

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

VOL. 38, SPRING 2024

# Education for the Blue House students

by Merab Gloria, Blue House Director in Uganda

he children reported back to their respective schools for first term of the year in February 2024.

#### **ADVANCING TO THE NEXT LEVEL**

Four girls who sat for their primary seven (grade 7) exams the end of 2023 performed well and I was very happy upon receiving their results (below), which I hope will be an inspiration to the rest of the girls and boys in lower classes. Shallot is the first Blue House girl to score this well at primary seven, a very big achievement. They were all happy and excited to join new environments away for their senior secondary level.

Name	English	Science	Social Studies	Maths
Shallot	*D2	D1	D1	D2
Mollen	**C3	D2	D1	C3
Sylvia	C4	D2	D1	C3
Savior	C6	D2	D2	C5

\*D = Distinction. Highest passing distinction score is a D1, followed by D2. \*\*C = Credit. Highest passing credit score is C3, followed by C4, C5, C6 etc



Packed and ready to go to Senior 1 (grade 8) from left: Sylvia to Kibubura Girls' Secondary School in Ibanda, with Associate House Mother, Agnes. Mollen and Shallot (in red) will go to Bweranyangi Girls' Secondary in Bushenyi. Also Savior joined Engari secondary school in Kazo district.

Annah and Saphurah reporting for the first term of senior two (grade 9) with brooms in hand. Three senior four (grade 11) girls, Ovia, Abia, and Immaculate, are considering joining tertiary institutions for certificates in different disciplines such as fashion and design, business management, plumbing, hotel management or agriculture.



Ovia who completed senior four wants to do a certificate course in plumbing and fitting.



Abia and Immaculate N. They both came to the Blue House in 4th grade.



From left, Susan, Tryhpin, Annitah, and Angellah join their final year of high school

#### **INSTITUTION GIRLS – EVEN MORE EDUCATION**

This year we have three young women in post-secondary institutions. Lillian A. is beginning her fourth year in a Bachelors of Medicine at Busitema University. Immaculate T. is in her final semester of a Bachelors of Micro Finance at Kyambogo University. Lillian T. is in her second year at Ruharo Vocational Training Institute in Mbarara district doing a certificate in hair dressing.

Three institution students who finished their studies last year and are waiting for graduation are: Jane (Certificate in Hotel and Tourism), Ruth (Certificate in Agriculture), and Christine (Certificate in Agriculture).



#### Assessing additional children

Blue House Social worker Grace Kyarikunda assessed young children ranging in age from six to eleven in the Kazo area for criteria to join Blue House.

The children come from extreme poverty, raised by a single parent or grandparent. Guardians may have no land to cultivate food and have difficulty in raising children's school fees and other necessities, or work but cannot support as many as 10 children. A parent may be deceased, disabled, or absent. Older siblings have dropped out of school, but guardians want a better life and education for the younger children.

These are the kinds of children Beatrice Garubanda saw when she opened the Blue House in 2004. There may be fewer orphans in 2024, but children are still desperately in need, and not able to attend school. These are some of the children and families that Grace assessed.



## "Summer" in Uganda

#### By Josh Garubanda

t's incredibly dusty and scorching hot here. The morning dew quickly evaporates, leaving behind a blanket of dust and hot grass. In Uganda, there are only really two seasons: the dry season and the rainy season. In Uganda, "Summer" aligns with



Scrabble: English and Ugandan words?

the long school break, which takes place between December and February. During this time, children get to indulge in activities they love, such as playing soccer or board games.

The pleasant mornings and warm evenings are perfect for soccer matches, gardening, group discussions, chores, and sometimes even personal counseling. The holiday break also allows for visits from relatives and time with elders who can impart knowledge about culture and heritage.

For the boys and girls of the Blue House, "summer" is a magical time where unforgettable childhood memories are made, filled with both refreshing and scorching moments.



The girls are almost flying in the 100 meter race on Sports Day during summer break.



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: Blue-House.org/donate

#### **U.S. Board of Directors**

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## New on the Board

Welcome Brenda Senyana, new U.S. Board Member. Born in Kampala, Uganda, and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Brenda holds the mission of the Blue House close to her heart. She grew up with "Aunt Beatrice" and looks forward to



Brenda Senyana

continuing her work. Brenda currently works as a Senior Planning Analyst, coordinating Hennepin County's strategy to end the HIV epidemic in Minneapolis.

# **Appreciations & Ovations**



Thank you to all the incredible Blue House volunteers and crafters for your dedication and hard work in making our Boutique sale a tremendous success! Your tireless efforts and creativity have truly made a difference. Thanks also to St. Matthew's Episcopal Church for once again being the home of the Boutique, and all the related support.



Thanks to Fire Station 8. Between emergency runs, St. Paul Firefighters donate their time to package 500 packets of Blue House notecards. You can buy them at the Mothers' Tea and the Blue House Boutique.



The girls always appreciate new dresses made by University of Minnesota Apparel Design students.



## The Mothers' Tea for the Blue House

Saturday, May 11, 10 am to noon St. Anthony Park Lutheran Church 2323 W. Como Ave., St. Paul

- Specialty TeaSource Teas (and coffee too)
- Brunch Buffet—sweet and savory
- African Market gifts from Uganda
- Moms, dads, kids, grandparents & friends

We welcome volunteers to make brunch goodies, especially dads and sons (email bghansen55@gmail.com to tell Brenda what you will bring)...and stay to celebrate with Mom!

# See Blue-House.org for info and to buy tickets.

SAVE THE DATE: Lost Forester Runs for the Blue House August 24, 2024



Please DONATE online or use the enclosed envelope.

Blue-House.org/ donate



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Social Worker, Grace Kyarikunda with Blue House children who graduated from nursery section to primary section. From left: Brenda, Moreen, and Praise. See more about students who are advancing in their studies, page 1.

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# See more online at **Blue-House.org**