

## 22STARS

## **FOUNDATION**

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The year 2024 proved to be a pivotal moment for our organization. At first, we faced challenges with escalating school fees and a shortage of boarding spaces for our children. We needed to allocate an additional  $\leqslant 6,310$ , part of which came from a generous one-time donation that supported us through the first term of 2024. Uncertainty overshadowed the second term, causing us significant stress over the possibility of having to turn away children.

Fortunately, sponsor Maurice Bork featured our founder, Stella Airoldi, on his podcast, leading to over 200 new sponsors through his network, "Die Wichtigste Stunde." This allowed us instead of dropping kids, adding kids: we support now even 528 children, many with dual sponsorships to join boarding school.

We also organized a successful Social Impact Trip to Uganda, raised funds for solar energy, water filters and other essentials. We also continued successfully with our after-school and holiday programs.

We organized meals for our 528 kids every weekend, held music and computer classes, and continued with our Young Leadership Program.

Thanks to a big one-time donation we could also continue with our maizefield and help families in need during the flood emergency. Our main challenges included fluctuating exchange rates and climate issues causing floods or droughts. Nonetheless, one-time donations helped us manage these difficulties.

Our local team's management improved, and we maintained consistent communication. We look back on a successful year and look forward to what 2025 will bring.

S.R. Airoldi & The 22STARS Team

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## Summary:

Dear sponsors, donors, and supporters!

The year 2024 started with its share of stress but ended on a positive note. As our children transitioned to boarding schools due to their changing home situations, we faced challenges in covering their school fees. This was exacerbated by rising tuition costs and the loss of some sponsors due to financial changes. In term one, we relied on General Donations to keep all the kids in school. However, as we approached term two, we were anxious about the possibility of needing to select children to send back home if new sponsors or sufficient one-time donations did not materialize.

Fortunately, following a podcast interview by Maurice Bork with Stella Airoldi, a wave of new sponsors joined our cause. Maurice actively promoted 22STARS within his community, `Die Wichtigste Stunde` (DWS), quickly bringing in over 200 new supporters. This allowed us to secure a second sponsor for all our children in need of boarding school and to welcome 52 new children into our program!

Our founder, Stella, traveled to Uganda to address school-related issues and work through misunderstandings between the team and community. Thankfully, this led to improved transparent communication among all involved. We continued our Leadership training for the team, and while progress has been gradual, we are seeing steady improvements. Additionally, we maintained our supplementary programs, such as the Music Program and Computer Program, along with our Young Leadership Program for teenagers to keep them engaged during school breaks.

A significant highlight was our investment in our own Maizefield, sponsored by "Jascha Lang," which will enhance our nutrition program by providing extra maize. We also received a generous donation of €12,000 from `Das Freiheitspaket`, which supported our After-School Programs, along with contributions for our Emergency fundraiser and computer initiatives.

In November, we hosted a Social Impact Trip with Stella and special co-host Steffi Oeffner, during which several sponsors visited the children they support. Among them was Daniel Schlegel, who is helping us to acquire more solar energy panels and solar cooking stoves for our projects in Uganda. We also connected with many children sponsored by `DWS`.

Several children graduated this year, securing jobs and demonstrating the success of our initiatives. Notably, Anna Miremba's testimony beautifully encapsulates the impact of our programs. We enrolled 52 new children in 2024, and ensured that over 100 children could transition from day school to boarding school. At the start of the year, we allocated around €6,000 from our general donations to cover school fees, ensuring that all our sponsored children continued their education successfully.

Our Small Business Loan program remained active, equipping beneficiaries with new skills. The Music Program in Jinja flourished with a mix of modern and traditional instruments, while in Kampala, we focused exclusively on traditional instruments. Both locations continued to offer after-school computer lessons, and our Nutrition Program upheld its Weekly Meals initiative. We made progress with our Local Leadership Program in collaboration with Dutch

Business Consultant Joelle, and volunteer Jennifer Dietz provided one-on-one coaching and conducted workshops for the team. Additionally, our previous students from the Optician School, in partnership with Wir Helfen Sehen e.V., distributed glasses and conducted eye tests for our children, with visits arranged to the Eye Hospital once more. Our new group of optician school students reported positive progress.

We are profoundly grateful to our supporters, whose generosity and faith in our mission make our achievements possible. Together, we are constructing a brighter future for these children, filled with hope, opportunity, and limitless possibilities. With this strong foundation, we are prepared to face the challenges and victories of the coming year, confident that our shared vision will guide us forward.

## A Recap of Our 2024 Achievements. Here are some of our highlights:

- > We successfully transitioned over 100 children from day school to boarding school.
- ➤ We welcomed 52 new children into our 22STARS programs.
- > Our local leadership program and team coaching continued to thrive.
- > Photographer, Kavuma Vieri, captured new portrait photographs of all our children.
- > Rüdiger Walzer, the founder of our partner organization "Wir Helfen Sehen E.V.," represented us with a charity booth at the Opti Exhibition in Munich.
- > In November, we hosted a Social Impact Trip for our sponsors in Uganda.
- > Throughout the year, we welcomed several day visitors and sponsors eager to learn more about 22STARS and our initiatives.
- ➤ Our program currently supports 528 sponsored children.
- > Our ambassador, Steffi Oeffner, shared the mission of 22STARS on stage in Germany.
- > Founder Stella traveled to Uganda to conduct workshops aimed at strengthening the team.
- > Thanks to "Das Freiheitspaket.de," our children can use the newly built dormitory.
- > We distributed 146 water filters, courtesy of "Wir Helfen Sehen E.V."
- > Our afterschool program received funding for the children, thanks to "Peggy and Marco."
- We were grateful for a generous donation from K.G. The Ponyhof E.V.
- ➤ We assisted 45 kids and their families during the flood disaster.
- > Stella spoke at various conferences across Europe about 22STARS, securing new sponsors and one-time donations for the children.
- > We celebrated Christmas with the children in Kampala and Jinja.
- > Our small business group underwent training focused on enhancing their businesses.
- > Many sponsors exchanged letters with their children and sent additional gifts, which greatly motivated them and is always a joy to read.
- > Maurice Bork has joined us as our newest ambassador, uniting his community from Die Wichtigste Stunde to initiate long-term sponsorships for the children.

Our total income in 2024 was  $\in$  353.297,02 and our cost were  $\in$  313.275,05. Our total assets and liabilities are  $\in$  75.446,73. Compared to 2023, donations increased by 25%.

In total, we raised € 92.678,47 through one-time donations, of which we spend €103.967,57 on our programs. We kept € 23.360,18 as reservation for the year 2025 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, Computers, and several health campaigns for the children and emergency campaigns for the floods in Kampala. We have

received a couple of larger donations. Our biggest donation came from the Freitheitspaket.de, who donated 12.000 euro. And KG Pony Hof who donated 6.600 euro and Peggy and Marco Lachmann of 5.000 euro. We also received a donation from the German charity "Wir Helfen Sehen E.v., of € 8,31.00 which was specifically for our Eye-care Program. Our computer and nutrition programs run thanks to some larger donations of our sponsors Jan Krapp and Jascha Lang, who besides the donations for their school kids donated respectively 9.323,28 euro (Jan) and 8.800,00 euro (Jascha).

