

## Farewells and hellos

### Saying goodbye...

Towards the end of 2023, we said goodbye to two long standing Project staff – Evas Nahabwe (Project Manager) and Mwesigwe John Zaire (Chilli Field Extension Officer). Evas moved to Canada with her family and we wish them well.

Additionally, Jones, our Project Physio Assistant, is soon retiring and currently doing a handover with Flavia. We appreciate their commitment and hard work over many, many years, and wish them the best in all their future endeavours.

### Welcome to...

#### Ainembabazi Grace – Project Manager

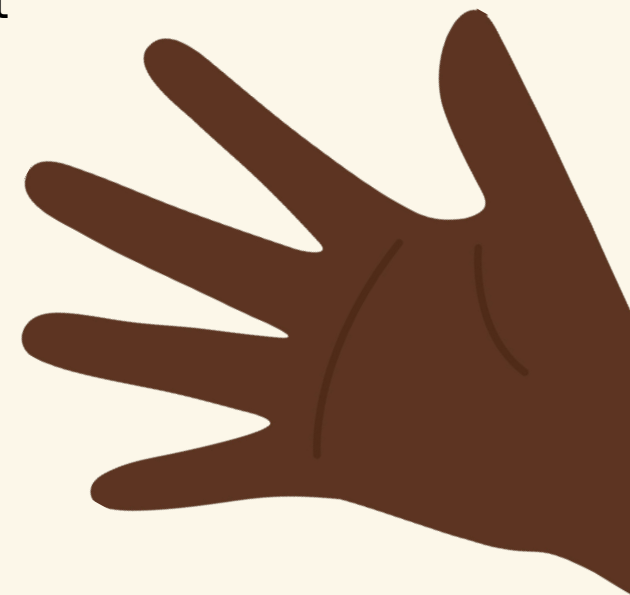
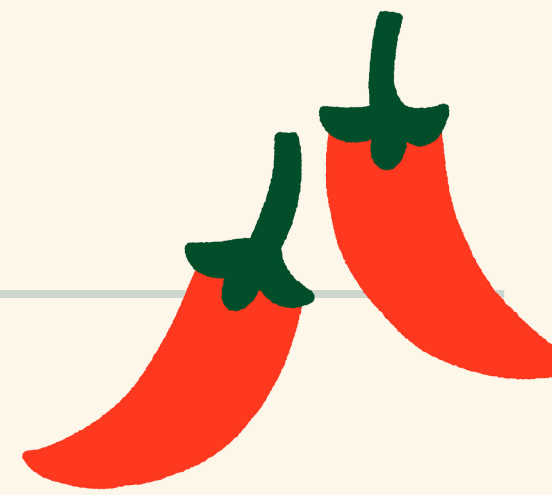


“My name is Grace Ainembabazi the newly appointed Project Manager for Chilli Children Rukungiri- Uganda. I am 37 years old and I have served with vulnerable children in my previous duties for 12 years. I am very passionate about serving the vulnerable because I believe it touches God's heart. I love Chilli Children. It's such a great opportunity for ministry and its potential of growth to minister to many with visible impact is evident. All we need to do is to rely on God because He who called us is faithful, He will do it .1 Thessalonians 5:24”

#### Nakalanzi Flavia – Physiotherapist



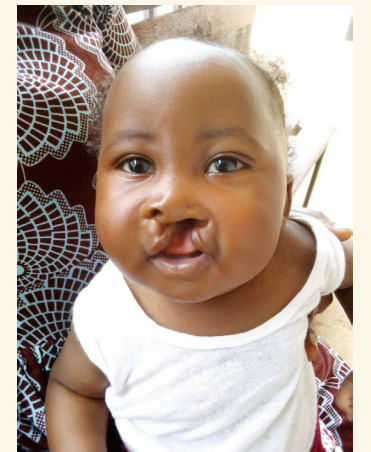
“I am Nakalanzi Flavia and I am 27 years old. I am a dedicated and self motivated physiotherapist with expertise in assessing and treating children with disabilities, implementing tailored exercise programs, teaching life skills and providing parents and caregivers education about their children's conditions. The Chilli Children Project has a strong and dedicated team which is hospitable and God fearing. I pray that my skills and strong passion for helping children with disabilities achieve optimal health and mobility will bring a big contribution to the Project's mission.”





# 2023 in review

Over 50 children had surgery/treatment from CORSU Hospital and 27 received services from Kisizi Hospital.



Over 300kgs chillies bought from farmers, and 137 farmers/families receiving income through chilli growing

Over 30 children received treatment for club foot and hundreds attended learning life skills clinics



Kitazigurukwa Special Needs Unit received new cooking stoves and a chimney in the kitchen!

We ran a number of Outreach/Field Clinics across south western Uganda





# Can you help us make our work in 2024 even more impactful?

We've included a second newsletter for you to give one to a family member, friend or colleague

We would love for more people to hear about our work!

