

CCU Newsletter

November 2025

Children Care Uganda



Anniversary: 7 years of CCU!

In October, we celebrated CCU's seventh birthday—a reason for joy and gratitude! Since CCU was founded, we have been committed with heart, dedication, and combined forces to providing young people in Uganda with “hope for a better future.”

A lot has happened in these seven years: we have been able to support numerous projects in the areas of education and health, arrange sponsorships, strengthen the local rehabilitation center, and build sustainable structures together, hand in hand with the German association “Children Care Uganda Deutschland e.V.”.

Every single contribution, whether through donations, membership, or volunteer work, has helped to make our work effective.

On this anniversary, we would like to say thank you:

Thank you to everyone who has accompanied us over the years, to everyone who shares our vision, and to everyone who helps give children in Uganda hope and opportunities.

Together, we can achieve so much!



Contents

- News from Uganda
- News from the association
- Travel reports
- Events in December
- Donate and support
- Annual general meeting

NEWS FROM UGANDA



Kids at the center

As mentioned at the beginning, the CCU's birthday party was on the agenda in October. Traditionally, the boys' birthdays are also celebrated at the center on this day. Everyone ate together, there was cake and gifts, and the boys and the team spent the day playing and dancing. You can see how happy they are!

During the last school holidays, the boys enjoyed a special day out: an excursion to the CCU office in Gulu City was organized for them! Since the rehabilitation center and the boys' schools are located outside Gulu City, there are rarely opportunities to meet the entire team.

This made the day together all the more enjoyable—filled with laughter, games, and a visit to the gym that will remain in everyone's memories for a long time to come.



Two special encounters have made us particularly happy lately: chance meetings with former residents of the rehabilitation center.

B. (left) has completed his training in cooking and catering. He proudly sold Mimi delicious Mandazis, a deep fried sweet pastry.

E. (right) lived on the streets for a long time. After two years at CCU, he was able to move back in with his mother and is now attending secondary school (with very good grades)!

A few of the boys who are currently staying with us:



NEWS FROM UGANDA



Tailoring class

The tailoring course continues to run very well, with a fantastic and dedicated teacher! In June, 13 participants completed the course. Almost immediately afterwards, the next training round began with a total of 15 participants. We are particularly pleased that a young man is taking part in this course for the first time!

Team

We were able to find a new security guard for the rehabilitation center and are very happy that he is now part of our CCU family.

A workshop on "Success Story Writing" was recently held, which was prepared and moderated by a team member.

Another special highlight of the year was our team-building day! Prepared by several team members, the day gave us the opportunity to further strengthen our team spirit, learn from each other, and develop new ideas for our shared mission.

All of our employees are highly committed and work hand in hand to achieve our goals. We are very proud and grateful to have such a great team on site.

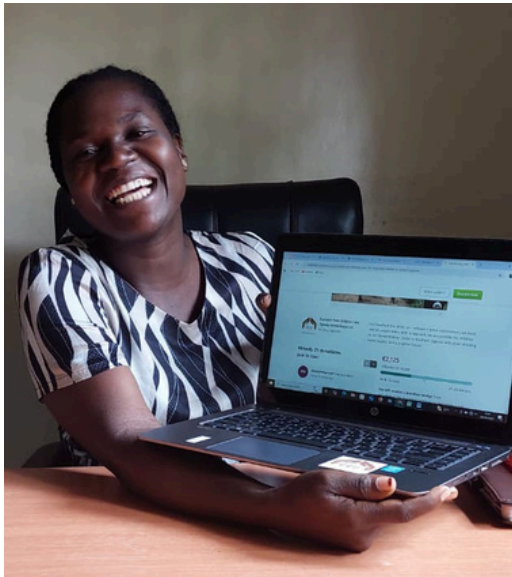


Sponsorships

We currently have 22 young people in our sponsorship program, with 11 more on our waiting list for sponsorship!

Recently, two of the sponsorships were "successfully completed" when the young people graduated from school.

NEWS FROM UGANDA



Construction is underway— thanks for your donations!

In recent months, some progress has been made on the construction—none of which would have been possible without generous donations!

Our campaign on betterplace.com raised an impressive amount of €6,000! These donations will enable the construction of a new drinking water well at the rehabilitation center—an important step toward ensuring a sustainable supply of clean water. The service providers have already been contacted, and preparations for construction are in full swing.

Thanks to a generous donation from “good works” last year, the construction of a new latrine was completed and it was recently repainted. Not only does it ensure better hygiene, but it also contributes significantly to the dignity and well-being of the children, staff, and visitors.

Hard work is also underway at our office premises, as our toilet facilities were in need of repair. This involved the installation of a 3,000-liter water tank and barrier-free structures for people with disabilities. As a result, one of the toilets will be accessible to wheelchair users in the near future. This is an important step towards greater inclusion and accessibility for all.

