

22STARS FOUNDATION

Financial Year Report 2023

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ABSTRACT

The year 2023 began with stress but concluded on a high note. Schools reopened in 2022 after two long years of COVID closures. However, the start of the new year revealed that some schools were not as good as we had anticipated. Many teachers had changed careers, leaving a gap of inexperienced staff. Additionally, there were alarming rumors of mistreatment of some children in school, prompting us to take swift action. In Jinja, we relocated over 100 children to another school, which posed a challenge in finding a facility that could accommodate so many while staying within our budget. Similarly, in Kampala, we had concerns regarding the management of a specific school, leading us to transfer around 50 of the children to a different institution with which we had a longer partnership.

Our founder, Stella, made four trips to Uganda to address all issues related to the schools and resolve misunderstandings within the team and community. Thankfully, we established transparent communication among all parties involved. We were also able to continue our additional programs.

A significant highlight was the construction of a school dormitory in Jinja, sponsored by “das Freiheitspaket.” We also received through fundraisers organised on the “Nomad Cruise” donations for extra computers and school sweaters for the children.

In April and October, we organized Social Impact Trips with Stella, during which several sponsors visited the children they support. Among them was Serena Martinaux, who captured the beautiful photographs featured in this report. Additionally, Rudiger Walzer, the founder of our partner organization “Wir Helfen Sehen,” came to Uganda to advance our Eye Program.

Several children graduated this year, finding jobs and serving as a testament to the success of our initiatives. We did not enroll any new children in 2023 due to rising school fees and the necessity for many to attend boarding school. Consequently, we allocated $20,000 from our general donations to ensure that all the children could remain in school. We are proud to report that all 485 sponsored children successfully continued their education.

S.R. Airoldi

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Summary:

Dear sponsors, donors, and supporters!

The year 2023 began with stress but concluded on a high note. Schools reopened in 2022 after two long years of COVID closures. However, the start of the new year revealed that some schools were not as good as we had anticipated. Many teachers had changed careers, leaving a gap of inexperienced staff. Additionally, there were alarming rumors of mistreatment of some children in school, prompting us to take swift action. In Jinja, we relocated over 100 children to another school, which posed a challenge in finding a facility that could accommodate so many while staying within our budget. Similarly, in Kampala, we

had concerns regarding the management of a specific school, leading us to transfer around 50 of the children to a different institution with which we had a longer partnership.

Our founder, Stella, made four trips to Uganda to address all issues related to the schools and resolve misunderstandings within the team and community. Thankfully, we established transparent communication among all parties involved. We were also able to continue our additional programs, such as the Music Program and Computer Program that we initiated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, we maintained our Local Leadership Program to enhance the skills of our ground team.

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In April and October, we organized Social Impact Trips with Stella, during which several sponsors visited the children they support. Among them was Serena Martinaux, who captured the beautiful photographs featured in this report. Additionally, Rudiger Walzer, the founder of our partner organization "Wir Helfen Sehen," came to Uganda to advance our Eye Program.

Several children graduated this year, finding jobs and serving as a testament to the success of our initiatives. We did not enroll any new children in 2023 due to rising school fees and the necessity for many to attend boarding school. Consequently, we allocated $20,000 from our general donations to ensure that all the children could remain in school. We are proud to report that all 485 sponsored children successfully continued their education.

Our Small Business Loan program remained active, providing new loans to beneficiaries. The Music Program in Jinja thrived, featuring a blend of modern and traditional instruments, while in Kampala, we focused solely on traditional instruments. Both Kampala and Jinja continued to offer after-school Computer lessons. Our Nutrition Program maintained its Weekly Meals initiative. We progressed with our Local Leadership Program in collaboration with Dutch Business Consultant Joelle, welcoming volunteer Jennifer Dietz, who provided one-on-one coaching to the team. Finally, we successfully selected new students for the Optician School in partnership with Wir Helfen Sehen e.V., distributed glasses to children, and arranged visits to the Eye Hospital once again.

We remain deeply grateful to our supporters, whose generosity and belief in our cause make all our successes possible. Together, we are building a brighter future for these children, one filled with hope, opportunity, and endless possibilities. With this strong foundation, we are ready to embrace the challenges and triumphs of the coming year, confident in the knowledge that our shared vision will guide us forward.

A Recap of Our 2023 Achievements. Here are some of our highlights:

- We have changed over 150 of the children to better schools.
- We enlarged our Computer and Music program.
- We continued with our local leadership program and coaching of our team.
- We had Serena Martinaux visiting us who captured beautiful photographs that we can use for our reports and social media

- Rudiger Walzer, the founder of our partner organization "Wir Helfen Sehen," came to Uganda to advance our Eye Program.
- We hosted a small Social Impact Trip for our sponsors to Uganda in April and October
- We have received several day-visitors throughout the year who wanted to learn more about 22STARS and our projects.
- We had 485 sponsored children in our program.
- Founder Stella visiting Uganda four times, with workshops to strengthen the team.
- We started to build a dormitory in Uganda for the children that need boarding section thanks to das "Freiheitspaket.de".
- We got laptops and school sweaters for the children thanks to the "Nomad Cruise".

Our total income in 2023 was € 281.440,33 and our cost were € 331.592,59. Our total assets and liabilities are € 35.424,76. Compared to 2022, there was a small increase in donations, even though we also had several sponsors who had to cancel their long-term sponsorship. We have spent more money in 2023 than wat came in, because in 2022 we had money reserved that could only be spend on our projects in 2023.

In total, we raised **€ 108.771.34 through one-time donations,** of which we spend €138.592,09 on our programs. We kept € 34.470,04 as reservation for the year 2024 to pay our recurring program costs, already planned expenses and to have enough money aside for meals during another lockdown emergency crisis. We raised money for certain causes through specific campaigns that we set up through *Donorbox.* We had a campaign for gifts from the sponsors for their child, Overhead Costs, Christmas gifts, Weekly Meals, and several health campaigns for the children. We have received a couple of larger donations. Our biggest donation came from the Freitheitspaket.de and the fundraiser they have set up for us, collecting a total of 36.422.23 euro. And Nomad Cruise held a fundraiser collecting 15.607,64. We also received a donation from the German charity "Wir Helfen Sehen E.v., of € 6,075.00 which was specifically for our Eye-care Program.

We received **€ 172.668,99 from our long-term sponsors** for the children they sponsor. We spend € 193,000.50 on the children's education in 2023. This was a bit more this year since the schools increased their rates. In addition, we had paid a part of term 1 2024 in December 2023. We remained hence with € 775,48 for 2024 to be paid for future school terms in 2024. We also had to use **€ 20.000** from our general donations for school fees in 2023 to make sure all children could stay in school. Our total reservation for 2024 is **€ 35.424,765.**

Compared to 2022 we raised a little bit more, mostly thanks to the fundraiser of the Freiheitspaket.de and some sponsors who increased their donations. The workload for the 22STARS Foundation kept increasing this year even though schools opened, because we continued with our additional programs at our childcare centers, such as our Computer, Music, Small Business, Leadership and Nutrition Program. To keep our overhead costs as low as possible, we work as much as possible with volunteers and freelancers. And Stella Airoldi still does a lot of work as she is willing to do it for a very minimal rate. We set up specific fundraisers to recruit donors who are willing to donate specifically for our overhead costs. Since these costs are quite unpopular fundraising topics, but very necessary to keep the foundation growing. We are glad that we received specific donations for these, so we can assure that we keep growing in a healthy way and can spend the donations of our fundraisers and sponsorship money fully on the programs in Uganda.

To stay up to date of our activities sign up for our newsletter and follow our social media.

Thank you for your support!

Stella Airoldi (Founder Foundation NL & program manager)
Aidah Wafula (Founder CBO in Jinja & project leader)
Susan Laker (Founder CBO in Kampala & project leaders)
David Wafula (Prime mover & project coordinator Kampala & Jinja)
& the full 22STARS team!



1. *Susan Laker and Stella Airoldi visiting the Hopeland School in Uganda*

Donors and sponsors, you made a huge impact in 2023

- Education program (Child-Sponsorship):
  - 485 sponsored children who received an education.
- Computer program:

- A full year computer training, paying materials and teachers for the children in Kampala and in Jinja.
- We bought 16 student computers for Jinja
- We bought 8 student computers for Kampala

- Music program:

  - Music training, paying materials and 2 teachers for the full year in Jinja to teach guitar, drums, and keyboard.

- Nutrition program:

  - Building of a permanent cooking stove in Kampala
  - Small fee for the helping ladies that help us with the weekly meals
  - Investment in a 5-hectare Maizefield, to produce more sustainable food; we paid for harvesting, monitoring, ploughing and weeding.
  - This year the Maizefield gave us 320 kilos of Maize.
  - Cooking supplies for the weekly meals and home school meals.
  - 25.600 Weekend Meals Jinja and Kampala.
  - We celebrated Independence Day and Christmas with the children.
  - Handed out extra food to the women in need.

- Entrepreneurship program:

  - Extra Loan boosts of 2.986,18 euro were given.
  - Small Business Meetings were held once a week.

- Eye-care Program:

  - 4 students were sent to an Optician School and all costs were paid for them.
  - 49 Children were sent to the Eye Hospital for treatment
  - Glasses for 9 children

- Healthcare (&Basic Needs) Program:

  - Various smaller treatments for around 100 children.
  - Bigger medical treatments for 12 children
  - 10 Mattresses for the children.
  - Extra support for children who lost a parent.

