



Special Children's Trust



ANNUAL REPORT

2012/13

Our Background:

One in every 10 children in Uganda is born with some form of disability. These range from extremely severe physical and/or mental disabilities, to very mild ones that are hardly noticeable. However, most communities still view disability as a bad omen, bad luck, punishment or a curse for the sins the parents must have committed. Some people see disability as witchcraft or a contagious condition that should be avoided, which leave families who have children with disabilities alone and isolated. The lack of readily available support and information to parents prevents them from giving their children quality care at an early age, which in turn increases the severity of the children's condition.

The Special Children's Trust was established to meet the needs of these parents and their children in whatever way possible, whilst also showing them the extent of the love God has for them and the family He blessed them with.

Who we are:

In May 2013, the special children's Trust celebrated one year in operation as a non-profit organization, with the aim of reaching out in love, offering hope and restoring dignity to children with special needs and their families in Uganda.

The vision of the trust is to build a better and safer Uganda for children with special needs.

The Special Children's Trust is an umbrella organisation for a number of projects working with children with special needs in Uganda. It was registered as a CBO (NAK/11/065) in 2010 and as NGO (S.5914/9715) in 2012, with the goal of consolidating the work and building a larger base for funding, management and a stronger voice for the plight of children with special needs in the country.

The Trust started in 2006 as Mukisa Foundation...**hope for children with special needs**. Mukisa Foundation is based in Lungujja, Rubaga division, Kampala with the aim to empower families who have children with special needs so that these children can lead purposeful lives to their full potential, through activities such as Therapy and Medical services, Special Needs Education and Vocational Skills Training for children and their families, as well as Income Generating Activities, Counselling and Parent Support Groups. Through the years, Mukisa has supported over 600 children and their families.

There are also a number of outreaches started under Mukisa foundation such as Luwero, Nkokonjeru and Fort portal outreaches. These serve to take services closer to the people in rural areas.

In 2008, after realising that there was a big need for a safe place where children with special needs could be cared for and receive therapy under one roof, as well as have access to fun activities tailor made for them according to their abilities, Dawn Children's Centre was created in Bukoto.

The Dawn Centre is a day care facility which provides quality care for children with special needs and has recently started an inclusive Kindergarten where children with special needs and those without can have fun, learn and flourish together.

The trust is at the fore front in the advocacy of the rights of children with special needs through awareness campaigns, social media, Television, radio and Newspaper articles.

What we do:

- Provision of quality care for children with special needs.
- Advocacy/Awareness campaigns and trainings for parents who have children with special needs and their communities, students and all those interested in the plight of children with special needs.
- Improvement of household incomes for families who have children with special needs.
- Capacity building for the organizations and staff members under the Trust

- Networking and linking organizations/projects and all persons with interest in the welfare and development of children with special needs in Uganda;

Our sources of funding:

The Special Children's Trust receives its operational incomes from donations, grants, gifts, and payments for services provided at Dawn Centre to cover the high costs of running and maintaining the Centres and projects.

We hope that by God's help and through the continued support of all our faithful partners across the globe, we will continue to reach out in love, offering hope and restoring dignity to children with special needs in Uganda.

Our Network partners:

Schools:

- Montessori Integrated Academy
- Kyambogo University, Department of Special Needs
- Mulago Schools of Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy
- Good Shepard's School in Fort Portal

Hospitals:

- Cure Hospital, Mbale
- Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services (CORSU)
- Rubaga Hospital
- Children's Medical Center, Bugolobi

Organizations working with children who have special needs:

- Nkokonjeru Providence Home
- Katalemwa Chesire Home
- Afayo Childcare Services

Churches:

- Kampala Baptist Church
- Anointed Healing Church, Katikamu

Networks:

- Crane Network.
- Special Needs Network Forum

Our Mission:

Reaching out in love,
Offering hope and
restoring Dignity to
Children with Special needs
in Uganda

Our Vision:

Build a better and safer
Uganda for children with
special needs

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Foreword

It is with great pleasure that I present to you our first annual report as the Special children's trust

Although the trust has existed as an informal entity for a number of years, it is in 2012, that it fully took on its Identity as an organization. This involved having its own accounts, staff members, office space and it became a fully registered NGO in May 2012.

This year has been about building systems, consolidating of services in our two core organizations, that is; Mukisa Foundation and Dawn children's centre; Establishment of new partnerships and strengthening of the already existing ones.

