

# **ASA SOCIAL FUND**

**For Hidden Peoples** 

# **2021 ANNUAL REPORT**



### **Maxi's Kids**



students supported

Nulu (age 13) Juma (age 11) Kevin (University level) Sandra (age13) Patrick (Senior 2) Haulah (age 12 Noah's Ark) Ashraf (age 10 - Noah's Ark) Victor (age 9 Noah's Ark) Anisha (Senior 2)

## "MAXI'S KIDS" GRANT AWARDED

We are sad to announce that our long-time supporter Maxine Bruhns, sponsor of "Maxi's Kids," passed away in 2020. Her legacy, spirit and love for Africa will continue through a \$5,000 education grant through the Fred and Maxi Bruhns Foundation. The grant will provide funding for school fees for up to 10 students housed at Bright Kids Uganda, Noah's Ark School for the Disabled, and Ebenezer school. Their education fees will be supported through their graduation.

We are so incredibly humbled and grateful for this amazing gift that will provide needed funds for vulnerable children for their education.

Maxine Bruhns, Director of University of Pittsburgh Nationality Rooms, was dedicated to supporting international activities. She provided support to university interns traveling to Uganda and in 2016 started Maxi's Kids, donating \$5,000 to sponsor scholarships for 10 Ugandan children



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRSIDENT

#### DR. LOUIS A. PICARD

The year 2021 was a challenging year for our East African Partners who suffered the social and economic consequences of the second year of the world-wide COVID Pandemic. In Uganda, schools were closed for the entire year and most small business activity either ceased or operated under severe restrictions. Despite the challenges, ASA was able to continue its support for our existing programs and plan for expansion in 2022.

Our big news is that in late 2021 we began planning for a new vocational training program for people with disabilities. Carmen Parise has joined ASA as Senior Advisor for East Africa to support this new initiative.

Our micro-loan development fund continues to grow.
Despite the challenges of COVID, the three Gulu microloan groups were able to maintain their activities.

Our Education Fund has grown thanks to our donors. We have increased the number of children who receive financial support. This, despite the fact that Bright Kids Uganda, has faced multiple challenges trying to support primary, secondary and higher education as costs have increased. We remain committed to support scholarships for BKU children as it meets these challenges in the future.

Thank you to all our supporters as we move into 2022.



# **Special Thanks**

ASA outreach activities
have included a
presentation to the "Half
the Sky" group of
Pittsburgh. The group
awarded ASA a \$1,000
grant to support ASA's
microlending groups



The Sisters of Notre
Dame sewing group
made beautiful clothing
for the Bright Kids
Uganda children. ASA
traveled to Uganda to
deliver the clothing in
November



# **EDUCATION**

## **NEW ISLAND SCHOOL AND CANTEEN**

On a very small island in the middle of Africa, good things do happen: Economic Sustainability in action on Nsazi Island, Lake Victoria, Uganda. ASA Social Fund for Hidden Peoples gave \$300 for a small canteen selling food items on Nsazi Island where Victoria Nalongo Namusisi has opened up a small school and is supporting a growing community. She wrote: "Our simple canteen which you (ASA Social Fund) supported during our starting with \$300 has now grown from this miserable wooden kiosk to that one of bricks as you can see. The new one done with savings since we started in March." Thank you Victoria for your hard work and forward vision.





## **STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: EDDY**

When we first met Eddy, a young man who does not have the use of his legs, he was living in a muddy hut, and crawling to school using his hands.

Through the generosity of ASA supporters, Eddy received a wheelchair, as well as scholarships to pay for his school fees. Eddy is now attending Ebenezer School on Nsazi Island and thriving.



His goals are to be a lawyer and a DJ! He is a terrific drummer!



# Student scholarships sponsored

Thank you to our educational sponsors!

#### Dave S.

Racheal (age 14) Catherine (age10) Gloria (age 12)

Hannah and John M.

Carol (age 7)

#### **Pauline and Lou**

George - preschool Isaac Wasswa (age 15) Ronald (age 22 -University)

Mary S. and Bob J

Eddy (age 15)

#### Bok J.

Ivan (age 22 -University)

Mandy T.

Daphine (age 15)

ASA Education Fund supported 1 additional students



## MICRO LOAN GROUPS RECEIVE ONE TIME GRANT

ASA Social Fund for Hidden
Peoples provided a post COVID
grant to the successful micro
loan groups located in Gulu,
Uganda. They are affiliated
with the Women's Advocacy
Network (WAN). ASA thanks
Victoria and also Moses and
Evelyn Amony from WAN for
facilitating this endeavor.
Thanks to Moses in Gulu and
Paul from BKU who manage
the micro loans.

All of the borrowers paid back their loans throughout the time of COVID and are ready for their additional new loans.

# BRIDGING GRANT PROGRAM

In oder to expand our reach, ASA initiated a bridging grant program in 2021. The aim of this program is to provide a one-time grant for food, housing and medical assistance for 3 months enabling the women to gain stability. Once they are ready, they are invited to be part of one of the small business micro-loan groups. With the microloan, they will be able to start their own small business and maintain selfsufficiency and ecomomic stablity.



3 out of 5 groups successfully maintained repayment of loans during covid lockdowns

# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: NANCY



In 1998, Nancy was abducted at the age of 7 by the LRA. She was rescued in 2003. As a result of a gunshot injury her jaw was shattered. Due to her injuries, she has struggled to provide for her family. ASA provided Nancy with a bridging grant that covered four months of food and rent. After a few months, she was able to apply for a micro-loan and open a retail store selling second hand clothing and shoes, and later expanded to selling produce as well.



# **xpenses**



# ASA SOCIAL FUND

## **2021 Financial Spotlight**

# **2021 FUNDS**

Operating Expenses	\$19,613
Emergency Fund	\$4,333
Development Fund	\$11,367
Maxi's Kids	\$5,000
Education/Scholarships	\$7,260
Rotary Grant/Micro-loans	\$6,447

Operating Expenses	\$13,522
Emergency Fund	\$1,700
Development Fund	\$5,058
Maxi's Kids	\$0.00,
Education/Scholarships	\$4,621
Rotary Grant/Micro-loans	\$1,700