- Extra Education Program:

  - Holiday studies for 81 children that struggle in school.
  - 300 Sunday outfits for the children in Kampala.
  - 220 Saturday outfits for the children in Jinja.
  - 76 School Sweaters for the Kampala children.
  - Dormitory for our Jinja children

- Leadership Program:

- On side Young Leadership workshops with Joelle for the teenagers during their holidays in Kampala. The teenagers ended the sessions by cleaning up all the trash in Acholi Quarter and giving back to their communities.
- Transport, meals, and accommodation for the workshops for our local team.
- Team Building days in Uganda. People participating: Susan Laker (local leader Kampala), Aidah Wafula (local leader Jinja), David Wafula (coordinator Kampala and Jinja), Stella Airoldi (program coordinator and fundraiser), Ella Shalom (local assistant Kampala), Francesca Giovanni (remote program manager) took part online in some workshops. Stella online and on side.

- Varia:

  - Christmas Celebration for all children and local team in Jinja and Kampala
  - Bonuses for our volunteers in Jinja and Kampala and the local team
  - New Year's Celebration with the children and team.
  - Maintenance of Minivan to be able to visit all schools and project sites and buy the necessary things for the programs. We had to replace the wheels and renew insurance.
  - Rent of the centers in both Kampala and Jinja, including security watch man, electricity, water and internet.
  - 76 extra gift donations were made for specific children throughout the year.

"What you do for yourself dies with you when you leave this world,
what you do for others' lives on forever."

– Ken Robinson

Program updates per month 2023

1. January, February & March; Celebrating Hope and Progress: A new beginning

As the dawn of the New Year broke, we embraced it with joy and gratitude, reflecting on the incredible journey we've embarked on together. This year, our celebrations in Uganda were not just about welcoming new beginnings; they were also about honoring the commitment and dedication of our volunteers and the communities we serve.

In Jinja, we expressed our appreciation by distributing cozy blankets and bedsheets to our hardworking volunteers, ensuring they felt valued for their tireless efforts. Meanwhile, in Kampala, the women received beautiful dresses as end-of-year gifts, ready to wear with pride to church on Sundays. Each woman, in her heartfelt speeches, shared stories of gratitude and hope, reinforcing the bonds of community that we cherish so dearly.



2. The women in Kampala with new dresses.



3. The women in Jinja with blankets.

The spirit of celebration continued as children in Jinja showcased their remarkable musical talents. This vibrant display of cultural heritage is a testament to our core value of keeping traditions alive. Young performers danced gracefully to the rhythms of eastern Uganda, while their peers in Kampala learned traditional dances from northern Uganda. Music and dance not only bring joy but also serve as powerful tools for healing, helping these children cope with trauma and stress.



3. The children in Jinja during the Music Program

Our commitment to education and empowerment was further highlighted when a group of students from Global Insight Education visited our small business program in Kampala. Inspired by the journey of Susan, one of our dedicated team members, they toured various businesses in Acholi Quarter, enjoying a delightful lunch prepared by our 22STARS team. Each contribution from the participants directly supported the women who cooked, emphasizing the spirit of community and mutual support.



4. Some of our sponsors visiting us for Sunday Lunch in Kampala.

During this enriching period, we were also blessed to host several sponsors who were exploring the beauty of Uganda on safari. Meeting our sponsors in person allows us to showcase the projects that are transforming lives, making each encounter a profound experience.



5. The Small Business Committee and founder Stella Airoldi in Kampala

Our small business committee, formed in 2022, has flourished beyond expectations. Led by Sam, with Susan providing translations into Luo, we have effectively distributed loans ranging from 50 to 500 euros to beneficiaries. The collaboration with the local council has ensured safety and support for our initiatives, and we are proud to announce that we have successfully distributed loans for the eighth time.

As we look forward to building a permanent kitchen at our center, the women are currently preparing meals in a temporary kitchen, showcasing their resilience and adaptability. Our commitment to providing nutritious meals remains unwavering, although we have had to adapt our offerings due to rising costs. The weekly lunches in Kampala and Jinja remain a highlight for the children, with beans and rice being staples, complemented by meat and vegetables once a month.



5. Joeller Verkooijen with David, Susan, Aidah, Ella and Stella during a workshop in Kampala.

Joelle Verkooijen enhanced her Capacity Building workshops alongside the local team and Stella in Uganda, ensuring they become more adept at managing projects in the field. Additionally, Jennifer Dietz continued to provide one-time coaching sessions to our Ugandan team on the ground, focusing on strengthening their communication skills.

Education remains a shining beacon of hope. We are excited to announce that all our students successfully passed the Primary 7 exams, enabling them to advance to secondary school. In January, we received the results for the Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE), which serves as a crucial transition from primary to secondary education. We felt immense pride and joy as every one of our Jinja 13 sponsored students not only passed but excelled. Among them, three students—Kisakye Miriam, Sanya Eliot, and Kaleebi Joseph Derrick—achieved the highest honors with first-grade scores. Additionally, five students earned second grades, while the rest performed admirably with third-grade results. This achievement paves the way for a brighter future for our young learners, as they all qualified for secondary education.

Similarly, the start of the year in Kampala was marked by preparations for the new school year. The PLE results released at the end of January showcased an outstanding performance from our 13 sponsored students, who mirrored Jinja's success by all passing and qualifying for secondary school.

Among these students is Derrick, the son of Susan, who has completed his videography production course and is eager to launch his own photo and video studio. With a little support for his business, Derrick is well on his way to realizing his dreams.



6. Derrick and his mother Susan Laker in front of our center during his graduation.

When it comes to extracurricular activities, our students have continued to engage in computer classes, effectively utilizing their free time during the holidays. We have also held parents' meetings, which serve as a vital platform for discussing essential topics such as promoting healthy behaviors, understanding parental responsibilities, adhering to program terms and conditions, and emphasizing the significance of participating in saving groups.

Stella, our inspiring founder, has been actively sharing her story at conferences and podcasts, raising awareness and gathering support for our mission. Her passion and dedication resonate deeply, inspiring others to join our cause and ensure we can continue empowering the communities we serve.

As we reflect on the accomplishments and challenges of the past year, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to our unwavering volunteers, generous donors, and committed partners. Together, we are creating meaningful change and fostering hope. We eagerly anticipate the journey ahead, filled with growth and transformation, and we thank you for being an integral part of our story. Here's to another year of making a difference!



7. The children in computer class.



8. More of our graduates.

2. April, May, June; Progress and Empowerment in Jinja and Kampala.

As we reflect on the second trimester of 2023, it is heartening to witness the significant strides made in both Jinja and Kampala. The completion of term one and the commencement of term two marked a time of growth and opportunity for our students, enriching their educational experiences and personal development.

In Jinja, the enthusiasm of primary school students was palpable as they wrapped up term one by April 28th, with secondary schools following suit by May 5th. The distribution of report cards was a moment of pride, shared with our sponsors, who play a vital role in supporting our mission. Evening computer literacy classes made a strong return, alongside the reintroduction of music classes, providing children with avenues to explore their creativity while acquiring valuable skills.

Parent engagement remained a cornerstone of our efforts, with meetings held in both Jinja and Kampala. These gatherings emphasized the importance of parental responsibilities, adherence to program terms, and the power of collaboration between parents and the foundation. Topics such as saving groups and shared responsibilities were discussed, fostering a community spirit that is essential for our collective success.



9. Parent meeting at our center in Jinja.

Nutrition continues to be a priority in our programs, with both locations actively providing balanced meals to the sponsored children. In Kampala, the initiative to serve Sunday lunches to 143 children has shown remarkable outcomes in improving their health and dietary balance. Additionally, our boarding school students, thanks to Susan's commitment, now also benefit from this program through weekly lunches delivered directly to their schools.



In Jinja, Saturday meals became a cherished tradition, even as some children transitioned to boarding schools. These meals represent a significant milestone for our foundation, ensuring that children receive essential nutrition, especially in circumstances where families struggle to provide healthy food at home.

10. Children receiving meals in Jinja.



12. Sunday lunch in Kampala.



However, the trimester was not without its challenges. Health concerns arose, particularly in Jinja, where severe malaria cases necessitated swift medical attention. Our foundation took proactive measures, ensuring that children received the care they needed, with follow-ups established to monitor their recovery and well-being.

In addition, a landslide in Kampala led to the collapse of several homes in the community. Fortunately, one of our sponsors, Jascha Lang, responded swiftly to our fundraiser, ensuring we had sufficient funds to relocate the affected families and address their basic needs for three months while they began to rebuild their lives.

11. Some images of the landslide in Acholi Quarter Kampala

Our commitment to financial empowerment was evident through regular meetings with our committee members, focusing on loan repayment and business monitoring. This approach is critical in promoting financial independence and economic growth among our program beneficiaries, enhancing their capacity to support their families.

A big highlight this trimester was that we were able to host a social impact trip in April with Stella, the visitors engaged deeply with our projects, creating a beautiful exchange of cultural insights. It was beautiful to see our sponsors finally meeting their sponsored children for the first time. Serena took beautiful professional pictures for our social media channels and Uli and Daniela set up a fundraiser, providing us with new T-shirts for the children for their After school Activities.



13. Uli Buchwald, Daniela Beck and Serena Martinaux joined our Social Impact Trip



We conducted several workshops with Joelle and the Ugandan team in Kampala, to reinforce the mission of 22STARS. Stella also joined in April and June.

14. David Wafula, Aidah Nambozo, Susan Laker and Joelle Verkooijen.

Additionally, the capacity-building sessions, skillfully led by our coach Joelle, were tailored not just for our team but also for the young beneficiaries in our community. Through the Youth Leadership Program (YLP), we aim to nurture a new generation of leaders, ensuring a bright future for our community.



15. Joelle Verkooijen and the teenagers that completed the Young Leadership Training.



We encountered challenges when we needed to transfer over 100 children in Jinja from one school to another. Finding a school that was accessible and within our budget proved difficult. However, we successfully located a new school: Father Abba. And we were able to get a refund from the previous school that has performed badly.

