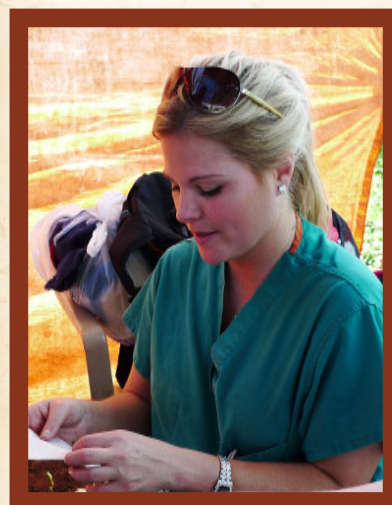


Around the Corners

Each month we will share the heart and words of people who's lives have been affected by partnering with FCM to reach a world with the love of Christ.



My brief encounter with these inspiring people blessed my life.

Throughout the trip, my eyes were opened to the basic necessities that we take for granted living in the United States. Public education, health care, and social programs

that provide food and housing are all accessible in the world in which we live. In Uganda, where many children must assume the responsibility of providing for their families, this is not the case. Many children are not able to attend school, and, even worse, many die from preventable diseases and dehydration. Despite the obstacles Ugandans have to overcome, they are happy and spirited. Their joy is contagious. This happiness and joy comes from the love of Jesus Christ.

Though the Ugandans and I are very different, universally we understand the same language of love and service. Their spirit and zeal for life is moving. Their faithfulness, hope, and love for Jesus has moved and encouraged me in my own life. They have challenged me to not doubt our Lord's role as savior, healer, and provider. In terms of material wealth they have nothing, but they truly have all that matters—their love for Jesus Christ.

Emily Webber
Birmingham, Alabama

Making an Impact

Four Corners Ministries (FCM) was founded by a couple of "Bubba's" trying to make a difference. Today, FCM serves an international constituency in Uganda and Sudan through our child sponsorship program, short-term mission trips, leadership training, emergency relief, and the vision of "Abaana's Hope." Through each of these ministries God is writing a story that brings glory unto Himself. It is His story, not ours. FCM does not exist to draw attention to our short-term missionaries or even the nationals that we minister too and partner with. Like so many other Christian non-profits, FCM is a vehicle through which God can demonstrate His unconditional love.

It has been exciting to see God use ordinary people, just like you, to make a difference around the world. Here are a few recent highlights from FCM's work in Africa:

- Provide needed aid and relief to the local church in Uganda and Sudan.
- Encourage the local church through our short-term mission trips.
- Demonstrate unconditional love by meeting physical needs.
- Support development projects. For example, FCM helped build a medical clinic in "Kivulu," a slum village of Kampala.
- Support individuals. FCM has sponsored Ugandan students and paid for their college or adult education.
- Rescue orphans through our child sponsorship program.
- Invest our lives into the lives of the nationals through leadership training.

Across the United States, especially in the Southeast, FCM has also made an impact on numerous team members. Our mission trips raise awareness about the plight of Africans. We expose people to the work in progress in Uganda and Sudan. And, FCM challenges the worldview of our donors by sharing the stories of these forgotten people.

Think about joining one of our upcoming trips – you too can impact the world for God's glory!

A Word from Tripp

It has been a busy year at FCM. In February, our Board of Directors voted to narrow the focus of the ministry. As many of you know, FCM began in 2003 by working in Central and South America but over the years God has given our leadership team a heart for Africa. This change of ministry focus culminated with FCM revising our mission statement to reflect the new direction of the Lord's leading.

Today, FCM exists to spread the love of Christ by building relationships to serve orphans and families in Africa. We are now at another important juncture in our history, as the decision for the construction of Abaana's Hope has been made. Envisioned as a comprehensive children's village in Uganda, Abaana's Hope will help meet the needs of the country's growing orphan population.

To rescue Uganda's orphans and give them a hope and a future, FCM recently launched a capital campaign, Building Hope. Adopting Life., with a working goal of \$1,000,000. The vision for Abaana's Hope is to provide: (1) a nurturing, Christ-centered family where orphans can be raised to know their true Father and Creator, (2) the example of a loving community, and (3) world-class education and training that will prepare orphans to serve as future leaders and parents within Uganda.

I invite you to play a vital role in helping us secure the future of this very important village. Visit us online today at www.4cornersministries.org to join our "Prayer and Encouragement Team."

Working together we can help make the dream of orphan care a reality for some of Uganda's three million orphans.

For the Joy,

Tripp Skipper
Tripp Skipper
President of FCM



ABAANA'S HOPE

Building Hope. Adopting Life.

The Truth

The war in northern Uganda has been called the most neglected humanitarian emergency in the world today. For the past 24 years, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Government of Uganda (GoU) have been waging a war that has left nearly two million innocent civilians caught in the middle. The GoU's attempt to protect its citizens from this rebel militia has largely failed, resulting in an entire generation of youth that has never known peace.



The LRA movement can be traced back to a woman named Alice Lakwena. In the 1980s, Lakwena believed the Holy Spirit spoke to her and ordered her to overthrow the Ugandan government for being unjust to the Acholi people. Lakwena and her followers, known as the Holy Spirit Movement, gained momentum as resentment toward the government increased. When Lakwena was exiled and no clear leader of the movement was left, Joseph Kony, who claimed to be Lakwena's cousin, took control and

transformed Lakwena's rebel army into the LRA. Kony's LRA did not receive the same support as the Holy Spirit Movement from the Acholi people. With dwindling approval for their cause and heightened government offensives, the rebels resorted to abducting children and indoctrinating them into their ranks. It is estimated that more than 90% of the LRA's troops were abducted as children.

