



2019

# ACTION IN AFRICA

IMPACT REPORT

## A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Friends of Action in Africa,

As I reflect on all that happened at Action In Africa last year, I'm overcome by what an extraordinary year it was for our organization. The Center was alive with activity in 2019; from community programs, to primary programs, to scholarship students, we had more than 500 people pass through our doors every day. With so much activity it is a challenge to eloquently summarize twelve months of work into a few short paragraphs, yet 2019 was a landmark year for us and truly defined by change, growth, and celebration.

As you may know, at Action In Africa our on-the-ground educational programming is at the heart of our work in Uganda. We have spent the past decade learning how to deploy our programs to have the greatest positive impact for the women, children, and schools we serve. As such, in 2019 our leadership team spent time restructuring our secondary and university scholarship programs and building out our very own internship program. This new model will allow us to make a long-term commitment to each student enrolled, and lay the foundation for the next 10 years of our work at Action In Africa.

Along with these programmatic changes we also weathered a significant sea change as we welcomed new staff to our leadership team. Jenna Thompsen joined AIA as our new Country Director, and Brianna Kustigian joined as our Operations Assistant in 2019. So much of what we do as a team is supported by these two roles. More than ever I'm so moved by, and grateful for, all the staff at Action In Africa. Their growth and commitment inspire me every day!

Amidst all of these significant transitions, programs at The Center continued to organically grow! Our program enrollment expanded, our community involvement increased, our partnerships flourished, and our commitment to our mission grew stronger every day.

The year concluded in celebration of some unbelievable milestones. Kimbowa Paddy became the very first student to graduate from Action In Africa's University Scholarship Program. We are so proud of Paddy for earning his degree in Civil Engineering, and can't wait to see how his journey will continue to unfold. We also celebrated with our beloved Aspen community at our 5th Annual Winter Fundraiser in December. Thank you again to everyone who joined us in celebration and support of our continued work in Uganda. The Center was also alive with celebrations as we welcomed a record number of students to our holiday programs. Ending the year on such a celebratory note feels like the greatest gift, a gift that will propel us into the next decade ready and inspired to continue working toward our mission to empower the community to Nakuwadde, Uganda. Here's to the next decade, may we continue on this journey together!

**GRATEFULLY YOURS,**

*Jana Minigie*



# OUR IMPACT

**18** Ugandans employed at our community center

**136,878** cups of porridge served

**500+** people helped daily



# OUR PURPOSE

At Action in Africa, we believe that sustainable impact starts with local leadership, which is why we are a community-led organization dedicated to inciting economic and personal development in the community of Nakuwadde, Uganda, through greater access to education for women and children. With your help to make it possible, we have established a thriving community center. By understanding the needs of the people in Nakuwadde, and delivering services based on those needs, we are working to empower woman and children in the community and hope to make a positive, lasting impact in many people's lives.



