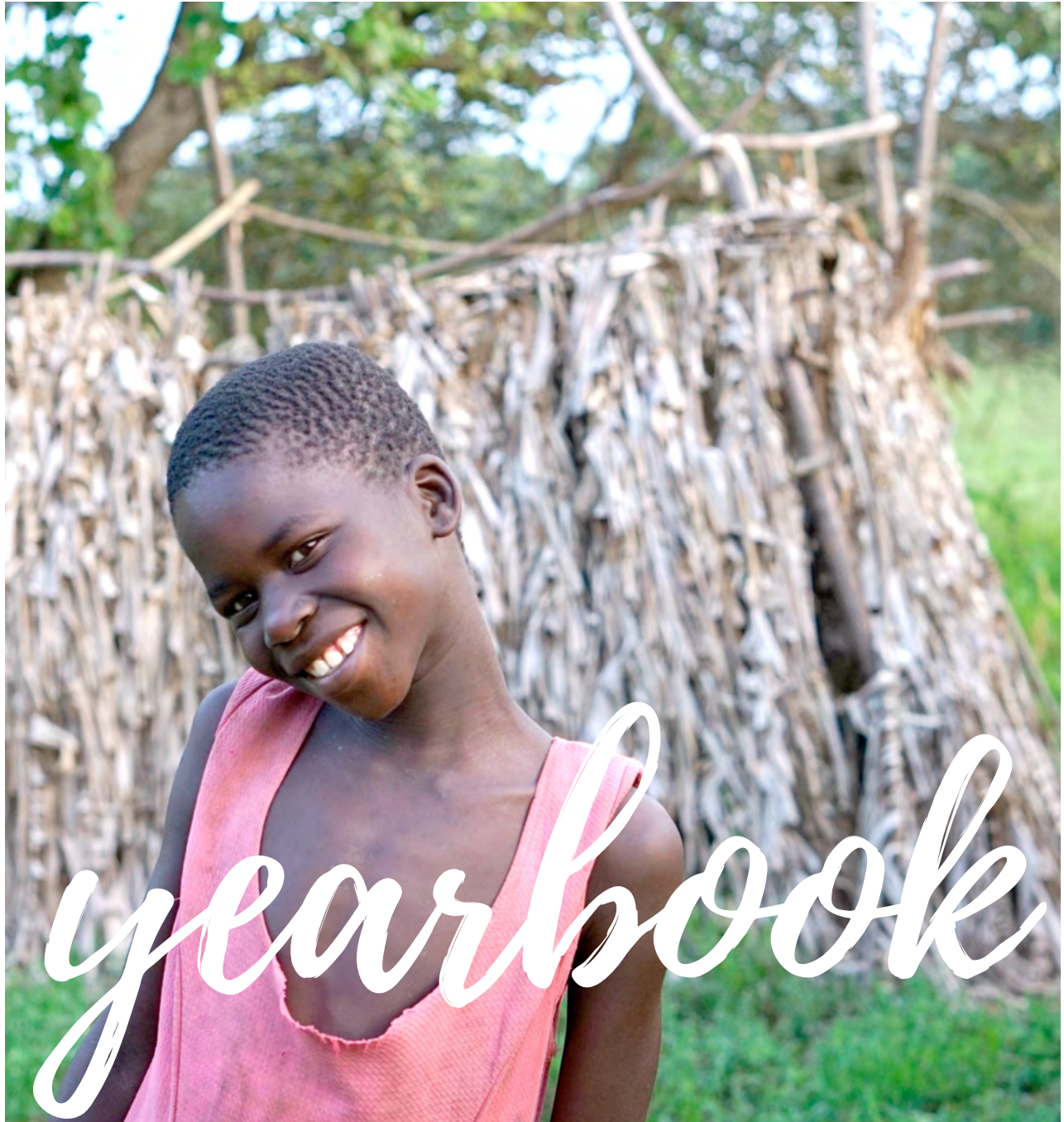




FAR AWAY
FRIENDS



2017

www.farawayfriendsglobal.com



FAR AWAY
FRIENDS

A LETTER FROM OUR

executive director

To all of our friends, both near & “far away”,

In last year’s Yearbook, I wrote about opening our first school – an extremely gutsy development project for a group of twenty-somethings that took us nearly five years to build, all from \$20 donations by friends and family. At the beginning of 2017, we were just starting to see the impact that Global Leaders Primary School would have on the community of Namasale. Our goal was then, and is still, to educate tomorrow’s globally conscientious leaders who will end the cycle of generational poverty.

