



Wakadogo Annual Review 2017/18 July 2018

Dear friends of Wakadogo,

Another great year has passed at Wakadogo and we are proud to share our achievements with you through this Annual Review. Thank you so much for all your support on this journey!

Wakadogo School is a nursery and primary school in a village called Acoyo, 8 kilometres outside of Gulu town in northern Uganda, which was heavily impacted by the atrocities committed by the rebel group, the [Lord's Resistance Army](#) until 2006. Wakadogo opened in 2009 and in the 2017 academic year, Wakadogo school served and provided quality education to 454 boys and girls and employed 35 people from the local community. We continued to provide quality daily school meals which can mean not only better nutrition and health, but also increased achievement in education. It is also a strong driver of consistent school attendance.

Wakadogo is a safe, fun and child-friendly learning environment – we enable this by ensuring our teachers are regularly trained on the latest and best teaching methodologies. We work in partnership with the local community, the sub-county and District leadership, Parent Teacher Association and the Ministry of Education and Sports and the Ministry of Health to ensure sustainable and continued support for the project.



Primary 7 students of 2017 together with the Headteacher, PTA Chairperson & Parents' Representatives

We are proud to share that in 2017, Wakadogo School came fourth out of 92 schools in Omoro District in the national Primary Leaving Examinations! Wakadogo School registered 36 students and all 36 students passed the examinations set by Uganda National Examinations Board and have all transitioned to secondary schools in 2018. This was an improvement from coming fifth out of 92 schools in 2016. We are very proud of our students and teachers for this excellent accomplishment, especially as this is only the second year that our students have sat the Primary Leaving Examinations.

Teacher training at Wakadogo

Wakadogo School has 17 teachers (8 female and 9 male) who are committed to their work. They are passionate about teaching children, caring for the students and motivating them to learn.

We organise regular teacher training for our teachers, through local or international partners. In August 2017, 8 of our teachers attended a phonics training workshop by [READ for Life](#). They have since been using the knowledge in class to support school reading programmes. We also trained upper primary teachers on measuring assessments of learners, organised by the Uganda National Examinations Board.



Wakadogo teachers with the trainer, Jody Spencer, Executive Director of READ for Life

What does a child receive at Wakadogo School?

- Learn in a **safe and child-friendly school** with child-friendly toilet facilities;
- Receive **high quality education** by continuously trained teachers;
- Eat nutritional **school meals** at least once a day (sometimes their only meal(s)), to ensure children can learn on full stomachs;
- Highly subsidised **medical care for students** and the community including vaccinations, family planning and ante-natal care;
- Access to **quality learning** materials and supplies;
- Music, drama and sports coaching with a trained music teacher;
- Train and participate in school trips and regional sports or music competitions;
- Class sizes of no more than 45-50 children to a teacher (average in Uganda is 62 children)
- Engaged parents and guardians through the **Parent Teacher Association** and Class Days;
- **Reaching the hardest to reach** by providing fully-funded scholarships at Wakadogo for children from ultra-poor and disadvantaged backgrounds, such as child-headed households and orphans.



Opening the Musgrave Health Centre

Over the years, we have learnt that a multi-sectoral approach is critical in order for every child to enrol and remain in school. In March 2017, we opened the **Musgrave Health Centre** on the school site, for the students, staff and the local community to ensure that children don't miss school because of common health problems, such as malaria and to provide an additional income stream for the school.



Opening of the Musgrave Health Centre, March 2017

In its first year, the Musgrave Health Centre has treated 812 patients¹ and is very close to being self-sustainable. The Musgrave Health Centre also hosted two health days at Wakadogo in partnership with [Reproductive Health Uganda](#) in April and October 2017 as well as four village outreach days. Members of the community were invited to attend these events and Reproductive Health Uganda offered free family planning advice, free cervical cancer screening and free HIV counselling and testing - in response to the community's request that we offer some services for free. Over 679 community members attended these outreach days in 2017 which help raise awareness of health concerns that impact the community, attract patients and provide a free service to the community.

