We empower existing families in need to stay together. Many "orphans" in Uganda are orphaned because of poverty. Many parents in poverty struggle to support their children which often results in abandonment. When a child in need is first brought to us, we try and locate any living family members who, through empowerment, would like to be reunited with their children. This is often grandparents, aunts, or uncles (if parents are not living or unable to care for the children). Empowerment often looks like providing necessities to care well for the children and then also providing opportunities (education etc.) for the family to be self-sufficient. Every family is cared for individually, and each situation is assessed, so that our children are cared for according to their needs. If a family is in fact unable to care for a child, then they are placed in one of our family groups on site.
- 3. Strong Sponsorship Relationships. Relationship is very important in Uganda! Sponsors are encouraged to write letters and children are required to write letters 6 times/year. We also welcome any sponsors wishing to visit their children in Uganda. You will have the unique opportunity to spend as much time as we can provide with your sponsor child. Many ministries only allow a brief meeting with a child, but often we can arrange many meetings throughout your visit.
- **4. Many options.** We can find a sponsorship that will work best for you. We have varying payment amounts (\$35 & \$70) and some sponsorships don't require letters if a sponsor would simply like to financially support a child. We also have special needs children and a baby ministry if those ministries especially resonate with you!

What does my child receive through sponsorship?

- They're welcomed into the NHU family, and learn about their Heavenly Father.
- The cost of their schooling will be covered.
- Necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, hygiene products.
- For the children living in the community, we have childcare extension staff (like social workers) who visit their home to make sure they are being cared for well.
- Letters from their sponsor (we encourage at least 6/year).
- You have the option of sending Christmas and birthday gifts in addition to your monthly sponsorship. We recommend a gift to about \$15.

What will I receive as part of my sponsorship?

- Six letters throughout each year.
- A progress report/report card.

- A thank you letter from a missionary who knows your child once per year.
- If you are sponsoring a program or in a non-letter writing sponsorship, you will receive 2-3 newsletters per year in place of letters.

Where do I mail letters to my child?

Please use international postage and mail to:

New Hope Uganda (Your child's name) Box 16 Luwero, Uganda East Africa

Can I only send my sponsor child letters through the mail?

No, you can email your letters, but these can't include pictures. Please email them to mychild@newhopeuganda.org.

Why is letter-writing unavailable for Kobwin children?

Letter writing is unavailable for sponsorship of children at our Kobwin location primarily because this location began as a site where we cared children who were part of Kony's "Lord's Resistance Army". Because these children were undergoing more intensive care, we had to be more protective regarding the relationships that they had. Currently there are only a handful of older children left who had these traumatic experiences. It is the hope that soon we will be able to offer letter writing at this location.

Does each child only have one sponsor?

Many of the children sponsored at \$70/month only have one sponsor. A lot of our children have two sponsors and some whose care is costlier, like our special needs children and those receiving higher education, have several sponsors.

How can I learn more about my child?

If you have a specific question about your child, email our sponsorship coordinator Jill Pogmore at sponsors@newhopeuganda.org.

How long will my sponsorship last?

Our children are with us until they can be independent. For some this will be shortly after secondary school and for others, who pursue higher education, this could be until their mid-twenties.

The children we care for have all suffered deep loss, rejection, and broken relationships; so we encourage people to think seriously before committing themselves to sponsoring such a child. It is another rejection for the children to cope with if they are assigned a sponsor and then shortly afterwards their sponsor quits. Having said that, we appreciate that financial situations can change, and if that happens we can freely release sponsors from their commitment.