We received  $\in$  260.618,55 from our long-term sponsors for the children they sponsor. We spend  $\in$  209,307.48 on the children's education in 2024. We also had to use  $\in$  6.310,96 from our general donations for school fees term 1 2024 to make sure all kids could stay in school. We were a bit worried that we would not be able to keep all kids in school in term 2 2024, but then thankfully our sponsor Maurice Bork stepped up and engaged his community to also sponsor a child. Thanks to Maurice we got more than 200 new long-term sponsors in who contributed  $\in$  47.601.00 to the overall donation received from our long-term sponsors. That meant at the end of the year an increase of 50% in income from our long-term sponsors compared to 2023. We remained with  $\in$  52.086,65 to be paid for future school terms in 2025.

Compared to 2023 we increased the number of long-term sponsors thanks to Maurice Bork from `Die Wichtigste Stunde`. The workload for the 22STARS Foundation kept increasing this year, as we grew in number of beneficiaries and number of sponsors and continued with our additional programs at our childcare centers, such as our Computer, Music, Small Business, Leadership and Nutrition Program. We also continued putting time and energy into training our local team in improving their communication and leadership. 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. Stella Airoldi, Susan Laker, Aidah Wafula, Steffi Oeffner, David Wafula and Sam Baker

## Donors and sponsors, you made a huge impact in 2024

- Education program (Child-Sponsorship):
  - > 528 sponsored children who received an education.
  - ➤ 149 kids joined Boarding School
  - ➤ 52 new kids were enrolled
- Education program extras:
  - ➤ 66 School Uniforms for the Jinja kids.
  - ➤ 40 School Uniforms for the Kampala kids.
- Computer program:
  - A full year computer training, computer servicing, paying materials and teachers for our kids in Kampala and in Jinja.

We got a donation for new student laptops, which will be purchased in 2025.

## • Music program:

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

## • Nutrition program:

- A small fee was allocated for the wonderful ladies who assist us with the weekly meals.
- We acquired an electric cooker for our kitchen in Jinja.
- > A 100-seater tent was purchased for our children's center in Jinja.
- We obtained new plates and various supplies for our children's center in Kampala.
- ➤ We invested in a 5-hectare maize field to produce more sustainable food, covering expenses for harvesting, monitoring, ploughing, and weeding.
- This year, the maize field yielded 2,500 kilos of maize.
- We procured cooking supplies for both weekly meals and home school meals.
- Distributed 27,000 weekend meals across Jinja and Kampala.
- We celebrated Independence Day and Christmas with the children.
- > Extra food was distributed to women in need.
- Organized Christmas celebrations for all the children and the local team in Jinja and Kampala.

## • Entrepreneurship program:

- > Small Business Training and workshop was given to the women.
- > 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.
- ➤ 68 Water filters in Jinja
- > 78 Water filters in Kampala
- > 25 Eye drops for Kampala kids
- > 25 Eye drops for Jinja kids
- > 12 Kids were sent to the Eye Hospital for treatment

#### Healthcare (&Basic Needs) Program:

- ➤ Various smaller treatments for around 100 children.
- ➤ Bigger medical treatments for 10 kids
- > Extra support for children who became orphans.

## • Emergency Program:

- ➤ 45 kids and their families received basic relief after their homes were destroyed.
- ➤ Repair of our center in Kampala as it got broken down during the floods.

## • 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.
- > Our team received new team shirts

#### Varia:

- ➤ Bonuses for our volunteers in Jinja and Kampala and the local team
- Transport, meals, and accommodation for our team when necessary to visit projects and have team meetings.
- Maintenance of Minivan to be able to visit all project sites and buy the necessary things for the programs. We had to replace the tires and renew insurance.
- ➤ Various software subscription for editing files, storage of files, website and so on.
- ➤ We got secondhand smartphones for our Ugandan team as their old ones had battery issues and not enough storage and not great pictures.
- We repaired some broken phones of our team, so they could continue using them.
- ➤ New Murial with Butterfly wings for our Kampala center
- > Rent of the centers in both Kampala and Jinja, including security watch man, electricity, water and internet.
- > 128 extra gift donations were made for specific kids throughout the year.
- ➤ 11 Sunday outfits for the children in Kampala
- > 35 Saturday outfits for the children in Jinja.

## Program updates per month 2024

## 1. January, February & March; starting the year with all kids in school.

The beginning of 2024 in Jinja and Kampala, Uganda, was vibrant and full of activity. However, we also faced challenges such as increasing school fees and a shortage of sponsors to enable boarding school for our children. In 2023, we had to utilize  $\[ \in \] 20,000$  from General Donations to assist with the boarding school fees. In 2024, again several larger one time donations summing up to  $\[ \in \] 6,310$  helped us navigate through the first term. But uncertainty still loomed for the upcoming second term. The initial months brought also numerous educational successes, nutritious meals, and impactful health programs that truly improved the lives of many.

Both cities exuded a vibrant sense of community. In January, the New Year gathering established a positive outlook for the year to come. Thanks to generous one-time donations, we ensured that all our children could return to school at the end of the month, a milestone we celebrated joyfully.



2. The children with their boarding school supplies in front of the bus to go to back to school.



3. Our children during holiday studies.



4. The children with their certificate's.

In February, the boarding school upgrades laid the groundwork for an excellent learning environment. We received the exam results for our candidate children, with all of them passing, giving us yet another reason to rejoice. The holiday study sessions and extra homework organized at our 22STARS center significantly contributed to the students' successes. All children who participated in the holiday studies received a certificate. March was bustling with

Parent meetings, visits from international friends, and notable achievements, including Susan Laker receiving her certificate in Public Administration. March's income-generating projects also empowered families financially.

## **Education: Building Bright Futures**

In Jinja, the new school year began with a focus on getting every sponsored child ready to succeed. January was a busy time as we made sure school fees were paid and kids had everything they needed, like uniforms and books. Our visits to partner schools were crucial, especially to help P-7 students smoothly transition to Kidron Christian School. February brought a modern twist with computer classes at Abba Father Junior School, which opened up new possibilities for eager students. By March, we were all about academic excellence. Regular tests and tutoring kept students on track, and teachers and staff worked closely to tackle any issues that popped up. In Jinja, the new dormitory at Abba Father Junior School marked both a physical and symbolic milestone, offering a safe haven for students. However, with more children moving into the Boarding Section, new challenges arose. Specifically, we needed to secure enough co-sponsors to support our children transitioning from primary day school to primary boarding school.

Kampala also celebrated educational success. By January 28th, the school term was in full swing, and the exciting news of P-7 students moving up to high school was a proud moment. In February, our senior students started high school with a bang, thanks to their impressive exam results.



5. Stella and Aidah standing with Peter, the Head Teacher of the Abba School in Jinja.

## **Nutrition: Growing Strong**

In both cities, our nutrition program was a ray of hope. During holidays every Sunday in Kampala, 267 kids, and in Jinja every Saturday 261 kids, eagerly waited in line for hearty meals at our office, a special time that nourished both bodies and spirits. The New Year celebration added to this happiness, highlighting the importance of a balanced diet. We're super grateful to our donors who helped us bring in 1,229 kilograms of maize from Jinja, ensuring a steady supply of nutritious meals. During the boarding school period, non-boarding students still visit our center for their weekend lunches, while the boarding students receive their special lunches from us on visitation days, which occur three times each term. Especially March was a treat for boarding school students, with special meals featuring meat, rice, and fresh fish, thanks to our nutrition fund.