In July of 2017 during our annual trip to Uganda, our team along with nine of our Cultural Immersion Trip Volunteers, had the great privilege of sitting in on a school-wide debate assembly at GLP. Considering my own fear of public speaking, I was trying to wrap my head around how our students were expected to argue their position on complex topics, in front of a crowd of foreign visitors, camera crew, all of their peers in their second language. When P6 student Tracy (cover girl from last year’s Yearbook) stood up in front of the crowd and in crystal clear English, *slayed* her speech arguing for the “importance of technology in the modern and increasingly globalized world”, tears welled up in my eyes.

I realized then that this moment was only possible because GLP exists. No longer does it matter that she grew up in a far away village -- Tracy may very well become a Member of Parliament one day (or the first female President of Uganda, or Wonder Woman – the list goes on) because she had a team of incredible teachers behind her, because she was encouraged to dream BIG and most importantly, because she went to the school that YOU helped to create in a rural village in northern Uganda. So many more success stories are unfolding in a community where such stories are uncommon because YOU believe in investing in the transformational power of education.

Do you want to know the best part of this story? It’s only the very beginning.

Last year, with the help of our volunteer team, we were able to gather countless interviews from community members, local leaders, educators and District officials about how our education programs can impact more people across hundreds of villages. Using what we’ve learned and with the tremendous support of the community and friends like you, we are so excited to be officially launching new education, mentorship, sanitation/hygiene, and business programs in 2018 which will impact hundreds more students and families across Amolatar District.

As always, I hope that this 2017 Yearbook allows you to realize the possibilities that have been unlocked because of you. That a sacred space in Namasale is filled everyday with eager students and motivated teachers who are transforming their own communities thanks to your support. We hope you feel as much joy as we feel gratitude for the achievements we’ve made together.