During this year we have been able to set up Ugandan and UK accounts with the Barclays bank and a PayPal account in the Trust names.

We have also acquired two telephone lines on the MTN and Warid networks for the Trust. These lines can also be used to receive and send Money within Uganda.

In this report you will find the summary of the activities that have taken place in our organizations and in the trust in general and some stories from the children and their families.

I would like to thank those organizations, companies, and individuals in Uganda and elsewhere who have in one way or the other contributed to the success of the Trust.

Wishing you every blessing,

.....

Florence Namaganda.

Founder/ Executive Director



MUKISA FOUNDATION:

Our strategy since 2006 spells out our commitment to children with special needs, their families and communities; and clarifies our direction to engage different sectors of society in a movement to support and empower families who have children with special needs; by creating strong family units which will enable these children to lead purposeful lives to their full potential.

As we strengthen our organisational focus to deliver our promised results in the coming years, we desire to be an excellent and sustainable organisation with people and communities that are growing personally, professionally, economically, and socially.

As an organisation entirely focused on children with special needs, Mukisa Foundation seriously takes its responsibility of helping these children, their families and communities live a better life. The well-being of these children is the core of everything we do.

Drop in Centre & Day Care:

Our centre is open four days a week from 9am to 4pm, for parents and care-takers to come with their children to use all the facilities available; such as counselling, physiotherapy, parent support groups, play groups, health care and parenting workshops.

In 2012, we achieved the following:

- **New Children:** 106 new children were registered by Mukisa Foundation between January and December. Of these,
 - o 72 were enrolled on the therapy programme;
 - o 7 received medication and other health related forms of assistance;
 - o 6 were enrolled for assessment and future plans were to be communicated;
 - o 13 were referred to receive assistance from other partner organisations
 - o 1 was enrolled into the vocational class;
 - o 5 have died since the registration time; and
 - o 2 never came back after registration.
- **Daily attendance:** The average daily attendance of children in therapy has been 8, with a maximum of 16 and a minimum of 5 in attendance. Although new children were added on the attendance list, the turn up has not improved significantly.
- **New Occupational therapists:** Two occupational therapists Daniel Bokino and Sulaiman Kigozi were recruited in January and March respectively, and



underwent successful orientation into the programs. We are very glad to have them working with us.

The Mukisa Special needs school:

- The school aims to serve children with mental and/ or physical disabilities who are not eligible for a regular education. The goal is to meet each child at his or her level and help to improve skills. There are currently two classes within the school.
- In 2012, the morning class served 9 (nine) children on academic track and the afternoon class served the more severely disabled children who are currently learning communication and self-help skills. These were 4 (four) in total.

Vocational Class:

- In August 2010, we started a special class for some of our older children where they are taught different skills such as crafts, paper mache and other life skills.
- In 2012, 7 (seven) children actively benefitted from this class.

Guidance & Counselling/ Parent support Groups:

- We have provide counselling services to our parents, and helped connect parents and guardians to other help service providers, health institutions and schools according to the needs of their children.
- We provided a forum for parents enabling them to meet and talk with other parents with children of similar disabilities for support.

Home based care:

- This is aimed at taking healthcare services away from institutions and delivering them directly to the community; observing parents and care-givers interacting with their children; providing help and advice; promoting early intervention and teaching them appropriate techniques specific for the individual family and child.
- In 2012, a total of 53 children benefitted from our home based care.



The table below shows the total number of children who received home based care on a monthly basis:

Month	No. of Home visits conducted	Out of	Percentage
Jan	Children's Holiday		
Feb	19	45	42.2%
Mar	21	45	46.7%
Apr	33	45	73.3%
May	31	45	68.9%
June	37	45	82.2%
July	33	45	73.3%
Aug	Summer Break		
Sept	32	45	71.1%
Oct	35	45	77.8%
Nov	30	45	66.7%
Dec	12	45	26.7%
80-100% 70-79% 60-69% 40-49% Below 30% Inactive seasons			

Outreaches:

We have worked with children with special needs in Luwero, Fort Portal and Nkokonjeru, and are partnering with a number of organizations and projects to further the cause of these children in Uganda.

In 2012, we had 5 outreaches to Luwero with an average turn up of 10-12 clients per outreach; and 1 outreach to Fort Portal with over 50 clients turning up.