6. Our children enjoying their weekly lunch at our kids center in Kampala.

## **Health: Staying Well**

In Jinja, the health story was one of strength and healing. From Nakato Zuraika's fight with diabetes to Irama Isaac's dental issues, our team was right there, working with local medical centers. Vision was restored in January with glasses distributed, thanks to optician student Okello Julius's careful work. Our Eye Progam has been made possible in partnership with the organisation Wirhelfen Sehen E.v. who donate regularly for its program and send some of our students to the optican school in Masaka.

February and March continued with strong health care efforts, quickly addressing challenges like Bagaga Heaven's severe malaria and a red eye disease outbreak. Partnering with health centers ensured kids got the care they needed fast.

In Kampala, January was life-changing for Anena Beatrice, who had successful goiter surgery at Lacor Hospital. February's focus on mosquito nets paid off with no new malaria cases, showing how prevention works. March added mental health workshops, tackling stigma and providing crucial support.

## **Extracurricular Engagement and Community Impact**

have students been actively participating in computer classes, making excellent use of their free time during the holidays. Additionally, we have organized parents' meetings, which provide a crucial platform for discussing important topics, including promoting healthy behaviors, understanding parental responsibilities, adhering to program guidelines, highlighting the importance of involvement in saving groups.



7. Parent meeting in Kampala

## **Ambassadors Making an Impact**



Stella has been fervently sharing her story at various conferences and podcasts, raising awareness and garnering support for our mission. Her enthusiasm and dedication deeply resonate with others, motivating them to join our cause and ensuring we can empowering continue the communities we serve. Among the interviews. Stella featured in a podcast by Maurice Bork for Die Wichtigste Stunde, and shortly after, Maurice rallied his community; by the end of this quarter, we welcomed 100 new sponsors to 22STARS.

8. Our Ambassador Maurice Bork promoting 22STARS at a conference of `Die Wichtigste Stunde`.

Our ambassador, Steffi Oeffner, has been incredibly active. She organized a birthday fundraiser and shared her experiences with 22STARS in Uganda during the Nick Martin show, performing at various locations throughout Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. Additionally, several sponsors have been sending letters to their children in Uganda to inspire them to study and dream about a bright future. Ulli Buchwald and his girlfriend, Daniela Beck, have not only written several letters to their kids, they have also been enthusiastically promoting 22STARS, which led to a generous €6,600 donation from the new donor, KG Pony Hof E.V. Ulli showcased his creativity by having a special 22STARS shirt printed with a QR code. Last but not least, Peggy and Marco Lachmann surprised us with a €5,000 donation to support our programs for the children in Uganda.



9. Steffi Oeffner on stage talking about 22STARS.



10. Opio holding his sponsor letter.



11. Ulli Buchwald with a special 22STARS shirt.



12. The kids thanking Marco and Peggy.

Family Walzer from Wirhelfensehen E.v. had a charity exhibition booth at the Opti 2024 in Munich, to promote their chairty WHS who supports the 22STARS Eye Program, raising awareness and encouraging donations. Their involvement emphasized the significance of international collaboration in health initiatives. The conference allowed for sharing successes and challenges, enhancing attendees' commitment. Funds raised will expand eye care services

by purchasing medical equipment, conducting community screenings, and training local healthcare providers, ultimately inspiring hope and positive change in the communities served by the 22STARS Foundation.



13. Family Walzer from Wirhelfensehen E.v. had a charity exhibition booth in München.

We were fortunate to host numerous sponsors in Uganda, including Sara Elhay from the UK, Sarah Spronk from The Netherlands, and many others who spent quality time with the children during their weekend lunches and visited them at school. The visitors took an active role in engaging with the children, thereby strengthening the bonds with sponsors and enhancing their commitment to the community's well-being.



14. Sarah Spronk with her sponsored child.



15. Sara Elhay with the 22STARS team.

## Kampala's project leader Susan Laker graduated!

Susan's journey to graduation is a testament to her resilience and determination. After enduring severe health challenges and raising three children, she decided to pursue education later in life, despite doubts and obstacles. Her encounter with Stella, an intern interested in the impacts of Joseph Kony's war, inspired Susan to return to school. She graduated in Public Administration and Management, excelling in subjects like human resources and communication. Through her education and experiences, Susan aims to empower the next generation and advocate for social change, fueled by the support of the 22STARS team. Her story highlights the transformative power of education and community support.



16. Susan Laker with a fellow graduate after graduating in Public Adminstration and Management.

## Young leadership training for our teens

Additionally, Joelle Verkooijen successfully led the Young Leadership Program during the holidays for our teenagers, working closely with our local team. The feedback from the teens was incredibly positive, and it was inspiring to witness their growth in such a short period. The Young Leadership Program received beautiful testimonials following another session with new participants during the last holiday. The program aims to reveal and develop inherent leadership skills through teamwork, encouraging participants to step out of their comfort zones. It emphasizes that everyone possesses leadership qualities and aims to empower individuals to recognize and utilize their talents for community benefit. Over six days, participants engage in learning and playful activities, culminating in a community project that fosters active change and inspires others. Success is measured by participants' awareness of their growth and how they apply their skills in everyday life.



17. Joelle Verkooijen and her group of teenagers during the Young Leadership Program.

## Training on the ground to make a lasting change

We were thrilled to welcome back Jennifer Dietz, who provided valuable training aimed at strengthening teamwork among our local staff. Jennifer, a business coach and consultant, has been volunteering with 22STARS for nearly two years. Her primary focus is on one-on-one coaching with the team in Uganda, where she aids them in enhancing communication as well as gaining more clarity and structure in their work and decision-making processes. One significant challenge has consistently been time management, particularly in scheduling coaching sessions and workshops. This stems from the fact that project leaders and coordinators in Uganda often lack a fixed schedule, as they work in the community based on daily needs. Despite this, the team has made remarkable progress over the past few years, particularly in terms of improved communication and increased self-confidence.

The first half of 2024 demonstrated the transformative power of community, education, and health in changing lives. As the year progresses, Jinja and Kampala are poised for even greater achievements, fueled by the resilient spirit of their people.



18. Jennifer Dietz and Susan Laker during training.



19. Jennifer at our Center.

## 2. April, May & June; a big rise in number of sponsors:

## **April 2024: School Term Closure and Health Challenges**

In Jinja, the first school term wrapped up, with most schools concluding their sessions by the 26th, although a few institutions extended their term into the early days of May. At Day Star School, educators observed challenges among students, including Opio and Gidah, prompting the school to implement intensive support measures tailored to address these issues effectively. In Kampala, the 22stars Foundation dedicated its efforts to diligently preparing candidate children for the upcoming national exams, ensuring they have the necessary resources and support to excel. As school term 1 ended and kids went back home for holidays and computer studies at our center, we were scared that if we would not get enough one time donations in or more new sponsors, that we would need to select children to leave the program. But than thanks to 'Die Wichtigste Stunde' (DWS) we started to get each day more sponsors in and all children could stay in school.



20. Our kids thanking `DWS`.



21. Our children in Jinja during the Computer classes held in our Center after school.

## **Health Programs in Focus**

Health initiatives took center stage as programs in Jinja addressed the prevalent red eye disease affecting numerous children. Meanwhile, Kampala placed a strong emphasis on malaria prevention and improving access to clean water, critical for maintaining community health.