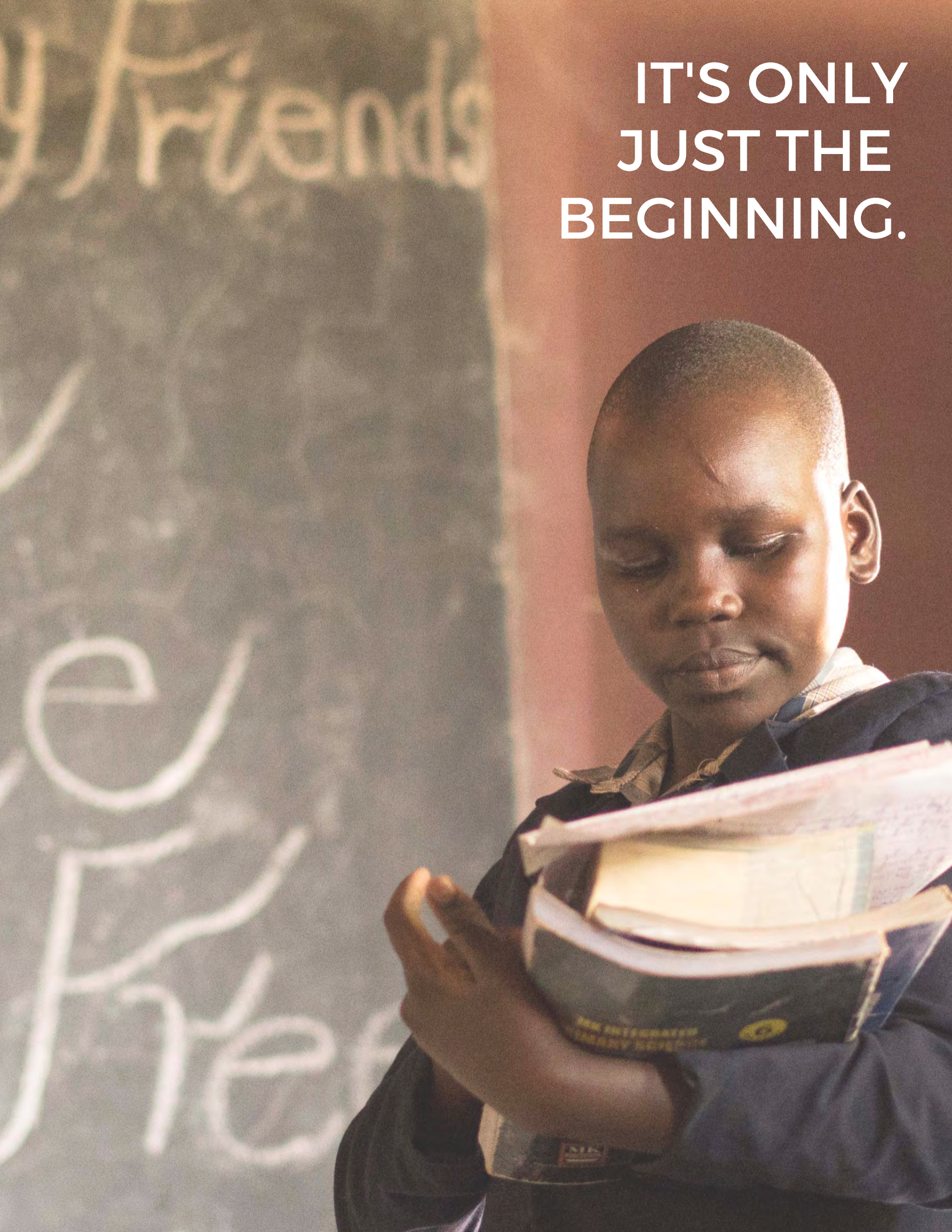
With Tenacious Love & Gratitude,



Jayme Ward

Co-Founder & Executive Director

IT'S ONLY
JUST THE
BEGINNING.



Our mission

We empower rural communities to **end generational poverty** through education & opportunity.



Our programs

GLOBAL LEADERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Opened by Far Away Friends in 2016, GLP is a locally-owned/operated day & boarding primary school educating children grades Pre-K through P7 in one of Uganda's poorest performing educational districts. Through GLP, we aim to equip students with the tools they need to achieve academic success and end cycles of generational poverty.

TEACHER SPONSORSHIP

Our OperationTEACH program supports the salaries of our teachers, administration & non-teaching staff at GLP, allowing the school to save funds with the aim of becoming self-sustaining by 2020. In a community that typically does not place a high value on the teaching profession, FAF is passionate about giving Educators in Namasale the training, support and uplift they deserve.

SCHOOL OUTREACH

In order to impact more students, teachers & families across Amolatar District, we launched our School Outreach Program in 2017. Our vision is to work alongside Administrators, Educators & Parents at our partner schools to ensure student success. In 2018 our goal is to complete an infrastructure project at Namasale Primary as well as identify four new partner schools in each of the sub-counties of Amolatar District through this program.

CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIPS

"On this life-changing trip, I learned what it truly means to be a global citizen and the importance of cross-cultural connections. The people of Far Away Friends and Namasale became a second family to me." -- Marissa Zamudio, Immersion Trip Volunteer 2017

Our core philosophy

EDUCATION IS FOR EVERYONE.

Far Away Friends sees education as a starting point for investing in the economic and social development of a community. Our philosophy is that regardless of a child's place of origin, they deserve the tools to grow into conscientious global leaders. We aim to partner with schools in rural communities whose educational resources for children and adults are absent or in need of advancement.

PARTNERSHIP OVER CHARITY.

We don't do charity work--we create mutually beneficial partnerships for the "global good". We believe in helping to support the vision of globally-minded local leaders in rural communities by sharing their stories and using our time, talent and energy to identify grassroot "investors" who support their dreams for development. Listening carefully to leaders in our partner communities to make informed decisions about our investments is a practice we take very seriously.

CONNECTION CHANGES EVERYTHING.

We believe that by connecting people in both the developed and developing world, they can better understand cultural differences and break down stereotypes by making a new friend. Making these connections, we are able to practice empathy and gain a stronger cultural/social awareness of the world outside of our country of origin. Our hope is that these friendships become partnerships in international development and inspire more acts of global citizenship.



WHERE WE WORK

Amolatar District

UGANDA

ABOUT AMOLATAR

• ~150,000 residents •
56.5% of population is under 18 years old

53% of children enrolled in primary school
will not move on to secondary and
14% of children have never been to school

Local health centers lack medicines, staff and
equipment

Amolatar only receives \$40,000/year of
government funding for all schools in the
district

WHY WE WORK THERE

Although centrally located, Amolatar District is extremely remote region politically associated with Northern Uganda. Located between two lakes, access to Amolatar from the south was only possible via wooden fishing boat until 2013.

Namasale is the largest of 5 sub-counties in the district and is where FAF's initial programs began. Our mission in this region is to impact children and families in all 5 districts by 2020.

Because of its isolation from the rest of the country, Amolatar has very limited access to quality education, medical services and economic livelihood programs.