At these trips, our main activities usually included registering new and old clients; doing therapy on them; conducting workshops, usually on a particular topic of relevance to them; taking measurements for children who need appliances; and sometimes, home visits are also conducted, especially to see where and how these children live, or to homes with children who are too big to be carried by their parents or guardians to the outreach venues.

In Nkokonjeru, we have had a locally based staff working closely with the Catholic Church there, mainly providing special assistance with physiotherapy, occupational therapy, special needs classes and vocational skills trainings. She also does home visits; moving to homes to provide home-based therapy while also analyzing the children's home situations and advising accordingly.



Family Empowerment Programs:

Because a large population of our clients are usually poor and unable to provide for the child's basic needs, our project has been involved in equipping the parents and guardians with the necessary skills, information, techniques and resources to enable them to understand and handle their individual situations more effectively and to work closely with them to help develop improved strategies of dealing with the circumstances that effects them and their family.



In 2012, we worked with a total of 36 families, out of which;

- 15 received money to set up businesses that would empower them to support their families;
- 21 were trained in candle and soap making.

Out of these, the following, among others, had this report to give:

- **Taata Edward:** *"I received money that enabled me start up a bricks-making plant. It's not so much money at the moment, but it enables me pay up the family bills, and I am able to take relatively better care of my family right now."*
- **Mama Vincent:** *"My house had fallen down, but when I received this money, it enabled me to build back my house, I was able to pay*

back all of this money, and now my family status is a lot better than it was before. Thank you very much!"

- **Mama Bridget:** *"The money enabled me start up a business that makes sweaters. I also started to rear goats and chicken for sale, and recently, I started up a water-selling business at home. The money I received from Mukisa greatly boosted my family livelihood."*

Medical and Nutritional Support:

Although children with special needs require tremendous physiotherapy and care most of their lives, their immunity to common sicknesses also tends to be relatively lower than normal, meaning that they will always require regular medical support and nutritional supplements to keep them healthy.

One of our goals for 2012 was to ensure that as we strive to give hope to these special children, their health would be a key priority.

We partnered with a number of Doctors and major health providers in the region to ensure that all our children received proper treatment and health supplements whenever needed. The medical support included buying drugs for the children; paying for consultations with prominent pediatricians; transportation to the various health facilities; hospital and surgery fees; among others.

The most common nutritional supplements that the children received included, but not limited to, porridge, silver fish, ground nuts, and sometimes money for those whose needs exceeded what was available at the centres.

Over the year, a total of 23 children benefitted from the nutritional support, while over 80 benefitted from the regular medical support.



Advocacy and awareness programs:

Children with special needs are often very misunderstood, with limited facilities to take care of their needs, and parents and guardians who are not familiar with the best ways in which to help their children, or how to access the few helping agencies that are available.

Further, the education system in the country is quite costly, and those with special needs rarely get to experience this education due to very limited opportunities.

By 2007, according to the Ministry of Gender, Labor and Social Development, there were over 230,000 children with special needs within Uganda.

However, it is still a shock that the average Uganda is not aware of the extreme special needs like cerebral palsy, spina bifida, hydrocephalus, and microcephalus, among others. To many, it is seen as a curse to give birth to a child with special needs, leading to a situation where parents and guardians are too ashamed to admit that they have these children in their care, and end up hiding them away from the public's eyes to avoid the stigma and cultural beliefs associated with such situations

One of our main agendas therefore, is to create awareness to the general population about these conditions and break the stigma associated with it.

In 2012, we carried out a number of activities to achieve this agenda including the following:

- On 2nd April 2012, we organized the Child Advocacy day with a series of workshops, all with an aim of advocating for the rights of children with special needs. 180 families were represented at this event;

- 5 workshops were organized within the course of the year to create awareness about the different conditions and sicknesses that could affect the children, and how these conditions could be dealt with. These included: 2 disability workshops; an autism workshop; a measles workshop; and a dental workshop.

Social Work:

The social work department exists for the following reasons:

- To find out the location of each child's/ client's home;
- To assess their home/ family situations; i.e:
 - Living conditions – how many people live in the house; what kind of house they live in; hygiene;
 - Environmental conditions – accessibility to toilet, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, etc;
 - Physical Environment and surroundings;
 - Economic situation.
- To observe and assess neighboring community's attitudes towards the family and child;
- Make and follow up on appropriate recommendations; and
- Provide counseling to families struggling with acceptance issues.



