



Via CARITAS

Through God's Love

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Maggie Nakibuule: A Heartwarming Success Story

By Genevieve Steigerwald
and AJ Lezcano

Maggie, the sixth-ever Ugandan child to be sponsored through our program, began her life similarly to that of so many other needy children. She and her single mother were on their own, and while her mother could often

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provide for her food, she certainly could not afford to pay for her school fees. **Her future looked bleak;** without a secure home or an education, she could never have expected a life beyond menial labor and was at high risk of one day being a single mother herself.

The trajectory of her life was forever changed, however, when she was blessed by a couple who had the love of Christ in their hearts and decided to sponsor Maggie. In 2006, she was fully enrolled to start her primary boarding school education. Her sponsorship ensured that not only were her needs provided for in a safe environment, but that she was also given the chance to study, to receive a full education, and to **finally be able to look toward her future with anticipation and hope!**

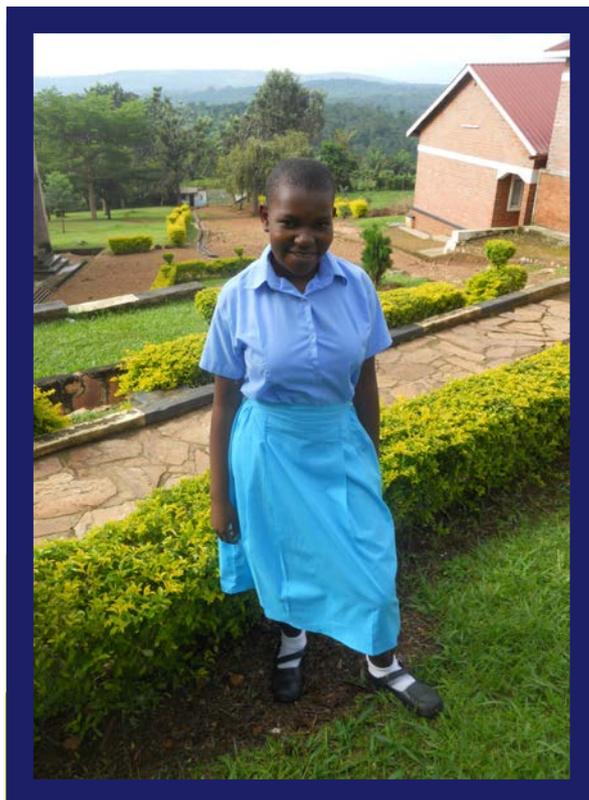
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Maggie did well at school and graduated successfully. Since Maggie's wonderful sponsors had chosen to support her throughout her continued education, she was able to enter nursing school. **While there was no obligation for them to do so, her sponsors recognized the value of ensuring that Maggie would be able to complete her educational journey and embark on a solid career path.** They had watched her grow up from across the world and had offered her a loving, lasting relationship, and their support gave her the confidence to succeed!

Since Maggie loved babies, she decided to become a midwife! This is an extremely important profession in Uganda since there are very few OB doctors in the country and many pregnant women do not receive the proper care they need to safely deliver their babies. She attended the Nyenja Nurse Training School and was challenged to thrive and succeed in another challenging school environment. **Maggie graduated from her program and got a job in a nursery working with children (her favorite!), and later got another job in the medical field.** While working, she met her now-husband Trevor, who is also a medical professional. Maggie and Trevor welcomed their first child at Christmastime in 2020, a little girl named Chloe.

Maggie is very happy. She is a mother now, and is very well prepared to be one! Her little family

can expect a stable home life, because of the tools and life skills that both she and her husband have gained throughout their educations, and Maggie would never have received such a chance without the devotion and support of her sponsors. The relationship between sponsor and child is truly redeeming and life changing. **Because of the opportunities Maggie was given through sponsorship, she was able to break the**



Maggie at boarding school.



Maggie (L) with nursing school classmates.

cycle of poverty that she was born into, and provide a safe and secure upbringing for her own child! This is the kind of real outcome sponsorship produces in a person's life – the power to create lasting impact across generations, causing a ripple effect of God's love that proceeds from one person to many.

We're grateful to Maggie's sponsors for walking with her through her education, and to all of our CARITAS sponsors who give a hand and heart to our children in need!

Maggie and Trevor at their baby shower.



Lenten Appeal: Become an Advocate for CARITAS!

This Lent, we are appealing to our Caritas friends to support our mission through Advocacy! Advocates help us to grow our “networks of Caritas” and reach more people with our message of God's love. **This does not necessitate any sort of financial commitment, rather, the heart of**

Advocacy is found in outreach - in making others aware of our ministry and drawing them into the fold of our greater CARITAS community.

Some forms of Advocacy can take just a couple of minutes yet have the potential to transform the lives of countless needy children. These include:

- Sharing an Online Fundraiser** (1-7 minutes to make a difference)
- Giving a Testimonial** (5-10 minutes to share God's love)
- Inviting us to Your Parish** (a few phone calls and a Sunday afternoon)
- Hosting a Community Gathering** (Sharing CARITAS with friends and family)

If this ministry of advocating for CARITAS is something that appeals to you, please consider these different types of Advocacy and decide which might be the most effective way for you to share your time and talents with us. If you have any questions, [please visit the Advocacy page on our website](#) or call our office to speak with our CARITAS Team:

(414) 323-5000.