Although Amolatar has massive potential for economic growth because of its natural resources,

lack of access to public services has prevented its population from earning a living wage as 85% of residents survive on subsistence farming alone.

Because our Co-Founder and was born & raised in Namasale (a county in Amolatar), FAF has been able to create deep collaborative partnerships and friendships with community members who choose the direction of all of our projects.

TOP FIVE MAJOR ISSUES AS IDENTIFIED BY NAMASALE TOWN COUNCIL

1. POOR EDUCATION
2. LACK OF MEDICAL SERVICES
3. LACK OF BUSINESS TRAINING
4. HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT
5. UNPAVED MAJOR ROADWAYS



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017

Q1

JAN - MAR

- GLP starts a new school year, enrolling new students for our second year in operation
- Arvada United Methodist Church Women's Group invites FAF to speak about our work in Uganda
- 8 solar panels are installed at GLP, making it one of the brightest buildings in our village!
- Little Man Ice Cream raises over \$1,300 during their Craft Beer Week for FAF
- Three 10,000 liter water tanks are donated to GLP by Zoi Johns & the Evergreen Rotary Club

Q2

APR - JUN

- Construction on the Green Family Foundation Teacher's Housing begins
- Annual ALEX & ANI Mother's Day Event
- Market Day Fund is officially launched, allowing supporters to "shop" for items needed at GLP -- livestock is the big hit!
- Charity Ball partners with FAF to donate 25 soccer balls & equipment to GLP and partner schools

Q3

JUL - SEPT

- FAF brings 9 new volunteers to Uganda for our 2nd Cultural Immersion & Service Trip
- GLP hosts first "Friendship Match" and invites Namasale Central Primary School to compete in a soccer tournament (we won!)
- School Outreach Program Launched at Namasale Primary & Namasale SEED Secondary Schools
- College Inn's 3rd Annual Golf Tournament raises over \$5,000 for FAF
- Siena Tornillo & Jessie Jennett join the FAF Team as Regional Managers

Q4

OCT - DEC

- FAF partners with Backup Uganda to host Teacher Training Workshop, over 30 educators from two other schools in Namasale attend the free training
- The *Where We Live* Year-End Campaign for student dorms is officially launched on #GivingTuesday, raising over \$3,000 in the first day and exceeds the \$10,000 goal by Dec. 31 thanks to the Schutter Family
- GLP holds very first Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony with over 300 community members and leaders in attendance
- Green Family Foundation donates \$20,000 to Far Away Friends

Leading the way

Global Leaders Primary



In a community where access to high quality primary education is scarce and most of students don't make it past Primary 7, we knew that our first project would be to create a scared space for children to learn and for teachers to inspire their students. Four years later, that project has become more than we could have imagined it to be. In its first full year of operation, Global Leaders Primary School (GLP) has already garnered a reputation among the local community for being the most cutting edge and internationally minded primary school in the Namasale area.

One of the major obstacles to educational achievement in rural areas is access to high quality schools. Through GLP, we are creating a model for community centered and effective primary education in the most isolated of villages. In 2017 alone, we have made great strides toward becoming one of the best schools in our sub-county through several infrastructure and extra curricular projects which have added tremendous value to our teacher's and student's quality of life including solar lighting, 12-apartment teacher's housing, four water collection tanks, annual soccer tournaments, teacher's training workshops, cultural music, dance and drama classes and a cross-cultural pen pal program. GLP was also able to take it's first steps toward our 2020 self-sustainability goals by funding over \$13,000 worth of it's own operating expenses in year one. *Thank you for making this possible in 2017!*

OUR PROGRAMS

HOW YOU'VE MADE AN IMPACT



Through our nutrition program, funded in part by our Market Day Fund, we've served over **15,000 hot lunches** in 2017.



YOU helped fund the installation of 8 solar panels at GLP, making our school the **BRIGHTEST** in the village!

\$10k

YOU helped us raise \$10,000 during our year-end "Where We Live" campaign to begin construction on Phase 1 of our student dormitories

CURRENT NEEDS

WELL - \$10,000

A well is needed to supply clean water continuously throughout the dry season

DESKS - \$5,000

Our current desks are designed for younger children, and are not large enough for our P5-P7 students

PLAYGROUND - \$3,500

We are in need of several pieces of playground equipment as our students only have one swing



OUR PROGRAMS

Operation **TEACH**

We've all had teachers that made a difference in our lives.