At the end 2017, we updated our Vision, to include the vital healthcare element of our work as follows:

Our vision is to provide quality education and healthcare to enable a new generation of children in northern Uganda to reach their full potential.

¹ Patients seen between March 1, 2017 and March 31, 2018

Sports at Wakadogo

Wakadogo students participated in the annual sports competition across 14 schools in Koro Sub-County in April 2017. The results were as follows:

Under 12

Wakadogo Girls came 1st out of 14 schools
Wakadogo Boys came 3rd out of 14 schools

Under 14

Wakadogo Girls came 1st out of 14 schools
Wakadogo Boys came 4th out of 14 schools

Seven of the best athletes from Wakadogo School were then selected to represent Koro Sub County team in Omoro District Sports Competition later that month and two of our students were selected to form Omoro District Kids Athletics Team 2017, which consisted of 36 of the best athletes in the District. These students competed in the Uganda National Kids Athletics Competition in May 2017 in Tororo District. It was a great achievement for Wakadogo to send two students for the national competition!



Wakadogo students participating in the Sub County Sports Competition

Music, Dance and Drama at Wakadogo

Our students also participated in the Koro Sub County Music, Dance and Drama Competition in July 2017. Wakadogo School students came second out of 10 schools that competed in 2017.

This was an important opportunity for students to learn traditional Acholi songs and dance as well as modern music and express themselves and build their confidence. Musical training in schools has many proven benefits including helping to develop language and reasoning skills, increasing coordination and giving students a sense of achievement. It is an incentive for children to stay in school and remain engaged and helps with emotional development and builds imagination and intellectual curiosity.



Wakadogo students practicing for the Music, Dance and Drama competition

Class Days for Parents and Guardians

We organised class days every term and during those days parents came to school in large numbers to learn about the curriculum and how to better support their children with homework. Parents and guardians were happy with the quality teaching, school meals programme, medical care and the commitment of our teachers in the school.



Annual School Trip

Our annual school trip took place in November 2017. Our students visited Fun City (a recreation centre) in Gulu Town, Gulu University and Gulu Airport. The students enjoyed the trip, learnt about important places in our district and they had lots of fun at Fun City in Gulu!



Our students visited Gulu Airport in November 2017

Girls' Club & the Children's Rights Club

Wakadogo School has a Girls' Club which is organised by the female teachers and open to all adolescent girls. This club provides a safe space to discuss issues facing girls during this particularly challenging time so that they may receive support and information. This Girls' Club complements the Children's Rights Club where students are encouraged to discuss issues that they face relating to children's rights in their community and at school so that together they can find solutions and support one another.

Students Young Farmers' Club

We have young farmers' club in the school which is open to all the students in Wakadogo School. This club encourages the students to learn and engage themselves in small scale farming to supplement students' diet at the school. We plant sweet potatoes, cabbages, green vegetables, and passion fruits in the school gardens. Agriculture is the backbone of economy in Uganda and it is very important that our students learn these skills in our school.



Global Financial Accounts 2016/17

We just published our global [2016/17 financial accounts](#). Our income for the year was CAD \$161,321. The parents and guardian's contributed an amazing CAD \$39,573. Our expenditure was CAD \$177,470.

Thank you so much for your support

We couldn't do this without you and thanks to you, 454 children in a beautiful village in northern Uganda get access to quality education in a fun and positive learning environment. Thank you to each and every one of you for your amazing support and for making sure Wakadogo School keeps going!

With our very best wishes,

The Wakadogo family

We want to say a special thank you to our most generous supporters:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Community Initiatives Program, Alberta Culture & Tourism• Anonymous donors (5)• Peter & Christine Baltussen• Sam Dennis• Kings' Dubai School• Harvard Business School, Class of 2018, Section E• The Mohamed S. Farsi Foundation• Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Kampala, Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nina Hirji Kheraj and Naguib Kheraj• Madatali & Dolatkhanu Keshwani & Family• In memory of Robert Louis• The Musgrave Family• Tasneem & Naveed Osman• Mahmood Haider Somani• The Tsampalieros Family• Nino & Shirley Virga• Naznin Virani & Family• The Wade Family
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