In 2012, an average of 12 homes were visited each month, and appropriate recommendations were made.

One successful story from such visits is of Mama Jovia and Mama Shinat, both currently employed by Mukisa Foundation.

Both of these mothers had children with special needs; with both children called Jovia. Mama Jovia lived with very distant relatives in Kawempe, a Kampala Suburb, and worked practically as a house maid, without being paid. Mama Shinat worked with a family close by, who always treated her harshly. Mama Jovia requested her relatives to take care of Mama Shinat too; to which, by some miracle, they accepted. They worked so hard, day and night, under harsh conditions, and usually with no time to bring the two children for therapy.

Mama Shinat moved back to the village after a while. On the 3rd of July, 2012, Mama Shinat's Jovia died of measles.

However, the social worker visited Mama Jovia, after which recommendation and suggestions were made to Mama Jovia (whose child was already on the therapy program) to find a job that paid for their basic needs, and a house nearer to the centre, so she can bring Jovia for regular therapy and also enroll her in Mukisa School. She had no money to do all these, so Mukisa Foundation offered to help pay her rent for the first three months.

She was so afraid of being all by herself; something she had never done before. This is how she ended up inviting Mama Shinat to come stay with her again.

As luck would have it, both the house keeper and the Gate man at Mukisa Foundation resigned around the same time. This is how the two ladies found themselves employed and working as Mukisa Staff: Mama Jovia as the house keeper and Mama Shinat as the much needed help around the office; helping in keeping the children from running outside the gate, helping in the daily office maintenance, and as a messenger.

Their lives have greatly changed since then. According to those who have seen them all this while, the two ladies look much happier, healthier, and financially more able than before.



Mama Shinat (in black) & Mama Jovia, with Shinat & Jovia



DAWN CHILDREN'S CENTRE:

Dawn was established in July 2008 to help support parents who have children with special needs by providing quality care for their children and helping them to understand their children's condition so as to handle their situation more effectively.

It is a neuro-developmental and day care centre, pre-school and kindergarten for children with and without disabilities and developmental delays.

Dawn is the first of its kind in Uganda with all specialist services including physio and occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, special needs education, special aids and a resource and information centre under one roof.

Day Care:

The centre is open from 7am to 6pm from Monday to Friday to provide quality care for children with special needs. The day care plan is tailor made to suit the needs of both the parents and children.

We also take in children who have no disabilities from the age of 5months for day care, and during holidays for children who go to school.

Dawn provides a fun place where kids can learn, explore and play in a safe environment.

In 2012, our day care centre had

- 6 children on a part time program; and
- 28 children on a full time children day care program.

Physiotherapy:

This is provided for all children with physical disabilities. The Neuro-developmental technique of therapy (bobath) is used.

In 2012, 40 children received physiotherapy at the centre.

Occupational Therapy:

The focus is on functional activities to help the children become as more independent as possible in their activities of daily living.

55 children received occupational therapy during 2012.



Speech and Language therapy:

This is provided for children with speech, articulation, and stammering, feeding and breathing difficulties.

23 children received speech and language therapy in 2012

Development Assessments:

Many parents with children with disabilities have never been told what the actual condition of their children is. At Dawn, the paediatric specialists carry out assessments and the results are explained to the parents in easy-to-understand terms and a copy of this is availed to the parents on request.

45 new assessments and 3 re-assessments were conducted in 2012.

Kindergarten and Pre-School

In 2012, we introduced an inclusive education kindergarten with an aim of creating an environment where both the regular and special children can play, learn and have fun together.

We provide quality education and day care for children with and without disabilities between the ages of 6 months and 5 years.

Currently, we have

- 16 children enrolled in our kindergarten;
- 13 children in the special class; and
- 5 children in our Autism class;

The children also participate in other weekly activities, such as, sports, music and swimming as forms of therapy and play to encourage sensory integration, social interaction and fun.

Resource Centre:

We provide information on disability and help explain it to the parents in simple, easy-to-understand terms and help them develop strategies and care plans for their children.

We also help families find the right specialised equipment for their children; like Walking aids, Wheel chairs, CP Chairs, Standing Frames and any other appliances that can help the child to live to their maximum potential

Specialized Assistive Devices

We work with other local and international organizations/companies to help families acquire the best appliances to meet their child's needs.