They inspired us, challenged us, pushed us to do our best and be our best -- even and especially when we pushed back. We can all think of at least one teacher who did this for us because that's what good teachers do. All over the world, day after day, year after year, they're in classrooms before school, cafeterias and soccer pitches after, and they're waiting with passion and promises to lift their students up.

These are the kinds of teachers you're supporting everyday through your contribution to Operation Teach. Whether it's Sebastian, our music teacher and soccer coach, leading a game with a neighboring school, or Agnes, our Matron, leading sleepy-eyed pre-schoolers to bed after a movie night, you can see how much the teachers at GLP love their students and care about their school. Thanks to YOU, these teachers do all of this everyday -- and get paid a fair wage for it.

Far Away Friends stands firmly in support of these teachers and their passions, and believe that all teachers everywhere deserve recognition, respect, and a fair wage. It is these beliefs that lead us to Namasale and Global Leaders, but it is YOUR passion and dedication that have kept this dream alive and made it grow.

Without you, there is no Global Leaders. There's no one after school coaching soccer, no one to role model kindness, no one to lead sleepy little kids off to bed. Because of your support, there is a little pink building with a blue roof on the other side of the world filled with students, and in each classroom, a passionate teacher, dedicated to their success. *Thank you for another amazing year!*

HOW YOU'VE MADE AN IMPACT

19

is the number of **full-time Ugandan staff** who are employed at GLP thanks to your monthly sponsorship through OperationTEACH

100%

In an area where Teachers can go up to two months without pay, we are proud to report that GLP teachers were paid on time every single month. "At my previous job it was normal for me to go over 14 days without pay, but at GLP payment is always prompt."

-- Veve, P.6 Teacher at GLP



YOU helped to fund a Teacher Training Seminar with BackUp Uganda free of cost to 30 teachers in Namasale!

OUR PROGRAMS

cross cultural connections

CULTURAL IMMERSION & SERVICE TRIPS

In July of 2017, we brought nine volunteers to Uganda for 22 days on our 2nd Annual Cultural Immersion & Service Trip.

This past year, our volunteers helped us to collect interviews from students, teachers, community members, town council and district leaders with the aim of learning about obstacles faced by families in Namasale & Amolatar District which have resulted in issues of generational poverty in the region. Our team also had the opportunity to observe classes at GLP, participate in a school-wide debate, attend our annual "Friendship Soccer Match" and build new friendships while learning about international development through an immersive experience across five areas of Uganda. The trip ended with a 2-day Safari where our team could unwind and experience the beauty of the pearl of Africa.

"On this trip I was shown love & passion on the greatest scale I have ever seen, in one of the most incredible communities" - Kayla Rollins, Volunteer

SCHOOL OUTREACH

During our 2017 Immersion & Service Trip our team was able to launch our School Outreach Program and engage with students and staff at Namasale Primary School and Namasale SEED Secondary School. During our visit to the public primary school, we learned that 450 girl students only had one bathroom to share, which was one of the biggest hinderances to student achievement, as girls would often stay home from school during their period because of the inadequate facilities. In 2018 FAF will be partnering with this school to construct six more toilets as part of our School Outreach Program.



LOOKING FORWARD

- Our Business Trainings & Village Loan and Savings Groups launching in 2018 will be transformative for struggling families
- Local medical services are practically nonexistent. Community medical services are a needed project we are working on developing
- Working together with more schools in Amolatar district in 2018 will allow FAF to have a broader impact on children & families





our partners

- THE GREEN FAMILY FOUNDATION -

Far Away Friends is proud to partner with Ingrid and Thomas Green Jr. of the Green Family Foundation who have generously contributed to our mission of ending the cycle of generational poverty in rural communities around the world.



For three years, College Inn has chosen FAF as the beneficiary partner for their annual Charity Golf Tournament and has raised over \$5,000 in 2017 in support of our education programs in Uganda.



Charity Ball sent 25 soccer balls & equipment to Namasale in July 2017 for our annual Friendship Match

ZOI JOHNS & EVERGREEN ROTARY

Lakewood High School Student Zoi Johns, in partnership with the Evergreen Rotary Club donated \$5,000 for the purchase of three 10,000liter water collection tanks for GLP



FAF is very proud to be chosen as one of GoodBookey's nonprofit partners. This partnership has helped FAF support the daily needs of students at Global Leaders.



