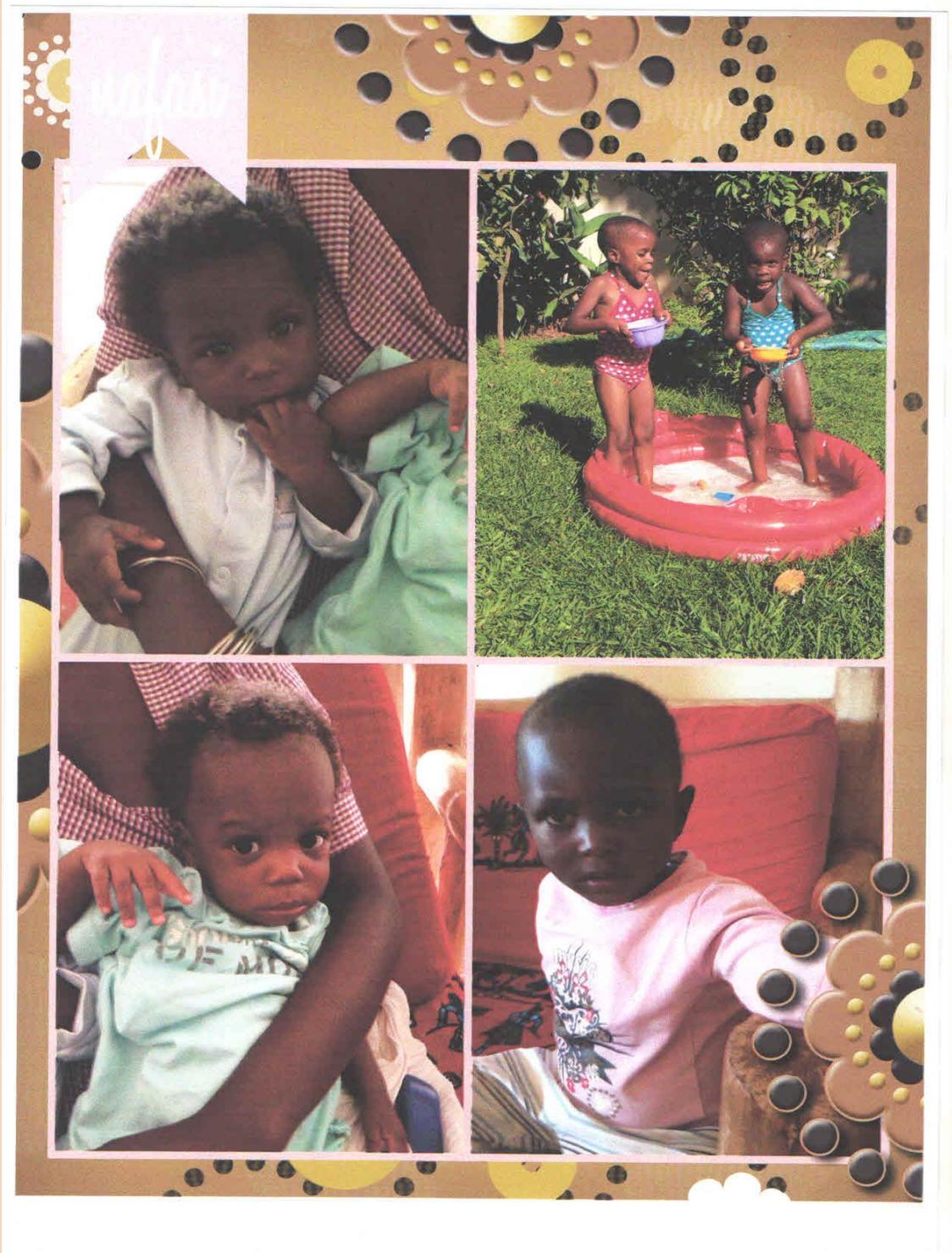


NAFASI WELFARE HOME QUARTERLY REPORT



MAY 2014

WHO WE ARE

Nafasi Welfare Home is an independent Ugandan non-profit organization working for children in need. The aim of Nafasi Welfare Home is to ensure a safe home in a permanent family situation for children aged 0-5 years.

Nafasi Welfare Home provides a temporary family setting for abandoned children.

At Nafasi Welfare Home we use the "Dare to Care model" where once a child is found, efforts are made by our social workers together with the probation officers of the area where the child is abandoned to trace for relatives of the child.

Nafasi Welfare Home works in collaboration with organizations that work for the welfare of disadvantaged children.

Nafasi Welfare Home is located in Bulange Mengo on Professor Apollo Nsibambi Road.

Nafasi Family Home was founded by Dutch citizens who were resident in Uganda at the time but have since moved back to the Netherlands. The Home is currently managed by Ugandans with the Dutch directors carrying out an oversight function.

When a child joins the Nafasi Family a thorough medical examination is carried out as well as the necessary immunizations.

