

RAINING HOPE

“And he will send showers of rain so every field becomes a lush pasture.” Zechariah 10:1

Inside this edition:

UPDATES ON:

New Rules of Compliance

Compliance Projects

Stateside:

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CALL TO PRAYER New Compliance



To Raining Hope Supporters and Friends:

Calvary greetings to you, our dear supporters and friends. Thank you for all the work that you do in the Lord.

I am so thankful to God for using all of you to **support us as a ministry so we can remain open**. With the changes that happened here in our city, so much changed with the policies and the manner by which we have to operate as an organization. Jinja, the city in which we operate required so much for us to continue operation within the city. **These changes attracted immediate resolutions** on our side as a ministry. Financial support to acquire the necessary requirements for us to stay open were critical. **Your continued support towards this cause has helped us to remain open**. It is because of your support that we are encouraged to do what we do. It helps to keep heads of many up and maintains smiles on the faces of many here in Uganda. Thank you dearly for your kindness and love in all that you do for us. We are forever grateful for the support that you have rendered to us and that you continue to extend towards Raining Hope.

May God bless you abundantly and keep you safe in all you do for his glory.

We continue to hold you in our hearts with great love and prayers.

Shalom,

Godfrey

NEW RULES OF COMPLIANCE TO REMAIN OPEN

About a week ago, we received word that the **city of Jinja has new rules of operation** for homes and businesses. Unexpectedly, the top officials who monitor the operation of the homes within Jinja city abruptly showed up with a surprise inspection at our home. Before they arrived, they had **already closed three other homes** for not complying with the city policies and laws. **They have new rules of compliance that are affecting all homes.** Basically, the **rules are suddenly changing** for the operation of homes. This is because Jinja has changed their status to an **incorporated city.**

The officials found some gaps within our ministry that were grounds to close us immediately claiming that we are not capable to run the home in the state it is in. After negotiating, he had to give them "monitoring fees" for them not to close us. Instead, it allowed extra time for Godfrey to meet with the governing council to discuss what would be required for us to **receive the new city permit to operate as a non-profit home.**

We praise God for the meeting with the city officials. We were not the only ones there. All the homes were in attendance like a town hall meeting. They brought in each home individually. Godfrey said that **many of the individual meetings were not going well and other homes were closed.**

Because we followed all the old compliance rules, that worked highly in our favor. Our books were all in order and paperwork was solid. They see our results and that spoke for itself.

The officials said **they don't want to close us but we must come under the new compliance laws.** Godfrey said the miracle was **they are giving us a short window to fix a few immediate needs.**

This is **initial list of requirements** we need to fulfill before we can apply for the new **Permit to Operate a home in Jinja.** As a point of reference, **we purchased the house in 2015.** Many of the new requirements are things that have gotten run down over the past eight years. Appearance is everything now that Jinja is an official city. Not only is appearance important, but they want the homes to remain a safe place.

- 1). New curtains for the entire house - \$635
- 2). Curtain Rods - \$219
- 3). New Bed Sheets (at least 3 pairs each) - \$219
- 4). New Mosquito Nets for each bed - \$110
- 5). Window Mosquito Nets (like screens) - \$134
- 6). Replacing broken glass on windows - \$126
- 7). Supervision Fee (Requirement) - \$329



New Bed Sheets & Nets



Total immediately needed to stay open: \$1745 (DONE! Praise the Lord!)

God's people met this emergency need! When Godfrey contacted me, we only had one day to pay the supervision fee. We had only a couple of days to start implementing the above list. **Donors immediately gave from their hearts and we have started working through the requirements. Praise the Lord! It has allowed us to at least stay open.** We have managed to do what seemed impossible. **Raining Hope wants to be explained by the miraculous so God receives all the glory.** From the conversations we had with the officials, **we can operate if key requirements are met .** Then we continue to handle other requirements as we process the permit.

CONTINUED LIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLIANCE

Here is a continuing list of what the officials are requiring us to do as prerequisites before we are permitted to operate. These following items need to be completed immediately.

8). **Painting the house regularly** (This includes the perimeter wall & varnishing doors and windows) This is an immediate need as they wanted us to start painting the outside of the house and the perimeter wall now. **The approximate cost to start is \$1,438**

- 9). New towels for each person - \$260
- 10). Curtain Sheers - \$810
- 11) Door Locks - \$493
- 12). Window Glass Locks - \$242
- 13). Small Window Curtains- \$310
- 14). Fixing Sign Post (Raining Hope) - \$82
- 15) Cement/Sand to fix exterior wall posts - \$370

Grand Total : \$4005



Wall - needs paint
Post - needs cement



New curtains for wide windows

Not an immediate need but are a requirement:

15). **Health Needs:**

- a). **A separate room is needed as a nursing station.** Currently the hospital bed we have for emergencies is in the main office.
- b). A **live-in nurse** or at least living close by to respond to any health emergencies.
- c). A **visiting doctor** who makes regular visits and signs in each time he visits.