Workshop

In 2012 the SCT Workshop was established in order to provide quality appliances, such as, supportive chairs, standing frames, walkers, wedges and exercise/therapy mats for children with special needs. The option for special order appliances or carpentry has also been made available.

In 2012, the following appliances were made through the workshop: 20 CP Chairs; 30 standing frames; 3 wedges; 1 U-Pillow; 1 Walker; 5 Exercise mats; 3 repairs and 12 special orders.



Achievements:

- Increased visibility:

There is a remarkable increase in the number of children being brought to the centres for therapy and other interventions. In 2012, Mukisa Foundation received 106 new children, while a total of 129 children visited Dawn children's centre during this time.

The outreaches also saw more children i.e. 120 children in the January 2013 Fort portal outreach compared to the 60 children in January 2012.

There has also been an increased awareness from the public regarding our existence and services. Many more people are recommending parents to our centres, than in the previous years.

More than 60% of the children that were brought to the centres and outreaches this year were under the

age of 5 years which shows that people are hearing about our services early in hospitals and in the communities.

We have also received many visitors from within Uganda and other parts of the world inquiring about our services and have received very good feedback about our work.

The trust has got a website and a webpage whose number of followers grows each day

- Increased programs:
- Increased partnerships - CRANE and many other organizations working with children who have special needs
- Tumaini Award



Challenges:

- **Inadequate funding and suitability:** All centres are largely dependent on small donations from individuals and well-wishers without confirmed commitments of how long the partnerships would continue. This hinders proper planning and proper forecasting.
- **Poor staffing:** Due to the small salaries and staff incentives, the Trust and its member organisations are unable to attract staff with the right qualifications and experience. We are still heavily dependent on fresh graduates and volunteers who need a lot of training to provide quality services
- **Poor /no implementation of Government policies:** Although Uganda has ratified and has in place a number of policies regarding children; these are not implemented and heavily hinder our work.
- **High turnover of clients:** Children with disabilities are dependent on their parents to take them to school or to therapy. These parents are usually looking for a cure and do

not comply, or easily give up on therapy once they do not see quick results.

Future plans:

We have developed a strategic plan for 2013/4 to 2015/6. Our key priority areas for this period include the following:

- Create strategic partnerships with funding agencies, civil society, and likeminded international bodies;
- Acquire our own premises;
- Promote inclusive education for children with special needs below 13 years to be integrated into main stream Education system;
- Reduce the mortality rate and high risk of secondary disabilities in children with special needs through provision of quality medical, surgical and nutritional support;
- Improve the household incomes of families who have children with special needs through skills development, mentoring, and income generating activities by 2015; and
- Promote vocational skills training for children with special needs from the age of 13 to 18 so as to integrate them into society



Success Stories

Mama Patricia's Story:

In 2005, at the age of 4 years old, Patricia was diagnosed with cancer and admitted at the Cancer Institute in Mulago Hospital in Kampala. She was very ill and the condition wasn't good. Doctors advised that the child should start getting chemotherapy. The drugs were too expensive for me due to the fact that I was then all alone as Patricia's father had abandoned us in the hospital. (We have not heard from him ever since.)

It's at this time that I met Alex at the cancer ward as she had come to purchase drugs for children suffering from cancer. She talked to me, came and saw Patricia and then she offered to buy for us all the drugs that we needed for chemotherapy, as she bought her drugs! Patricia was able to start and complete her chemotherapy. But unfortunately, due to the side effects of chemotherapy, her right side became paralyzed. Florence, a friend to Alex started visiting us at home to do physiotherapy on Patricia. She also started radio therapy in Mulago. It was during this same time that Mukisa Foundation (founded by Florence, Alex and Sonja) opened up in 2006, and we started coming to the centre for physiotherapy.

Patricia joined Mukisa special needs school from where she graduated to a normal school and now she is in Primary Four still under the care of Mukisa

Foundation. Mukisa pays her school fees, upkeep and her medical needs. Patricia is a healthy, happy big girl now!

As a parent who had a child with special needs, and couldn't afford the needs of my child, due to lack of formal employment, Mukisa Foundation offered me a job in 2006 to work as an assistant house keeper. This helped in facilitating my child's needs, changed my life both economically and socially.

In 2010, I was promoted to work in the income generating projects department, to help parents with their businesses and saving scheme. In this same year (2010), I raised a concern of going back to school for a qualification which I didn't have, and Florence responded by writing sponsor letters and lucky enough, I got sponsorship through Hellen Lukas, (a former Mukisa Volunteer) who sponsored me for a two years course in accountancy. In Feb 2013, I graduated as an accountant. I am now the Income generating coordinator and also helping with book keeping in the Administration office.

