

# SPOTLIGHT NEWS

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Happy new year to all our wonderful supporters! We are really excited for 2023, with so many amazing projects in the pipeline. Construction is well underway on the new IT Centre and work on the Administration Building for the Namatala Secondary School starts next week!

## THE NEW IT CENTRE

The new IT Centre at Musoto Christian School is starting to take shape having made excellent progress during the Christmas period, thanks in part to our Contractor only taking Christmas Day off!



The project is due to be completed in April this year, when it will become the first IT Centre of its kind in Uganda being used not only for teaching children computer and IT skills, but also adult learning. It will offer classes in typing, bookkeeping, PowerPoint & Excel and even more advanced courses such as coding. We hope that by providing these opportunities for adults to learn key skills, it will help them find future employment, making it a key part of our Economic Empowerment Project.



## PUBLISHED ARTICLE

Richard Okotel, Executive Director for Spotlight on Africa Uganda Foundation, has had a very impressive article published based on data collected during the last 2 years for the **UK Aid Direct** funded project for community health outreach. This data will now be used to inform us on our community health projects going forward that have been funded by last month's successful Big Give Christmas Appeal. The aim of the study was to identify the key factors that motivated our Community Health Promoters, such as acquiring new knowledge and skills, various incentives, recognition/awards and appreciation from their communities. You can read the full article here:

<https://tinyurl.com/okotelarticle>

Spotlight is run entirely by volunteers, so over 95p of every £1 you donate goes directly to our projects in Uganda.

With Gift Aid, this increases to over £1.21!

# FORGING LINKS - TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

## NMF RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

Building work for our new Secondary School starts this week! This is a very exciting project as the community of Namatala have been waiting on it for years. Please watch this short video about the journey we've been on to get here.

<https://vimeo.com/755046159/8235ff4ce3>



Two thirds of children in Uganda do not continue through to secondary education as poor access to schools and high fees prohibit many from further education. The project is a collaboration between ourselves, **PEAS**, the **Nick Maughan Foundation** and architecture practice **CAUKIN Studio** and will create a secondary school campus large enough to educate up to 1,200 students. It will feature multiple buildings, with the Administration Block the first to be built starting on Monday 30 January.



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We are always looking for new volunteers

If you would like to get involved please email [enquiries@hsoa.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hsoa.org.uk)



## UK AID PROGRAMME SUCCESS

The UK Aid Community Health 2-year Programme has officially come to an end. The work of the Community Health Promoters has touched the lives of over 30,000 people, through immunising children both at the clinic and as part of outreach activities - connecting with communities who previously did not 'believe' in vaccination.

Women have been encouraged to seek healthcare in pregnancy at an earlier stage and to attend regularly for checks, which is essential so that problems such as high blood pressure in pregnancy and other risk factors, can be detected early on and then managed by clinicians to lead to a safe delivery. Men have been encouraged to support pregnant women - this work has been particularly interesting and has resulted in empowering the women.

The Community Health Promoters have received advanced training covering topics of maternal health care, immunisation, child health care and mental health. Satisfaction surveys have shown that the Community Health Promoters feel valued and have improved their self-esteem through the programme.

All of this work has sensitised the community to seek care at the new Nick Maughan Maternity Centre. Indeed, Community Health Promoters are now working alongside midwives at the maternity centre which is a new model of care to improve our reach to the most vulnerable in the community. All of this is only possible thanks to your continued support. Thank you.



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