The Vision

This is the back drop of FCM's work in Uganda. Many of our friends in Uganda have no concept of what love means or how it is demonstrated. Consequently, FCM's Board of Directors recognized a need to construct a Children's Village in Uganda, called Abaana's Hope, that will provide holistic care for some of these orphans. The ultimate goal of Abaana's Hope is to help raise future leaders, to lift them up and fill them with love and hope so that they might do the same for their neighbors.

A feasibility study conducted by the J.F. Smith Group in early 2010 revealed a great opportunity for FCM to secure the future of Abaana's Hope. The study, which interviewed current and former board members, donors, team trip members, friends and corporation representatives, demonstrated resounding support for the proposed project and its future.

As a result, FCM leadership initiated a capital campaign, titled Building Hope. Adopting Life., which will allow for the construction of the proposed Children's Village. As an old African proverb says, "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child."

The Building Hope. Adopting Life. campaign will give all members of the FCM constituency the opportunity to invest in this bold plan. Together, we can rescue children as we invest in their lives and lead them to impact Uganda for generations to come. Abaana's Hope will challenge the worldview of our constituents, as well as their friends and family.

The Goal

The campaign goal is \$1,000,000. Here is the breakdown of this investment:

100-Acre Parcel of Land – \$150,000

Abaana's Hope will break ground in 2011 but first we must secure a 100-acre parcel of land. Ideally, it should be free from squatters, flat enough to make construction affordable, and also have access to electricity.

Infrastructure – \$270,000

Behind every cluster of Abaana homes will be an elaborate infrastructure that must be developed before the homes can be habitable – from site excavation to roads, water, security and electricity.

Administration Building – \$50,000

The administration building will serve as the Ugandan headquarters for Abaana's Hope. The building will be on site near the constructed homes, the church and the medical clinic.

Homes – \$190,000

Abaana will begin with three homes, each accommodating one set of house parents and up to eight children. The home will have clean water and electrical power. The house parents will provide the daily care and training for the children.

Sustainable Agriculture – \$35,000

Abaana's Hope will consist of small farms that will give children opportunities to learn new skills and help the village become self-sustaining with meat, vegetables, dairy and poultry projects. This project will teach the moms and the children how to control grazing, how to manage the soil, animal husbandry and fertilization techniques. The food produced will be used by the villages, and any surplus can be sold at the market, moving the village toward self-sustainability.

Operational Costs – \$160,900

Matt and Jamie East of Auburn, Alabama will serve as on site FCM staff to supervise Abaana's Hope and its operations. Matt and Jamie will invest themselves in married Ugandan couples; helping to prepare them to become Abaana's Hope house parents. Children will range from the ages of 2-12. All the physical needs of the staff, parents, and children will be met. The children will also receive a quality education. Other operation costs include transportation and property management. This aspect of Abaana's Hope will require a consistent stream of funds. The capital campaign will allow FCM to initially adopt 16 children by 2013.

Medical Clinic – \$45,000

Healthcare is unavailable in many parts of Uganda and where it does exist, it is often expensive. As a result, many Ugandans do not receive proper health care. A medical facility will be established at Abaana's Hope in order to provide adequate health care for each member of the Abaana program. Medical staff will be employed. Occasionally, teams of doctors and nurses from the United States will visit the village to provide specialized care for the children and the local community. The medical clinic will also be open to the general public. The clinic will seek to operate on the fees assessed to the general public.

Church – \$100,000

A Christian Church will be built within the village and will employ a part time pastor to serve the children and families who live at the village. Members of the community will be welcomed and encouraged to participate in Sunday morning services. During the week the church building will be available for rent, as well as utilized as a community hall for various functions. The church will strive to operate on the funds generated from rent income and offerings given by the members.

Something to Think About

The common picture of the Trinity is this: Jesus is the good guy that we most easily relate to and warm up to, while the Spirit is the quiet one that we're not quite sure what to do with, and the Father is the angry Judge "up there" that's always disappointed with our struggles. He often gets interpreted as a Dad who is nearly impossible to please. Unfortunately many of us grew up with a dad just like that, and frankly we want no more of it. Jesus – yes. He's compassionate and patient and direct. He accepts us as we are, while wanting to lead us into change. But the Father? He's the one that flooded the earth and wiped out Sodom and Gomorrah. Our heart image of the Father leans toward the scary. Right?

We often view ourselves with such shame and guilt as we struggle – and we mistakenly imagine the Father is equally disgusted with us. And yet the Father completely understands our struggles and even sympathizes, through Christ, according to Hebrews 4:15. Nowhere in the New Covenant writings does God express anger towards those who are in Christ. He hates our sin, but He really likes us. Oh, that's hard to believe on our worst days, and it makes us want to keep our distance from the dangerous Dad. But as fathers of small children know – it's not so hard to see how He loves us in spite of our stubborn messes – and our staunch resistance to love and reality.

Be assured that the Church in Africa is just as confused about the Father as the Church in America. We all have a hard time picturing the Father as our "Abba", our "Daddy", or our "Papa". We have a hard time seeing the Father as kind and compassionate and patient with us. I challenge you to focus on "Abba" as your simple picture of our Heavenly Father. One of the goals of Abaana's Hope is to paint a true picture of our Father for orphaned children in Uganda.

