

# Lions Clubs International



**MD105 British Isles**

Registered Office Lions Clubs British Isles 257 Alcester Road South Kings Heath Birmingham B14 6NU

## ‘A Gift for Living’ Proposal

A sponsorship programme to support children in an Orphanage in Jinja, Uganda, providing each child with food, shelter, medication, clothes, and education.

To protect the safety and wellbeing of children in the care of the orphanage. Through your charity, Lions Clubs International – ‘A Gift for Living’ we would receive donations and administer the sponsorship programme. Whilst it would be a new route for A Gift for Living, the Trustees have the necessary skills, experience, and knowledge to successfully deliver.

### Background

Many may remember, the Malawi children’s education sponsorship programme from some years ago. It was well organised but unfortunately supported only by a few local administrators and sadly there was insufficient succession planning. Having recently concluded a visit to witness at first hand, PID Phil Nathan has seen and been emotionally touched by the needs of the children in an Orphanage in Jinja, Uganda. There is currently a Trust operating, (Shield of Faith Community Empowerment Organisation), in the area that was set up by a totally dedicated young Lion who was himself an orphan and adopted. There are currently 40 children aged 4-16 years who are cared for by the Trust and volunteers. These young adults are educated and taught a trade, until age 16.

### The critical need

The current Trust is struggling financially and has a number of requirements to continue to operate. There are also complexities of Ugandan rules and regulations. If it closes, the children are likely to end up on the street. The consequences of this would likely lead to trafficking and probable prostitution. It is our hope that through A Gift for Living we can step in to support these children and to encourage the global Lions community to sponsor these children.

### Costs

The cost per child per year is \$480 (approx. £390) and over the ten-year sponsorship programme the cost is \$4,800 (approx £3,900).

No allowance for inflation or exchange rate fluctuations during the proposed ten-year period are included in the above figures.

This will provide each child with food, shelter, medication, clothes, and education.

This project has received full support of MD105 Council of Governors who would ask that you consider :-

# Lions Clubs International



## MD105 British Isles

Registered Office Lions Clubs British Isles 257 Alcester Road South Kings Heath Birmingham B14 6NU

- Committing to a ten-year pledge of support, by making annual payments OR
- Payment of the ten-year sponsorship as a full payment up front OR
- Consider joining up with another Club to make a joint pledge / donation OR
- Take pledges from individual members who may wish to make a personal donation - UK individual donors can use this for Gift Aid purposes if they are a taxpayer.
- Nominate a member within your Club who would act as the sponsor of an individual child and undertake communication with them 3 / 4 times a year via the orphanage.

We would ask that financial donations to 'A Gift for Living' be forwarded to your District Treasurer and clearly indicated that it is for the Orphanage in Uganda Appeal.

### Conclusion

This presents a great opportunity for MD105 to be able to give support and enable a full placement of children into the orphanage

We would ask that financial donations to 'A Gift for Living' be forwarded to your District Treasurer and clearly indicated that it is for the Orphanage in Uganda Appeal.

We have always believed in 'Answering the Call to Serve' and in this area the call is great. It would take 40 US Dollars a month to feed, cloth, provide medication and educate a child. Yes, it is a commitment, but sponsorship can provide a child/young adult with a better start in life – to be educated and provide some hope for a future.

We are excited and delighted to have already received individual offers of sponsorship from outside of the U.K, furthermore there are distinct possibilities of other Multiple Districts getting involved. An orphanage sponsored by the Lions global family would be a true reflection of who we are as an organisation.

The Trustees record our thanks to District Governor Kevin Hunter for leading the Council discussions and debate with passion.

**David Pope**  
Chair of Council  
On behalf of MD105  
Council of Governors



**PID Phil Nathan MBE**  
Chair of Trustees  
A Gift for Living