

Beatrice's Hope

The Newsletter of Hope Multipurpose, Inc., the 501(c)(3) charity founded by Beatrice Garubanda
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Bring Your Xmas List: It's HMI's 2nd Annual Holiday Boutique

Our last Holiday Boutique was so much fun that HMI is making it a tradition. Come in and pick up the perfect gifts for folks on your list (and yourself, too). Our Hope Crafters have donated their time and effort to create all-new craft items ideal for gift-giving. In addition, we will have a select number of Ugandan-made crafts. Quilt-lovers and scrapbookers

take special notice: Quilt #2 in the series of handmade Hope quilts, and a must-be-seen altered book based on the theme of Hope will both be available.

Your favorite items from last year will be back: Handmade tea cozies, the world's best dishcloths, organic dog biscuits, clothing, jewelry, mixes in jars, greeting cards, and much more.

Coffee/tea and a homemade treat will be available for purchase.

Stop by on Saturday, Dec. 9 from 9 to 5, and Sunday, Dec. 10, from 9 to 1 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church 2136 Carter Avenue in St. Paul, MN 55108. For more information, call Katharine at 651-387-8264. ■

HMI

Hope Multipurpose, Inc.

HMI is a 501(c)(3) charity based in St. Paul, MN. HMI sponsors The Blue House orphanage in Kazo Parish, Uganda. Donations to HMI are tax-deductible.

HMI's Board of Directors

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Will You Volunteer for The Blue House?

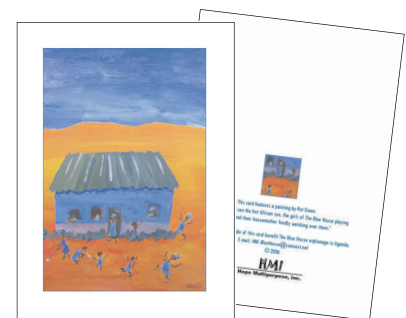
Small nonprofits need volunteers to survive and thrive. HMI is no exception. This newsletter includes the volunteer survey that was promised at our African Dinner presentation on September 23. Please take a few minutes to tell us if you want to get involved, and in what areas. For families, please copy the survey for others in your household. Return by mail, or drop into HMI's box in St. Matthew's office.

We are also looking for several exceptional volunteers who would be willing work in leadership roles for HMI. We particularly need help in the areas of Volunteer Coordination, Special Events, Capital Fund Raising and Outreach Coordination. If this floats your boat, let us know on your survey.

Questions? Contact Carol at 651-429-3798 or by email at carol@hopemultipurpose.org. Thanks so much! ■

For Sale: The Blue House Greeting Cards

HMI is selling our special greeting cards just in time for holiday gift-giving. The greeting cards are blank inside. They feature Pat Owen's imaginative rendering of The Blue House on the front. They will be available at the craft sale on Dec. 9-10. ■



The African Dinner: Good Food, Good Fundraiser

Everyone had a good time (as well as a good meal) at the “It Takes a Village” African Dinner on September 23rd. To those of you who bought tickets and

crafts, HMI would like to say Thank You. The girls who live at The Blue House are the beneficiaries of your generosity. In addition, HMI would like to thank

the Brother Lawrence Guild at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church for their hard work and talent in the kitchen. We don’t know what we’d do without you. ■



The Blue House: Primary School and Beyond

Presently, the girls who live at the Blue House are in primary school – the first seven years of Uganda’s education system. Public schools through this level are now free in Uganda, so school expenses are only uniforms, books and supplies. (This assumes the child is healthy, can obtain sufficient food and water to take to school, and is not needed at home.)

The secondary level is the next six years of school, and it can be reached only by passing the Primary Leaving Exams (PLE). This November, three girls from the Blue House—Sarah, Agnes, and Allen—took those exams and are waiting their results anxiously. The Board sent

“success cards,” a Uganda tradition, wishing them well. (If they do not pass, the 7th level is repeated and exams are taken again next year.)

This advancement to the secondary level brings some additional expense. At this time, secondary level is expected to cost about \$1,500 per student per year. It is common for some students to move to a trade or technical school now, or within the years of the secondary level. These schools also involve additional costs.

Students who complete the secondary level are then eligible to compete for the university, but they are far more advanced than the typical American high school

senior. University level education in Uganda costs about \$6,000 per year, and, unlike students in the US, Ugandans do not work on the side to help pay for it. Usually, students receive family support for as long as they go to school.

The expected advancement of Sarah, Agnes and Allen has raised new questions and prompted soul searching by the HMI Board. Ideally, we would continue to support the girls until they complete their desired level of education or training, even through university level. It is our hope that we can find some way to make this happen. ■

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Thank you for your interest in The Blue House. The Blue House girls live a simple life, but even a simple life has ongoing expenses. Please support The Blue House.