I'm so happy that my greatest dream came to reality and I thank Mukisa Foundation for the great job and bringing hope to our lives. And this is not only for me and my child, but to the many parents and children with special needs that have come to Mukisa over the years.

Kourtney Mata Darlene's Story:



Kourtney is 4 years old and she was born in June 2009 to Barbara Kemigisa. Barbara is a single mother, Kourtney is her only child. When Kourtney was born, Barbara found out that she herself was HIV positive and when her baby girl was tested she also was found

to be HIV positive. Although life has been tough, Barbara has never let her circumstances get her down. She decided to take a stand and raise her voice against stigma and discrimination against those living with HIV and she is now a well known speaker around Kampala, raising awareness of HIV. She says that God has sustained her, protected her and provided for her every need over the years.

I first met Kourtney when she was one month old and she looked just like any other child. When Kourtney was still a baby she was extremely sick and as a result her development was delayed when compared to other children.



When I saw Kourtney again at the age of one year, she couldn't yet walk and she wasn't saying any words, however she was able to sit independently and would give you the brightest of smiles. On observation you would think she looked more like a 6 month old than a one year old.

When Kourtney was still young, Barbara was unable to keep her in Kampala full time, so during her early childhood Kourtney grew up living in the village with her Jajja (Grandmother). By the age of two years when I next saw Kourtney in Kampala, she had caught up with other children, she was walking, running, jumping and laughing, she was so happy and lively. She was speaking vernacular with real enthusiasm but wasn't able to speak a single word in English. I saw Kourtney appearing and disappearing from Kampala over the next year and every time I saw her she had grown. Kourtney turned 3 years old in June 2012 and Barbara

was always talking about *'someday when I can send her to school,'* or *'one day I will send her to school.'* Though at the time there seemed to be no hope of starting school in the near future, Barbara never gave up hope. She knew that one day God would provide school fees for Kourtney.

This is where Dawn Children's Centre enters Barbara and Kourtney's story. Dawn had been operating as a day care centre for children with special needs since July 2008 and in January 2012, we started an inclusive Kindergarten and Pre-School for children with special needs and for those without. The aim was to promote inclusion in education.



Unfortunately, for a long time there were no children registering for Kindergarten. Until, towards the end of 2012, the Special Children's Trust decided to extend our child sponsorship scheme to children within the local community, whose parents were struggling to find school fees for their children to get a quality education or any education at all. Kourtney became the first child from the local community to get a sponsor and she started Kindergarten in January 2013. Barbara was so happy and excited that Kourtney was finally able to move to Kampala to stay with her and that she would be starting school. She thanks God for His provision of a sponsor for Kourtney.





When Kourtney first started school in January, at age 3 years and 7 months, she had never been to school, she only spoke Runyoro and some small words in Luganda and she was a little bit quiet within the school environment. She didn't know how to hold a pencil, or even how to scribble on paper. After two terms in our Dawn Kindergarten, we are now over half way through the year and she has made a lot of progress in so many areas and she is top of her class. She knows her alphabet; she knows all the pre-reading sounds and how to match those sounds to appropriate pictures, she is learning how to blend those sounds which will help her to start reading. She recognizes all the shapes and the numbers 1 to 15. She is now able to write her own name without any help and loves creative activities in class, drawing, painting, and colouring. She is extremely creative and imaginative. After just a short time she started learning to speak English and she is now extra fluent. She even tells her mummy *'Today we are not speaking vernacular; we are speaking only in English.'* Barbara says that she is extremely happy with Kourtney's progress and she is so thankful to Dawn for the time, love, support and opportunities we have given to Kourtney this year. She says Kourtney is a shining light in her community and everyone comments on how much progress she has made since the start of the year.

Sarah Bukirwa's Story:

Sarah is now 3 years and 3 months old. She first came to Dawn in January 2012, when she was 1 year and 8 months old. An assessment was completed by our Dawn Occupational and Physiotherapist and Sarah started to attend full time day care.

Sarah has a condition called Cerebral Palsy – Athetosis. When she first started attending Dawn Centre she had difficulty controlling her muscles and movements



which made it extremely difficult for her to use her hands for productive activities or play. At 1 year and 8 months she was still unable to roll and her development was severely delayed. She was unable to sit independently unless she was sat in a therapy chair with belts and a table for extra support.



