



ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS THANKS YOU FOR YOUR ENCOURAGEMENT AND SUPPORT



Children need security and education. Our purpose is to implement sustainable integrated engineering, education, public health, and economic projects for orphanages and schools in Uganda, East Africa. The country is making great strides in recovering from 20 years of civil conflict.



With your help, our projects have been changing the lives of children as well as local volunteers. Students at Byana Mary Hill orphanage school got dressed up in their best homemade school uniforms to send you greetings. Phase one of the new girls' dormitory that is being constructed by the team is shown in the background.

The Engineers Without Borders Student Chapter at Utah State University (EWB-USU) joined forces with the Professional Chapter in Salt Lake City (EWB-GSL) and traveled to Masaka, Uganda, East Africa for three and a half weeks in June 2008. The team worked at the Byana Mary Hill orphanage school. This was the fourth trip made by members from EWB-USU and EWB-GSL.

This orphanage serves over 300 children. When the teams started in December of 2005 the orphanage school did not have electricity, children carried water over a quarter of a mile from a swamp, they did not have any children's books, and many children were sleeping on dirt floors in crowded buildings.

Accomplishments On Previous Trips

- Installed solar power
- Wired classrooms and sleeping areas with lights
- Installed a solar powered DVD system for educational programs
- Dug a well to provide clean water
- Built a pipeline from the well to the orphanage
- Built a water tower and tank at the orphanage
- Installed a solar pump to pump water up to the tank
- Installed two roof rainwater catchment systems
- Installed concrete floors in the buildings
- Installed windows and doors in a classroom building
- Renovated a building for a kitchen and installed ovens
- Transported books, medical supplies, blankets and toys
- Implemented a library
- Provided sewing machines to make school uniforms.
- Installed playground equipment and constructed volleyball, netball, and tether ball courts

Accomplishments On This Trip

- Doubled the solar power
- Hired a contractor to level land for the dormitory and for future construction

- Constructed the first phase of a girls' dormitory
- Installed computers with educational software
- Installed wireless internet service and trained staff
- Renovated and expanded the medical clinic
- Doubled the size of the children's library
- Installed knitting equipment and trained staff to knit sweaters
- Doubled the amount of playground equipment and courts
- Initiated a cottage industry for knitting sweaters in Kampala

You Can Make A Tax Deductable Donation

Make A Gift On The Internet

<https://www.usu.edu/giving/index.cfm>
Select "Other" and specify "EWB Uganda"

Or Send A Check Made Out To "EWB-Uganda" To:

EWB-Uganda Development Account
USU College of Engineering
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Our purpose is to implement sustainable integrated engineering, education, public health, and economic projects at rural orphanages and schools in Uganda.



The first items of business after we arrived in Kampala (Uganda's capitol) were to find an ATM and to purchase bottled water. Violet, our liaison in Uganda, helps us navigate through the crazy city traffic.



We crossed the equator on the 100 mile trip from Kampala to the orphanage school near Masaka.



The orphanage is located on a rough dirt road that is nearly impassable when it rains. Here our rented van (with driver) skidded into the ditch and had to be pushed out.



When we arrived at the orphanage we saw (smelled) minnows that had been brought in from Lake Victoria drying in the sun; they will be ground up and prepared as a paste to provide vitamins for the small children. Beans from the orphanage fields that have been harvested by the children are drying in the sun for the next meal.



Dabney was our lead surveyor. Our first task was to survey the area for the new girls' dorm.



A contractor was hired to level the land for phase one and future construction. Christa and Dabney are inspecting the work. It was a great experience keeping the contractor on task.



After the area was leveled Tara, Christa, and Tomas lay out the footings for phase one construction.



Girls help transport bricks to the construction site. The dorm will be their new home.



Everyone pitched in to do the final leveling and to dig trenches for the footings. The footings were constructed of brick to a depth of three feet.



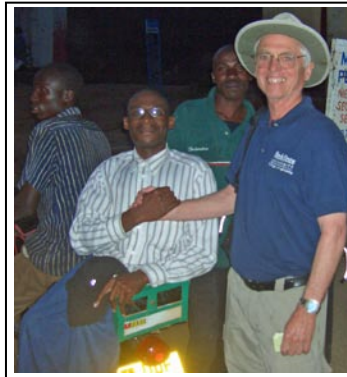
Tomas, other team members, and local volunteers constructed the brick walls. The scaffolding is tied together with twine. The bricks were formed and fired by the staff and children from clay on the orphanage property.



Lumber for the roof trusses and other construction was cut using a chain saw from eucalyptus trees on the orphanage property.



The structure is complete except for the roof which will be constructed by a contractor. Notice the reinforced concrete ring beam at the top of the walls.



The Masaka Disabled Persons Association operates a welding shop. Dr. Grenney contracted with them to build 20 triple-decker beds as well as to fabricate window and door frames.



Bethany completes the installation of the third tetherball court. As far as we know these are the only tetherball courts in Uganda.



Tetherball turned out to be a favorite sport. Here Dan has met his match.



Lorna and Jennifer teach song-hand coordination games. Our purpose is not only to build infrastructure, but also to build relationships with the people. These experiences will be treasured by the team members as well as the children, staff, and volunteers at the orphanage.



Jennifer is a real trooper. Even though she broke her leg on the fifth day in Uganda, she stayed with the team and participated by teaching and reading to the children. She had to travel 100 miles to the International Hospital in Kampala in order to find modern facilities for examination and treatment.



Christa and Tara knock a hole in the wall for a new door as part of the renovation and expansion of the medical clinic. Space will be more than doubled and two triple-decker beds will be installed to accommodate children when they are sick.



Looking through the new doorway into the examination area. The team installed new shelves for storing medicine. The shelves were stocked using funds donated by Interethnic Health Alliance in Salt Lake City.



Roger and Pedro installed computers, educational software, and wireless internet. Here Pedro trains school staff. They immediately began to use the internet for accessing teaching materials and medical information.



Jennifer and Lorna taught the staff how to knit sweaters for the children using the donated knitting machine and ribber that they brought along. The staff not only teach and look after the children, they also work in the fields and make all of the school uniforms using a treadle sewing machine.



Evan and Tomas assist while Dan nails a roofing sheet over a shed area to provide additional shelter space for teaching the pre-school children.



Lorna teaches an English reading class using one of the more than 300 donated children's books that teams have gradually brought over in suitcases. The school now has a well stocked library.



Several concrete cylinders had been left over from the construction of the well on a previous trip. Now they are positioned, decorated, and ready for play.



On the afternoon that we departed, we were treated to a gala of traditional dancing, drumming, and singing.



After working hard at the orphanage seven days a week for three weeks it was fun to go rafting on the class 5 rapids at the head of the Nile River near Lake Victoria. It was an awesome experience. (Photo of the USU team by the photographer from the Adrift Rafting Company)