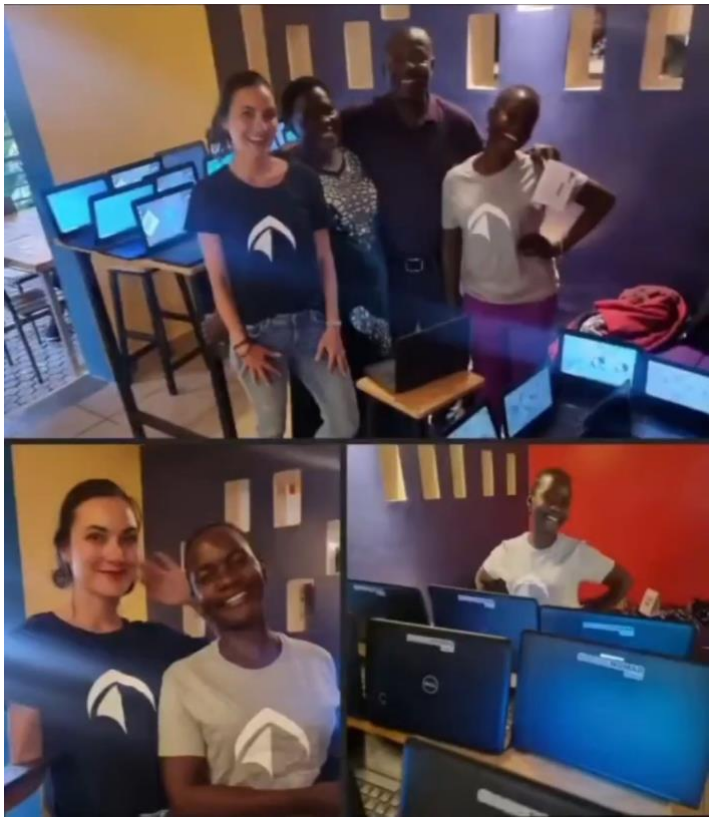
In June, Stella made her way back to Uganda to facilitate a smooth transition and clarify any misunderstandings. Additionally, following her significant fundraising presentation at the Nomad Cruise, she returned to assist the team in purchasing laptops for students and new school sweaters.

16. Aidah Nambozo, Stella Airoldi and the director of Abba School.



17. Our new students—Muwanguzi Phillip, Mukama Arafat, Okello Julius, and Ocacakon Brian

Thanks to our eye program sponsor Wir helfen sehen, we are thrilled to welcome four new students at the Kyamulibwa Optician Center near Masaka. Last year, our previous students returned to 22STARS to conduct eye tests for the children, allowing us to provide glasses where needed. Our new students—Muwanguzi Phillip, Mukama Arafat, Okello Julius, and Ocacakon Brian—are now part of the Kyamulibwa Optician Center. As the Ugandan population ages and the use of smartphones and televisions rises, the demand for eye care is also increasing.



As we celebrate the achievements of this trimester, we remain inspired by the resilience and dedication of our students, parents, and supporters. Together, we are making a profound impact, fostering an environment where education, health, and empowerment thrive. Let us continue this journey with optimism and commitment, knowing that each step we take is a step towards a brighter future for the children and their families.

18. Aidah, Susan, Stella and David with the student laptops received through the Nomad Cruise

3. July, August, September: A Reflection on Our Programs

As we look back on the recent trimester, it's heartwarming to witness the remarkable strides made by the sponsored children in Jinja and Kampala. Education is not just a pathway to knowledge; it's a beacon of hope that illuminates the future. In the face of challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the children have demonstrated incredible resilience and commitment to their studies, embodying the spirit of perseverance.

In Jinja, the academic year concluded with two examinations, marking an end to the primary school term two. Private schools wrapped up their sessions early, while public schools adhered to the Ministry of Education and Sports' schedule, officially closing on August 25th. The dedication of both students and teachers shone through, with evening music and computer classes continuing beyond regular hours, enriching the educational experience and fostering a love for learning.



19. The children I Boarding school receiving lunch from us during visitation day.

In Kampala, our ongoing commitment to monitoring the well-being of sponsored children at Hope Land Boarding School was evident. Regular visits allowed us to assess their nutritional needs, health, and academic progress. The return to school in September marked a significant milestone, made possible by the unwavering support of our sponsors. While some children had to leave due to relocations, the spirit of community and collaboration among parents remained strong, as they engaged in discussions around their children's education and well-being.



The importance of nutrition cannot be overstated, especially for our growing children. Our nutrition program in Jinja and Kampala ensured that every sponsored child received balanced meals filled with essential nutrients. Hot meals provided a crucial foundation for their health, allowing them to thrive both academically and physically.

20. Our women in Jinja cooking lunch.

In Kampala, our Sunday lunch program served 144 children weekly, reinforcing their nutritional health. Not only did we provide meals to children in boarding schools, but we also expanded our reach to ensure that every child had access to the nutrition they need to succeed. The distribution of new yellow T-shirts for our Sunday lunch program not only brightened the children's days but also fostered a sense of belonging.



21. The children in Kampala with their new T-shirts for the After School Programs.

Health is the cornerstone of education. This trimester, we faced challenges, yet our commitment to the health and well-being of our beneficiaries remained steadfast. In Jinja, we addressed urgent health issues, ensuring that children received necessary medical attention. Batiyo Pauline's journey exemplifies our dedication, as we continue to seek funding for her specialized care.

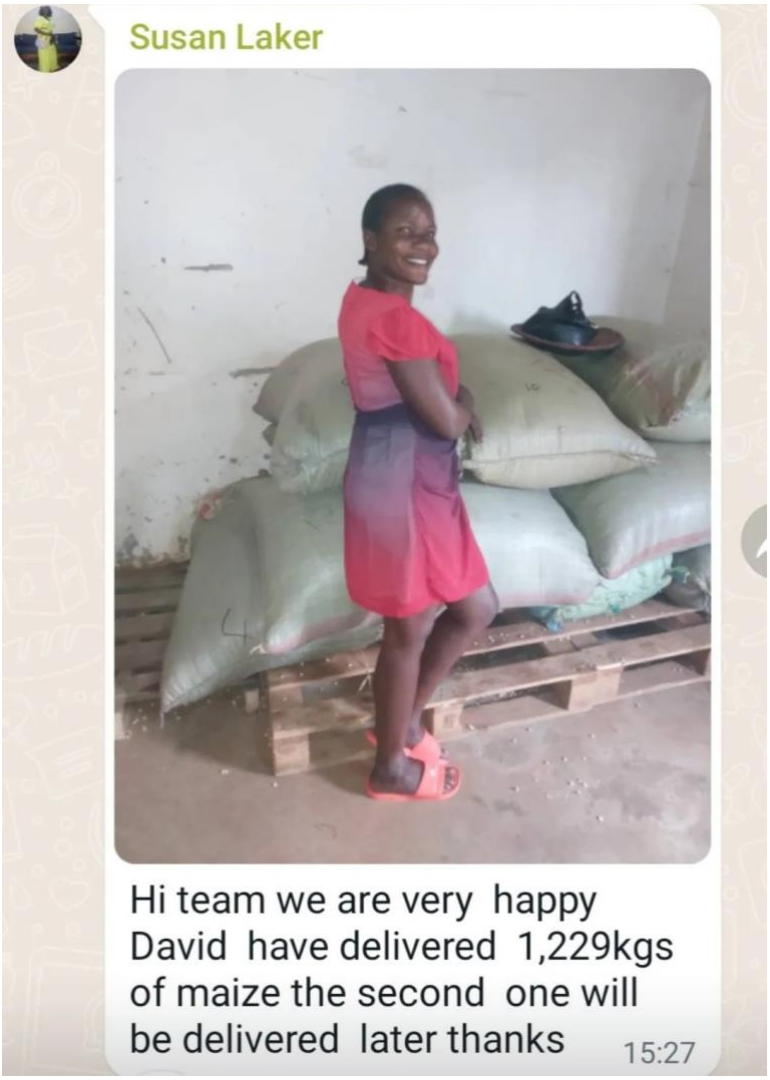
In Kampala, we are thrilled to share that Anena Beatrice received the support needed for her goiter surgery, funded entirely by the 22stars Foundation. Such initiatives not only improve individual health but also enhance the community's collective well-being. Our eye-care program enabled 17 children to receive essential check-ups, ensuring that their vision is not a barrier to their education.

The essence of our work lies in fostering a sense of community. In July, we welcomed Joelle and her family, creating a memorable Saturday filled with joy and connection for the children. This event was a reminder of the power of unity and the importance of nurturing relationships within our community.



Additionally, our successful maize harvest has empowered our nutrition program, allowing us to provide posho and further support the children's dietary needs. Fundraising efforts for dormitory construction in Kampala's Acholi quarter are underway, aimed at providing safe spaces for children who have lost their parents during school holidays, emphasizing our commitment to supporting them in every possible way.

22. The maize field that we rent.



23. Suasn sending us pictures and updates on Whatsapp.

Since its inception of our maize field project in August 2020, the Maize Field Project has been growing steadily and helping our communities and providing posho for our weekly meals. This transformative endeavor began with a small investment of four million Ugandan shillings, which paved the way for a beautiful journey, that started with ten hectares of land.

Phase 1: (2020): In this initial phase in August 2020, our commitment to making a difference in the community took root. We received a generous contribution of four million Ugandan shillings, which we invested in our first maize cultivation. Our maize garden flourished, yielding 3,500 kilograms of maize flour - an equivalent of 7 million Ugandan shillings. This way we could save money and be self-sufficient within our communities in the maize production.