It took her a while to settle in at school because she wasn't used to meeting so many new people.

In May this year (2013) Sarah turned 3 years old. She has made so much progress in just over a year you wouldn't recognize her to be the same child. She has the brightest smile.

Now she is able to sit upright on her own without support. She has learnt how to control her muscles enough so that she is now able to roll independently, sit upright independently and bottom shuffle across the floor independently. She is the fastest bottom shuffler we have at Dawn. She knows what she wants and will make her



own way across the floor to get it.

When Sarah first started at Dawn she was attending special class. After showing great improvement in so many areas she was promoted in April this year to our Dawn Kindergarten. Sarah loves all her friends and always wants to sit at the table with the other

children. She is learning to communicate though her words are not yet clear. She is able to say some short sentences though you have to listen carefully to understand. When presented with pictures and numbers she is now able to identify the numbers 1-5 and the shapes circle and triangle, as well as identifying the first important sounds 's' 'a' and 't'. She loves creative activities, colouring, pasting and writing with chalk on a small chalk board. Though she has made improvement in hand grip she still requires some help to control her arm movements during these activities. She loved taking part in different sports activities with her friends during second term.



Sarah's parents are so happy with her progress. They never thought Sarah would be able to reach the level she is at now and they are amazed at how far she has come. They are excited to see what progress she continues to make as she develops and grows.



Benjamin Kilama's Story:

On the 10th of May 2011, Benjamin visited Dawn Children's Centre with his Dad and Mum. He met an Occupational Therapist alongside a Neuro-developmental Therapist, who carried out an initial assessment to establish his performance in terms of strengths, abilities and weaknesses. A plan was then made to establish how intervention could help Benjamin bring full life back into his weak areas of performance.



Benjamin's parents had been recommended to attend Dawn by a friend who had previously brought his own child to Dawn for intervention and reported that it worked positively for his child.

During his initial days at Dawn, Benjamin had difficulty interacting with others socially, whether adults or other children. He could not give eye

contact, his language skills were delayed and therefore he couldn't maintain a social conversation with anyone, though he did show an ability to communicate simple needs through gestures and crying. The only way he would engage in play with another child is if that child was playing with something that interested him and if anything was not done his way he would throw a temper tantrum.



Benjamin had a very low concentration span and was easily distracted by something new or familiar that was of interest to him. He was always moving around and wouldn't sit still for any length of time. He also didn't have appropriate self help skills for his age, such



as using the toilet or being able to bathe or dress himself.

During his time at Dawn, Benjamin received both Occupational and Speech Therapy alongside other activities, such as, music therapy. He was also enrolled in special education and attended special class daily. Benjamin showed improvement in many areas and is now able to share toys with other children and take turns, as well as concentrate for longer periods of time without jumping out of his chair. His communication skills have greatly improved and he is able to clearly express himself verbally using sentences and words in the correct context, as well as being able to interact with his peers. He has also learned to bathe and dress himself and use the toilet appropriately.

In January 2012, Benjamin had shown so much improvement in class and therapy that he was promoted to the newly established Dawn Kindergarten, where he continued to progress to new levels of learning.



Now Benjamin has graduated from Dawn and moved on to a regular school where he continues to improve and do extremely well. When his parents first brought Benjamin to Dawn they never thought they would see a day when Benjamin would achieve all the things he has achieved in the past few years and they are extremely happy with his progress and development.



SCT Staff (2012/3):

SCT:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Florence Namaganda	Director
Sarah Sammons	International Coordinator
Faith Chagara	Administrator

Mukisa Foundation:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Alexandra Bucker	Director
Sonja Hagedorn	Director
Alice Maria Eyoku	Administrator
Ida Namuli	Social Worker
Ida Sendagala	Physiotherapist
Hellen Abulo	Special Needs Teacher
Josephine Namombwe	Asst. Special Needs Teacher
Daniel Bokino Adonis	O.T
Sulaiman Kigozzi	O.T - Vocational
Prossy Nawenja	O.T – Nkokonjeru
Juliet Baseka	Child Care Worker
Rebecca Babirye	Nurse
Fred Abeine	Physiotherapist
Annet Nalule Musoke	IGA Coordinator
Milly Nakibuka	Craft Shop In-charge
Grace Nalwoga	House Keeper
Nakagwa Florence	Assistant House Keeper
Serubiri Charles	Watchman
Emma Caesar	Watchman
Mukiibi John	Watchman
Namalere Dan	Watchman

