

RAINING HOPE

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

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Stateside:

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We would like to thank all those who have been praying and helping to meet the immediate needs of the Raining Hope family and the parents and guardians of our children. We thank you for your continued sacrificial giving at such a time of great need during the secondary lockdown. At the end of the 42-day lockdown on July 31, 2021, the President announced a **partial lifting with new directives**:

1. Curfew will remain from 7:00 pm-5:30 am daily.
2. Boda bodas can operate until 6:00 pm. They are allowed one passenger and cargo. Masks must be worn.
3. Roadside vending banned.
4. Malls, arcades and business centers can now open with strict observances of Standard Operating Procedures.
5. Burial and marriage ceremonies restricted to 20 people observing all Standard Operating Procedures.
6. Places of worship remain closed to in-person gatherings for the next 60 days.
7. Sports allowed with no spectators.
8. Schools to remain closed until sufficient vaccination of the population.
9. Private vehicles can move across districts with maximum of three people.
10. Conferences, workshops and seminars remain banned.
11. Public transport allowed with half capacity.

“Buli Muntu Agumye Mune”

Translation - “Every person should encourage each other”.

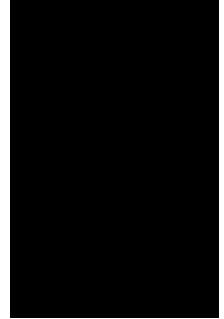
“Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing,” 1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

UGANDA NATIONWIDE LOCKDOWN An Extraordinary Thank You for Extraordinary Caring



The 42-day secondary lockdown was a huge challenge. The way you supported us for a second month to provide food and supplies to the families of our children meant more than we can express. **The parents were overwhelmed** when we delivered food for a second month. They were not expecting it. **Here is a testimony from young Joanne's mum:**

"When I sent money for food to the mother of young Joanne, she was so excited and emotional. At first, she thought it was money from the government since there was an effort to support only 500,000 people with 100,000 shillings (\$28). Then when Joanne her daughter called her to inform her we had sent money for food and supplies she was overjoyed. She told me how she had spent days without food depending on a single meal for two days. She said she was sick and didn't know what to do. The money for food came as a miracle because she was in her room praying for provision and God made a way. She said **thank you to Raining Hope for thinking about the parents.** Her words were, 'Even after helping my child, you thought of me as well. I am forever thankful.'" *Godfrey*



Last month we mentioned **Sophia & Zuluta's mum was very sick due to being HIV positive and having kidney issues.** She became so ill that Godfrey was given permission to drive her to her sister's home to care for her. However, **she has two other young children living with her** who have had the responsibility of taking care of her. They are **13 year old twins**, a boy and a girl. Godfrey continued to help take them food in the mother's absence. He had to gain permission from the local leaders to travel to care for the twins because of the lockdown orders. The leaders suggested it was safer to bring the twins to **stay with us temporarily** until the lockdown was lifted. With **crime rising** there were huge concerns for the **safety of the children staying alone**, especially for the young girl. Godfrey has arranged to take the twins to their brothers in Entebbe once the lockdown was lifted. For now, they are safe and more hopeful. The mother is slowly getting better. Continue to pray for the whole family with all the unique challenges they are facing.



Relief funds that we continue to collect will be needed **until families return to work and get back on their feet.** The approximate cost right now to take care of their families is \$800 a month as food prices continue to rise. Our children have been relieved that their parents and guardians had food to eat due to your sacrificial giving. We also have been able to include relief help for a couple of the families in our community that really needed help. The Raining Hope website and my Facebook page have posted videos of some of the families receiving their gifts of food. Each one of our children deeply thank you for your compassionate giving at this challenging time. Thank you for standing with us. Godfrey said they feel less of its effect because of your deep love and support. Together we shall overcome and God receives all the glory! **We ask that you continue to pray for Uganda and for the Raining Hope family** as much of the effect of COVID-19 restrictions are predicted to last throughout the rest of this year.

SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR PROVIDING FOR THE FAMILIES OF OUR CHILDREN

"We want to thank God for all the prayers and donations given to help the struggling parents of our dear children. In this lockdown, we are facing such hard times as a people which I believe is the same thing happening in most countries. With your love and support, all the families we gave the love gift to were so happy as expressed in some of their testimonies. For some we were able to deliver food and supplies which included posho (wheat flour), beans, rice, sugar, cooking oil, salt, soap and some funds to buy other perishable items. I wired money to the families who I was not able to visit in person because of travel and COVID restrictions". (Godfrey)



Maria's Mother - Testimony:

"I am thankful you thought of me. I did not know how I would make it through this lockdown. Some times I would eat and other days I would go without. I am encouraged that you thought of me and came to my rescue. I am so speechless and humbled. My prayer is that God will continue to keep you well. Thanks to Raining Hope as a ministry. It blesses me to know that even in our struggling situation in this lockdown, we as parents are thought of. To me it is an answer to prayer."

Godfrey said that Maria's mother got so emotional. They prayed together before they left. This is how much your food gifts mean to the families.



Sylvia's Mother - Testimony:

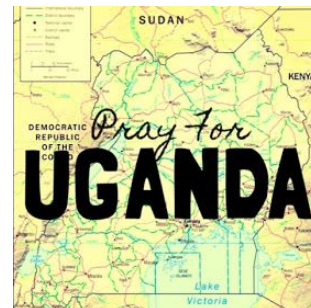
"This is God. I have been sick for days and did not even eat well and part of it is overthinking. I have been stressed for not having food at home, yet I am the mother. I am thankful to Mama Eydie, to Pastor Godfrey and my daughter Sylvia for thinking about me. I even feel well now that I can have a meal. We are suffering in this lockdown but God has really helped us through all of you supporters. I pray that God will really bless you all and the entire ministry. Thank you so much".

We have been praying for our need of new plates and utensils. It has been a couple of years since we were able to purchase these needed items. Godfrey said because plates etc. have broken they are not all eating at the same time in order to share plates. Last month due to a generous donor we were able to purchase everything that we needed. Besides the items in the photos, they were able to purchase needed flasks (thermos bottles) for coffee and tea, pitchers, various plates (melamine & ceramic) and replace the blender which is needed to make juice. They are all SO HAPPY to have the basic necessities so they can all eat together at the same time as a family. THANK YOU to our generous donor. THANK YOU to everyone who prayed for the need to be met.





COVID-19 LOCKDOWN PRAYER POINTS



Food Supply:

1. The situation is hard because people don't have money to buy food which is causing **hunger** among the population. There will be **more deaths due to hunger** not from the COVID-19 virus.
2. **Food prices are still extremely high.** In some cases **prices are three times the normal amount.** Those who can not buy food are going hungry. Our budget was increased to \$2240 last month.
3. Markets are now open. **Pray for our regular vendors** who also need support.
4. There is an **increase in crime** as people get desperate. **Continue to pray for our safety** in our compound.
5. Most Ugandans live from **hand to mouth and don't have any savings built up.** They only eat when they have worked. Pray that as the lockdown is partially lifted people can get back to their jobs.
6. The **exchange rate is also unstable.** It was a much lower rate which caused the last wire to be \$60 less in shillings.

Healthcare System:

7. Healthcare system is **overwhelmed** - Hospitals can not keep up with the new cases.
8. Pray for **doctors and nurses and all healthcare workers.**
9. **Medicine costs have skyrocketed.** Godfrey's words are it is "unpatriotic". EG. Malaria treatment usually around \$40 - now \$110.
10. Pray for **healing and cure** for COVID-19
11. Pray for comfort for those who have **lost loved ones.**
12. Pray for **wisdom and discernment for the government** as they make decisions.