22. One of our girls at the doctor.

23. One of our boys seeing the doctor.

## May 2024: New Beginnings and Strategic Planning

The month of May marked a fresh start with the introduction of 25 new children into Jinja's educational system, thanks to the support from dedicated sponsors. Concurrently, in Kampala, senior five students remained in school for essential census counting, notably without incurring any additional fees. Both Jinja and Kampala experienced a significant boost in support as they welcomed over 100 new sponsors thanks to Maurice Bork from 'DWS', a development that greatly enhanced their capacity to provide quality education and support to more children.



24. Kids getting lunch at our center in Jinja.

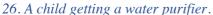


25. Kids at our center getting lunch.

## **Addressing Health and Emergency Needs**

Recently, schools in Kampala and Jinja have been dealing with a widespread outbreak of conjunctivitis, commonly known as red eye disease. This condition, marked by eye redness, irritation, and inflammation, often spreads rapidly in school environments due to shared supplies and close contact among students. Efforts to control the outbreak have seen challenges, but steps are being taken to mitigate its impact. In Jinja, affected children have been treated successfully, with ongoing monitoring ensuring no severe cases. Meanwhile, in Kampala, initiatives by the 22STARS Foundation have helped by providing eye drops and water filters, contributing to a decline in new cases. Community education and hygiene measures remain key in managing the situation and safeguarding students' health. We thank 'Wir Helfen Sehen E.v.' for their quick help in providing donations.







27. Susan laker handing out eye drops to families.



In Kampala, the emergency program benefitted additionally from a generous donation of 15 million Ugandan shillings, specifically allocated for flood relief efforts. The floods had affected about 45 children and their parents, making them homeless over night and destroying all their belongings. Thanks to donations we could provide them with basic needs such as blankets, matresses, cooking material and rent for three months, while they could rebuild their houses. In addition also our kids center in Kampala was badly affected by the floods. Thanks to one time donations, we could repair the center for the kids. And while we were on it we replaced the faded angel wings for butterfly wings. Our whole team was super excited to pose with them.

28. One of the affected families thanking the sponors.



29. Our team posing with the Butterfly wings at our center in Kampala.

## June 2024: Academic Progress and Community Engagement

By June, the second school term in Jinja was in full swing, with private schools operating at full capacity. The mid-term exams highlighted a notable improvement in academic performance at Day Star School, a testament to the hard work of both students and teachers. Computer classes continued to enrich students' learning experiences, while the construction of the Abba Father Junior School dormitory made significant progress, successfully overcoming previous temporary halts. Thanks to the donation of Freiheitspaket the kids could enjoy their new dorm and also reveived a new donation in 2024 to continue their after school programs in both Kampala and Jinja. Timo Eckhardt, co-founder of 'das Freiheitspaket' promoted 22STARS to ensure we got new sponsors and donations in.





30. Timo Eckhardt from `Das Freiheitspaket.` 31. The kids thanking `Das Freiheitspaket` Team.

## A big milestone was the celebration of our new school dormitories!

At the 22STARS Foundation, our mission centers on empowerment, community, and sustainable development. We've recently completed a new dormitory for Abba Father Junior School, paving the way for brighter futures. This dormitory is more than a building; it's a space where students feel at home. Gone are cramped quarters, replaced by spacious, well-ventilated rooms fostering a better learning environment. As a result, students are enthusiastically engaging in their education with improved health and focus.



32. The newly build dormitory from the outside.

Currently, the dormitory houses 60 students, including both 22STARS and school-sponsored learners, with room for future expansion. It can accommodate up to 50 triple bunk beds for students advancing to higher grades. Our journey began in January 2024, led by Mr. Wafula David and Mrs. Nambozo Aidah, who overcame challenges with determination and teamwork.



33. The newly build dormitory from the inside.

Our success was possible thanks to our partners—the Freiheitspaket Teams of 2022 and 2023. Special thanks to Tanja Baumann, Ricco Groß, Jonas Henfling, André Marks, and others involved. We constructed two dormitories to amplify our impact. The school administration is immensely grateful, viewing it as a once-distant dream realized. We remain committed to creating opportunities for every child. Thank you for being part of this journey.





34. Our kids enjoying their new dormirtory.

35. Our kids also received matresses and bedsheets.

## **Continued Support and Achievements**

In Kampala, the 22stars Foundation organized a visitation day at Hopeland Junior and High School, an event designed to foster meaningful interaction between parents and teachers. The nutrition program in Kampala provided special meals on June 30th, underscoring its commitment to enhancing the well-being of students. Meanwhile, the health program maintained its focus on preventive measures, ensuring the community's continued health and safety. Both regions celebrated considerable achievements and sustained support from the 22stars Foundation and its network of supporters, reinforcing their mission to uplift and empower the communities they serve.

## 3. July, August & September: entering strong the second half of the year.



We got new photographs taken from our children from a professional photographer, Kavumba Vieri. As most of the profile pictures we had of the children were already 5 years old and new children only had a picture taken by the phone. It was quite a challenge to finish this project of getting 528 portrait pictures taken and named correczly. But after a few months work we could finally finish the project and send the pictures to our sponsors.

36. Kavumba taking new portrait photos of our children.

#### **Education** is the key

In Jinja, the academic year reached a pivotal moment as schools wrapped up their second term on August 23rd, 2024. The anticipation for the third term was palpable, with some schools kicking off on September 9th and others on the 16th. July was a testing ground for P-7, S-4, and S-6 candidates who tackled the MOCK exams with determination. Visits to schools like Kidron Nursery and Primary School, Abba Father Junior School, and Jinja Progressive Academy were instrumental in tracking progress. A transformative class visitation at Abba Father Junior School on July 23rd showcased remarkable improvements in student performance. In late September, an enthusiastic academic meeting set the stage for a good next School Term. We also visited Hopeland Junior and Hopeland Highschool in Lugazi, were most of our Kampala children are in boarding section.



37. Our Kampala boarding school children lined up in their uniforms at Hopeland.

Meanwhile, in Kampala, the educational program was in full swing, equipping candidate classes for pre-international exams. Parents were crucial allies, staying closely connected with schools to ensure their children's success in national exams. Educational adventures funded by parents enriched learning, aligning perfectly with national exam topics in geography and social studies.



38. Our jinja kids in front of their school Abba Father in their school uniforms.

Back in Jinja, the newly completed dormitory at Abba Father Junior School became a safe haven for students in July. September saw an exhilarating academic excursion to Entebbe International Airport and other landmarks, although financial hurdles limited participation for some sponsored children. The emphasis on parental engagement was particularly strong for candidate classes. In Kampala, the distribution of report cards in mid-August was met with anticipation, as pre-national exam results were eagerly awaited.

#### **Nourishing Futures**





*39. Our Jinja kids during our weekly lunch.* 

40. Every Saturday our kids enjoy lunch.

In Kampala, Sundays were more than just a day of rest; they were a day of nourishment. The Nutrition Program consistently delivered hot, balanced meals to over 250 children, featuring a delightful mix of rice, groundnut sauce, silverfish, beans, and posho. These meals were a vital ingredient in the recipe for the children's health and academic success. Jinja mirrored this dedication, with a Saturday feeding program ensuring children received nutritious meals throughout July, August, and September, strengthening attendance and engagement across various programs.