When the relatives of the child are found the child is resettled with family and when relatives are not found efforts are made to find alternative family for the child.

At Nafasi Welfare Home we believe that children belong in families not institutions. Long term institutionalization of children has lifelong negative effects on the child's psychosocial development.

Nafasi Welfare Home is managed by Project leader; has two social workers, three caregivers, a volunteer nurse and a guard. It has the capacity of accommodating 20 children.

To date, twenty nine children (13 girls, 16 boys) have been admitted to Nafasi Welfare Home since its inception in November 2011. Of the 29 children, 21 children have been either resettled with biological or alternative family. For the remaining children, efforts are in place to find relatives or families that can provide them with a home.



The first quarter of 2014 Nafasi Welfare Home was blessed to receive support from a number of partners in Uganda and abroad which enabled us to continue caring for abandoned children.

Currently Nafasi Welfare Home is taking care of seven children; two boys and five girls. These children have diverse backgrounds. They are referred to Nafasi Welfare Home by probation officers, police and local council leaders.

Malaika (not real name) one of the boys admitted at Nafasi Welfare Home on 6th May 2014 came from Bundibugyo.

Bundibugyo is located on the slopes of Mt. Rwenzori in western Uganda. Malaika was referred to Nafasi Welfare Home by the probation officer of Bundibugyo. According to the probation officer, Bundibugyo is overwhelmed by the orphan crisis in the area. Many of the children in the area have lost their parents to the war on the border between Uganda and Congo.

Malaika never knew his father. His father a soldier, died when Malaika's mother was pregnant. Malaika's mother was a trader and always went to the market to buy produce which she sold in her community for a small profit. Tragically on 4th May 2014 on her way from the market, she was speared to death by unknown assailants. The probation officer was informed about the incident and since Malaika did not have a place to spend the night he took him home. Efforts to find Malaika a place in Bundibugyo Reception Center were futile since it was filled to capacity. Luckily for Malaika, there was a place for him at Nafasi Welfare Home. He is being provided with temporary care while a more permanent solution is being sought.

Malaika is four years old. He is the same age as two other girls at Nafasi. The three of them make a great team when it is time to play. Malaika still speaks his local language but is quickly learning to speak English. The care givers at Nafasi say that Malaika is a polite boy who is eager to help with the household chores. However, when the two girls, his closest friends in the home go to school, Malaika is sad to see them go.

Nafasi Welfare Home is working closely with the probation officer of Bundibugyo who is tracing for any of Malaika's biological relatives or friends in his community who can take care of him. When he is resettled with family hopefully he will be able to go to school.



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

The children at Nafasi Welfare Home have a daily routine. The children are awake between 7:00am to 8:00am where the caregivers give each child a bath and get them dressed for breakfast. After breakfast the children are engaged in a number of outdoor and indoor activities before their snack at 11:00am.

The children often have their lunch at 1:00pm before their afternoon nap. At 4:00pm the children have some fruit, play together before they have their bath, dinner and retire for the night at 8:00pm.



The care givers ensure that the children are closely monitored and they report any children that may be unwell. When the children are unwell they are taken to Bethesda Medical Center one of our partner organizations. This quarter one of the children had malaria and two other children had cough and flu. They were treated and are now in good health.

OUR PARTNERS

This quarter Nafasi Welfare Home has worked closely with a number of organizations. These include the local councils where abandoned children are found. This quarter the local council authorities of Lungujja Kikandwa referred to us a mother of twins who was stranded with no place to stay. She had previously stayed with a friend in one room but was asked to leave because her friend was recently married. She had spent the night before on the verandah of a house before she was referred to Nafasi Welfare Home for help. We are taking care of the children while the mother finds a job and is better able to take care of her children.

Our other partners are CRANE (Children at Risk Action Network) who continue to support some of our resettled children with school fees and a monthly family allowance.

This quarter we have also worked closely with the probation officers of Kampala and Rubaga who play a supervisory role for all child related activities at Nafasi Welfare Home. We have submitted routine reports for the children admitted in our care and have been guided in all our interventions.

Bethesda Medical Center has treated the sick children in our care and all are now in good health.

We have also been blessed to receive timely donations of assorted items from friends of Nafasi Welfare home this quarter.

In conclusion, caring for the disadvantaged children of Uganda cannot be done in isolation. We need the support of the local leaders, the police, probation officers, other organizations working with children and the Ministry of Gender Labor and Social Development to make Uganda a safer place for children.

The team at Nafasi Welfare Home is dedicated to ensure that the children in our care are provided with the best care but this is not devoid of challenges.

When children are resettled with biological relatives or foster parents, there is the incessant belief that they will be supported by the organization that took care of the child prior to resettlement.

There is increasing need for building the capacity of the families that take care of the resettled children. This calls for more resources which can only be pulled together through partnerships and collaborating with other organizations working with children.