

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter!

An opening note from in country trustee, Emily,
“Chilli Children may be a relatively small charity, but when it comes to making a difference in the lives of children with disabilities, our impact is effective, powerful and deeply personal.

We are strongly connected to the communities we serve; we understand their challenges because we walk alongside them every day. Whether it's helping a family in crisis, funding essential supplies, appliances or equipment, or supporting outreach programs that change lives, we make every pound count. We don't just support people with disabilities — we empower them to thrive, participate fully in society, and live with dignity.

Thank you! As you read this newsletter, we hope that you are encouraged and impacted by the difference the Project makes in many lives here in Uganda. We desperately need more funds to see this work continue, so please consider getting involved. When you support us, you're not giving to a faceless cause — you're investing in bringing hope, healing and opportunity to real lives here in Uganda.”



Over the next few pages, you will meet some very special children, and learn how the Chilli Children Project has become a part of their story.



Rashid

Rashid has been with us since day one of his club foot treatment. He is now in the maintenance phase of treatment, and we have been able to give him some special orthopaedic shoes to help him maintain the correction. A great job done by orthopaedic officer Kenneth and physiotherapist Flavia!

Divine

If you follow us on social media, you may recognise Divine. Divine is a jolly, determined little girl. She has been registered with us for a couple of years now and we have seen such great improvements; from her being unable to sit independently, to using a standing frame, and most recently being given a walking frame!

Divine also received some orthopaedic shoes from us. These should help to improve her posture and balance, and ultimately, we hope, assist her to walk! Steady but consistent progress leads to great results! We are happy to be able to be a dependable presence for our families year by year.



Divine in 2023 using a standing frame, and a couple of months ago using a walker and receiving orthopedic shoes.

Gilbert

Gilbert before and after surgery. There's not much more to say – we think these photos speak for themselves!



Jabeth

Jabeth has also had life changing surgery for genu valgum.



Isaiah

Isaiah, with arthrogryposis (a condition characterized by joint contractures) has literally been taking some real steps towards his rehabilitation.

Earlier this year, he received AFOs (ankle-foot orthoses) from CORSU Hospital and a walking frame from our Rehab Centre. At a home visit, Flavia, our Physiotherapist, was able to assess his home environment thus modify his exercises and how the equipment given to him is to be used.

Thankfully, Isaiah has the support of his sister, who is one of his biggest cheerleaders, as well as his mum! Just a week following the home visit, we were delighted to see Isaiah take his first independent steps at our Centre!



Daniela

Daniela (below) is one of the young girls we've been able to treat with a condition called 'genu valgum', otherwise known as 'knock knees'. She's made incredible progress after her surgery, and we'd love to be able to support even more children like her, if you can help us spread the word!



Elizabeth

We are grateful to Smile Train who cover the cost of cleft lip and surgery, but we were pleased to welcome Elizabeth (below) and refer her for surgery, covering the cost of transport to get her to the hospital over two hours away. What a success!



Trust

Trust (right) is a 7-year-old with cerebral palsy. Just months ago, she could only crawl. After regular physiotherapy and a walking frame, Trust is now walking on her own, with confidence and joy! Her grandmother says: "I used to think my granddaughter would never walk. Now I see her running to greet me — it is like a miracle."



Anthony

Anthony (below) had severe burn contractures on his hands. His fingers had contracted and he couldn't stretch them, meaning that his hand function had become severely limited. Thanks to CORSU Hospital, the contractures were released and he was given hand splints to maintain the correction. We are delighted to see the results (photos before, during and after). Did you know, this surgery cost just £335?! – to change a boy's whole future!

To those who support us with your time, finances or prayers, thank you for making a huge difference in the lives of Divine, Isaiah, Rashid, Gilbert, Trust, Daniela, Elizabeth and Anthony, and so, so, so many more children!



Outreach

Our outreach work continues to show us the great need that exists for our services. A couple of months ago we had an outreach clinic at our Project Office. The people pictured here are just the ones who heard our radio announcement and responded – just imagine how many we may have had otherwise!

It was a great time of reviewing old cases, and seeing existing cases of children currently going through treatment with us. We also saw a great many new children and families coming to us for the first time.