Phase 2 (2021-2022): in 2021 we received a more substantial investment of 7.4 million Ugandan shillings for our maize project. This phase was designed to support two seasons of maize cultivation. The first season, which spanned from August to December 2021, resulted in a harvest of 4,000 kilograms of maize grains - 40 bags! The subsequent phase in 2022 yielded 3,500 kilograms of maize flour, further enhancing the project's impact.

Phase 3: (2023): In January 2023, the preparation for a new maize field harvest commenced, and we started with land clearance and plowing. A total of 8 hectares were identified and divided into two separate pieces of land, each measuring four hectares.
The planting season kicked off in March, followed by another round of planting in early April. In August, the first harvest from the March planting yielded 40 bags, equivalent to four tons of maize grains. These grains were processed into 3 tons of maize flour, ready to be taken to bot hour projects in Jinja and Kampala. Our journey continues as we prepare for the next harvesting, scheduled for late September.

As we move forward, the Young Leadership Program continues to cultivate the next generation of leaders. Guided by mentors, our young participants are honing skills that will serve them and their communities well into the future. The Young Leadership Project aims to uncover and develop inherent leadership skills within individuals, emphasizing teamwork and stepping out of comfort zones. It challenges the notion that leadership is exclusive, encouraging participants to recognize and utilize their unique talents. Over six days, participants engage in activities that empower them to work on a community project, enhancing their leadership abilities and inspiring change. Success is measured by their awareness of personal growth and application in daily life. The program envisions a train-the-trainer model, enabling participants to mentor future groups, creating a ripple effect in developing young leaders. Gratitude is expressed to trainers, organizers, and donors for their support.



23. Joelle Verkooijen with the new graduates of the Young Leadership Training.

Our Young Leadership Project is about revealing & developing leadership skills that are already present and to use them together with each other as a team. Growing into Leadership has a lot to do with daring to make mistakes, leaving your comfort zone and entering the growth zone.

Everyone is a leader, and the key is to recognize and utilize individual talents. Many believe leadership is out of reach, but this program aims to empower participants over six days

through learning and engaging activities, helping them discover their unique abilities and contribute to their community. Participants will work on impactful community projects, inspiring change and becoming role models. Success will be measured by their awareness and application of learned skills in daily life. The program envisions a train-the-trainer model, allowing successful participants to teach others, creating a snowball effect in cultivating young leadership skills.



24. You cam find many updates of the Young Leadership Training on our IG.

Ambassador Updates: Our ambassador Steffi Oeffner recently visited us in Uganda. Additionally, Ambassador Daniela Beck shared her experiences during the Social Impact Trip at “Die Wichtigste Stunde,” where she emphasized her long-term sponsorship of a remarkable girl named Kemisa in Jinja. Meanwhile, our ambassadors from das Freiheitspaket.de, Jan Doering and Timo Eckhardt, mobilized their community to raise an impressive 35k to support the construction of a dormitory for our school children. As more of the children mature and can no longer stay in their overcrowded homes, the necessity for boarding becomes evident. Unfortunately, the schools we partner with currently lack the facilities to accommodate all students, which is why we are building a dormitory for them. Furthermore, Stella spoke at a conference hosted by Staatenlos about the privileges she has experienced in her life and how to inspire others to utilize their privileges to improve the world and raise awareness for 22STARS.

We also handed out new letters from the sponsors to the children they sponsor. The letters really inspire them and the children write back a reply which we scan in and email to their sponsor.



25. Children holding up letters they received.

In reflection, the past trimester has been a testament to the resilience and determination of the children, the unwavering support of our sponsors, and the dedication of our team. Together, we are not just providing education and nutrition; we are empowering futures, fostering hope, and building a brighter tomorrow for the children. Let us continue this journey, hand in hand, towards a world where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

4. October, November, December: Celebrating Progress and Community Impact

As we reflect on the past trimester, it's heartwarming to witness the tremendous strides made in our education, nutrition, health, and community engagement programs across Jinja and Kampala. Each achievement, each smile, and each act of kindness reminds us of the profound impact we can have when we come together for a common cause.

In Jinja, the education program has been bustling with activity, particularly during the end-of-year national examinations. In October, secondary students began their assessments, while Primary Seven candidates followed suit in early November. The results were encouraging, with most students successfully promoted to the next grade, a testament to their hard work and dedication.



26. The children in Kampala holding up their certificates.

Evenings were filled with music and computer classes, enriching the curriculum and fostering creativity among the students. In Kampala, the celebration of the Primary Leaving Examinations on November 11 marked a joyful culmination of the students' efforts. With dedication prayers and a festive party, families came together to honor the achievements of their children, creating lasting memories and a sense of community.

In October, Stella returned to Uganda with several visitors, including Rüdiger Walzer, the founder of the Wir Helfen Sehen foundation, which supports our Eye Program. Rüdiger previously visited us in 2018 and 2019, during which he explored the 22stars projects and

identified the need for improved eye health care. This led to the establishment of the Wir Helfen Sehen foundation which has since provided eye care to thousands of individuals. He has conducting eye tests for the children in Kampala alongside Martina, Theresa, and our own 22stars optician school graduates, Brenda and Simon, who trained at the optician school in Masaka. The warmth of visitors from Europe infused our programs with new energy and insights. Their participation in community activities brought a sense of global solidarity, reminding us that we are all part of a larger family dedicated to making a difference.



27. Theresa, Brenda, Simon, Martina and Rudiger conducting eye tests.



We surprised Susan Laker to celebrate her 41st birthday. At the time, Susan was already in her pajamas, believing that Stella had gone to the airport in the evening and left the country. However, Stella extended her stay by an extra day just to celebrate with Susan. Susan is our project leader in Kampala and the pioneer of 22stars. She has always been a force of nature, and Stella vividly recalls the day they first met in 2009. From the very beginning, Susan's vibrant energy, intelligence, humor, and undeniable passion captivated Stella's heart.

28. Susan Laker and Stella Airoldi.

Our nutrition program has continued to make significant strides in both Jinja and Kampala, ensuring that children receive nourishing meals that are vital for their growth and health. In Kampala, hot meals were served every Sunday, reaching 134 children at the office and another 130 in boarding

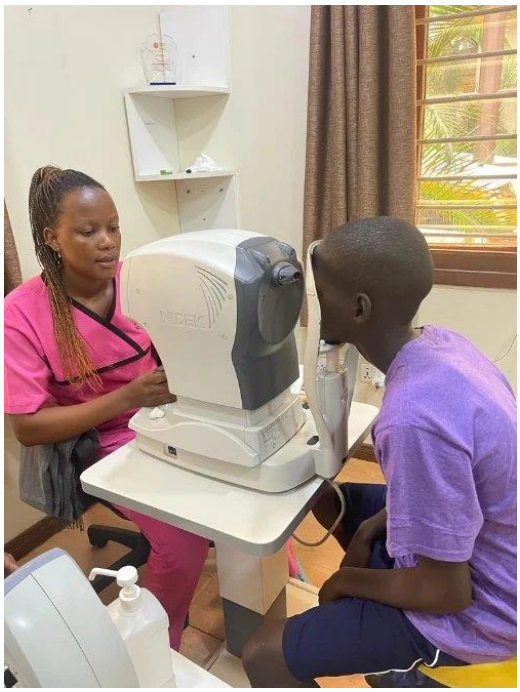
schools. The variety of nutritious foods, including beans, vegetables, and posho, not only satisfied hunger but also contributed to their overall well-being.
The collaboration between Jinja and Kampala has been remarkable, as evidenced by the transfer of 1229 kilograms of maize grains, which were transformed into 600 kilograms of posho for the children. This initiative showcases the power of teamwork and generosity in nourishing the next generation.



29. Handing out meals to the children.

Our health initiatives in Jinja and Kampala have been vital in addressing the medical needs of sponsored children. The eye-care program, led by dedicated sponsors and students from the Ophthalmology school, provided essential check-ups and treatment for over 100 children. The distribution of glasses and referrals for further medical care highlighted our commitment to ensuring every child has access to proper health services.



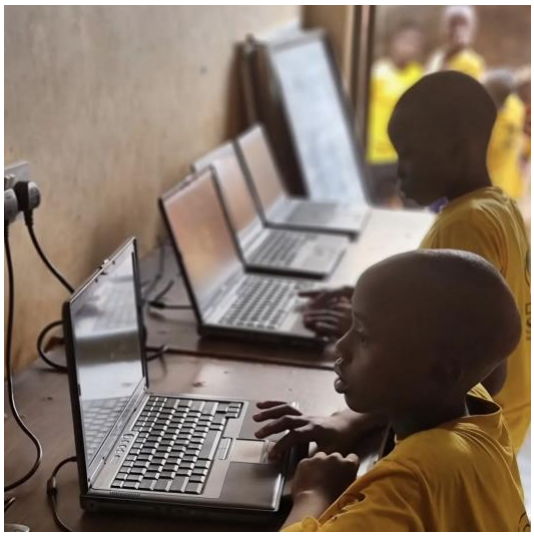


30. The children visiting the Eye Hospital.

In Kampala, the health program responded swiftly to various medical challenges, providing timely treatment for children suffering from severe illnesses. The stories of resilience, such as that of one young child who received the necessary medical attention for malaria, underscore the importance of our health initiatives in safeguarding the well-being of the children.

The final quarter of 2023 in Jinja was alive with vibrant community activities. From the celebration of Independence Day to interactive engagements with school clubs, these events fostered connections and raised awareness on vital issues such as health and education. The visits from various clubs, including the PIASCY and Straight Talk clubs, brought joy and valuable resources to the children. Their generosity in providing sanitary pads and scholastic materials not only enriched the lives of the children but also reinforced the importance of community involvement and support.

