

Team work saves lives

Caring for the health of thousands of desperately needy Ugandan children is a task which cannot be undertaken by Medcare alone.

Team work is essential between the many organisations working in Uganda working to transform and save children's lives. The following story of Joseph is an example of how team work can save lives.



Joseph before

Presently Joseph is much improved. He has gained weight, his viral load has decreased and his psychosis has diminished. With the support of his family, his sponsor, Medcare, Wellspring Children's Medical Centre, Mildmay Hospital and Uganda Cares, Joseph's life has been saved and he now has hope for the future.

Teamwork is the collaborative effort of a group of interdependent individuals or organisations working together towards a common goal.



Joseph now

Joseph was referred to the Wellspring Children's Medical Centre for support in January this year. He was 14 years old suffering from AIDS. Despite being treated for AIDS since he was 5 years old, Joseph's condition had gradually worsened and he was continually being treated for incidental infections. He appeared to have developed resistance to 1st and 2nd line anti-retroviral therapy, putting his life at serious risk. When seen by Wellspring staff he had severe malnutrition, and weight loss, an organic psychosis and a very high viral load. He was dying.

Medcare found a sponsor for Joseph and with his sponsorship funds he was referred to the Mildmay Hospital in Kampala. Mildmay managed to obtain a 3rd line ARV for the treatment of his AIDS and he was also treated for pulmonary TB.

Bishop Henry Katumba-Tamale from the Masaka Diocese of the Church of Uganda taught the Wellspring staff and children a song which contained the following words:

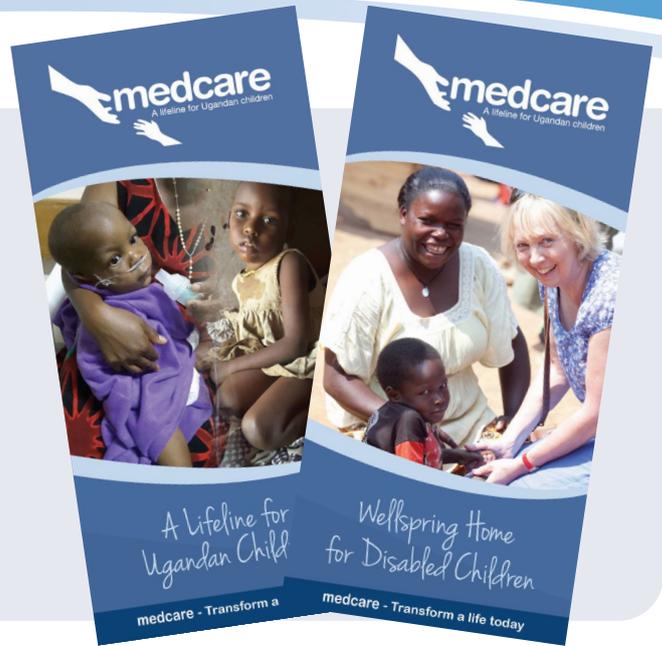
"Your work is my work, and our work is God's work. If we all work together the happier we'll be!" We thank God for all Medcare's and Wellspring's supporters throughout the world because together – we can change the lives of thousands."

New leaflets!

Medcare now has 2 beautiful new leaflets to be used in publicity. One explains the work of Medcare in Uganda through the work of the Wellspring Children's Medical Centre and the other the work of the Wellspring Home for Disabled Children.

Many thanks to Heather for the wonderful job she has made in designing these leaflets.

If you would like to obtain a few of these leaflets to share with your friends please contact the Medcare office on admin.medcare@icloud.com



How sponsorship can save a life

Elijah was brought to the Wellspring physiotherapy department by his mother, when he was 10 years old. He was born with hydrocephalus but he received no treatment for a number of years, resulting in a very large head.

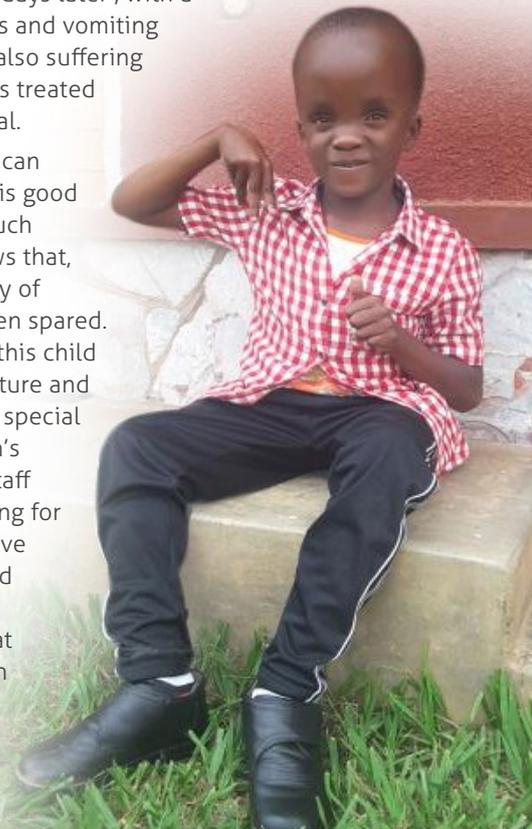


When first seen at Wellspring he was unable to hold up his head and couldn't walk. Elijah lives with his parents and 2 siblings in extreme poverty. They live in rented accommodation, having no home of their own. His older sister was born with spina bifida and cannot walk.