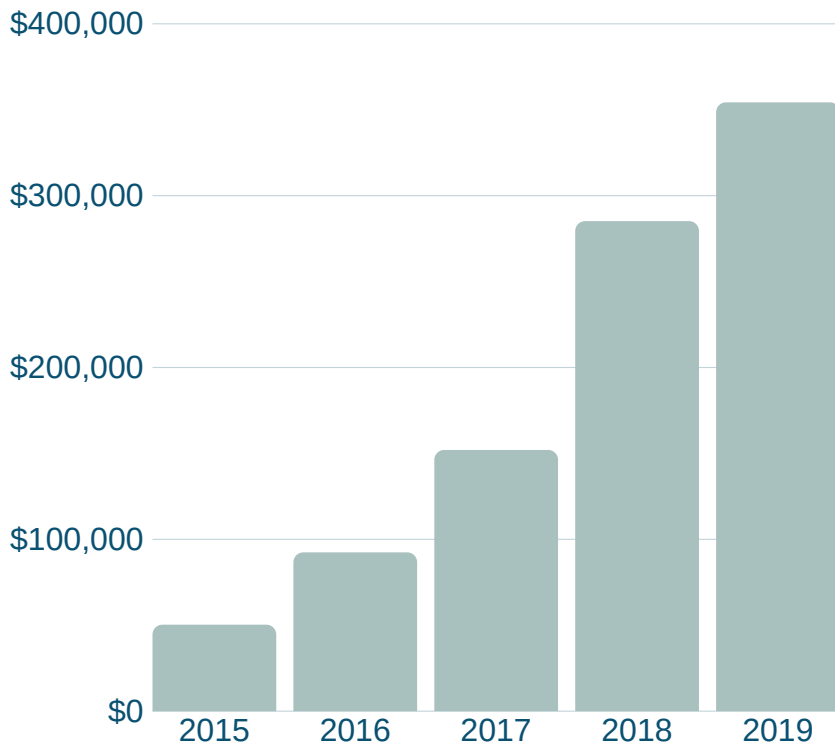
# OUR APPROACH

We know that with greater access to education, creative expression, and physical activity children are set up to thrive in all areas of life. Our multi-faceted approach allows us to reduce the barriers to education so that we raise healthier children and, ultimately, adults with greater economic prospects. This is the foundation of everything we do at Action In Africa. Whether it's through our education scholarship programs, adult education programs, afterschool programs, creative arts programs, or medical outreach services, we exist to empower the individuals of the Nakuwadde, Uganda community as they become the next generation of leaders in East Africa and beyond.

# FINANCIALS

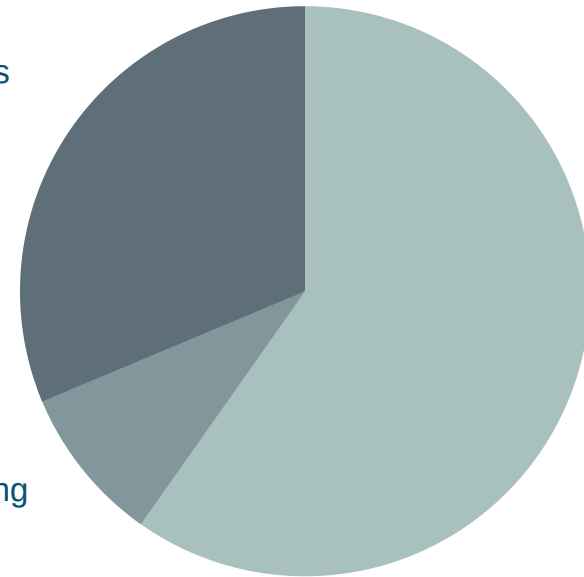
In 2019, we invested \$353,953 to fund our programs in Nakuwadde, Uganda. This 24% increase from 2018 is attributed to a greater number of scholarship recipients, increased staffing demands, and unprecedented growth of our daily porridge program.