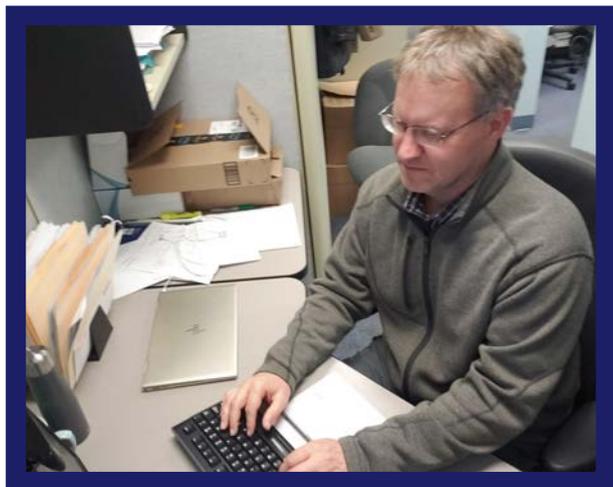
Welcome, David!

By Genevieve Steigerwald

The CARITAS Team is excited to welcome its newest member, David Gorski! David is our new Manger of Operations, and handles our new database software as well as sponsor communications, so if you are a sponsor you will probably speak with him soon.



David brings his data management experience to our ministry, along with a deep desire to care for needy children. A Milwaukee native, David grew up with his three older sisters, attending elementary and high school in the area. He received his degree from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and then **worked as a teacher for special needs kids**



and at-risk students. He later continued his work in educational administration for a local non-profit. While there, he began working extensively in program evaluation, data, and operational management.

With this extensive background of data management, especially set in the context of working with children, we knew David would be a perfect fit! He tells us that **“what drew me to CARITAS was my continuous desire to help children. I have always been connected to working with children in some capacity, whether as a teacher or in education/social service administration. CARITAS allows me to help them on a more global level.”**

David is also an avid baseball fan, and loves hiking in beautiful Northern Wisconsin. We know how dedicated he is to our mission, and his invaluable skills will have a great impact on our operations. CARITAS is blessed to have David on the team!

Introduction to our New Website

by AJ Lezcano

As you may have noticed, we have already launched our new website!

As many of the newest features are already operational, we would like to take this time to walk you through a few of the most common ones.

Click the blue links below to watch a video on each topic!

1. **Setting up a new account:**
 - [For Previous Sponsors/Donors](#)
 - [Brand New Account](#)
2. [Writing, Viewing, Printing a letter](#)
3. [Downloading my Tax Statement](#)

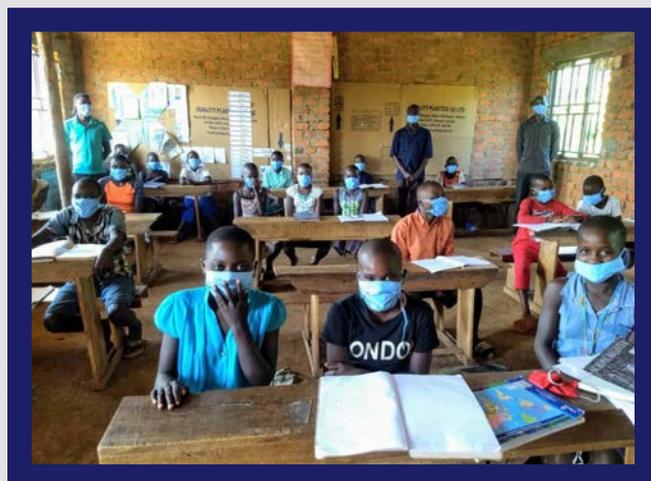


When you log into your account, please feel free to create your own profile, look around the website, and consider ways that you can get involved.

We're so glad to be able to offer you an improved user experience to help you communicate with your sponsored children quickly and efficiently!

Want to see what our kids are up to?

CLICK TO FOLLOW US!



Spotlight on Kids in Need: Brian and Dan

We'd like to share with you the story of two brothers who are in desperate need of sponsorship to make sure their basic needs are met and to give them a chance at a better life.

Brian and Dan's mother dropped them off with their other siblings at his grandmother's home two years ago. After that, she disappeared. Since their father is mentally disabled, **the boys' grandmother is supporting them (as well as other cousins) totally on her own.** She manages to provide them with food and clothing but has no way of sending them to school.



**Brian Ddungu,
10 years old**



**Dan Ssemugabi
Mugambwa,
11 years old**

This is a desperately unstable situation for all involved. The poor old lady has no help from the children's parents, and while she should be taken care of herself in her old age she instead must try her hardest to support many young children. Brian, Dan and the others are totally reliant on their grandmother and have no other support if something were to happen to her! **Along with their lack of access to an education, this makes them very vulnerable to food insecurity, which means they will eventually be forced to turn to menial work or gangs for survival.**

If Brian and Dan are sponsored, they will be able to attend day school and receive steady meals and a quality education. **Brian is in good health and dreams of becoming a pilot when he grows up. Dan is a shy, quiet child who has some speech and learning impediments but despite the challenges he faces, he hopes one day to become an electrical engineer!** Sponsorship would give him the assistance he needs to overcome these handicaps.

If you or anyone you know can sponsor one of these children, please contact us via our website: caritas.us/contact-us