Our computer classes in Kampala and Jinja are thriving, especially since we've acquired additional laptops for students. We envision every sponsored 22STARS child becoming proficient in computer usage, enabling them to thrive in today's digital landscape. We are passionately promoting the creation of knowledge societies where the power of information and communication allows individuals to access the resources they need to enhance their lives and reach their full potential. To cover the salaries of our computer teachers in both Kampala and Jinja, as well as to print exercise materials.



31. The children having computer lessons in Jinja.

As December approached, anticipation filled the air with plans for the Christmas celebration.



The presence of friends and ambassadors from abroad added a unique warmth to the season, reminding us how interconnected and supportive our global community can be.This year, we will celebrate Christmas in a humble manner with our 500 children and supporting ladies. As in previous years, we gathered together for this significant event that fosters joy and connection. However, we plan to have a simpler meal and celebration, as we require additional donations to ensure the children can remain in school.

31. The children expressing their Christmas wishes.

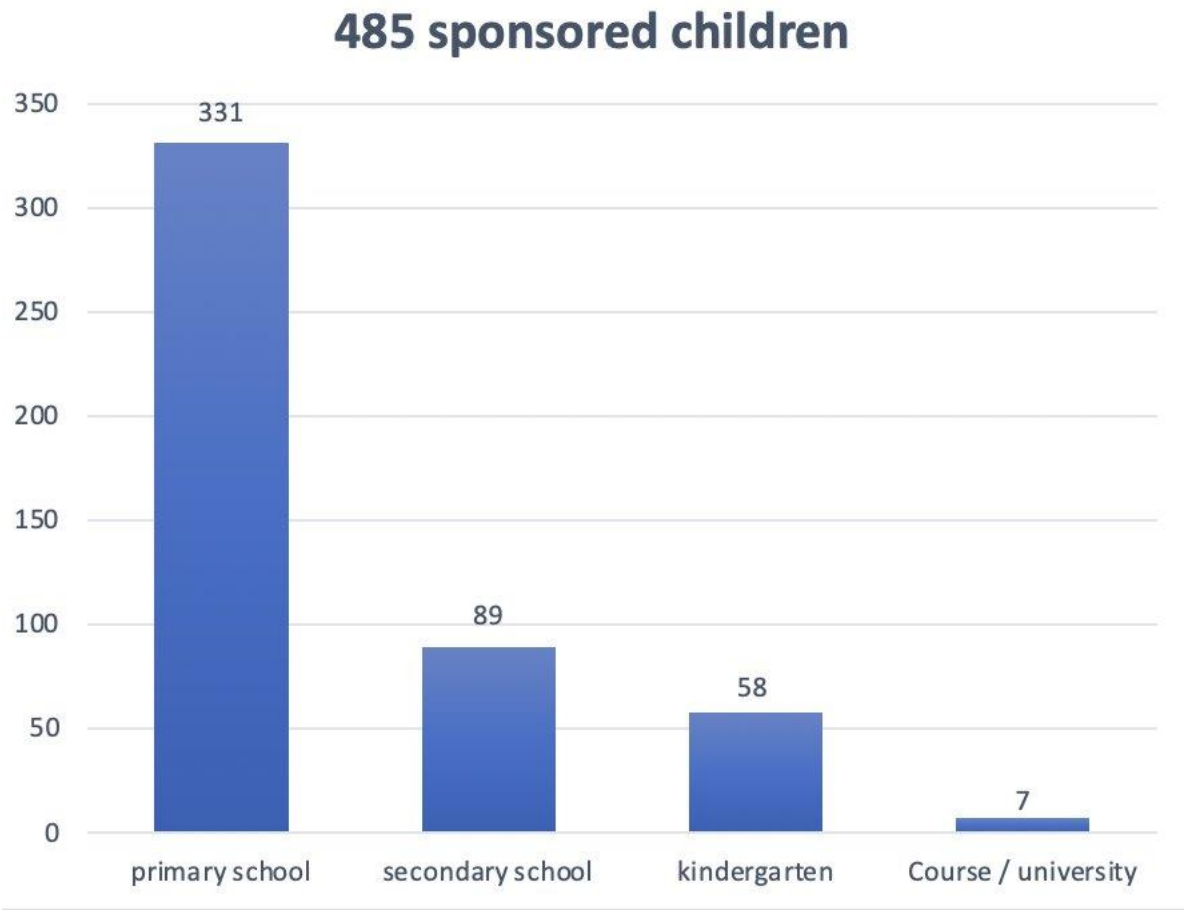
As we look to the future, the achievements of this trimester inspire us to continue our mission with renewed vigor. The progress made in education, nutrition, health, and community engagement is a powerful reminder of what can be accomplished through collaboration, compassion, and commitment. Let us carry this spirit forward, working together to uplift the lives of the children we serve and foster a brighter future for all. Thank you for being a part of this journey!



31. The children celebrating Christmas in Kampala.

Number of sponsored children

By the end of the year 2023, we had 485 sponsored children, of which 257 are in our program in Kampala and 228 in our program in Jinja. From our 485 children, 226 were boys and 259 were girls. Below you see their breakdown per school level.



Bank Balance as of 31 December 2023

This is the public version of our annual report. To protect the privacy of the people we work with, some names and personal details are not included. A full version is available on request: info@foundation22stars.org.

Balance as of 31 December 2023		
Assets	**31/12/2023**	**31/12/2022**
Cash in Bank	€ 35.424,76	€ 85.577,02
Total Assets	**€ 35.424,76**	**€ 85.577,02**
Liabilities		
Reservation for school sponsorship next year (4374,89 for 2024 was paid already in 2023)	€ 20.876,92	€ 41.208,43
Reservation Donors to keep Weekly meals and programs running for 4 months	€ 10.000,00	€ 15.500,00
Reservation Donor Computer Program	€ 2.000,00	€ 4.000,00
Reservation Donor Music Program	€ 1.000,00	€ 1.500,00
Remaining money is from Donations made for next year programs	€ 1.547,84	€ 868,59
Reservation Donor Eye Program	-	€ 1.000,00
Reservation Donor Leadership Program	-	€ 13.000,00
Reservation Donor Health Program for Waterborehole	-	€ 3.000,00
Reservation Donor Nutrition Program for Maizefield	-	€ 1.500,00
Reservation Donor Small Business Program for giving microloans and training	-	€ 4.000,00
Total Liabilities	**€ 35.424,76**	**€ 85.577,02**

Profit and Loss Account 2023

Profit and Loss Account				
Income		**31/12/2023**		**31/12/2022**
From donations (one-time)				
Campaign: General Donation	€	10.072,66	€	13.336,16
Campaign: Gifts from sponsors	€	7.189,44	€	8.645,75
Campaign: Weekly meals	€	5.573,17	€	7.284,42
Campaign: Christmas Gifts	€	3.392,16	€	4.188,37
Campaign: Overhead cost	€	2.877,41	€	2.578,35
Bankfees covered by donors. 1387,88 deduct from the general campaign	€	1.387,88		
Campaign: Several Health / Emergency campaigns	€	1.250,00	€	2.719,23
Campaign: Local Leadership	€	1.000,00	€	-
Campaign: Small Business Program	€	908,12	€	2.579,39
Campaing: Several Birthday Fundraisers	€	394,22	€	3.631,45
Campaign: Music Program	€	380,77	€	182,89
Campaign: Computer Program	€	135,63	€	3.156,73
Campaign: Repair Kids Center			€	240,35
Sub-total Campaigns Private People	€	**34.561,46**	€	**48.543,09**
Wir Helfen Sehen E.v. for Eye Program	€	6.075,00	€	4.000,00
Sub-total charities	€	**6.075,00**	€	**4.000,00**
Freiheitspaket.de Fundraiser together with several business donors	€	36.422,23	€	12.500,00
Nomad Cruise 11&12 Fundraiser together with several business donors	€	15.607,64	€	-
Jan Krapp: for nutrition program and computer program	€	9.323,28	€	7.814,44
Jan Eric Doering 'Lauch Rockstars' : for general	€	3.500,00	€	3.650,00
Roberta Drell	€	3.281,73	€	5.569,03
Piet Munnichs	€	-	€	10.000,00
Christoph Heuermann from Staatenlos	€	-	€	3.234,22
Katharina Rotter: for covid-19 campaign and christmas	€	-	€	3.000,00
Martin Irmler: for general	€	-	€	2.000,00
Reich Holdings	€	-	€	2.000,00
Sub-total from Businesses	€	**68.134,88**	€	**49.767,69**
Total from Donors	€	**108.771,34**	€	**102.310,78**
From sponsorships (long-term)				
Donation for this year school program. Minus part that was for covering bank fees	€	148.477,03	€	105.717,21
Donation for next year school program (4374,89 for 2024 was paid already in 2023)	€	20.876,92	€	41.208,43
Donation for Bankfees	€	3.315,04	€	2.787,93
Total from Sponsors	€	**172.668,99**	€	**149.713,58**
Total Income	€	**281.440,33**	€	**252.024,36**
For Anbi Form; Income from grants	€	*6.075,00*	€	*4.000,00*
For Anbi Form; Income from donations	€	*275.365,33*	€	*248.024,36*
For Anbi Form; Income from private people	€	*207.230,45*	€	*198.256,67*
For Anbi Form; Income from charities	€	*6.075,00*	€	*4.000,00*
For Anbi Form; Income from businesses	€	*68.134,88*	€	*49.767,69*

