

OURGANDA

Let's ignite hope. Let's change things.



Children's Commitment Form

Dear Friend,

Which well-known person made this famous statement? – “If anyone harms one of these little ones, it would be better to hang a millstone around their neck and toss them into the sea.”

Bundibugyo is not near the sea, so we won't be taking Jesus's advice literally, but our teams have declared war on the sexual abuse of children in Ourganda's villages.

Three things I need you to know:

1. The **majority of girls** in our villages are being **sexually violated**, and Ourganda is going to stop it. Not just respond when a child is harmed, but shut it down before it happens.
2. Every girl and every boy is precious. Eight thousand kids live in our villages, and **every one of them deserves to be safe**. They are willing to do their part, but they need our help.
3. We are the adults. It's up to us to stop complaining about how awful things are and, instead, step up and **solve the problem at its root**.

Joinus Kyarisiima is our Children's Champion. She and her team are doing exactly that. They are creating a powerful movement called **“Every Child Is Safe”**. Grab your phone or computer and spend two minutes on ourganda.org/every-child-is-safe. This is truly revolutionary, and it's going to re-write the future for thousands of kids.

Listen to Joinus:

“When I first agreed to become Ourganda's Children's Champion, I knew that **children were being violated**, but I **didn't know the extent**. I had one-on-one conversations with 100 adults in our villages, but they were afraid to talk about it. **They felt intimidated, outnumbered and helpless.**”

She and her team shifted gears and talked instead with children and their teachers. Story after heartbreaking story confirmed that the majority of girls – and some of the boys – were often raped, but everyone stays silent.



“We will never solve this problem,” Joinus declared, **“until parents, teachers, pastors and elected officials and teachers are willing to set aside their fear and act with boldness.”**

A few Zoom meetings later, our Ugandan team set a ridiculous goal: **Eventually, 95% of the adults in our villages will feel courageous enough to stand up and speak up whenever a child is hurt.**

Fast forward to the first week of this month. A Zoom call connected Joinus and four other Ourganda leaders with five of us on this side of the ocean. “Let's talk about the ridiculous goal,” I insisted. “Is it even possible that 95% of the adults in our villages will stand up and speak up whenever a child is abused?”

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Their expressions and energy rocked our Zoom signal 10 time zones away. ***"Absolutely!"*** they insisted. ***"Every day, more teachers, pastors, parents, elected officials, even older children tell us that they will never be silent again. The army of volunteers in every one of our villages is growing faster and larger than we ever imagined!"***



What Is the Kids' Part?

Once the children feel safe, once they experience the environment of support, respect and encouragement, what can they do? Shouldn't they accept some responsibility?

Check out the colorful Children's Commitment form. Already, kids are signing it. They are beginning to realize that opportunities await; they can make choices about next week and next year — and the rest of their lives.

We Need You to Join Joinus's Team

Here is how:

1. Support her team financially. It is vital that the launch of our "Every Child Is Safe" campaign is wildly successful. Choose any of the projects below, or donate any amount towards one of them.
2. Share the commitment form with a kid in your life. If they are willing to sign it, send us a note — or better yet a photo of them signing or holding it up. We will pass it along to Joinus and her team in Uganda so they can celebrate with you.
3. If you are a praying person, be sure to pray.



A one-time gift goes so far in Uganda, and an ongoing monthly gift blesses hundreds of families over time. **Thank you for partnering with Joinus and her colleagues** — and with every volunteer who is determined to protect our kids.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

One-time Projects

- Fliers and Banners — \$155
- Radio Announcements — \$360
- T-shirts for 130 volunteers — \$806
- September 5 Extravaganza Event — \$890
- Wherever needed most — any amount

Ongoing Projects

- Salary to expand the team — \$325 / month
- Wherever needed most — any amount

Make a Donation

- Online: Scan the QR code or visit ourganda.org/donate

- Phone: Call **360-624-7271**
- Email: getintouch@ourganda.org
- Mail: Send a check made payable to Ourganda to **PO Box 874205; Vancouver WA 98687**