#### A Vision for health

Jinja faced health hurdles with resilience. July saw three children treated for skin rashes, and Nakawala Babra's hospitalization for severe malaria and typhoid underscored challenges. August's rains brought a wave of flu and malaria cases among 162 children, yet all recovered thanks to timely interventions. September continued the battle against malaria, but swift action prevailed. In stark contrast, Kampala recorded no major illnesses, a testament to the community's commitment to mosquito net use and water filtration. An eye treatment program illuminated the lives of 26 individuals, enhancing their quality of life.

41. Team meetings in Kampala.

#### The loss of our beloved Alice Atim

In Kampala, September brought a somber moment as the community mourned the loss of Atim Alice, rallying together to support her family. Alice was also the sister and right hand of Susan Laker, our cofounder and project manager in Kampala. She played a crucial role in our organization in Uganda, acting as Susan's bodyguard, keeping negative influences at bay while welcoming good people with her infectious laughter. She will be deeply missed.



42. Our beloved team member Alice Atim.

## Life and Community

Jinja buzzed with activity in July, with weekly team meetings and joyful celebrations for Aidah's and Masanso David's birthdays. Our Ugaandan Volunteer Achayo Peace, who was also the first ever 22STARS sponsored child, left a lasting impact through computer lessons, before moving on to new opportunities. We also progressed a lot with our children during our music lessons. Besides learning new skills, the music classes also help the children with stress



and kept them motivated. We enrolled three Ugandan music teachers to start teaching the first four groups of 20 children intensively. Additionally, we have groups of 40 children who participate in our dance and music note classes and had already the possibility to get already familiar with some of the instruments. We offer music classes every day of the week, from 2PM to 4PM.

43. Our children during their music lessons at our 22STARS Jinja Center.

## Visitors brighening up our days





44. Franzi in our kitchen.

45. Franzi with our team in Kampala.

Franzi's visit helped share our story with a wider audience, showcasing the strong bonds with our supporters and the tangible impacts of their contributions. Her stories captured the vibrant spirit of our community, the smiles of the children, and the dedication of our team, highlighting education's transformative power and the joy of learning. This collaboration has fueled our mission, inspiring others to join our quest for sustainable development and empowerment. We are deeply grateful for Franzi's support and look forward to welcoming more visitors who share our vision of making a lasting difference in these children's lives.

## Leadership and small business growth

Kampala also focused on fortifying the Loan Program with innovative strategies, prioritizing accountability and sustainability to empower community entrepreneurs. Across these months, Jinja and Kampala exemplified resilience and dedication to advancing education, nutrition, health care, and community engagement. Joelle Verkooijen led another training with Susan laker for the small business women and men.



46. Joelle during a workshop in Kampala.



47. vSusan and Joelle during a workshop.

## 4. October, November & December: increasing our potential

Our 22STARS Ambassador, Steffi Oeffner, came back to visit us for several weeks. She has visited Uganda multiple times, capturing stunning photographs for social media and sharing inspiring stories about our projects. Steffi's passion has infused our community with inspiration, vividly portraying our work through images that reflect the smiles and hopes of the children. Her lens has highlighted physical improvements and the spirit of resilience and joy within our initiatives. Her narratives have attracted global attention, connecting supporters worldwide and deepening appreciation for our mission. With ambassadors like Steffi, we celebrate our achievements and anticipate more stories as our journey leads us toward a brighter, equitable future.



48. Kids playing at our center.

49. Lunch at our center.

50. Steffi and her sponsor kids.

## October: A Month of Academic Hustle and Community Engagement

In October, the cities of Kampala and Jinja were alive with a flurry of educational and community-centric activities. The academic spotlight in Kampala was on Senior Four and Senior Six students as they embarked on their national exams—an essential milestone in their educational journey. These exams were made possible by the unwavering support of sponsors who generously covered crucial educational expenses such as school fees, uniforms, exam registrations, and more. Throughout the month, visits to Hope Land Boarding School were organized, where students received encouragement and motivational talks, reinforcing the community's support for their academic efforts. Additionally, workshops were held for small business owners, focusing on leadership and business management skills—tools vital for their entrepreneurial success.



#### 51. Our Boarding school kids at Hopeland Highschool.

Over in Jinja, October marked the second month of the third academic term, with students deeply immersed in their studies. The commencement of the Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) examinations was a significant event, providing a pivotal moment for students like Irama Isaac and Wafula Victoria. These exams represent a critical juncture in their educational paths, setting the stage for future opportunities.

Meanwhile, in both cities, nutrition programs played a key role in community building. In Kampala, children enjoyed nutritious Sunday meals of rice with G-nut sauce and silverfish, while in Jinja, Saturday meals became a cherished tradition, fostering a sense of community and togetherness.

Health initiatives in Kampala bore fruit, as effective use of mosquito nets and water filters kept illnesses at bay, ensuring the well-being of all children. Jinja faced a minor health setback with Kikyonkyo Sayuni's leg injury, but swift medical intervention ensured her quick recovery.

October culminated in a festive atmosphere as Kampala celebrated Uganda's Independence Day with a vibrant trip to Ggaba Beach, and Jinja welcomed visitors for the Social Impact Trip 2024, which included school tours and communal meals, enriching cross-cultural interactions.

# **November: Academic Milestones and Community Nourishment**

November continued the focus on education, with Kampala students tackling end-of-term exams. The month was particularly significant for Primary Seven candidates and other non-candidate classes in Jinja as they completed their examinations, with the term ending on November 29th. While most students displayed remarkable progress, challenges such as Nakato Zulaika's health issues were also addressed.



52. Stella A., Francis, Jennifer, Susan and Stella O. at Hopeland.



Nutrition programs in both Kampala and Jinja strengthened community bonds. Kampala's menu featured meals of beans and posho, while a memorable event in Jinja saw sponsored children sharing meals with their sponsors, creating a heartwarming connection. Health remained a top priority in Kampala, with no illnesses reported, and in Jinja, children continued to thrive, thanks to ongoing health initiatives. The kids were introduced to the world of technology through computer lessons, fostering new skills and interests.

53. Our kids in Boarding School getting their meals from us during visitation day.

We also hosted again a Social Impact Trip, which highlighted the power of cross-cultural connections, with activities designed to promote mutual understanding and collaboration. We will write more about the Social Impact Trip below after our December paragraph.



54. David, Stella, Susan, Aidah and Susan waitin for the participants of the social impact trip.

#### **December: Festivities and Reflective Celebrations**

December in Kampala was marked by celebration and community spirit. Children engaged in volunteer work, preparing for a joyous Christmas party filled with performances, despite the heavy rain on Christmas Day. These festivities were a testament to the community's resilience and joy.





55. Our children in Kampala at our center.

56. Our children in Jinja at our center.

In Jinja, the academic pace slowed as students returned home for the holidays, yet learning persisted through computer classes. The Christmas celebration united children and staff, creating memories that would last a lifetime. Health remained stable in both Kampala and Jinja, with no significant issues reported, a testament to the effectiveness of health programs in place Additionally our Small Business Program beneficaries who participated in the training of Joelle successfully received their certificates and celebrated their newly developed skills and success.



57. Our Small Business Program participants in Kampala during the training with Joelle Verkooijen.

The month concluded with festive gatherings in both cities, reinforcing community bonds and allowing everyone to reflect on the year's successes. Weekly call meetings ensured ongoing coordination between teams in Uganda and the Netherlands, highlighting the importance of collaboration and communication in achieving shared goals.