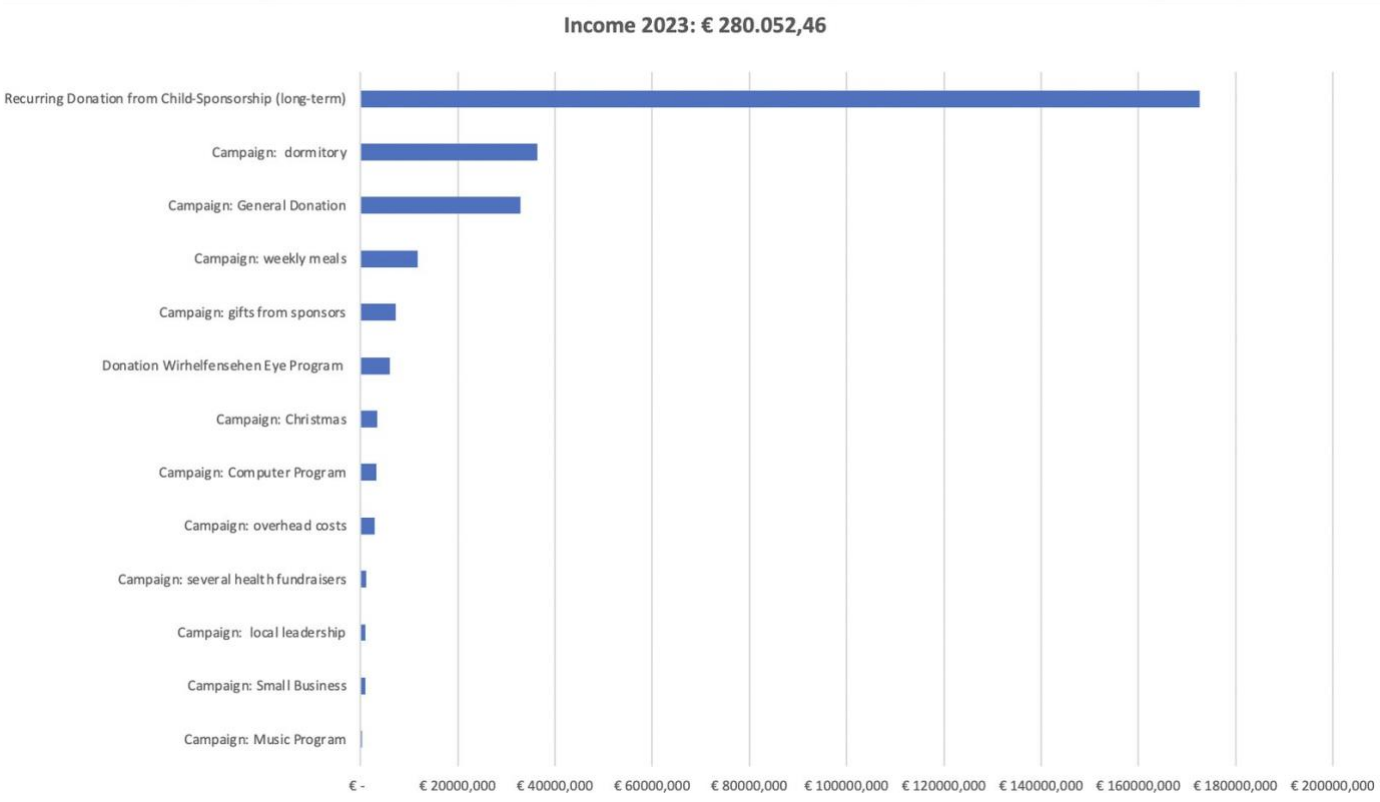
Costs	31/12/2023	31/12/2022
From donations (one-time)		
Education Program: top up 2023 for Boarding School	€ 20.000,00	€ -
Education Program: building dormitory for boarding school kids	€ 14.999,62	€ -
Nutrition Program: Weekly Meals	€ 10.772,75	€ 6.063,05
After School Program: Rent Children's center Kampala and Jinja	€ 7.946,12	€ 4.206,66
Eye-Care Program: Eye tests and treatments and optican school	€ 6.134,02	€ 7.359,95
All Programs: Fee remote programme assistant	€ 5.025,00	€ 5.090,50
Local Leadership Program: capacity building with external trainer	€ 4.869,29	€ 13.072,94
Computer Program: Jinja	€ 4.650,52	€ 964,38
After School Program: Gifts from sponsors	€ 4.529,50	€ 8.314,67
After School Program: Weekend outfits children	€ 4.060,90	€ 658,01
All programs: coordinating the additional programs in Uganda (freelance)	€ 3.932,50	€ 2.780,00
Computer Program: Kampala	€ 3.841,35	€ 3.080,07
After School Program: meals for team Uganda during projects	€ 3.813,52	€ 3.373,54
Nutrition Program: Extra Meals	€ 3.347,66	€ 2.757,15
All Programs: Flights to Uganda for programme visits	€ 3.181,94	€ 4.303,28
Education Program: homework help at the center	€ 3.179,84	€ -
After School Program: Transport costs in Uganda for projects	€ 3.079,59	€ 3.377,74
After School Program: Materials for the Children's Center	€ 3.043,72	€ 668,37
After School Program: accomodation team Uganda for projects	€ 2.816,92	€ 4.015,14
After School Program: Christmas celebration	€ 2.401,20	€ 5.016,43
Health Program: medical items (like mosquito nets)	€ 2.296,11	€ 4.233,02
Music Program: music instruments and classes	€ 2.033,17	€ 1.455,71
All Programs: Volunteer costs	€ 1.900,00	€ 1.800,00
Small Business Program: Micro loans	€ 1.698,39	€ 2.900,61
Nutrition Program: Maize field	€ 1.389,17	€ 1.237,70
Nutrition Program: Cooking Materials for meals	€ 1.356,08	€ 1.586,16
Small Business Program: Utilities and materials	€ 1.287,80	€ 989,30
All programs: education training uganda team	€ 965,34	€ 1.562,79
Livelihood Program: Basic need items (like mattresses)	€ 779,19	€ 4.497,54
Training Team building	€ 671,89	€ 706,65
Education Program: buying school supplies	€ 601,07	€ 4.443,31
All programs: Solar Energy	-	€ 3.419,18
Small Business Program: Training	-	€ 2.304,62
Health Program: waterborehole	-	€ 673,91
Livelihood Program: clothes and shoes	-	€ 618,41
After School Program: Sports	-	€ 253,22
Local Leadership Program: coaching with external coach	-	€ 166,50
Sub-total Program costs	***€ 130.604,17***	***€ 107.950,54***
PROMOTION: social media and website maintenance (freelance)	€ 2.722,50	€ 2.000,00
Promotion: transport cost made for fundraising	€ 2.492,96	€ -
Promotion: Cost to use Mailchimp, Canva, Video editors	-	€ 1.360,75
Promotion: costs flyers stickers and gifts volunteers	€ 669,80	€ 1.141,64
Sub-total fundraising / visibility cost	***€ 5.885,26***	***€ 4.502,39***
Bank Fees: Receiving Donations	€ 2.102,66	€ 2.234,75
Bank Fees: Sending Money		€ -
Sub-total Bank fee cost	***€ 2.102,66***	***€ 2.234,75***
Total Cost from Donors (one-time)	**€ 138.592,09**	**€ 114.687,68**

From Sponsors (long-term)				
Education Program: School fees of 2023	€	136.900,05	€	129.548,29
Education Program: fee for local managers to assist the school sponosrship program and take care of the kids	€	13.189,04	€	10.764,80
Education Program: Rent for Children's center in Kampala and Jinja to have the kids come to for after school activities	€	7.946,12	€	4.206,66
Education Program: reports and organising school program Uganda (freelance)	€	5.680,95	€	6.279,90
Education Program: Fee remote programme coordinator Uganda	€	5.025,00	€	5.090,50
Education Program: School fees paid for term 1 2024	€	4.374,89	-	
Education Program: Materials for the Children's Center	€	3.043,72	€	668,37
Education Program: Transport to the schools	€	3.027,89	€	571,11
Education Program: Transport Mini-van related costs	€	1.398,62	€	2.043,59
Education Program: Internet data	€	489,52	€	458,27
Education Program: homeschooling in our center due to covid19	-		€	2.744,52
Sub-total Program costs	€	***181.075,80***	€	***162.376,02***
Costs website-hosting email provider and data storage	€	2.011,36	€	1.360,75
Sub-total admin	€	***2.011,36***	€	***1.360,75***
Attendance fee (vacatiegeld) for the chair	€	3.250,00	€	2.990,00
Total attendance fees (vacatiegeld)	€	***3.250,00***	€	***2.990,00***
Bank Fees: Receiving Donations	€	5.752,14	€	4.850,55
Bank Fees: Sending Money	€	911,20	€	1.132,83
Total Bank fee cost	€	***6.663,34***	€	***5.983,37***
Total Cost from Sponsors (long-term)	€	**193.000,50**	€	172.710,14
Total Cost	€	**331.592,59**	€	**287.397,82**
For Anbi Form: donations given	€	*311.679,97*	€	*270.326,56*
For Anbi Form: Communication costs (fundraising)	€	*5.885,26*	€	*4.502,39*
For Anbi Form: Bank fees (financial))	€	*8.766,00*	€	*8.218,12*
For Anbi Form: Admin and vacatiegeld (other)	€	*5.261,36*	€	*4.350,75*

