

STICHTING MIREMBE JOINS HANDS WITH ELIZABETH NAMAGANDA FOUNDATION, UGANDA TO HELP NEEDY CHILDREN SURVIVE AMIDST LOCKDOWN

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In Uganda, many people were affected by the nationwide lock down, they did not have food among other pressing basic needs to help them deal with the new crisis. The idea of a caretaker not being able to provide for the family because there is no source of income is sickening and among the victims of the COVID 19 hunger crisis were the needy students of Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation and their families. They were starving, stressed and hopeless. Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation appealed for help to Stichting Mirembe who immediately responded to their plea. On the 22 May 2020, Mirembe transferred funds for food relief to ENF to enable them feed the needy students and their families.

Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation members (Rose Nayiga and Benedicta Nassanga) procured the relief items. They were then delivered to different community task forces (two in Kampala and another in Masaka). With the ease of the lockdown, the ENF representative task forces used this opportunity to sensitize the beneficiaries on the necessary precautions required to remain safe and prevent the spread of the virus among which was social distancing, wearing a mask and washing of hands regularly. There after food was distributed.

Stuck at home because of lockdown, Miss Nagawa Rose, a resident of Masaka, Ggulama was worried about feeding her children. She has a big family, does not have sufficient land to cultivate food and the little food she had was over within a month of lockdown. Nagawa and her kids thought that they were going to die from inside their home because they had run out of food and had no further support. Her husband ran away from home to an unknown area after failing to provide for the family and cannot be traced. When Nagawa received the news of the possibility of getting food relief from Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation, she broke down and cried...to her, God had answered her prayers. She was very grateful to Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation and their sponsors for putting food on table for her and her children.

The story is not so different from Nassimbwa who fends for her own children and also some orphans from relatives who passed on. Herself, she is HIV positive and is on drugs. With the lacking health care system in Uganda, HIV patients have really suffered behind closed doors with no access to food and transport to hospitals. Nassimbwa did not have enough food to feed herself and the family. Not being able to provide food for her family made her more sick and was forced to appear on National television to ask for help. She thought she was going to die because she could do nothing for the children and herself. The call from Benedicta Nassanga promising food relief and some financial assistance for her to be able to travel to hospital to pick her medicines was an answer she has been waiting on from God since the lockdown began. She really conveyed her heartfelt thanks to ENF, especially to Rose and Benedicta who reached out to her.

The emergency funding from Stichting Mirembe helped to save many lives and give hope to the needy students and their families. The students and their families are grateful to Mirembe Foundation and Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation for giving them food relief. To them, this was another chance to survive.

Elizabeth Namaganda Foundation would like to sincerely appreciate their donors for the endless support without which we would not have achieved our main objective of helping vulnerable children and orphans. Thank you, thank you very much Stichting Mirembe!

BY PHIONA NALWEYISO AND ROSE NAYIGA- FOR ENF BOARD.



PICTORIAL REPORT OF FOOD RELIEF FOR ELIZABETH NAMAGANDA FOUNDATION



Benedicta Nassanga with some relief items.



Members from Lubaga Parish load items for distribution to the HMtP students.



Rose briefs members of Lubaga Parish who picked the relief items



Rose delivers packed relief items to the Head teacher of St. George primary school



The children are excited after receiving their packages of relief items



Matovu Denis and the family receive relief items.





The man was humbled after receiving items and he knelt down to thank the donors



The boys are happy to receive relief items for their families in this covid 19 crisis which has seen many men run away from their families



The little children also received some relief items



A single mother with relief items for her family



Beneficiaries demonstrated social distance that they had been taught by the ENF taskforce when receiving food relief



Benedicta Nassanga and the driver Francis after buying relief items in kampala