In 2017 LMIC donated nearly \$2,000 to provide healthy lunches for students at Global Leaders

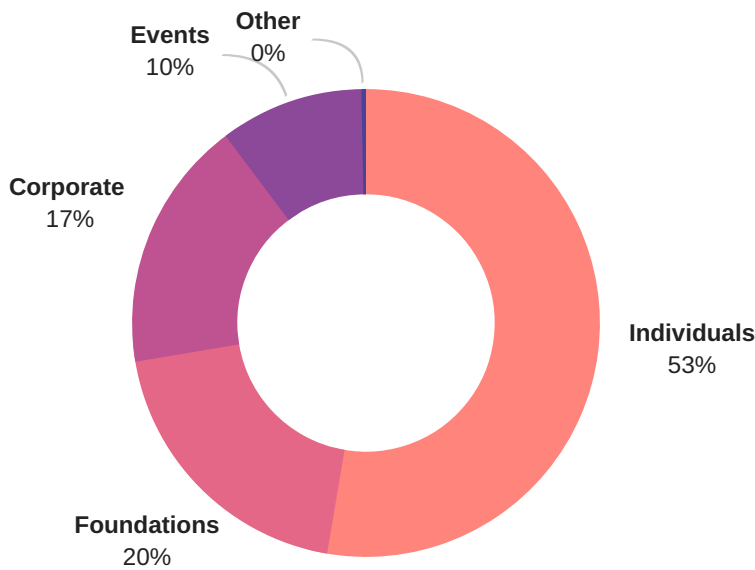


LIGHTWORKERS REPUBLIC
MAKERS, CREATORS, DESIGNERS, DOERS

Lightworkers Republic traveled with our team to Uganda in 2017 to film & produce our very first "About Us" video

financials

2017 REVENUE



CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY INDIVIDUALS

\$56,170.19

FAMILY FOUNDATIONS

\$21,000

CORPORATE DONATIONS

\$18,564.09

EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS

\$10,593.14

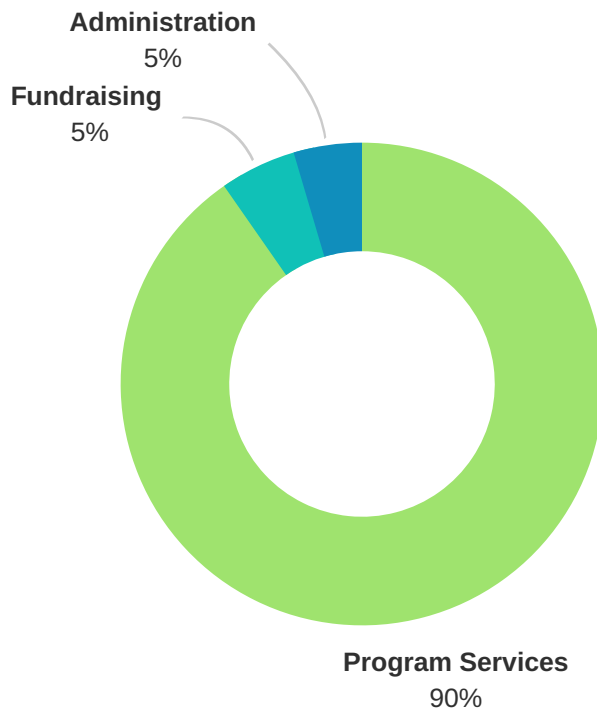
OTHER

\$341.59

TOTAL 2017 REVENUE

\$106,669.01

2017 EXPENSES



PROGRAM SERVICES

\$100,680.03

FUNDRAISING

\$5,699.79

ADMINISTRATIVE

\$5,096.75

TOTAL 2017 EXPENSES

\$111,476.57

2017 ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets

carried over from 2016

\$27,646.85

Change in Net Assets

(-\$4,847.10)

TOTAL ASSETS AS OF DEC. 31 | \$22,799.75

We are Far Away Friends

FAF USA & UGANDA

**JAYME
WARD**

CO-FOUNDER &
EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR

**COLLINES
ANGWECH**

CO-FOUNDER
& UGANDA
COUNTRY
DIRECTOR

**CHRIS
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OF OPERATIONS

**KAITLYN
PHILLIPS**

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**HANNAH
DRENNEN**

SOCIAL MEDIA
MANAGER

**JESSIE
JENNETT**

REGIONAL
MANAGER :
DENVER

**SIENA
TORNILLO**

REGIONAL
MANAGER :
FT. COLLINS

GLOBAL LEADERS PRIMARY STAFF

OMIA JASS
OMIA ROBERT
AMONG JUDITH
ONGOM TOM RICHARD
ONGANY JOSHUA
AKENA SEBASTIAN

ANGULU MIKE
OKELLO PAUL
AYAKA DENIS
IPYELO SARAH
APIO EUNICE
OYWEK DENIS "VEVE"

AGNES
JAMES
MAMA ROLEX
OGWAL MORIS
OBOK LEO
OLEE DENIS

OUR BOARD & ADVISORS

COREY WARD STEPHANIE SKIRKA RITAH OMIA
BRANDI GOFF MARC COMINA

donor acknowledgements

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT IN
2017!

