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The Newsletter of
Building Hope in Kids – Uganda



Volume III Issue 2
PO Box 612
Washington, IL 61571
www.buildinghopeinkids.org April - May 2019



Founder's Corner

Dear friends of Building Hope in Kids-Uganda,

I send you warm regards from Uganda and from St. Patrick Primary School in Uganda. The first two months since the school opening (on February 2) have been great.



We had parents visiting the students on March 16 and the day was a great success. Parents were excited to see their children after 6 weeks in boarding school and many of the parents were happy that their children were looking so healthy. Some of the parents could be heard saying "How shall we manage these children when they come for holidays since they eat so well while at school?" I was happy to hear such comments because one of our goals was to improve the nutrition of our students.

The headmaster also later told me that parents were so impressed and he said, "I cannot hide this from you, I got so many compliments and gifts from the parents." The students themselves are very happy. When you ask them about the school you hear comments like, "We eat very well, we have very nice buildings and our teachers are very good to us."

We were blessed with an enrollment of 318 students. That was an amazing start because we projected 200 students. Because of this high opening enrollment we have 19 students who still need sponsors. We are still in need of more funds for construction of dormitories because we predict an increase in enrollment next year.

We are grateful to all those who have supported us since the inception of the project.

May the Lord bless you abundantly.

Sincerely,

Fr. Julius

Fr. Julius, PhD, Founder

Calendar Notes

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 2019

7:30 am Monthly meeting of BHIK-U Board of Directors- St. Pat's office meeting room

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2019

Fr. Julius turns 50 yrs. old – Happy Birthday, Father!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2019

7:30 am Monthly meeting of BHIK-U Board of Directors- St. Pat's office meeting room

SATURDAY, JULY 13, 2019

6:35 pm Peoria Chiefs game fundraiser – see pg.3 for more information.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1, 2019

6:15 pm Cubs vs Cardinals at Busch Stadium
See pg.3 for Bus Trip Fundraiser info.

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Thanks to you, WE DID IT!

**We met the
\$200,000 challenge!**

**In November, 2018
Building Hope in Kids – Uganda
was offered a
Challenge Grant by Dan Meehan:**

**\$200,000 from the Meehan Family
Legacy Fund at the Greater Milwaukee
Foundation – *BUT ONLY IF WE RAISED
THAT AMOUNT by April 30, 2019.***

**With your generous support, we raised
the \$200,000 by the end of February!**

**The funds we have received from
the Meehan Family Legacy Fund
will enable us to begin construction of the
permanent dormitories at the school.**

Thank you, Dan Meehan and Family!



Are you ready for some baseball?



The Peoria Chiefs

vs the Great Lakes Loons

Sat. July 13 6:35pm

Cheer for the Chiefs as you help to build the dormitories!



A FUN NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK!

Margaritaville Night

Grab yourself a cheeseburger here in paradise. It's a whole night of Jimmy Buffett music, drinks, food, and beach clothes.



Bucket Hat Giveaway

First 1,00 fans (age 13 & up) will be receiving a bucket hat at the gates.



Tennis Ball Toss

Great prizes awarded!



Post-Game Fireworks



TICKETS: \$15

FOR TICKETS:

Contact

**Adolph Arnold,
309-264-7221**

Tickets will also be sold at St. Pat's & St. Monica's - watch for announcements



Thursday Aug. 1st 6:15 pm game @ Busch Stadium

\$125/ticket

Includes bus, game ticket, drinks on the bus

**A few tickets remain -
Call Arnie, 264-7221 for
information on reserving
your seat!**

DON'T DELAY!



Saturday, March 16 was Parents' Visitation Day at St. Patrick Nursery & Primary School, Uganda.



Students line up outside the dining hall, waiting their turn to enter for the midday meal.

The day began with Mass, followed by Welcome addresses by the Headmaster and Father Julius.

Students and their parents in the dining hall, waiting in line for their meal of meat, rice and matoke (a staple dish, made of cooked plantains).



All parents were invited to Visitation Day, held half-way through the first of the 3 school terms. 90% of them were able to come. They said they were impressed, especially that their children are eating so well.

As Father Julius explained in his Pg.1 column, enrollment at St. Patrick Nursery & Primary School in Uganda has far exceeded all of our expectations! As a result, there are more students who need sponsors than originally projected - - but we did have just enough people on our sponsors sign-up list to take care of every student who needed one.

