



Beatrice's HOPE

THE NEWSLETTER OF HOPE MULTIPURPOSE, INC., FOUNDED BY BEATRICE GARUBANDA

VOL. 28, SUMMER 2018

Agnes and Grace remember

Beatrice Garubanda saw how AIDS and other diseases had devastated her home village in Uganda, and how the remaining adults were overwhelmed with orphans. She started the Blue House in 2004. Grace and Agnes were among the first girls whose lives she transformed. When they were asked to think back to those days, and subsequent opportunities, they shared their memories.

Agnes: Auntie Beatrice saw orphans in desperate need and felt touched because we were homeless and had no close relatives able to take care of us. Worst of all, most children in the community were not in school since they had no one to provide school fees and other basic necessities.

Grace: Beatrice has inspired me because... she would find us in the village and she would call us to come... We had mud on our faces... She was a social person, social to everyone, to kids mostly and the elders... she really had a good heart.

The Blue House girls now

We are currently supporting 35 girls: 16 in primary grades (plus 4 receiving Home Based Support for schooling while living with relatives), 9 in Ordinary Level high school, and 2 at Advanced Level. And 4 young women are funded for post-secondary education: two in Vo Ed: Jenipher in Hair Dressing, and Flavia in Catering, Tourism, and Hotel Management; and Peace and Ovious are in their final year at Makerere University.

A: She bought some old semi-permanent houses where we started a new life, the Blue House. She hired sister Medius to care for us twelve girls: Evas, Peace, Ovius, Allen, Sarah, Dorcus, Jackline, Ovia, Flavia, Rosemary, Agnes and Grace. Operations were under the care of Uncle Sere Tuhairwe and his wife Natunda Provia, sister to Beatrice.

G: She inspires me to work with people of different backgrounds. Because for us we were from humble backgrounds but she still loved us.

A: What a joy it was to see ourselves going back to school again, eating good food. Like other villagers, we used kerosene lamps, and walked 2 kms to fetch water. We helped our young sisters in washing clothes, utensils, cooking and digging.

I will never forget the tragedy that befell the Blue House family in 2005 when our dearest Aunt Beatrice died. We spent days and nights crying, mourning for her. We could not eat anything because we thought that was the end of our future. I am thankful to the friends and family of the late Beatrice, both boards in America and Uganda, for ensuring that Beatrice's hope continues.

Time came after my senior four, I moved out of Blue House and went to YMCA Comprehensive Institute, Kampala branch, to do a two year certificate in Hotel and Institutional Catering and Management. After my graduation I got a job in Kampala working in a bookstore.



The girls in 2006 at the original Blue House, which was actually blue.



Grace and Agnes shared a selfie, their memories of Beatrice, and their lives at the Blue House.

G: I was the first one to go to university. It was a God-given chance. I felt happy and proud of the Blue House, the board and all of them. I was excited. And I really appreciate them... because they made me what I am and what I will be in the future.

The Director was counseling me with the matrons, and I thank them for their support because they would bring me hope, because campus wasn't easy. And the tuition fees, they're high; I thought I couldn't make it. But the Blue House (donors) helped me. I thank them.

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Agnes and Grace remember

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A: I am so proud of Aunt Beatrice for her kind heart, thinking to start Blue House. How I wish she were still alive to see how I have grown into a mature, responsible, beautiful lady, together with my other Blue House sisters.

G: I really love the kids at the Blue House because... I take them as my real sisters and I really love them, so much. And I appreciate the Blue House so much for support towards both my education and the education of my young sisters.

A: What a joy to come back to work as the Associate House Mother at my former home, the Blue House.

Learn more: www.blue-house.org/about and www.blue-house.org/beatrice . 🏠

Appreciations & Ovations



- **The Mothers' Tea**, (above) thanks to St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church's fellowship hall and kitchen, TeaSource's donation of many varieties of tasty teas, Siobhán O'Malley's harp's soothing ambiance, and all the volunteer bakers, makers, and servers.
- **St. Matthew's Episcopal Church**, Social Justice Ministry for their ongoing support for the Blue House, and a check for \$2,400.