Schools & Churches:

13. **Schools are closed** until further notice.
14. **Churches are closed to in-person gatherings.**
15. Our **radio ministry** continues to be the main source of spreading the gospel in a time that HOPE is critical. Our church has an average of over 200 attending on Sunday (pre-COVID). **The radio ministry began during the pandemic to reach the Raining Hope congregation.** Most do not have the ability for online services but everyone has a radio. God has taken this ministry from just our congregation and unexpectedly extended it to reach throughout the entire country of Uganda!
16. Pray for Godfrey as he **preaches on Sunday through the radio ministry.** Pray for Godfrey as he encourages the population as he preaches and prays with people. Praying for **repentance and lives to be transformed.** Continue to pray for the needed monthly \$135 airtime fee for the local program. Currently we have one person who has been giving towards this need. The National Radio program is at no charge. (There is a testimony on page 5 from one of our food vendors who listens to Raining Hope Ministries on the radio).



Godfrey & Fred

One of our vendors we buy spices from recently shared this testimony with Godfrey. Fred said that he was thankful for the radio ministry. He said because of his divorce and the effects that came with it he was **thinking of ending his life**. He heard Godfrey preach on how to overcome the depths of despair on the radio. Fred listened to the entire message and realized that God was speaking to him through Godfrey's message. He said that **God restored his life**. He said his life has been changed and encouraged by the teachings most especially as we face this difficult time as a nation. Fred encouraged Godfrey to continue in the ministry of the Word and he is praying for a wider platform for him to preach.

Godfrey expresses his gratitude to all who are standing and supporting the sharing of the gospel through the radio.

Security System



Another challenge created by the lockdown was the **rise in crime**. The President has highly recommended organizations and homes such as ours invest in **surveillance cameras** to protect

our property. I discussed this with Godfrey and he said because our property is large we would need eight cameras to mount on each corner of the two buildings. One would also cover the gate area. We already had a problem with some teenagers who tried to enter into the compound when Godfrey drove through our gate. Cameras will be a **deterrent to criminal activity**. But if they do come into the compound **cameras have proven to be key in arresting offenders**.

A total security system for eight cameras, cables, equipment & installation will cost \$1,340. The good news is the amount raised during the **Touch Uganda prayer emphasis by Grace Fellowship** for relief efforts will cover the cost of the needed system! This is a **priority in order to keep our family safe especially at this unstable time**. We still have our **guard dog** which has been a "barking" alarm to scare off would be troublemakers! We did replace the second dog that was poisoned by thieves. The third dog also died and Godfrey was working with them to replace the dog when COVID hit.

Touch Uganda

GRACE FELLOWSHIP

On Sunday, July 11, 2021, Grace Fellowship in Duarte, California announced a **two-week emphasis on prayer and giving in support of Raining Hope as well as Wells of Hope** (another one of their ministry partners in Uganda). Grace Fellowship has been one of our faithful monthly supporters for many years. After reading about the challenges in Uganda in our last newsletter and seeking direction in prayer, Pastor Doug felt led by the Lord to do more, over and above their regular giving.

We are thankful for Grace Fellowship for calling for **extraordinary prayer and extraordinary giving** at a time our Ugandan family needs extra encouragement. **God answered prayer in an EXTRAORDINARY WAY!** We thank Grace Fellowship for first calling for **PRAYER** which is the foundation of Raining Hope. God answered in ways that can only be explained as **miraculous**. **THANK YOU, GRACE FELLOWSHIP** and all who prayed and gave towards the needs during this unprecedented time. We will be able to help so many as they continue to recover from this secondary lockdown.

HOW TO MAKE A DONATION

CHECKS: Mark your check with the area you would like the funds to go to such as RELIEF etc. or BUDGET and send to our stateside office. If multiple donations come in for a specific need, funds will be placed in the budget to cover the needs. If there is no designation it will go in budget to use at our discretion.

CREDIT CARD: You can also make credit card donations on our website - www.rainingshope.org.

TEXT TO GIVE: If you would like to send a text to give to Raining Hope by credit card, just send a text to 844-544-7171 and text RAININGHOPE. Follow the prompts and you will receive a receipt! **Text to Give has no additional charges.**

If you have any questions about ways to give, please contact Carol John - 805-377-7387

All donations are tax deductible. Raining Hope Incorporated is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

IMPORTANT UPDATE;
Checks can be sent directly to our treasurer, Carol John or
To our offices in Ventura

**Carol John - 11832 Quince Mill Drive
North Potomac, MD 20878**