- HOWEVER -

Due to unforeseen circumstances, a number of folks who had intended to sponsor students are now unable to.

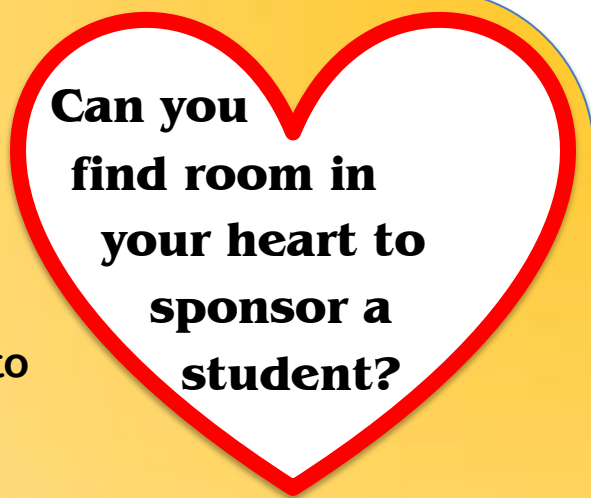
Thus, we are now in need of additional sponsors for students. The cost of a sponsorship is \$50/month for 12 months, or \$600/year.

If you're willing to sponsor a student, please go to www.buildinghopeinkids.org.

- Click on the "SUPPORT" tab.
- Scroll down; click on the "SPONSORSHIP" link.
- Fill in the form, and click "SUBMIT". (Skip the part about creating a form!)
- Scroll up & click on "PLEASE DONATE" to set up online sponsorship payments, or mail a check payable to "BHIKU" to:

BHIKU
PO Box 612
Washington, IL 61571

Thank you for your generosity!



The latest photo from Uganda:

The St. Patrick Nursery & Primary School Choir.

Look at those smiles!



President's Report – from John Grillot, BHIKU Board President

God has continued to shower us with His blessings and we are truly humbled. As previously noted, late last year we were offered a \$200,000 grant with one condition ... that we were to raise \$200,000 "on our own" by the end of April 2019. We accepted the challenge and placed our trust in God. It is with great joy to announce that we have met our goal and have received the matching funds. In honor of the grantor, we have named the soon-to-be-constructed boy's dormitory the **Dan Meehan Hall**. This dormitory will be an ongoing reminder of Dan's goodwill, his confidence in our project, his hope for the future, and his faith in Jesus Christ.

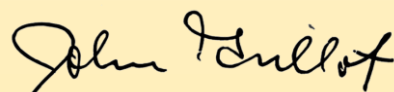
Due to Fr. Julius' successful recruiting and the resulting enrollment of over 300 students, we now need to provide more classroom space and student housing. We plan to resolve this capacity constraint by building boys' and girls' dormitories "complete" during 2019 in preparation for next school year. This will free up classroom space in the classroom building (that is now being used as temporary housing) and provide long-term student housing in separate buildings. Over the next two months the dormitory foundations, concrete slabs, and first level walls will be completed, with much of the work being done during May while the students are on break. This Phase 2 construction (dormitories and related items) will cost nearly \$500,000. Even after completing Phase 1 construction earlier this year and funding the agreed-upon student sponsorships, we have 70% of the needed funds already available. We are still in need of an additional \$150,000 to enable us to complete the dormitories this year to continue on the path of building hope for more and more children.

It may be of interest to you that the BHIKU Board

has established several options to acknowledge donors, including: a) room plaques commemorating donor contributions; b) naming rights for select rooms, sites, and buildings; and c) "Partners in Excellence" donor recognition levels. These options provide a method to commemorate your support and commitment to help the children. Please contact me or one of the other BHIKU Board members to learn more about these donor opportunities.

While it seems that school has just started, we are already in the 10th week (of 13) of the first three-month term. Planning is underway for the upcoming 3-week break and for the second term that starts on May 27th. A highlight of the second term will be the official dedication ceremony for the school on Saturday, July 27th. Fr. Julius has assured us that it will be a highly festive day with lots of singing, dancing, and rejoicing. Our upcoming Mission Trip (Jul 20 - Aug 1) will of course include this ceremony. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be part of this event. We now have 8 participants signed up and will have a planning meeting later this month. We could handle several more participants. Please contact me if interested.

As always, we ask for your continued prayers, encouragement and financial support. We have accomplished much, but much is yet ahead. Your generosity is making a difference in the world!



John Grillot
Board President

grilljw@gmail.com 309-696-4846