58. Our Small Business Program participants in Jinja during the training with Joelle Verkooijen.



59. Our Kindergarten children graduating from Nursery school will join Primary School next year.



60. Anna Mirembe at her graduation in Education Arts.

Not only did out Nursery school children graduate, but also some of our students. We are very proud of Anna Mirembe, our incredible graduate in Education Arts. Her journey hasn't been easy, filled with challenges that shaped her into the resilient person she is today. Anna shared her story with our children during our weekend lunchs. Listening to her inspiring story as she opens up about her family's hardships and the dreams that fuel her passion for education really motivated us and also our children. We can't wait to see the amazing impact she will make in the world!

## End of November we hosted a Social Impact Trip to Uganda

Our Social Impact Trip is a unique travel experience that combines adventure with meaningful contributions to communities in need. These trips are designed to bring together like-minded individuals who are passionate about making a positive difference while exploring new cultures and environments. The goal is to create lasting social change by fostering connections between people from different backgrounds, enhancing their understanding of global issues, and

contributing to sustainable solutions. Since 2017, the 22STARS Foundation has been organizing these group tours to Uganda, aiming to showcase both the beauty of the country and the impactful work we do. We've welcomed over 80 participants, many of whom have returned to co-host future trips. Our most recent trip, held in November 2024, was an unforgettable experience that left both the participants and local communities feeling inspired and empowered.

## Diary of our social impact trip





61. Visitng the source of the Nile.

62. Visiting the 22STARS center in Kampala.

On November 6, 2024 Stella Airoldi with co-host Steffi Oeffner arrived in Uganda and on November 7, we kicked off the trip with a team-building meeting between our European and African teams. The aim was to foster understanding and set expectations for the trip, touching on important topics such as communication, cultural differences, teamwork, and the responsibilities of roles.

Over the course of the next few days, we received participants from across Europe, who joined us for this impactful journey. Some were first-timers to Uganda, and for many, it was their first visit to Africa.

Our first major visit took place on November 8, when we traveled to Acholi Quarters, a vibrant community where our office is located and where 250 children and their families are supported. Susan Laker, one of our local leaders, shared her personal story of overcoming adversity, which left a profound impact on everyone in the group. The shared table, filled with heartfelt conversation, laughter, and tears, reinforced the deep connections formed between our participants and the local community.

On November 10, the beneficiaries, parents, and children of Acholi Quarters warmly welcomed our visitors. It was a day full of dancing, singing, and bonding. The participants had the

opportunity to connect with children who were not yet sponsored, and thanks to their generosity, these children will now be able to attend school under the sponsorship of 22STARS Foundation in 2025. We are so happy and grateful for this!

On November 11, we took the group on a cultural tour of Kampala, visiting the Royal Palace of Buganda, the Bahigh Temple, and Gaba Beach. After a day of exploration, the team enjoyed a delicious fish lunch, immersing themselves in both the history and hospitality of Uganda.

The following day, November 12, we visited Hope Land School, where we brought food and drinks for the children and distributed letters from their sponsors. For the children, receiving letters from their sponsors was a deeply meaningful moment, reinforcing their sense of connection to their supporters back home. Later that day, we traveled to Jinja, where we visited the Abba Father School, another of our supported projects.



63. The participants together with our 22STARS team at the Sunday lunch in Kampala.

When we got there, we took a boat tour to the Source of the Nile, before visiting Jipra High School, where some of our secondary school students are enrolled. We then enjoyed a local market tour, followed by a relaxing evening with the team.



64. The participants visiting the 22STARS center in Jinja dancing with the children and their mothers.

The trip culminated on November 14, with a cooking lesson at Danida, where our second project is located. It was a day filled with music, dance, and fun activities. The participants also supported local artisans by purchasing paper beads made by the parents of the children we sponsor. Their purchases were not just about buying jewelry; they were a gesture of support for the local community and a tangible way to empower local families.

As we wrapped up the trip, we reflected on the powerful impact of this experience. Our Social Impact group was kind, cooperative, and eager to contribute. Through their efforts, we were able to create positive changes in the community—whether through sponsorships, donations, or the spirit of solidarity they brought with them.

#### **A Trip That Changes Lives**

The November 2024 Social Impact Trip to Uganda was a success on so many levels. From fostering cross-cultural understanding to making real, lasting contributions to local communities, this trip was a powerful reminder of the importance of social responsibility and global citizenship.

We want to extend a special thank you to the incredible participants who joined us on this journey and helped make it truly memorable: Daniel Schlegel, David Schmidt, Irene Taferner, Kirsten Donner, Katharina Kraft, Vivien Vollkaunner, and Olaf Woubrand. Your kindness, cooperation, and dedication to making a positive impact were deeply appreciated. Your contributions, whether through sponsorship, donations, or simply the joy and enthusiasm you brought to the community, have created lasting change in the lives of many. We are grateful for your support, and we hope that the memories and connections formed during this trip will continue to inspire you for years to come. Since Daniel Schlegel and David Schmidt, are part of Maurice Bork his network Die Wichtigste Stunde and found out about us through him, we

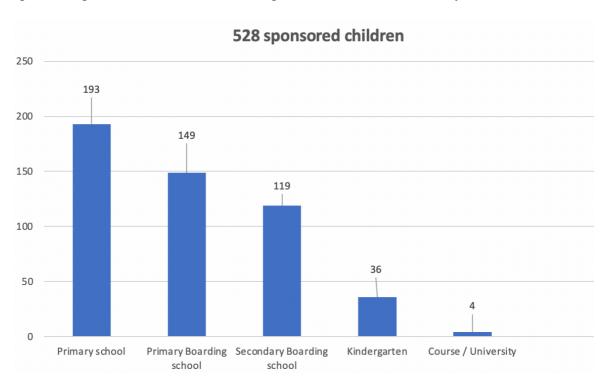
visited also several of the other children who are sponsored by DWS members. Stay tuned for upcoming Social Impact trips with 22STARS Foundation. Join us, make a difference, and be part of something bigger than yourself.



65. A couple of children at Hopeland Highschool holding up signs with their sponsor name on it.

### Number of sponsored children

By the end of 2024, we proudly had 528 sponsored children. Among them, 267 are enrolled in our program in Kampala, while 261 are part of our Jinja program. Out of these 528 children, 236 are boys and 292 are girls. Below is the breakdown by school level. Note that in total we have 342 Primary School kids, of which 149 are in boarding section. It's important to note that while the overall number of children increased only slightly, the number of sponsorships rose significantly. This is primarily because the boarding school students require double sponsorship, as the costs for the boarding section are twice that of day school.