16). **Capacity to respond to emergencies:**

- a). **A new home van** - Godfrey has a car but we sold the other van because it was costing us more in repairs. They are requiring another vehicle in case of emergencies. If Godfrey is not home, we have to have an alternate form of transportation in case of emergency. (We have about \$2,000 saved towards the new van)

17). **Paving or putting tarmac down on the compound** (currently dirt and grass)

18). Providing **new clothing, sandals & shoes** regularly

In 2018, there was a sudden decision by the government to **close 569 homes that were operating illegally**. They were siphoning money from donors at the expense of the Ugandan children. Some homes were even used as conduits of child trafficking and abusing children's rights. (You can go to our website www.raininghope.org and read past newsletters from 2018 that explain in more detail).

All homes were given new regulations and requirements in order to continuing operating. In the town of Jinja there used to be over 40 charitable homes dealing with different situations to improve people's lives. With this first crackdown, only about 12 remained and we were one of them. From June 2018, we began the process of fulfilling those compliance laws in order to remain open. Part of that process was homes that stayed opened were to **find ways to have more of a direct impact on the community**. The government was looking for ways that impacted the people with their programs.

We came up with **three proposed projects** that were approved. We published them in the **August 2018 Special Edition Update**. These were to begin after we fulfilled the necessary improvements on the home to come under compliance . We began making plans at the end of 2019 to raise funds for the first project. **THEN 2020 happened to the whole world**. When the officials visited last week, one reason we were almost immediately shut down was because we had not yet started these projects. They thought we were purposely being non-compliant. When Godfrey explained the timing of the COVID pandemic, they understood we were still committed to the three projects. **They have given us until the end of this year to come up with a work plan** and at least begin **implementing two of these projects**. (cont. page 4)

Compliance Projects

The **three community based projects** involve a **hospital project** providing basic needs to the vulnerable, a **school project** providing scholastic materials and sanitary wear, and **helping needy families with capital**.

The other project we began before the COVID shutdown was a **project** that was intended to help the home attain a certain **level of self-sustainability**. It also **equips the students with life skills** even while at the house. These involve projects like poultry, piggery, tailoring, welding, carpentry, ceramics etc. as long as they earn the home money and help to teach skills to the students. **We began raising poultry** but when COVID hit and prices increased, the cost of feed was so expensive, Godfrey said we would have been selling the poultry at a loss. So that project got put on hold. **We now need to reimplement at least one of those projects.**

Even though this came upon us suddenly, we know it didn't catch God by surprise. We are trusting Him to lead and guide us and to provide what is needed. We have been **granted favor to stay open while we are given a grace period to implement these policies and fulfill the needed requirements.**

We are trusting in God alone in this challenge. **We are watching God do what only He could do.** We desired the committee members would sense the presence of Christ in the meeting last week. We prayed they would see we are doing more for the city by being who we are...**OPENED for His Glory!**

Please join us in praying for the immediate need of these funds. Let's overwhelm the city and those who are watching with the love and the authority of Jesus Christ!

UPDATED WAYS TO MAKE A DONATION

CHECKS: Please mark your check with the area you would like the funds to go to such as **COMPLIANCE, SCHOOL FEES etc.** or **BUDGET**. If multiple donations come in for a designated need, excess funds will be placed in the budget to cover the overall needs. If there is no designation it will go into the budget to use at our discretion.

Checks can be sent directly to our Treasurer, Carol John at 11832 Quince Mill Drive, North Potomac, MD 20878 or to our Raining Hope offices c/o Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road #206, Ventura, CA 93003.

***CREDIT CARD:** On our website www.raininghope.org choose DONATE. Follow the prompts.

***TEXT-TO-GIVE:** On your phone send a text to 844-544-7171 and text the phrase RAININGHOPE. Follow the prompts to give by credit card.



NEW! *QR CODE: Scan this QR code. Follow the prompts to give by credit card.



NEW! ZELLE : If your bank uses Zelle for money transfers you may send money instantly to Raining Hope. Follow the prompts and select 805-377-7387.

If you have any questions about ways to give, please contact Carol John - carol@raininghope.org. All donations are tax deductible. Raining Hope Incorporated is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization.

Note:

* These methods of donating require a credit card. Raining Hope pays 2.5% to 3% on these gifts. There is an option for the donor to pay all or some of the credit card fees.