Other

The Ability Sports Africa Marathon took place in August, and CCU was involved in the preparations and implementation as a cooperation partner. Some employees helped out as volunteers on the day. The event was the first inclusive marathon in Uganda and a complete success!

CCU also celebrated the Day of African Child this year and organized a community dialogue on the topic of children's rights. The lively discussion was broadcast by a local radio station.

Our fourth Mental Health Soccer Tournament has just come to an end, a soccer tournament is not only about sports, but also about mental health. We gained new partners for this event, and once again, a total of 21 teams from all over Gulu took part.



NEWS FROM THE GERMAN ASSOCIATION

Important budget information

We would like to take this opportunity to inform you about an important development that will have a major impact on our work in the coming year:

Unfortunately, from next year onwards, we will only have about half of our previous budget available for our work on the ground. The reason for this is the expiry of funding from our long-standing partner "HelpAlliance," which has provided significant support for our projects in recent years, as well as the termination of the "Wang Oo" project, which was funded by Grand Challenges Canada 2022 - 2024.

We already had to make initial budget cuts this year in order to continue ongoing projects in a responsible manner. Despite all our efforts to secure new funding and supporters, the search for large funding sources has not yet been successful. However, we are not giving up—on the contrary: the search is continuing intensively, and we are confident that we will find new ways of financing our work.

We appreciate any support you can give us!

There are several ways you can help us overcome this challenge together:

- **Through (further) donations:** Every contribution—large or small—helps us continue our important work in Uganda.
- **By spreading the word:** Tell your friends, acquaintances, and colleagues about Children Care Uganda and our projects. Raising awareness is the first step toward sustainable support.
- **Through contacts:** If you know of any companies, foundations, or organizations that might be interested in donating or collaborating, please contact the board directly (deutschland@childrencareuganda.org) or the team in Uganda (info@childrencareug.org). Every recommendation can make a big difference!

A heartfelt thank you to all our supporters! Every donation, every helping hand, and every idea brings us closer to our goal of providing better living conditions for children and families in Uganda.

Open to volunteers

Are you interested in working with young people? Do you have experience in fundraising and enjoy connecting with others? Would you like to get to know Uganda, Gulu, and CCU (even) better? Then volunteering on site could be just the thing for you! The CCU team is always open to motivated volunteers. Write to us for more information on how you can get involved online or directly in Uganda.

TRAVEL REPORT

...by Björn – member of the association and sponsor

I had been eagerly awaiting this day: Stephen, my sponsor-child, and I were going to meet. We arrived in Gulu late in the evening by rental car. The next day, Mimi gave us a warm welcome at the CCU premises. As expected, the people and the area made a much more impressive impression than reports about how people live, work, and help at CCU: focusing on people and doing so as effectively and efficiently as possible. Inspiring thoughts and quotes adorn numerous walls, even in the restroom. After Mimi's introduction and fortified by some food, we continued on to the St. Elisabeth Rehabilitation Center and to Stephen. There was some excitement and uncertainty in the air at the beginning. But that soon passed: Stephen showed us his garden, then we moved on to the soccer field. "We" were Stephen, the staff, and the other boys who lived there. Several of them helped translate between Acholi and English. And then life began: I learned the local rules for Ludo and marveled at the dancing skills on display. Then we had a meal together to celebrate the day. At the end, there were leftovers from the cake frosting: "Anybody want some more sugar?" "Yes." We exchanged gifts, and I was deeply touched by Stephen's gifts: hand-carved cooking spoons, which are now in my kitchen at home. The gifts for him were shared enthusiastically among the group - whether for snacking, working, or reading. The day passed quickly. All too soon, it was time to say goodbye. Photos, hugs, a last glance out of the car window, another smile, another wave. And now... I am happy about the experience and to be Stephen's godfather."



TRAVEL REPORT

...from Susanne and Klaus – great supporters

In February/March 2025, we had the opportunity to spend three weeks in Gulu, in northern Uganda. On the one hand, we wanted to visit our daughter Miriam, son-in-law Charlie, and our granddaughter.

On the other hand, it was very important to us to see how CCU had developed.

We had been there for the first and last time five years ago. At that time, the office and the hall where the boys slept on the floor and the tailoring course took place were still in a different location. A few employees were paid very little for their work, which meant that there was a high turnover of staff. This not only cost Mimi and Charlie time, it was also not good for the boys.



The St. Elisabeth Rehabilitation Center was almost finished in March 2020, but not yet occupied. Of course, as Mimi's parents and founding members, we were aware of everything that had been going on. Nevertheless, we were very excited to meet the CCU team in person and visit the new office, including the skills training room, etc. We were also very interested and curious about the boys at the St. Elisabeth Center outside Gulu.