\$20,000+

The Green Family
Foundation

\$5,000 - \$19,999

College Inn
The Schutter Family
Zoi Johns &
Evergreen Rotary

\$500 - \$4,999

Little Man Ice Cream
Arvada United
Methodist Women's Group
The Eideweiss Foundation
Chipotle
Kayla Rollins
Jessie Jennett
Siena Tornillo
Sean Korbitz
Andrew Rodriguez
Anna Thompson
Kathleen May
Marissa Zamudio
Jaclyn Collins
Quinton Bobb

\$150 - \$500

Ten Point Sales
Broadstone on 9th
DRGMetrix
GoodBookey
Belmar Park Dental
Sawaya Law Firm
Goslings
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Brian Rodeno
Tito's

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Hapa Franchise Group
Alex & Ani
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Special Thanks to

Mary Jo Reinhard
Rachel Geib & i3Logix
Lauren Ward
The Ward Family
The Tornillo Family
The May Family
& to all of our incredible
grassroots supporters
who contributed in 2017!

We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017



Aceng Charity
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 6



Luyonde Evans
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 4



Akoli Mercy
P.4
Age 10



Amuge Sumaya
P.2
Age 6



Sebuliba Ramsey
BABY CLASS
Age 3



Odur Edmond
P.4
Age 10



Nakibuka Vivian
P.2
Age 8



Adeno Demi Francis
BABY CLASS
Age 4



Akello Michela
P.2
Age 5



Adoch Tabitha
TOP CLASS
Age 7



Otima Timothy
BABY CLASS
Age 3



Apolo Rhoda
BABY CLASS
Age 4



Ogwang Felix
P.2
Age 10



Acede Miriam
P.2
Age 10



Odongo Issac
P.1
Age 7



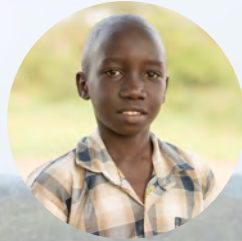
Atam Rolex
TOP CLASS
Age 6

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MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017