Dawn Children's Centre:

<u>Name:</u>	<u>Position:</u>
Sarah Sammons	Administration
Doreen Kahiigwa	Kindergarten Teacher
Victoria Kisawuzi	Teaching Assistant
Ann Nakkazi	Physiotherapist
Pius Katungi	O.T - Physical
Fred Muyinza	O.T – Behavioral
Vanessa Sera	Housekeeper
Milly Mukimba	Special Needs Teacher
Joan Namaweje	Orthotist
Makubuya Alex	Handy Man
Massoud Ssenabulya	Carpenter

Volunteers

Mukisa

Hendrik Williems	Levke Jana Burfeind
Stefanie Pietras	Monica
Leoni Armbruster	Yohannes Schildhnecht
Magdalena Miriam Trondle	

Dawn

Nadine Jandler	Yohanna Kullmann
Rabea	Magdalena Wolz
Julia Kreutz	Ami Bickerstaffe
Liz Tungate	Rhoda Ngonzi
Kathi	Christine Tex
Taleni Zabel	Izabel Carpenter
Ines Weiler	Laura Moore
Eliza Stolz	

Financials:

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL CHILDREN'S TRUST UGANDA

We have audited the financial statements of Special Children's Trust Uganda, which comprise the statement of Financial Position, Statement of Comprehensive income and notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30th June 2013 and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Respective responsibilities of the management Committee and Auditors

The management committee is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements in accordance with the international Financial Reporting standards, the requirement of the companies Act, (Cap 110). This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditors Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the international standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from misstatements.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected on auditors' judgment including the assessment of risks involved

The auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in circumstances but for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. An Audit includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by the directors as well as evaluating presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for audit opinion.

Our Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of financial affairs of the company as at 30th June 2013 and of its income statement and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with international Financial Reporting Standards and the companies Act (Cap 110)

Report on other legal requirements

As required by the companies Act (cap 110), we report to you based on our audit that:

- We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit
- In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the organization so as appears from our examination of those books
- The organizations' statement of Financial Position and statement of comprehensive income are in agreement with the books of accounts

Kampala Multi-purpose Accountants, Auditors & Tax Consultants
P.O. Box 31428 K'la



Income and Expenditure Statement for the year Ended 31st June 2013

INCOME	NOTE	UGX
Subscriptions	6	372,000,000
REVENUE EXPENDITURE		
Special Childrens Trust	7	40,869,380
Mukisa Foundation	7	176,308,300
Dawn Children's Centre	7	109,520,079
Depreciation on fixed assets	2	<u>11,022,051</u>
Total Expenses		<u>337,719,810</u>
Excess of Income Over Expenditure		<u><u>34,280,190</u></u>

Statement of Financial Position as at 30th June 2013

ASSETS	Notes	Shs
Noncurrent assets		
Fixed assets	2	33,415,387
Current Assets		
Cash and Bank balances	4	864,801
Total		864,801
TOTAL ASSETS		34,280,188
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Capital and reserves		
Capital Fund	8	33,415,387
Surplus for the year		864,801
		34,280,188
Current Liabilities		-
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		34,280,188

The financial statements were approved and signed by the management committee on.....

Femko Mhosi..... Chairman

Fiorence Nanganda..... Executive Director

Auditors' Report - page 6

The notes on pages 10 - 11 form an integral part of these financial statements

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD OF 12 MONTH (As from 1st July 2012 - June 2013)Statement of Comprehensive Income for the period Ended 30th June 2013

RECEIPTS	NOTES	UGX	
Subscriptions and Donations		372,000,000	
Total Receipts	6	372,000,000	
PAYMENTS			
Special Childrens Trust	7	40,869,380	
Mukisa Foundation	7	176,308,300	
Dawn Children's Centre	7	109,520,079	
Therapy Equipment		20,745,900	
Office Furniture		4,177,911	
Computers and Other Accessories		5,303,129	
Photocopiers Machine		1,210,500	
Motorvehicle		13,000,000	
Total Payments		371,135,199	
Surplus for the period		864,801	

Photo Gallery:







Special Children's Trust

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Website: www.sctuganda.org

Find us on facebook: Special Children's Trust