## PROGRAM EXPENDITURES 2015 - 2019



Operations  
31.3%

Fundraising  
8.9%



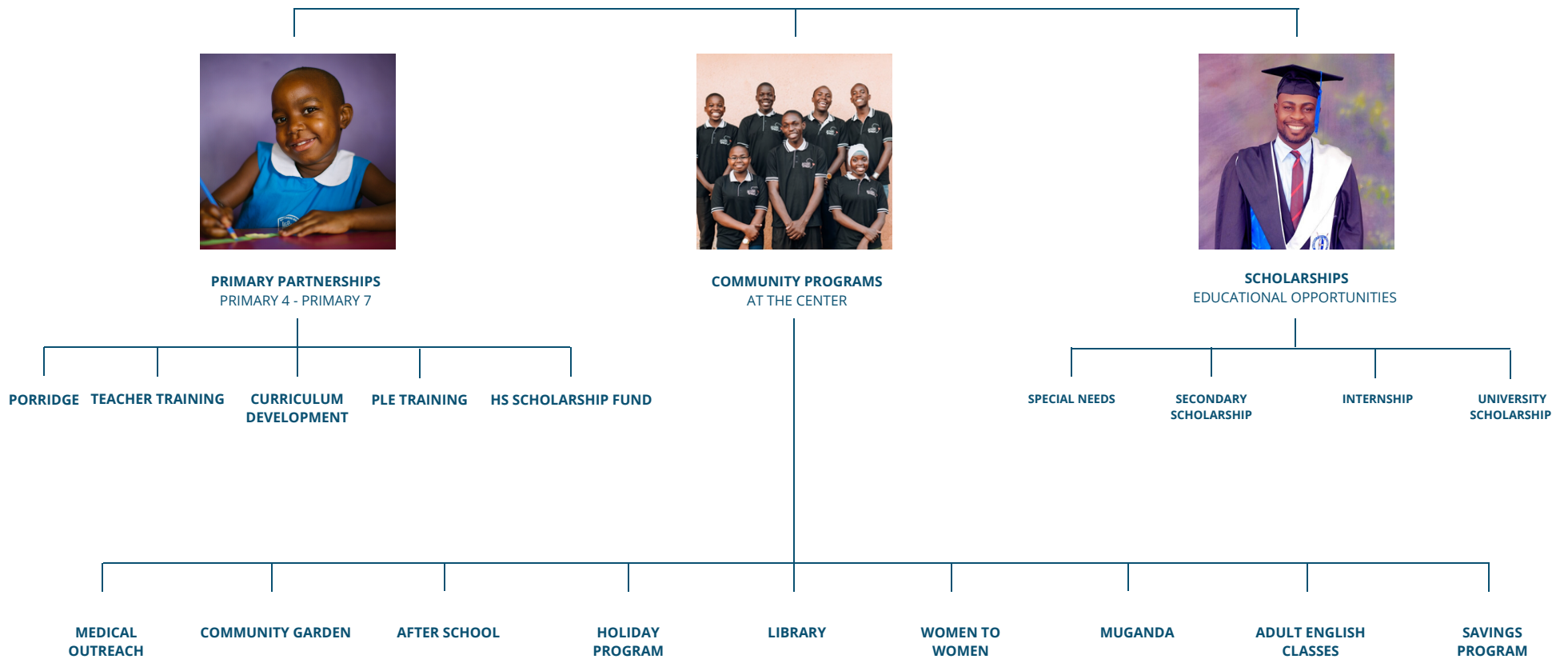
Programs  
59.8%

(All Operations and Fundraising costs were covered by a generous donor, so every donation received in 2019 went directly to programs in Uganda!)





At Action in Africa, we offer so many programs and services it can be complicated to understand how they all fit together. Our services are organized into three major initiatives: PRIMARY PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNITY PROGRAMS, & SCHOLARSHIPS. Under each of these major initiatives there are programs and services designed for our dynamic community and its diverse needs.



# PRIMARY PARTNERSHIPS

The function of our Primary Partnership Program is to provide children with food-security and access to a quality education. To achieve this goal we partner with local schools to provide a nutrition intervention program, creative arts curricula to augment the standard Ugandan teaching methods, as well as resources to support the classroom teachers who are primarily responsible for the daily education of students. We develop curriculum that complies with the one set out by Ministry of Education & Sports, and provide PLE training to prepare students for the very important Primary Leaving Examination, which prepares them for entry into Secondary School.



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

To address the diverse needs of our dynamic community, Action In Africa provides community programs to help the women, children, and families in Nakuwadde, Uganda. From Medical Outreach services where people can receive free HIV testing, deworming, and vaccinations, to women's groups where women can learn and grow in community, to our robust After School Program where hundreds of kids gather at The Center everyday. These programs exist to empower the individuals in our community - to lift them up and create opportunity where it might not have existed.

# SCHOLARSHIPS

The scholarship programs at Action in Africa are a robust initiative designed to provide educational funding for students in need who have proven their commitment to their studies. This program also helps Special Needs students who wouldn't otherwise have access to the appropriate opportunities and accommodations they need to thrive in school - and out. The Secondary Scholarship Program is available to secondary students who have successfully completed the PLE. This scholarship is currently awarded to 25 students annually - 56% of whom are girls. And finally, the University Scholarship Program awards a select group of graduating secondary students with college tuition. These student spend the year between high-school graduation and university matriculation working at The Center.

2020

# AT THE CENTER

NAKUWADDE, UGANDA

**950**

Students served through our Primary Partnership Program

**95**

Students served through our Secondary Scholarship Program

**392**

People cared for through AIA's Medical Outreach program

**8**

Students attending university

**163**

Women enrolled in our women-to-women group

**150**

Kids at The Center for daily after school programs



# HIGHLIGHTS

## QUARTER 1

2019 started with a bang! Two internship graduates became University Scholarship Recipients. We released a new video, and Artolution partnered with AIA to complete a new mural at The Center.



## QUARTER 3

Joan, Latifa & Courage (pictured below), completed the AIA Internship Program and enrolled in our University Scholarship Program! Kim and Shadia became interns. Record-breaking numbers of students attended Holiday Programs, where the secondary students engineered bicycle chargers!



## QUARTER 4

Q4 was epic! We celebrated our first University graduate: Kimbowa Paddy. Steam Forward donated pianos to The Center. Two new schools, Raising Up Hope and Saviour Junior, joined our PPP. The first class of Adult English students graduated. We hosted a University Student Panel Discussion, and in the US we hired Brianna, our new Operations Assistant!

## QUARTER 2

Q2 was filled with new beginnings. We said goodbye to former Country Director Samantha, and hired Jenna Thompsen to oversee The Center. We also welcomed a new intern to help us with US-based graphic design and special projects.



# 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Thanks to YOU, the last 10 YEARS have been nothing short of amazing. We've built a community center, employed dozens of Ugandan people, and created life-changing programs for women and children!

With your help, Action In Africa has invested more than \$1,500,000 into the Nakuwadde, Uganda community!





# LET'S CONNECT

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