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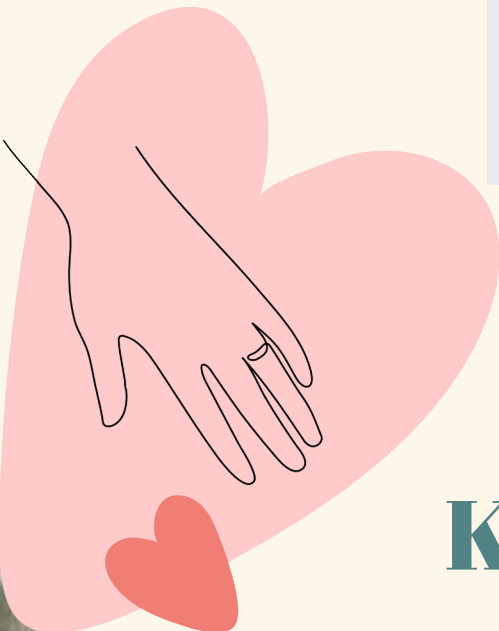
GIVE AWAY  
ONE NEWSLETTER

... to a friend  
... to a family member  
... to a work colleague

SHARE OUR STORY

✦

✦



## Kitazigurukwa Special Needs Unit update

It's been a while since we updated you about Kitazigurukwa SNU!

We currently have 31 students and 7 full time members of staff working at Kitazigurukwa Unit. This year, the children have started learning more practical skills such as making doormats. We hope to expand this skilling over the coming months – we will keep you updated! . We hope and expect that these skills will better equip the children for life after school.

We would like to specially acknowledge and thank Hazel's Footprints Trust for awarding us a grant to pay the salaries of teachers Sarah, Princess and David for 2024.





# A busy 2024 already...

2023 closed with the annual diocesan staff retreat, hosted by Bishop Onesimus Asiimwe and Mama Florence. In December, the staff went to Lake Bunyonyi, Kabale, for a day and had a wonderful time. Here are Project staff Jones, Carol, Nelson and Zaire pictured with the Bishop at Lake Bunyonyi.

The start of 2024 has been very busy so far! As well as welcoming Grace and Flavia to the staff team, February consisted of the first of two chilli harvests this year. Martin and Victor travelled across Rukungiri and Kanungu districts and collected over 170kgs of chillies. This elderly lady, Elivaida (pictured) had grown 14.5kgs! Quite a feat, and some very well deserved income for her.



In March, the staff travelled to Kisoro, which is a district in SW Uganda that neighbours the DRC, and is about a 5 hour drive from Rukungiri. We last did a 'survey' in this district in 2021. A survey is where we register and assess new children, and review children who have previously had treatment/surgery under the Project.

We spent a week travelling around the district, meeting people who are informed about our visit through radio announcements. We meet the groups in churches, health centres, hospitals, and other communal areas. We registered 92 new children. This time, the team decided to bless all beneficiaires who turned up with a drink and snack. These were much appreciated by all.



We are so thankful for our Project ambulance, which was purchased thanks to the huge efforts (over a number of years) of the Chilli Runners and Walkers fundraising activities. During fieldwork, there are always many obstacles to overcome which require a strong vehicle and a competent driver (thank you, Martin!). Here is just one of the many challenges encountered on the rural roads of Kisoro district. The road had collapsed, so the team had the option of crossing a rickety wooden 'bridge' or a footpath! After some careful planning, Martin and the team crossed safely. We always thank God for safe travels, as journeys are never to be taken for granted!



The chilli buyer has encouraged the growers to start growing a slightly different variety of chilli which has more value and demand on the global market. The Project has been provided with seedlings of this new variety, and it is now up to Victor and Martin to get these distributed to existing and new farmers. A big task! They have made nursery beds at the Project office, and even a demonstration bed to show new beneficiaries who come to the office almost on a daily basis. We are hopeful that this new chilli variety will benefit the growers even more in the years to come.



We are so happy to see Nelly's progress, and are forever in awe of CORSU Hospital for the miracles they perform! Nelly has recently returned from CORSU where she got a new prosthesis fitted. We love that Nelly has a lovely beaming smile in both 'before' and 'after' pictures.



Did you know that we take groups of children and their caregivers to Mbarara every two months for neurological assessment and review? The first Wednesday of February was another successful trip. Did you know it costs only £8 for each child to go to Mbarara (two hours away), be reviewed, and come home? Not a bad use of the cost of a coffee and cake!



Power in Uganda is off and on. In fact, it's often off more than on! This unpredictability can severely impact the ability of the staff to work. Finally, the Project has bought a generator which will enable the staff to be productive regardless of whether electricity is on or off!



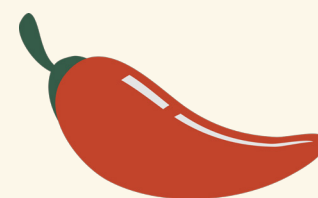
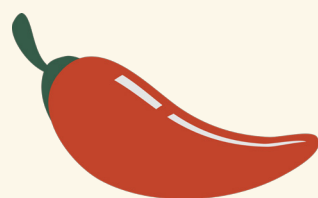
# We need you!



Do you have a little bit of spare time? Or a skill in administration or fundraising? Do you want to invest in the future of the Chilli Children Project?

We are looking for a couple of new trustees to join our small but dedicated volunteer team. We meet online, for a couple of hours, every 6 weeks, and give some time here and there to support the work of the Trust.

Please email **[trustees@chillichildren.com](mailto:trustees@chillichildren.com)** for some more information, or to arrange an informal chat to discuss this more.





# 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.

### *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

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First name or initial(s)

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Surname

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Full Home address

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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.