We also recently had a visit from a CORSU outreach team, and once again people showed up in droves. The need here in Uganda continues, as does our need for funding in the UK. Please consider giving a one-off or monthly gift to help us attend to all of these children and many more.



Prayer and Praise

It has been so special to start having an occasional Holy Communion Service with children and their caregivers who come to our office. The services have been led by Rev. Amatsiko Niwageriho, the Dean of Kinyasano Cathedral. We hope this becomes a more regular occurrence bringing much needed hope and encouragement to our beneficiaries.

...And finally

We think that the comments from one of the staff about this photo beautifully sum up our work as a Project...

“Chilli environment is very conducive. See how clients are chilling. Chatting with each other about their story and how life is to live with a disabled child. This gives self motivation, encouraging one another. Everyone leaves with a different mind and a spirit of loving and caring for their children”



As we said at the beginning of the newsletter, we may be a small charity, but our impact is anything but small!

Every donation we receive helps us break down barriers, create opportunities, and support individuals and families affected by disability in meaningful, lasting ways. From providing essential equipment, advocacy, and inclusive programs to simply being there when others can't or won't – we are a lifeline for so many here in south western Uganda.

How else can you get involved?

Become a regular supporter or fundraise for us!

We are proud to say that over 98% of what you give goes DIRECTLY out to Uganda. So, if you give £100 today, more than £98 of it reaches those in Uganda who need it most. Can you support us with £10 or £20, or even £50 a month? Or a one off annual gift? We would be so, so grateful.

Alternatively, you could do a sponsored event, or a cake or bake sale for us. We can send you promo material for your event!

Leave a legacy and make a lasting change

Would you consider leaving a lasting legacy to the work of the Chilli Children Project in your will?

It would enable the work of the charity to continue and grow, and you would be passing on something wonderful to future generations.

If you are making your will, or updating your will, we would be thrilled to be included in your plans. Any gift, large or small makes a huge difference to the children and families involved with the Chilli Children Project. If you would like to speak to someone about this, then please do get in touch with us **contactus@chillichildren.com**



Giving to Uganda

As you have seen from this newsletter, the Project and its committed staff are busy with so many different activities. But none of it can be done without your support. We are committed to sending more than £75,000 to the project in Uganda annually. Unfortunately, we have fallen short of our fundraising needs in recent months. This means that our Project staff may need to make hard choices about which activities they are able to continue to fund in the next year. If you can, please consider helping us with a financial donation.

What does my donation mean?

- **£8** can send a child to receive a neurological review in Mbarara
- **£10** can help a family to receive training and chilli seedlings to begin their income generating activity
- **£20** can feed a child at Kitazigurukwa Special Needs Unit for one month
- **£50** can pay boarding school fees for a blind student for a term
- **£500** can fix genu varum (bow legs) and genu valgum (knock knees)
- The Project employs over ten staff to carry out work at the hospitals, school, clinics and office!



How to give

By cheque

You can post a cheque to us, along with this page of the newsletter to include the Charity Gift Aid Declaration form (over leaf). Please make cheques payable to Chilli Children of Rukungiri Trust, and send to Chilli Children Trust, 37 Forest Road, Bingham, Nottinghamshire, NG13 8RL.

By regular standing order

You can give to us regularly by standing order. You can set this up directly with your bank.

If you would like to set up a regular standing order, our bank details are as follows:

Barclays Bank

Account Name: Chilli Children of Rukungiri (Uganda)

Account Number 00848883

Sort Code 20-84-17

If you are eligible for Gift Aid, this really helps too! Please post the Gift Aid Declaration Form (overleaf) to: Chilli Children Trust, 37 Forest Road, Bingham, Nottinghamshire, NG13 8RL. Alternatively, to save on postage, please copy the text overleaf, along with the required information, and email it to **clive@chillichildren.com**.

Through Stewardship

You can give to us regularly, or as a one off gift, through Stewardship, an online giving platform.

Go to <https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20095422> and follow the instructions.



Charity Gift Aid Declaration

Charity Gift Aid Declaration

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below.

☐ I want to Gift Aid my donation of £_____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to Chilli Children Trust.

Or

☐ I am not eligible for Gift Aid.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

Title

First name or initial(s)

Surname

Full Home address

Postcode -----

Date -----

Signature-----

Please notify the charity if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address, and no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.