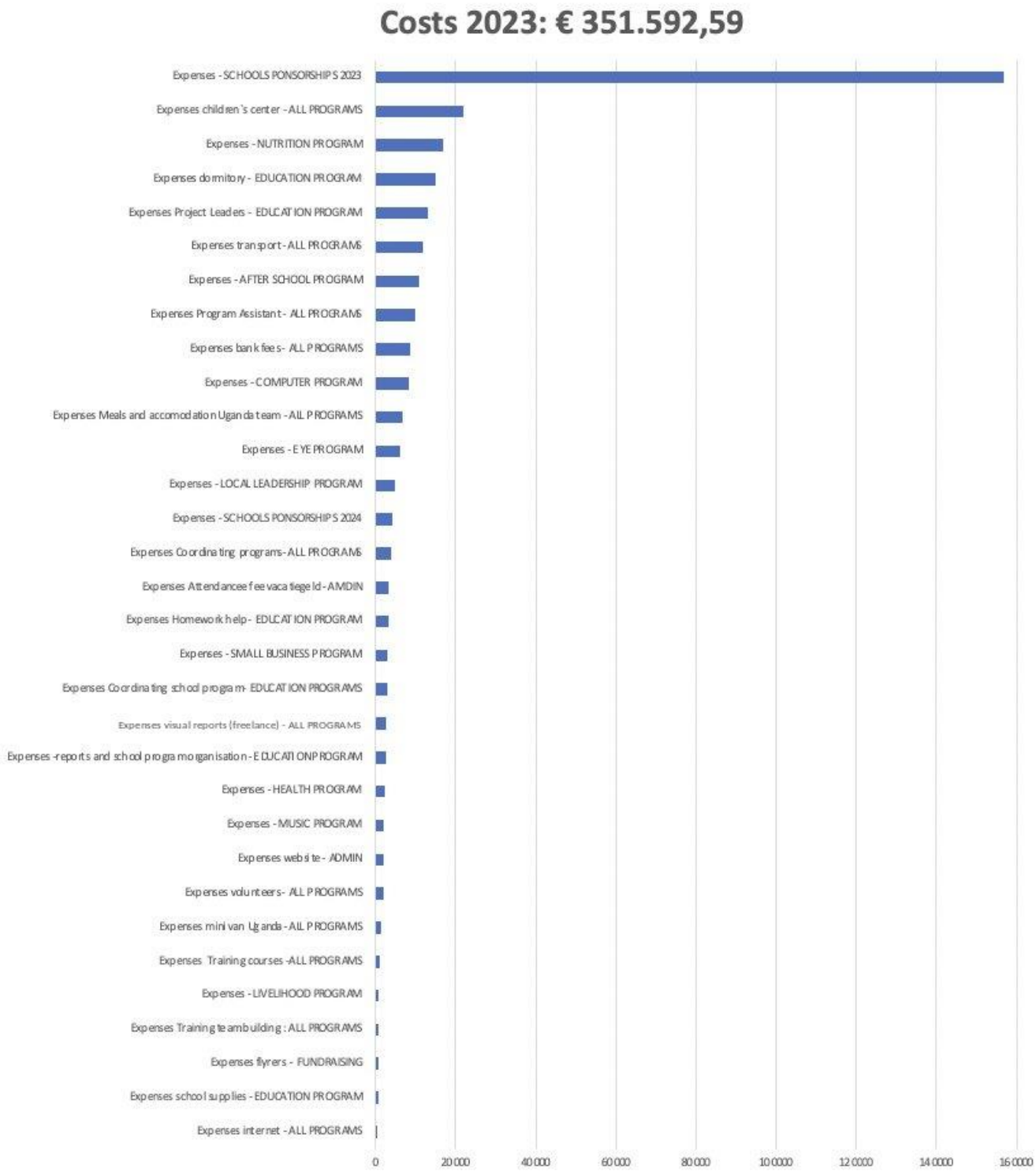
Profit and Loss Account

Saldo	31/12/2023		31/12/2022	
Donations (one-time)				
Income donations	€	108.771,34	€	102.310,78
Cost made from donations	€	138.592,09	€	114.687,68
Saldo donations	€	**34.649,28**	€	**64.470,04**
Sponsors (long-term)				
Income sponsors for school sponsorship	€	172.668,99	€	149.713,58
Cost sponsors for school sponsorship	€	193.000,50	€	172.710,14
Saldo long term sponsors	€	**775,48**	€	**21.106,98**
Total Income	€	**281.440,33**	€	**252.024,36**
Total Cost	€	**331.592,59**	€	**287.397,82**
Total Saldo	€	**35.424,76**	€	**85.577,02**
For Anbi Form: Balance of income and expenditure	€	**-50.152,26**	€	-35.373,47

Income per category 2023



Costs per category 2023



Notes to the balance sheet and the profit and loss account

General

The balance sheet and the profit and loss account has been set up by the Chair of the Foundation Stella Airoldi and has been checked by all other board members and the Uganda team. The annual year report is set up under Dutch guidelines of "Richtlijn C1 ,"Organisaties-zonder-winststreven" van de Raad voor de Jaarverslaggeving voor kleine rechtspersonen."

Currency

All amounts are in € unless stated otherwise. In our excel sheets and administration we keep track of the payments in Uganda Shilling prices (UGX) as well with the corresponding actual exchange rates to €, so that we always have the actual amount paid in euro's.

General principles for the preparation of the financial statements

The valuation of assets and liabilities and the determination of result are based on historical costs. Unless stated otherwise at the relevant balance sheet, the assets and liabilities are recognized at nominal value. Income and expenses are allocated to the year to which they relate.

Principles for the valuation of assets and liabilities

Claims

Claims are recognized at nominal value less the provisions deemed necessary for the risk of un collectability. These provisions are determined on the basis of individual assessment. The term of the receivables included under the current assets is less than one year.

Capital

Reservation programs: If donors indicate that they want to spend their donation on a certain project, a reservation is made for this at the expense of the equity. This is in particular the case with regards to the long-term sponsors who sponsor a child long-term and hence pay already for future school terms of a child. And this is also the case with donors who wish to support a certain cause or project. As far as possible, efforts will be made to meet the wishes of the donors, but the foundation reserves the right to use the reserved amounts differently if it deems this desirable. The status of these reservations is inventoried annually.

Income

Income means the donations received in the year under review. We basically divide our Income in two types of Income. The first one is from **General Donations** which are received through our campaigns on Donorbox, through our bank account and PayPal account. Most of the time these donations are made one time and even when they are recurring, they could be stopped anytime. The second one is from **Sponsors**, who usually make long-term donations for the support of their sponsored child to enable him or her to go to school. Payments for this have been made through PayPal, Donorbox and direct bank transfer. These sponsorships are recurring and whenever a sponsor drops out, we put the child back on our website and try to find as soon as possible a new sponsor.

For the **ANBI Standard Requirement Form** we also highlighted the following categories: income from grants and income from donations. Additionally, we split the income over donations made by private people, by charities and by businesses.

Cost

We basically divide our costs over our two income streams: general donations from donors and sponsorship donations from our sponsors.

Our costs were made towards our programs in Uganda. These were the following programs: Education (Sponsorship) Program, Nutrition Program, Small Business Program, Health Program, Music Program, Computer Program and Local Leadership Program.

Within the **Education Program** the costs we have are related to paying the schools of the children, which includes the costs of school fees, registration fees, development fees, tour fees and school uniform fees. Additional necessary costs are payment to the project leaders in Uganda to collect all information of the children and guide them during our After School programs, which includes also providing them with meals during the work they are doing, the rent of the children center space were all the children come together for homework classes, weekend meals and other activities, the transport –to bring the children to school; the internet data to send information about the children over and the payment of part of the costs made by our Executive Director to manage the education program, the payment of for our Virtual Assistant, who assists in managing the education program by checking invoices, communicating with the Uganda team and sponsors.

Within the **Nutrition Program** the costs we have are related to the weekly meals that we provide to the children, as well as to extra food which we give by times to the families and the cooking materials and plates and cups for the children. By times we also need to buy extra plates or cups for the children, which we then include. Also since 2021 we have invested in a Maizefield and in 2023 we have built a kitchen for Kampala which falls under this program.

Within the **After School Program** the costs we have are related to sport activities, buying of books and toys, buying of gifts for the children from their specific sponsor, a x-mas party and x-mas gifts, holding a parent conference, renting the children's crèche in Kampala and Jinja and buying the materials for the children's center. The children's center is very important as we cook for the children their meals over there and it is the place where they come together

to eat. In addition, they come also after school to the center and in their holidays to eat, play and learn. We also buy for each new sponsored child a 22STARS "Education is the Key" outfits, so that the children have a sense of community feeling and we know more easily who part of 22stars is.

Within the **Small Business Program,** the costs we have are related to providing the entrepreneurship trainings and monitoring of the beneficiaries and in providing the micro-loans. Once the micro-loans are paid back we immediately keep re-investing them into the small business program.

Within the **Health Program** the costs we made related to medication and doctor visits of sick children. We have had several malaria cases and children who felt sick from worms. Additionally, we have costs related to basic needs, such as providing the families with matrasses, beds, blankets, and clothes, which all are required for them to stay healthy and safe. Part of our Health Program is also our Eye-care project, which is also a new program, our costs had relation to bringing children to the Eye-hospital and get their eyes checked. Costs involved the transport to the hospital and food and drinks during that day. As going and coming back would usually take up a full day. We have paid for the eye medication, glasses, and eye operations of several children. Additionally, 'WirhelfenSehen' covered costs to send 2 students to an Optician School in Masaka and covered cost for having the eye-care intern in Uganda. This program is sponsored by 'WirhelfenSehen.'

Within the **Computer Program,** the costs we have are related to providing computer training to the children in both our centers, Kampala and Jinja. Costs involve paying computer teachers, buying computers for the children, printing materials for them and maintenance of the computer. We also bought a printer and projector.

Within the **Music Program** the costs we have are related to providing Music Lessons to the children in both our centers, Kampala and Jinja. Costs involve paying the music teachers, buying music instruments and dance outfits. In Jinja we have music lessons with modern instruments and traditional ones. In Kampala we only have traditional instruments.