Pule Simon
P.6
Age 13



Acot Lameck
P.2
Age 9



Egang Ritah
TOP CLASS
Age 7



Nam Jackie
P.3
Age 10



Apio Valencia
P.1
Age 8



Ogwang Jonathan
P.5
Age 11



Angom Jennifer
P.6
Age 15



Wonarik Oscar
P.6 *Head Boy*
Age 14



Among Cissy
P.6
Age 15



Ecan Monica
P.5
Age 12



Apili Isha
P.4
Age 9



Rhoda
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5



Innocent
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5



Open Allan
P.2
Age 10



Odur Emmanuel
P.1
Age 7



Marrion
P.1
Age 6

We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017



Rochelle
P.2
Age 9



Emmanuel
BABY CLASS
Age 3



Owiny Emmanuel
P.4
Age 10



Akello Fiona
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 4



Okot Joshua
P.4
Age 13



Ogwal Leonard
P.2
Age 8



Obira Eddie
P.2
Age 9



Akello Rochelle
P.5
Age 12



Helly
P.2
Age 7



Louis
TOP CLASS
Age 6



Aloyo Meron
P.4
Age 9



Ouma Junior
P.3
Age 7



Agalo Beatrice
P.3
Age 10



Okello Daniel
P.3
Age 10



Acar Arafat
P.3
Age 9



Amuge Racheal
P.2
Age 7

We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017



Adongo Leah
P.4
Age 13



Kazoora Denis
P.6
Age 12



Omia Amos Ezra
P.6
Age 12



Olima Samwiri
P.3
Age 9



Ongom Abel
P.4
Age 10



Okwang Jonathan
P.3
Age 9



Obira Edmond
P.4
Age 10



Amek Edina
P.3
Age 9



Ocen Gabriel
P.3
Age 10



Awor Melisha
P.4
Age 11



Ayao Rebecca
P.5
Age 11



Apili Penina
P.6
Age 13



Apio Janella
Head Girl
P.6
Age 16



Akello Sarah
P.5
Age 12



Oyo Elly
P.3
Age 11



Namayanja Caroline
P.6
Age 11

We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017



Opeto Daniel
P.5
Age 12



Akullo Fiona
P.6
Age 13



Auma Moreen
P.5
Age 12



**Alaba Mystica
Tracy**
P.6
Age 12



Acayo Charity
P.4
Age 9

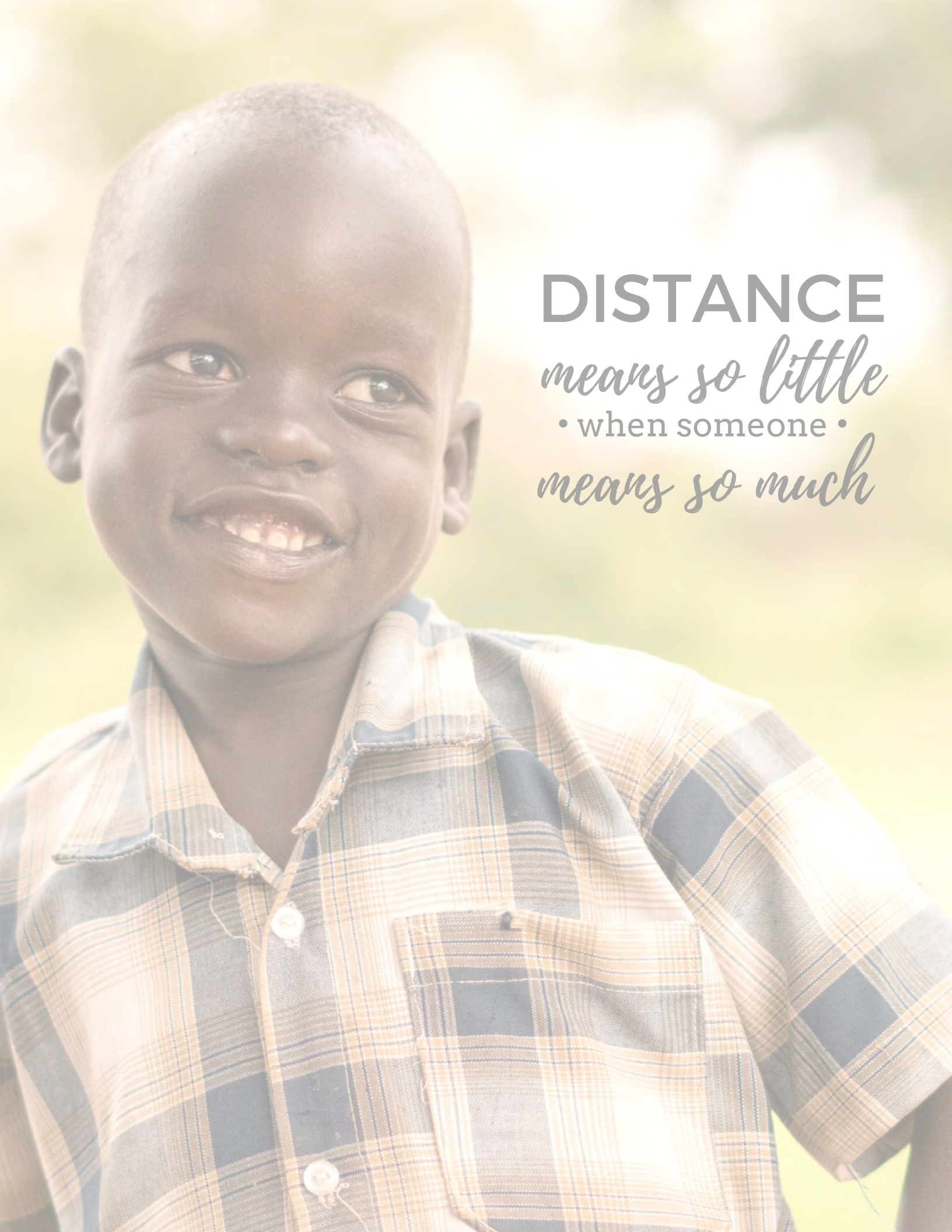


Zulu Abel
P.2
Age 9

Get Involved!

DONATE | TRAVEL | ADVOCATE

Learn more about how you can make an impact at
www.farawayfriendsglobal.com



DISTANCE

means so little

• when someone •

means so much