# Bank Balance as of 31 December 2024

Balance as of 31 December 2024				
Assets		31/12/2024		31/12/2023
Cash in Bank	€	75.446,73	€	35.424,76
Total Assets	€	75.446,73	€	35.424,76
Liabilities				
Reservation Sponsors for school sponsorship next year	€	52.086,55	€	20.876,92
Reservation Donors to keep Weekly meals and programs running for 3 months	€	10.000,00	€	10.000,00
Reservation Donors to pay rent children's center and salaries Ugandan team	€	6.400,00	€	-
Reservation Donor for 20 Student Laptops	€	2.600,00	€	-
Reservation Donor Computer Program	€	2.000,00	€	2.000,00
Reservation Donor Music Program	€	1.000,000	€	1.000,000
Remaining money is from Donations made for next year programs	€	860,18	€	1.547,84
Reservation Donor for trip Ugandan team member to Europe	€	500,00	-	
Total Liabilities	€	75.446,73	€	35.424,76

# Profit and Loss Account 2024

Profit and Loss Account				
Income	31/12/2024		31/12/2023	
From donations (one-time)				
Campaign: General Donation	€	8.424,77	€	10.072,66
Campaign: Gifts from sponsors	€	8.174,92		7.189,44
Campaign: Weekly meals	€	5.234,95		5.573,17
Campaign: Christmas Gifts	€	5.171,35		3.392,16
Campaign: Several Health / Emergency campaigns	€	4.827,23		1.250,00
Campaign: Overhead cost	€	3.482,79		2.877,41
Campaing: Several Birthday Fundraisers	€	1.208,82		394,22
Bankfees covered by donors	€	1.120,36	€	1.387,88
Campaign: Local Leadership	€	1.120,50	€	1.000,00
Campaign: Small Business Program	€	_	€	908,12
Campaign: Music Program	€	_	€	380,77
Campaign: Computer Program	€	_	€	135,63
Sub-total Campaigns Private People	€	37.645,19	€	34.561,46
Wir Helfen Sehen E.v. for Eye Program	€	8.310,00		6.075,00
Sub-total charities	€		€	6.075,00
Freiheitspaket.de	€	12.000,00	€	36.422,23
Jan Krapp: for nutrition program and computer program	€	9.323,28	€	9.323,28
Jascha Lang: for general, computer and maize field	€	8.800,00		-
KG Pony Hof E.v.	€	6.600,00	€	
Lachmann-Anke	€		€	-
Thomas Finanzkonzepte	€	5.000,00	€	-
Kulters Petfood	€	3.000,00 1.000,00	€	-
Walzer Optik	€	1.000,00	€	-
Nomad Cruise 11&12 Fundraiser together with several business donors	€	1.000,00	€	15.607,64
Jan Eric Doering 'Lauch Rockstars' : for general	€	-	€	•
Roberta Drell	€	-	€	3.500,00 3.281,73
Sub-total from Businesses	€	46.723,28	€	68.134,88
Total from Donors	€	92.678,47	€	108.771,34
From sponsorships (long-term)		<i>72.</i> 070,47		100.771,54
Donation for this year school program. Minus part that was for covering bank fees	€	203.410,88	€	148.477,03
Donation for next year school program	€	52.086,55		20.876,92
Donation for Bankfees	€	5.121,12	€	3.315.04
Total from Sponsors	€	260.618,55	€	172.668,99
Total Income	€	353.297,02	€	281.440,33
For Anbi Form; Income from grants	€	8.310,00	€	6.075,00
For Anbi Form; Income from donations	€	344.987,02	€	275.365,33
For Anbi Form; Income from private people	€	298.263,74	€	207.230,45
For Anbi Form; Income from charities	€	8.310,00	€	6.075,00
For Anbi Form; Income from businesses	€	46.723,28	€	68.134,88
2 or 12 lot 1 or my moone grown outsinesses		70.723,20	-	00.134,00

Costs		31/12/2024		31/12/2023
From donations (one-time)				
Nutrition Program: Weekly Meals	€	10.225,92	€	10.772,75
Local Leadership Program: two year training program team Uganda	€	8.139,56	-	
Eye-Care Program: Eye tests and treatments and optican school	€	8.125,54	€	6.134,02
All programs: coordinating the additional programs in Uganda by Stella Airoldi SEP	€	6.443,25	€	3.932,50
All Programs: Fee program Assistant Francesca Giovannini	€	6.400,00	€	5.025,00
Education Program: top up for Boarding School	€	6.310,96		20.000,00
Nutrition Program: Maize field	€	4.712,04	€	1.389,17
After School Program: Gifts from sponsors	€	4.585,55		4.529,50
Emergeny Program: floods, basic needs for survival for families	€	3.749,93	-	,
Nutrition Program: Extra Meals	€	3.679,96	€	3.347,66
Education Program: buying school supplies / school uniforms	€	3.110,69	€	601,07
Computer Program: Kampala	€	2.354,78	€	3.841,35
After School Program: Materials for the Children's Center	€	2.302,68	_	3.043,72
After School Program: accomodation team Uganda for projects	€	2.127,36		2.816,92
Computer Program: Jinja	€	2.102,54		4.650,52
All Programs: Volunteer costs	€	2.100,00		1.900,00
After School Program: Christmas celebration	€	2.000,00	_	2.401,20
Nutrition Program: Cooking Materials for meals	€	1.936,52	€	1.356,08
Music Program: music instruments and classes	€	1.852,47		2.033,17
Emergency Program: floods repair of the center	€	1.548,60	-	
Health Program: medical items (like mosquito nets)	€	1.375,03	€	2.296,11
All Programs: Transport Costs made by exec. Chairman S.R. Airoldi on flights to	-			
Uganda (*witdrawing in Uganda is cheaper)	€	1.356,30	€	3.181,94
All programs: education training uganda team	€	1.321,36		965,34
Training Team building	€	1.279,91		671,89
After School Program: meals for team Uganda during projects	€	1.093,47	_	3.813,52
Local (young) Leadership Program: capacity building with Joelle Verkooijen	€	920,71	€	4.869,29
After School Program: Transport costs in Uganda for projects	€	788,63	€	3.079,59
Small Business Program: Utilities and materials	€	602,47	€	1.287,80
After School Program: Weekend outfits children	€	469,50	_	4.060,90
Software projects Uganda video/picture/ reports editors	€	439,75	-	
Education Program: building dormitory for boarding school kids	€	-	€	14.999,62
Education Program: homework help at the center	€	-	€	3.179,84
Small Business Program: Micro loans	€	-	€	1.698,39
Livelihood Program: Basic need items (like mattresses)	€	-	€	779,19
After School Program: Rent Children's center. Full by sponsors in 2024			€	7.946,12
Sub-total Program costs	€	93.455,48	€	130.604,17
Promotion: costs flyers stickers and gifts volunteers	€	3.081,47	€	669,80
PROMOTION: social media and website maintenance done by Stella Airoldi SEP	€	2.904,00	€	2.722,50
Promotion: transport cost made for fundraising	€	2.670,09		2.492,96
Sub-total fundraising / visibility cost	€	8.655,56		5.885,26
Bank Fees: Receiving Donations	€	1.856,53		2.102,66
Sub-total Bank fee cost	€	1.856,53	_	2.102,66
Total Cost from Donors (one-time)	<b>€</b>	103.967,57	€	138.592,09