We were given a very warm welcome by the employees (20 in total) and invited to lunch. They showed us their work and explained it to us, and difficulties were also addressed.

Budget planning was discussed, and goals, visions, and ideas were reflected upon and exchanged on both sides. The team was very interested in our opinion. The team is doing a great job! The room where the sewing course takes place is located on the same premises as the office building. Several young women have already come to register for the next course, which begins in July. They are all hoping for sponsorship so that the six-month training course can be financed. Our visit to the St. Elisabeth Center was a particular joy for both sides. Nine boys live there with a social worker and a caregiver. They all come from difficult backgrounds. There, they receive everything they need for a good future, learn life skills, and attend the local school. They showed us everything: the dormitory, kitchen, office, sanitary facilities, garden (each has their own plot), and the soccer field, where soccer training with other children takes place twice a week. We were very impressed by how open and friendly they were. They are on the right track!

When we returned to the office at the end of our trip, the team gave us the following message: "Please tell all our supporters, members, and interested parties, especially the German CCU team, that we warmly invite them to visit us and would be happy to show them around. Tell them how grateful we are for their donations, prayers, and solidarity. It means so much to us!"

EVENTS IN DECEMBER

Dear friends of Children Care Uganda Deutschland e.V.,

In December, I (Miriam Odongo) will be in Germany and we would like to take this opportunity to present our work in Uganda - with various activities, meetings, and fundraising opportunities.

To this end, we are looking for individuals, companies, and organizations who would like to organize a small event or activity with us—whether as a team event, charity event, or themed Advent afternoon.



Our current formats:

"Mindfulness during the pre-Christmas period" workshop:

Practical mindfulness exercises, tips for dealing with stress, and insights into our mental health work in Uganda.

Ugandan cooking afternoon or snack workshop:

Preparing simple Ugandan snacks together, accompanied by stories, music, and culture.

Information event "Christmas in Uganda"

Pictures, personal impressions, and exchange - combined with a small fundraising campaign or a shared snack.

"Groove for Good":

In this Afro dance workshop, we escape winter together and dance ourselves warm for Uganda.

All formats are flexible (location, group size, time frame) and take place on a donation basis. The proceeds go directly to our local projects.

Perhaps you know or work in a company, café, club, or team that is interested in a special Advent event or would like to get involved in social work?

Feel free to share this invitation or put us in touch directly—we welcome every opportunity to collaborate.

Thank you very much for your support and for spreading the word! ❤️

You can find out more about us and our work at www.childrencareuganda.org

My email address:
miriam.odongo@childrencareuganda.org

DONATE AND SUPPORT

Christmas is coming!

If you're still looking for a beautiful and, above all, sustainable gift, you're sure to find it here.

Our gift options bring triple joy:

1. Someone close to you receives an original gift
2. Someone in Uganda receives long-term support
3. Doing good simply feels good and right



Team thank you for 14€

Without the team on site, we couldn't achieve anything! That's why we want to thank them for their work with a small gift.

We're sure they'll be delighted and will start the new year even more motivated.

Purpose: Team thank you

Everday package for 55€

The everyday package covers the costs of food and hygiene products for one boy at our St. Elisabeth Rehabilitation Center for one month. This is certainly a valuable aid in the everyday lives of these young people – a contribution to greater security and quality of life!

Purpose: Center everyday package

Christmas package for 89€

The package includes a Christmas outing, a gift and the cost of a New Year's celebration.

You can give the complete package as a gift or individual components.

Purpose: Christmas package

Tailoring sponsorship for 110€

In our six-month training course, participants learn craft skills and how to earn a living independently by selling the products they make.

Purpose: Tailoring sponsorship

Gift certificates that you can print yourself are also available on request. Simply send an email to deutschland@childrencareuganda.org.

2026 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

All club members should please make a note of the following date:

Annual General Meeting

Sunday, March 1, 2026, 2 p.m.

Community hall of St. Lioba Church in Würzburg-Lengfeld
(Pilziggrundstraße 17, 97076 Würzburg)

In addition to reviewing the past year and looking ahead to upcoming projects, there is an extraordinary item on the agenda this year:

Our current treasurer, Helena Spiekermann, is stepping down from her position for personal reasons. We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for her tremendous commitment and reliable work over the past years.

A new CFO/treasurer will therefore be elected at the meeting—initially for one year, as the board will be re-elected as usual in 2027.

We welcome interested members who would like to take on this important task or make suggestions. If you are interested, please contact us at deutschland@childrencareuganda.org!



Best regards,

Board of Directors and Team
Children Care Uganda
Deutschland e.V.

www.childrencareuganda.org

deutschland@childrencareuganda.org

IBAN: DE50 7905 0000 0048 7790 86

