

Sanyu Babies Home

Newsletter. Issue 3. June 2009

Newsletter Topics

- Letters from the volunteers
- New arrivals and fond farewells
- The Chicken project
- Days out
- The guesthouse



Isaiah, Angela, Oscar and Elijah



Class Time



Godwin and Moses



Dear Friends,

I warmly welcome you to the 3rd Issue of our Newsletter.

The last three months, since our March issue of the Sanyu Babies' Home Newsletter, God has been so good to us. He has provided good life to the children, food, clothing, medical care, new families for 7 children, 3 have been re-united with their families and 11 new children have joined the Sanyu family. A big thank you to all of you whom God has used. Special thanks go to the foster/ adoptive families. Sadly, two members of our family have gone to be with the Lord. Baby Titus and Baby Simon Peter, you shall dearly be missed by us all.

It gives me enormous pleasure and joy to record and recognize that Sanyu Babies' Home is in every aspect, unique and a great babies' home of which we can all be proud of. Thanks to our dedicated team of staff and volunteers for the great love and care.

Am pleased to inform you that the toilets and showers project is complete and we are looking forward to its official opening which is coming soon. My big thanks go to the Shikamano who funded it.

We have managed our limited finances solidly and responsibly even though our financial position has not been and still is not good. This is because Sanyu almost entirely relies on people's generosity. And with the world wide financial crisis, we are greatly affected. I therefore encourage you to give generously in any way you can and you will be blessed! A gift of any amount will change lives.

My sincere appreciation to all of you who have supported us. It is because of your continued support that we are able to succeed in achieving our objectives.

I would like to offer warm thanks to our Board of Governors for the support, constructive advice and guidance in the running of the Home.

We are always delighted to receive visitors at Sanyu through out the week. You are also welcome to join us on the World wide weekend of prayer for all the children on 6th and 7th June, 2009. Please pray for all the children most especially the Sanyu children. The theme is "Abundant life". John 10:10.

Barbara Nankya

Administrator

Sanyu Babies' Home

+256712370950

e-mail: barbara@sanyubabies.com

Volunteering At Sanyu

Arriving at Sanyu was a dream come true for this volunteer and hopeful mother-to-be. My husband spent time here earlier in the year and fell in love not only with the children at Sanyu, but with the Mama's and the people of Uganda in general. Though my family and I have adopted previously we have never been so blessed as to be able to actually live, work and interact with the people of our children's culture and country to the long extent as we have with this guardianship (adoption) through Sanyu. What an incredible honor it is to be able to experience my son's culture not from a tourist point of view but from "his people's" point of view. I am humbled and so incredibly grateful for this experience as it will allow me to have a deeper understanding of my son and his heritage. I am so thankful that Sanyu now requires parents who wishes to consider guardianship of a child from Sanyu to have to stay at least 14 days so that everyone gets a true feeling for which child is meant for which family. As an adoptive mom and social worker, I applaud Sanyu for working for the best interest of the child at all times. I am also blessed beyond belief to be able to continue to assist Sanyu and to be able to play a part in securing the best interest of the children of Uganda in a long-term volunteer position once my time here is done and I return home to the US. It is with much gratitude that I thank Barbara for allowing me to help in assisting all prospective US adoptive parents with their paperwork and Sanyu with the assessment process of approving families to come to adopt. As a long time adoption professional and also adoptive mom, I am grateful that my experiences and skills can be used to bless the children of Sanyu. My contact information is: hedda75@mac.com or jforquer@mac.com. I look forward to connecting and being part of everyone's adoption journey.

Hedda Forquer, MSW, Adoptive Mom, Social Worker and Sanyu Volunteer from Texas, US.

As Arti one of the previous volunteers said in the last newsletter volunteering at Sanyu really is a rollercoaster of emotions, happiness, hope and joy are mixed with sadness and desperation. I've been at Sanyu for 2 months and in that time have seen 7 new arrivals and 7 departures, whilst most children leaving Sanyu are going to loving homes we've sadly had two babies die, nothing can prepare you for the death of a child so young. Both Simon Peter and Titus the two babies that passed away were loved and cared for at Sanyu by both the mothers and volunteers but it was god's plan for these babies to join him and I know they are both resting in peace.

The arrival of 7 new children has been very challenging for the staff, the mothers and nurses have done a fantastic job of making sure that each new child's needs are met and that they are given the medical treatment that so many of them need. There are regular visits from doctors and whenever a child is sick there is hospital treatment if necessary. Sanyu really is an amazing place, just being amongst the children and seeing the love that they have for each other, the volunteers and the staff is incredible. I just hope that each and every child here will one day have a loving home but in the meantime I hope more volunteers come and support the work that Sanyu does. I also hope that everyone reading this newsletter that can't volunteer will fundraise and donate, the money and donations that Sanyu receives really does benefit these children directly. I personally arrived with two shipments full of things for the children and wish I'd brought more but at least I now know that every child here has a teddy bear in their bed.

Lara Gordon, Volunteer UK

My name is Elizabeth and I have just spent six weeks at Sanyu Babies home volunteering, what an experience! The children here are really adorable, clever, funny and at times challenging. I have watched the children's personalities develop as they learn to sit, walk, crawl and talk. My time at Sanyu has been full of laughter but it has also been very upsetting. Whilst here a very sick baby called Simon Peter died, he was only six weeks old and had been at Sanyu for 34 days. It was an extremely sad time for everyone and Simon peter will always be remembered by us all. I have also seen other children arrive at Sanyu very sick and have then watched as they recover and grow stronger. The Children eat three meals a day, have a good routine and also the older children go to class, I have the utmost respect for the teachers and the work they carry out. Saying goodbye is going to be very hard but I know I'll be back soon, volunteering at Sanyu is the best experience I've ever had. Thank you Sanyu!