Within the **Local Leadership Program,** the costs we made related to bringing our external trainer to Uganda to the workshops with the team on the ground as well as facilitating them remotely. We paid for her flight and accommodation in Uganda. And we paid her a small fee for facilitating and preparing all workshops. As this is a heart project for her, for a good cause, she put a lot of hours volunteering in without getting anything paid.

Our **bank fees** remain relatively high as we receive most of our donations through platforms like Donorbox which charge a platform fee and a Stripe / PayPal payment fee. However, using such a platform helps us tremendously in fundraising and having immediately an overview of our donations available and sending out automatic payment reminders to our recurring subscribers. And also, many of our sponsors chose to cover these fees. Additionally, we also must pay a fee when withdrawing money in Uganda from the banks and when we send the money.

Other costs that we have are payments for a Virtual Assistant to help us managing the programs. Other costs we made were related to our website, paying the yearly fee for the website and services such as Canva and Mail chimp.

We also get specific donations in to cover our Overhead costs, to make sure that the other donations go completely to our programs.

For the **ANBI Standard Requirement Form** we also highlighted the following categories: the *donations that went to the Programs* in Uganda (which is the total program costs of the sponsorships to send the children to school and the donations to the other programs); then. The donations that went in communication costs (for fundraising); then the donations that went into bank fees (financial expenses) and the donations that went into admin and vacatiegeld (other expenses).

We also like to highlight that our administration costs are still low, because the policy-making board members did not receive any payment for their work neither the costs they have made. Our board paid fully their own visit to Uganda and in addition sponsor several children and made various donations. Chair Stella Airoldi went the previous years a couple of times a year to Uganda and financed her own travel costs, for 2023 she declared the flight costs that she had made (accommodation, food, transport she still covered up herself). The board decided to hire her as freelancer to maintain the website and create the content for social media, blogs and reports, as other freelancers were charging much more money with way less knowledge regarding the cultural context. Other than that Stella volunteers for the Foundation around 20 hours a week on average. Besides Stella we started to work with a couple of new volunteers who have been helping us mainly with translations. However, it also costs a lot of time to manage the volunteers and by times they are unreliable with their work and deadlines. We keep on improving in 2024 the impact of Volunteers on our organization.
Board members receive no salary for their board work. For preparing and attending the board meetings, the chair received an attendance fee (vacatiegeld) of €3,250 in 2023. A modest volunteer allowance for answering messages received through the Foundation's social media channels and keeping these channels running is included under programme costs. Separately, the Foundation contracts freelancers for clearly defined operational work, such as programme coordination, reporting, the website, social media and photography. The founder is one of them; this work is invoiced and is separate from her board role, and most of her time for the Foundation remains unpaid volunteer work.

Accounts

Since April 2017, we opened a bank account with ABN AMRO for the Foundation: Stichting 22STARS NL98 ABNA 0247199222. For our donors of the group “Teller Fuer Teller” for the Weekly Meals we also opened this NL30ABNA0247241962 Foundation Bank Account, where they can make their specific donations for meals to. We also opened a PayPal account with address: info@foundation22stars.org We have an extensive excel sheet with all the donation information.

How we make the payments of our programs

Uganda is a cash society, hence when we pay for our programs in Uganda we usually do it the following way:

- Through withdrawing money at the ATM in Uganda with our Dutch ABN AMRO bank card, this is done by Stella Airoldi to pay for certain programs of the foundation as discussed with all board members and the Ugandan team. As Stella is at least 3

times a year in Uganda we use this method to make the larger payments towards the various schools where the children are going to. Also, the exchange rate is much better when we withdraw in Uganda than when we send the money with the bank.

- Direct Bank Transfer to the Ugandan Bank Account of our project leaders in Uganda. These are Susan Laker in Acholi Quarter in Kampala and Aidah Wafula for the project in Jinja. Susan is the leader of the local community based organization 'Shooting Stars' and Aidah of the local Community Based Organization 'Shining Stars', who are our partner organizations in Uganda. We only send money to the programs that will also directly be spend for which we receive the invoices. We keep track in excel of the exact amounts we send with the current exchange rates and the transaction fees and the causes. The money can only be used for the assigned causes. We then request the project leaders to send us the invoices of the purchased goods/activities and take pictures of what has been done. As Uganda is a cash society it is by times difficult to get a receipt from the local taxi's and motorbikes for the transport and also from food and second hand clothes and other products bought at the local markets. In this case, we still request to our local project leaders to write us an invoice stating that they have received the money and what the money has been used for and to provide us with pictures of the bought goods. As the project leaders know best what is needed in Uganda they are the ones who let us know their current program needs. We work with several independent persons assessing these needs as well to make sure it benefits the whole community.

- Whenever we must purchase something outside Uganda, for example in The Netherlands, we pay from our Dutch ABN AMRO bank account, or we use our PayPal account. As our Foundation has no credit card we also use by times the credit card of one of our board members to make certain purchases that are only possible to be made by credit card (such as payment for Mail-chimp (our newsletter software) and Strikingly (our website software).

Fundraising

To fundraise money for our donations we decided to use the payment platform Donorbox as it allows us to set up easy campaign for our specific needs. For our USA/UK donors we started to use Global Giving. We also had a couple of sponsors who set up a birthday fundraiser for us. We reached new sponsors thanks to several talks Stella Airoldi gave at online conferences in Europe such as the Nomad Base, Staatenlos and Citizen Circle and to the talks of Stefanie Oeffner at the tour of her boyfriend Nick Martin and our new ambassador Daniela Beck. All events and speaking engagements were fully financed by the board members themselves. Additionally, we had a few one-day visitors, who shared about us within their network. We also organized again a Social Impact Trip for Sponsors to come and visit us in Uganda for 10 days. We invested also more in our online presence by having videos of our projects made that explain what we are doing in Uganda and by having better high-quality pictures taken at our project. We also kept improving our website to generate more income.

Board changes

The board has been unchanged in 2023 to the previous year 2022.

Overview of data from the Foundation 22STARS

The 22STARS Foundation is a foundation and is registered in Breda, under Chamber of Commerce number: 68437870, Head office address: Kasteelplein 73, 4811 XC Breda. The tax number (RSIN number) of the Foundation is: 857442429. The bank number of the Foundation is IBAN: Stichting 22STARS: ABN AMRO NL98 ABNA 0247199222. All information is published on the website and can be downloaded by interested parties at https://www.foundation22stars.org. Contacts with the foundation are via: info@foundation22stars.org or Kasteelplein 73, 4811 XC, Breda.

Concluding Remarks

2023 was a year filled with its share of highs and lows. Nonetheless, we had the joy of seeing all 485 of the children in school, with many advancing to boarding school! We also expanded our programs, empowering our on-ground team members to gain greater independence. As we continue to grow, we have shifted our focus toward Local Leadership. This aims to help our team in Uganda produce better reports and proposals, allowing our Fundraising team to concentrate more on securing donations. However, this remains a work in progress, as the Uganda team still requires considerable guidance and support to manage their tasks effectively.

It's essential that they communicate the impact of their work clearly through pictures and data, so we can accurately present all the efforts we are undertaking in Uganda with the support from our donors and sponsors. For the upcoming year, we hope that school fee increases will be minimal and that our current long-term sponsors might consider boosting their contributions. Our goal is to ensure that even more children have access to education. Over the past few years, we have witnessed the significant difference education makes in the lives of these children. Education truly is the key to combating poverty and disease!

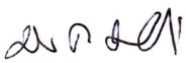
We would like to express our gratitude to everyone who supported the 22STARS foundation from the very beginning, placing their trust in us. Thank you for taking the time to read our 2023 report, and we invite you to follow us on social media to engage with the important work we are doing.

Signing of the Financial Year Report 2023 on 16 March 2024, in Breda, Netherlands.

On behalf of the board,
S.R. Airoldi, Chair



R.S.E. Oosterbeek, Treasurer



D.R. Walzer, Secretary
K.F. Müller, Policy-Making Member

Revised version, 8 October 2026

This revised version replaces the version signed on 16 March 2024. Small typographical errors have been corrected, board members' titles have been brought in line with the board's records, the RSIN has been corrected, the wording has been made more respectful in a number of places (for example, the words 'slum' and 'our kids' are no longer used), some personal and health details have been removed for privacy, and the clarifications below have been added. All financial figures and the substance of the report are unchanged.

Foundation details

Stichting 22STARS, Chamber of Commerce (KvK) number 68437870, RSIN 857442429. The original report stated the RSIN as 85744249; the correct number, as registered with the Chamber of Commerce, is 857442429.

Board in 2023

S.R. Airoldi, Chair; R.S.E. Oosterbeek, Treasurer; D.R. Walzer, Secretary; K.F. Müller, Policy-Making Member.

2022 comparative figures

The 2022 comparative figures have been adjusted. A donation of €5,030.00 received at the end of 2022 turned out to be fraudulent and was refunded. The related processing fee of €25.35 was also removed from the costs. As a result, 2022 income is €252,024.36, costs are €287,397.82 and the balance at 31 December 2022 is €85,577.02.

Correction of the balance sheet

In the balance sheet at 31 December 2023, the line "Remaining money is from donations made for next year programmes" should read €1,547.84 instead of €159.96, so that total liabilities are €35,424.76, equal to total assets. €1,387.88 in transaction fees covered by donors had not been included in the reservations as originally published. The 2024 report already shows the corrected figure.

School fee result

The summary mentions €775.48 remaining for school terms in 2024. This is the result on sponsorship income in 2023. The reservation for school sponsorship in 2024, as shown in the balance sheet, is €20,876.92.

Revised version approved on behalf of the board on 8 October 2026:

S.R. Airoldi, Chair



D.R. Walzer, Secretary

