

UGANDA

Plant a Smile

Uganda has one of the highest illiteracy rates in Africa. Many children live in poverty and have no access to quality education. In rural areas, only one in ten children aged 3 to 5 attend kindergarten. Many in elementary school drop out because their parents cannot afford the school fees. Sadly, the girls are then married off to older men who can bless their families with a dowry.

At our "Plant A Smile" school, we provide low-cost, high-quality education to children in eastern Uganda, a region with the country's highest poverty rate. Not only do we provide schooling for 300 children, but we bring their parents and guardians on board so they can see first-hand the value of a good education.

Because God has blessed us with 6 sewing machines, we are able to train girls to sew as well as let them use the sewing machines to provide for their family. One of these girls,

Amina, is a Muslim teenager who had been forced into marriage and was 7 months pregnant. We taught her tailoring skills, and she is now able to provide for herself and her child.

We are so thankful to have the resources to provide a good education, as well as a practical program that helps each child develop and enables them to make a living and break away from the bonds of poverty.

Rebecca Wananda, Uganda

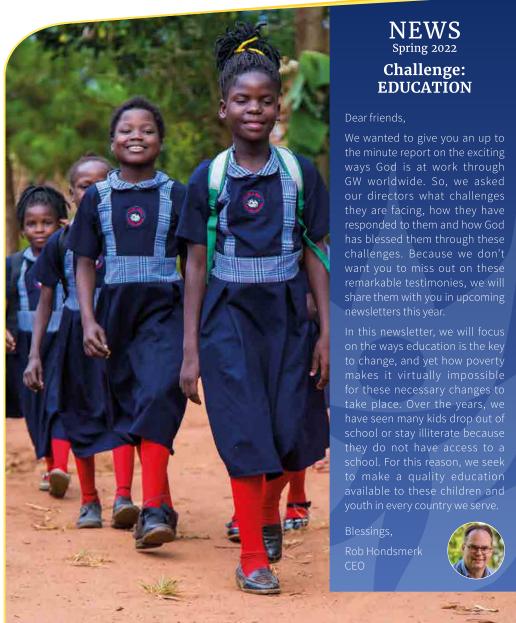
CONTACT INFORMATION:

(in (i) (f) Grain of Wheat International

info@grainofwheat.org / www.grainofwheat.org IBAN: CH72 0900 0000 1748 7675 5



"Bringing hope to children"





MYANMAR

Education is the Solution

For 70 years, illiteracy due to an inadequate educational system has been the main factor behind poverty and political crises here. Historically, dictatorial leadership has destroyed every attempt to bring improve-

ments to education in Myanmar, as an undereducated population is easier to control.

Even before the military coup in February 2021, schools had been closed for many months due to the pandemic. When the government forced the schools to re-open after several more months of social unrest and poverty, there

were no qualified teachers and no safety measures in place to protect children from Covid or child abuse. As a result, less than 50% of the parents sent their children back to school.

In contrast, we developed a program called "School of Hope", that provides a quality education, in a safe environment that

encompasses intellectual and social development, along with Bible lessons.

One of our area leader's shares: "In a very poor and underdeveloped area, 'The School of Hope' is a place where children are now

protected from traffickers looking for children to work in restau-

rants and as house servants who are even sold to China and Thailand where they can't be found by their families. Along with a quality education, the children in our school are introduced to Jesus Christ with many of them giving

their life to Him."

In 2021, 370 students attended the 17

Jubilee Thanga, Myanmar

education centers we have established.

Find out more about the history of education in Myanmar and the "School of Hope" project on our website:



https://grainofwheat.org/newsletter/education/

ARGENTINA

Illiterate No More

Thousands of children and parents in Argentina and Latin America are illiterate. Because they can't read or write their name, they are locked in poverty with no hope of escape. Even many children who have gone to school for years are illiterate because the school system advances them to the next grade even though they haven't learned that year's curriculum.

An Evangelical Educational Center in Córdoba, run by Grain of Wheat leader Ezequiel, has set up a classroom for children like 10-year-old Daniel who has gone to school for several years, but still can't read. He was diagnosed with a learning disorder that holds him back. How would children like Daniel, who think they are stupid, ever learn to read? The situation looked impossible.

But Ezequiel was not going to give up on children like Daniel. Challenged by Ps 37:5 "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will do it.", Ezequiel encouraged the



boys and girls to ask Jesus to teach them to read. Their voices and their simple but sincere prayers made the benches in the classroom vibrate! Families and teachers who know the children wanted to join us in helping the kids learn to read.

Proof that with the Lord nothing is impossible: by the end of the school year, Daniel could read and write.

Now he is happy to go to school and has a completely different attitude.

Marcos Oszurko, Argentina