Elijah was found a sponsor and began to attend Wellspring physiotherapy department regularly. After a while he developed severe headaches. On referral to the CURE neurosurgical hospital it was found that he had a sub-dural haematoma. Following surgery the headaches disappeared.

Elijah began to improve with the care provided through Wellspring. However, in June 2019, when on his way back from school, his wheelchair was knocked over by a motorbike and he suffered concussion, with severe headaches and vomiting. A CT scan revealed that no permanent damage had been done and he began to recover. However, admission to Kitovu Hospital a few days later, with a fever, abdominal pains and vomiting revealed that he was also suffering from malaria. This was treated successfully in hospital.

Now Elijah is well. He can hold up his head and is good cognitively. He is a much happier boy and knows that, through the generosity of others, his life has been spared. Without sponsorship this child would have had no future and no knowledge of how special he is. Thank you Elijah's sponsor, Wellspring staff and the hospitals caring for him – together you have transformed and saved his life and enabled him to understand that God has a special plan for him in the years ahead.



Medcare child sponsorship

Presently 165 children are sponsored through the Medcare sponsorship schemes.

These children are amongst the privileged in their communities because, despite their sicknesses or disabilities, they have security for their future lives, with the provision of regular medical care, food supplements, new clothes and shoes, assistance in education and other social benefits, throughout their childhood.

56 children have been added to the sponsorship waiting lists this year – all in danger of their lives if sponsorship is not found. We know of 2 children who have died unsponsored since April 2019, and there will be many more who have died un-noticed.

Here are examples of 10 children requiring urgent sponsorship.

COIN sponsorship required...



Aidah Nakalika

6 years old
Sickle Cell Disease



Agnes Namutaawe

6 years old
AIDS



*Maria
Namawejje*

6 years old
AIDS and Sickle Cell
Disease



Haruna Ntambi

4 years old
AIDS



Jackline Namyalo

11 years old
Sickle Cell Disease

MDI sponsorship required...



Edén Nasamba

5 years old
Cerebral Palsy



Edward Kavuma

2 years old
Cerebral Palsy



Erick Kisule

7 years old
Cerebral Palsy



Anitah Nakafeero

5 years old
Cerebral Palsy and Hydrocephalus



Hellen Namtume

14 years old
Cerebral Palsy and mental difficulties

Children, and their families, with chronic illness and disabilities are discriminated against in local communities, being seen as cursed and worthless. Medcare believes that all children are special and deserve respect and care. Please spread the word about the needs of sick and disabled children in Ugandan communities and help save a life.

For more information please contact Pauline on admin.medcare@icloud.com

Christmas is coming!

Why not think ahead and buy some of the lovely Medcare Christmas cards. This year we are selling them at a discounted price. £1.50 for a pack of 10 cards - 140mm x 140mm with envelopes; or £5 for 4 packs of 10 cards.

For more information please contact the Medcare office on admin.medcare@icloud.com



Chairman's letter

What a remarkable summer we are having!
Weather to equal the temperatures (and storms) of Florida!
A new Prime Minister! Brexit? And much more to come!



A family of 4 in a Ugandan village often live off less than US\$1 a day!

medcare

If any of you are fortunate enough to travel to Orlando this summer and visit Disney World and surrounding attractions you will be one of over 40 million annual guests, spending over US\$ 6,000 per family for 7 days. Disney Parks spends over US\$50 million a year on fireworks and pyrotechnic effects alone!

A family of 4 in a Ugandan village often live off less than US\$1 a day!

Should these statistics make us feel guilty, sad, hopeless, self-indulged? That is not my intention. It is very special to see the wonder in a child's face as they watch the fireworks or are given a hug by Mickey Mouse, or to hear the screams of delight (or in my case terror!) when children are on the roller coasters. However, maybe such information will enable us to stand still for a minute and consider the needs of so many children across the world living in abject poverty.

In the UK we are privileged to have been provided with so much for our wellbeing and also for our enjoyment. I believe that, as a result of our privileges, we are responsible for assisting and providing for the less privileged in our world. Imagine if the life of each person living in extreme poverty - 3 billion - was touched and assisted by one other person in the rest of the world - 4.7 billion - what a difference this would make to the world's poor.

This is the reality for all Medcare's wonderful sponsors and supporters. Your generosity and compassion has changed the lives of thousands of families in Uganda - making a difference in our needy world. Please continue to spread the word about

the plight of the children in Uganda and help Medcare provide life giving care to the very needy.

May God bless you as you have blessed others. Have a great summer. The best is yet to come!

Every blessing.

Pauline Hutchinson Chairman of Medcare

Christmas fayre

Prepare for Christmas and buy stocking fillers and gifts at Medcare's Christmas Fayre. Indulge in mulled wine, mince pies and other Christmas delights.

The children will have a visit from Santa's elf, who will listen to their Christmas wish lists, and give them an early Christmas treat! This is to take place at the Frodsham Village Hall on Church Street, Frodsham, on Saturday 16th November from 9.30am until 12.30pm. Watch out for more information at the end of summer.

