



BARHD
Bushenyi **A**lliance for **R**ural
Health & **D**evelopment

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PARSONS VISIT BUSHENYI SCHOOLS

My husband, Joe, and I spent 11 days in Uganda in June for our annual trip to see the sponsored students. In case you don't know about the orphan program, BARHD finds donors who each contribute \$350 per year for a Ugandan student to attend secondary school. The Ugandan government only pays for schooling through the sixth grade. There are so many children who have lost parents from AIDS or malaria, and it is impossible for these orphaned students to pay their school fees beyond that year. In 2009 we have some 175 sponsors sending **263** students to three rural boarding schools!



Jo Ann and Joe Parsons, with Kahunde Daphine, a student at Kibingo Girls' School

We love to see the students each year....to see how they've grown and to hear about their accomplishments. We take a photo of each one, and they write personal letters, both of which we give to their sponsors. We also give the students small gifts, personal needs that they would find difficult to find money for on their own.

We are so proud of these students—because of our rigorous selection process and their dedication to their studies, they score considerably higher on standardized tests than the other students in the school. During our annual trips, we encourage them to keep up their good work, and they inspire us to keep looking for more sponsors so that other deserving children can join them.

If you are not already a sponsor, but would like to be, please contact us!

Jo Ann Parsons
Orphan Program Coordinator
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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

We welcome the Parsons back from Bushenyi and God speed to Amy Williams and group who leave July 16th to dedicate the Dr. B Clinic in the Bushenyi sub-county of Kyeibanga.

Our Ugandan partner, Bushenyi Integrated Rural Development, has a new spare tire cover for the Toyota Land Cruiser. (See photo above) The colors are the same as the Ugandan flag. Black represents the people; yellow, the sun; and red, the blood spilled during Ida Amin's dictatorship.

TOM WILSON