

Our·ganda Newsletter



Four Successful Surgeries



Dear Friend,

When Ourganda's medical team meets a patient whose condition is desperate, they ask these questions:

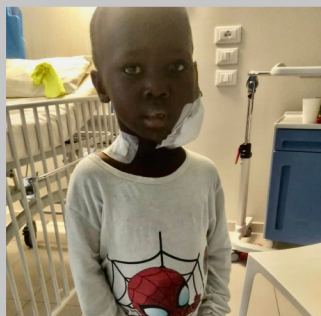
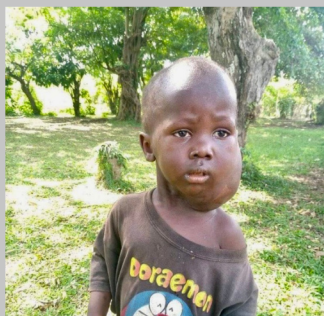
- Is this life-threatening?
- Is it time-sensitive?
- Is surgery a viable option?

Almost always, the parents have tried everything they can think of or afford. Ourganda is their last resort. *"Can you please help my little boy? or my little girl?"*

We love saying YES. If the answers point toward surgery and Ourganda has the funds, the team arranges a 8-9 hour bus ride to a hospital where surgeons evaluate the patient and, hopefully, schedule the surgery. Oscar accompanies the patients and their family members on the bus, arranges for hotels and food, and connects each patient with the nurses and doctors who will help them.

In the month of October, Ourganda was able to say YES to four surgeries.

Ivan, a 6 year-old boy, had a cystic hygroma, a fluid-filled sac caused by blockages in the lymphatic system.



Jowasi, a 7 year-old boy, had a septic stomach that was dramatically worsened by an unsuccessful surgery.



Amon, a 2.5 year-old boy, fell in an open fire a year ago and was terribly burned. His parents had no money so he wasn't treated. His scars and deformities are painful and debilitating.



Dolice, an adult, had a goiter that was suffocating her and making it difficult to eat.

The long bus ride across the country was tough. Most of the patients and the family members who accompany them have never ridden in a car or bus. One of the mothers vomited violently for most of the trip and was extremely thankful to finally be in a hotel room near the hospital.

Oscar paid for the hotel rooms and gave each parent 100,000 Ugandan shillings (about \$28) for food while they were away from home. "They almost jumped to the roof," Oscar explained, "because they could not believe Ourganda would help them not only with surgery, but with food!"

Amon's mother had tears on her face when she asked Oscar, **"How can someone we don't even know give the money to help our children? They even made sure we had food to eat on the bus and a room to sleep in. Please try to explain to the donors how much we thank God for their kindness!"**

Each patient met his surgeon with a mix of hope and anxiety. None was disappointed.

How are they doing now?

- Ivan's growth is gone. He is back home in his village. The doctors want him to return for a follow-up visit, but he will make a full recovery.
- Amon's case is complicated. After an initial surgery to detach the body parts that fused together and to repair his scars, he is still in the hospital. The surgeon expects that, eventually, little Amon will return home with no pain and minimal scars.
- As of this writing, Jowasi is still awaiting surgery. The investigation is complete and, according to his doctor, he has a great chance of total healing.
- Dolice is back in her village, eating and breathing normally, and deeply thankful for her new lease on life.

There are no words in the English language (or in any language) that express how blessed we are to help these precious people. Oscar shared that "Everyone in the hospital, patients, nurses and doctors, all declared that Ourganda is God's hand of healing."

A Note from Ourganda's Director

Please let us know how you would like to help the next child or adult who needs surgery. The cost for a surgery in Uganda averages \$1,000. You can choose between a one-time gift or (even better) a monthly donation. Every dollar you give empowers our team to ignite hope in one more heart.



All we can say is Thank you. Thank you, Thank you!