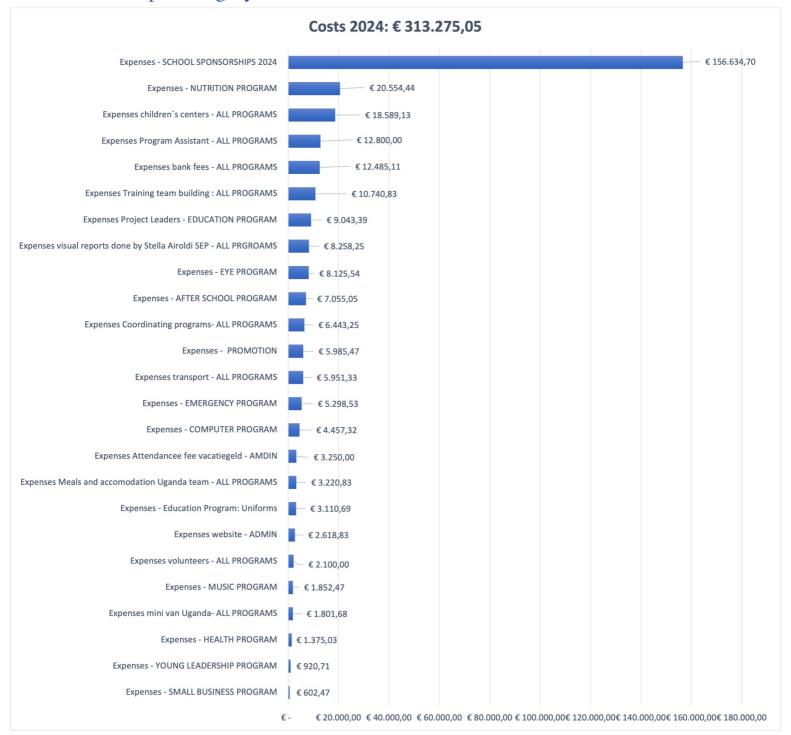
From Sponsors (long-term)				
Education Program: School fees	€	150.323,74	€	136.900,05
Education Program: Rent for Children's center in Kampala and Jinja to have the kids come to for after school activities. FULL BY SPONSORS 2024	€	12.621,92	€	7.946,12
Education Program: fee for local managers to assist the school sponosrship program and take care of the kids	€	9.043,39	€	13.189,04
Education Program: reports and organising schoolp program Uganda by Stella Airoldi SEP	€	8.258,25	€	5.680,95
Education Program: Fee remote program coordinator uganda by Francesca Giovannini.	€	6.400,00	€	5.025,00
Education Program: Materials for the Children's Center	€	2.302,68	€	3.043,72
Education Program: Transport Mini-van related costs	€	1.801,68	€	1.398,62
Education Program: Transport to the schools	€	1.136,31	€	3.027,89
Education Program: Internet data team and childrens center	€	922,10	€	489,52
Education Program: School fees paid for next years school term	€	-	€	4.374,89
Sub-total Program costs	€	192.810,07	€	181.075,80
Costs website-hosting email provider and data storage	€	2.618,83	€	2.011,36
Sub-total admin	€	2.618,83	€	2.011,36
Attendance fee (vacatiegeld) Stella Airoldi SEP	€	3.250,00	€	3.250,00
Total attendance fees (vacatiegeld)	€	3.250,00	€	3.250,00
Bank Fees: Receiving Donations	€	9.880,44	€	5.752,14
Bank Fees: Sending Money	€	748,14	€	911,20
Total Bank fee cost	€	10.628,58	€	6.663,34
Total Cost from Sponsors (long-term)	€	209.307,48	€	193.000,50
Total Cost	€	313.275,05	€	331.592,59
For Anbi Form: donations given	€	286.265,55	€	311.679,97
For Anbi Form: Communication costs (fundraising)	€	8.655,56	€	5.885,26
For Anbi Form: Bank fees (financial))	€	12.485,11	€	8.766,00
For Anbi Form: Admin and vacatiegeld (other)	€	5.868.83	€	5.261.36

<b>Profit and Loss Account</b>				
Saldo		31/12/2024		31/12/2023
Donations (one-time)				
Income donations	€	92.678,47	€	108.771,34
Cost made from donations	€	103.967,57	€	138.592,09
Saldo donations	€	23.360,18	€	34.649,28
Sponsors (long-term)				
Income sponsors for school sponsorship	€	260.618,55	€	172.668,99
Cost sponsors for school sponsorship	€	209.307,48	€	193.000,50
Saldo long term sponsors	€	52.086,55	€	775,48
Total Income	€	353.297,02	€	281.440,33
Total Cost	€	313.275,05	€	331.592,59
Total Saldo	€	75.446,73	€	35.424,76
For Anbi Form: Balance of income and expenditure	€	40.021,97	€	-50.152,26

## Income per category 2024



## Costs per category 2024



### 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 executive chairman 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,"Organisatieszonder-winststreven" van de Raad voor de Jaarverslaggeving voor kleine rechtspersonen."

#### Currency

All amounts are in  $\in$  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  $\in$ , 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 our 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 kids 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 microloans. Once the microloans 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 4 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 kids, 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 brining Joelle Verkooijen to Uganda to the workshops with the team on the ground as well as facilitating them remotely. We paid for Joelle's flight and accommodation in Uganda. And we paid her a small fee for facilitating and preparing all workshops. As for Joelle this is a heart project as it is 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 kids 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. Executive Chairman 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 pictures. 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 2025 the impact of Volunteers on our organization.

#### 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 Für 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: <a href="mailto:info@foundation22stars.org">info@foundation22stars.org</a> 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 Bansko and to the talks of Stefanie Oeffner at the tour of her boyfriend Nick Martin and our new ambassador Daniela Beck. Additionally, also Timo Eckhardt from Freihteitspaket has been sharing several times about 22STARS. And a super huge thank you is to Maurice Bork from Die Wichtistige Stunde. Maurice is for two years a sponsor and since 2024 our new ambassador. 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 one week. 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 2024 to the previous year 2023.

#### 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: 85744249. 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 <a href="https://www.foundation22stars.org">https://www.foundation22stars.org</a>. Contacts with the foundation are via: info@foundation22stars.org or Kasteelplein 73, 4811 XC, Breda.

#### **Concluding Remarks**

The year 2024 began with considerable stress, as we feared we might have to stop supporting some of the children. However, it took a remarkable turn when, instead of having to drop kids from our program, we were able to add 52 new children. We experienced the joy of seeing all 528 of our children in school, with many advancing to boarding school!

We also continued our programs, empowering our on-ground team members to achieve greater independence. As we grow, our focus has shifted toward fostering Local Leadership. This initiative aims to enhance our team's ability in Uganda to communicate better their needs to us, manage expectations with the community members, produce better proposals and impact reports, enabling our Fundraising team to devote more time to securing donations. Though this is a work in progress, as the Uganda team requires substantial guidance and support to manage their increasing tasks in a constantly changing environment, the growth and learning they demonstrated over the past year have been truly remarkable. We are immensely proud of their accomplishments.

For the year ahead, we sincerely hope that the presidential election will not significantly disrupt our programs and will be peaceful. We also hope for minimal increases in school fees, transportation, and food costs. Additionally, we are grateful for our current sponsors and hope they will continue to support their children, and perhaps even contribute further through extra donations or by leveraging their networks. We also look forward to welcoming new sponsors and donors to our mission. Our ultimate aim is to provide even more children with access to education.

In recent years, we've observed the profound impact that education has on these children's lives. Education is undeniably the key to overcoming poverty and disease!

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported the 22STARS foundation from the very beginning, placing their trust in us. Thank you for taking the time to read our 2024 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 2024 on 9 March 2025, in Breda, Netherlands.

On behalf of the board, S.R. Airoldi, Executive Chairman

S.R. Likoldi

 $R.S.E.\ Oosterbeek,\ Treasurer$ 

D.R. Walzer, Secretary

K.F. Müller, Policy Making Member