Volunteer opportunities

Blue House Uganda girls thrive because of the many devoted volunteers that assure their care, health and education. Join in the fun and satisfaction. Your skills and time are more valuable than ever.

■ **Newsletter graphics** and production editor for *Beatrice's Hope*. Work with communication committee and staff to write, layout, and distribute. 651-644-3927

■ **Website manager** to maintain www.blue-house.org, using an easy drag-and-drop platform. 651-644-3927

■ **Blue House Boutique** has openings on the Steering Committee, several subcommittees, and to oversee important short term tasks. 651-482-0356, lindablopez@gmail.com

Please call or email to discuss how you can help.



DONATE online or use the enclosed envelope.
Please help the Blue House accomplish its mission:
Creating a childhood and opportunity
for orphans in rural Uganda.
www.Blue-House.org/donate

Blue House Uganda online: www.Blue-House.org



BLUE HOUSE UGANDA

Blue House Uganda is a 501(c)(3) charity, sponsored by Hope Multipurpose, Inc., based in St. Paul MN, for orphans and vulnerable children in Kazo, Uganda.

Donations are tax deductible.

See: www.Blue-House.org/donate

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News from the board

Big Thank You's are in order for Board members who are transitioning: Brenda Hansen has completed 5 years as Treasurer and is leaving the board, but will continue her service with the Blue House Boutique. Jim Colvin has taken over as Treasurer, and has been updating some technology issues as well. Joanne Kabajungu Roques has been accepted to grad school in California, but plans to continue her role as Secretary remotely. Siobhán Colvin has developed a social media campaign. Raney Linck has resigned from the board. 🏠

Hard work yields a healthy harvest to sustain the Blue House



Zipporah, the House Mother, and girls watering carrots. The girls also grew groundnuts, cassava, sweet potatoes, and other crops.



Threshing beans looks like hard work.



Winnowing the beans. The director reported they harvested 100 kg of beans in January and 120 kg in May.



A banana plantation! Of 93 banana stems planted, (left) 40 have bunches (left). They hope they'll be ready for harvest in July or August and the girls can have matooke from their own garden. Matooke is a starchy, non-sweet variety of banana that is mashed and cooked. It's a favorite Ugandan food and the girls have it at every meal when in season (left).



Immaculate, Jane, and Annitah husking maize for roasting.



Facebook.com/
Blue.House.HMI

Lost Forester Runs of Pine Valley



It's Only a Hill Run

Read all about it and register:
www.blue-house.org

Labor Day,
September 3, 2018
8:30 am
Pine Valley Park,
Cloquet, MN



A fundraiser for Blue House Uganda

Save the dates...

**BLUE HOUSE
BOUTIQUE**

December 1-2, 2018

High quality, hand-crafted personal and holiday items, exceptional gourmet goodies, and unique gifts from Africa.

Contact minnie.b.wiens@gmail.com to donate gifts.

www.blue-house.org/boutique



Blue House BBQ!

Great BBQ and a healthy serving of hope and opportunity for orphaned girls in Uganda.

Saturday, September 22 • 3:00 pm

Keller Regional Park • White Bear Lake - Shelter #5

2:00 p.m. – VIP arrive
3:00 p.m. - General Admission open
3:30 p.m. – BBQ + food ready to serve

VIP tickets \$40 (see website for benefits) • General admission \$20
 Tickets for 4 BBQ tables and 1 general side dish table (includes chicken)
 Prize drawing • Yard games • DJ Dennis Broadband • Free parking
 Map, ticket info and details: www.blue-house.org/BBQ



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Safurah, Sylvia, and Angellah show off the pumpkin and squash harvest. More farm pictures, page 3.

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