Elizabeth Halsall, Volunteer UK

"Protecting Children is every one's responsibility"

New arrivals and fond farewells

Fostered –

Hilda Nabuduwa,
Florence Namakula,
Joan Nanyonjo
Elijah Mbowa

Reunited with family–

Gerald Seruwungu,
Christian Wamala,
Ian Ankunda

Latest arrivals –

Benjamin Nsubuga,
Titus Kironde Shadrack abandoned at Mulago Hospital,
Emily Nasanga abandoned at Kikajjo Police Station,
Simon Peter Bukenya abandoned in Kisubi,
Andrew Kayombya abandoned in Kisenyi,
Mark Bugembe abandoned in Bulenga swamp,
Solomon Kawenja abandoned on the roadside by Makerere Church,
Irene Najjuma abandoned at the gate to Sanyu Babies Home,
Esther Kukkiriza abandoned in Kitebi,
Victor Kiguli abandoned in Najjanankumbi,
Marvin Kiggundu abandoned in Mulago Parish.

Sad farewells –

Sadly we have had to say goodbye to both Titus Kironde Shadrack and Simon Peter Bukenya who have both passed away since our last newsletter.



Martha

Following on from our first newsletter we are pleased to announce that Martha is doing extremely well. She is now having physiotherapy five times a week to build the muscles in her legs and can now stand and walk with the aid of a reassuring hand. She is also saying a few words and is a very happy and confident little girl.



The Chicken Project

In the March newsletter we told you about our plans for income generating projects for Sanyu Babies Home, we particularly mentioned the chicken project and our wish to expand the number of chickens we currently have at the home. By increasing the numbers of chickens that we have at Sanyu we will be able to produce more eggs which we can then sell to generate more funds.

I am pleased to announce that since the newsletter went out two of our volunteers have donated 300 day old chicks, the chicks arrived at Sanyu on the 4th of May and are growing very quickly. Understandably with a large volume of new birds we had to do a lot of preparation for their arrival, this included Jajja the poultry farmer at Sanyu clearing out one of the unused sheds then spraying it for disease. A lot of new chicken feeders had to be bought as well as water troughs and food. We have also received some monetary donations towards the project and are awaiting more donations before we continue to buy more chickens. So thank you to everyone that has kindly donated money to this project.

If you feel you want to help, you can get involved by:

- Buying a bird
- Telling your friends about this project
- Organising a fundraising event to help further establish this project
- Tell your church about this project
- And other means that may help us achieve our goal

All queries or input to the poultry project, please contact Barbara Nankya

Tel: +256712370950

Email- Barbara@sanyubabies.com



Days out

We are still continuing with the swimming weather permitting and at the end of April we took the older children to Didi's world amusement park that has rides and a small water park. We also had a birthday party for all of the children as most of the children do not have official birthdays; the birthday party was much enjoyed by all with cake, party bags and lots of balloons.



Lucas and Elizabeth



Birthday party time



The cake



Swimming



Isaiah, Angela, Oscar and Elijah



Didi's world

The Guesthouse

The funding of Sanyu Babies Home is largely supported by the income of the guesthouse next door to the home, this is where a large number of volunteers will start and end their busy days. The guesthouse provides a clean, friendly and relaxing environment along with breakfast and dinner. Every guest arrives to a clean room freshly prepared for their arrival and a warm welcome. Dinner at the guesthouse is a very special time with most volunteers getting together to discuss their day at the home. Each guest that stays here comments on how they enjoy every single meal and the man that makes it happen is Joel.

Joel has managed the guesthouse for the last four and a half years. He cooks, cleans, tidies and shops on top of becoming a friend to all the guests here. The guesthouse is fundamental in providing financial support to the home and Joel is the key to the guesthouse, Sanyu babies home would not survive as well without the commitment and hard work of this man. His humour and warm nature are exactly what is needed at the end of a tiring and fun-filled but challenging day at the home. As one guest said 'Joel takes his relationship with his guests as seriously as his job' although it must be said Joel's devotion and knowledge of football are second to none, he is a walking thesaurus on the game! As so many guests have said, Joel what a legend!

How you can donate to Sanyu Babies Home and become a "Friend of Sanyu"

Name:..... Address.....

Postcode..... E-mail/Tel.....

I would like to donate: Amount:.....per month/year/one off

Signature:..... Date.....

Please make all cheques payable to; Sanyu Babies Home.

Or donations can be paid directly to the Home's Uganda Bank:

- **Standard Chartered Bank Uganda Limited**, 5 Speke Road, Kampala, P.O. Box 7111.

Account Number 0102010619500 Sort Code 08-02-47

- **Stanbic Bank Uganda Ltd**, City Branch Kampala Road,

Account Number 0140009757701

- UK **HSBC Plc**, 103 Streatham Hill, Streatham, London, SW2 4UE

Account number: 71121790 Sort code: 40-06-32

Or if you prefer, donations can be made directly to the Home's suppliers and utility providers/Please ask for any further information required.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Sanyu Babies' Home
P.O. Box 1462, Mengo, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: 256 (0414) 274032
Email: sanyubabhome1@yahoo.com
www.sanyubabies.com