

NANSO PRIMARY SCHOOL

PROJECT PROFILE 2011-2012-2013

In the small rural village, called "Nanso", located on the Eastern shores of Lake Victoria in Uganda, Just Cause has focused a large portion of their efforts.

In accordance with our education mandate, Just Cause has been concentrating on improving the situation of the Nanso community through education. As a prototype and model for future work, Nanso has been a success story from start to finish.

When we arrived in Nanso, a small fishing village three years ago the school we visited was basically a small shack of uneven wooden planks, no floor and partial walls with no seating or teaching aids like chalk boards. Many of the classes were taking place outdoors under trees due to the large number of children and limited space.

Our first two years, 2011 and 2012 involved distributing school supplies to all of the children at the school and collecting teacher resources and materials to accommo-

BUILDING UP

We started the design, planning and sourcing work in early July, 2013, and by the end of August 4 classrooms were constructed, Nursery Class to Primary 3 as well as the administration office and teacher's workspace.

Each classroom has a large chalkboard, a teacher's desk and chair, large burglar-proof windows and ventilation designed to provide lots of light and fresh air circulation.

As part of the education development plan and given the day to day struggles of the children in Nanso, Just Cause felt strongly about the

THE STORY SO FAR...



date the staff in teaching more effectively. Providing curriculum guides and chalkboards were a big step forward for Nanso Primary. We spent a lot of time with the community and the teachers learning about their situation and were always welcomed by the students with excitement, song and dance and of course football!

The dedication of the teachers and the community leaders, in particular the men responsible for initially establishing the school in Nanso,

Pastor Timothy and his eldest son Job, led us to select this community as our major focus in 2013. We had raised sufficient funds to build a school.

The remote location; Nanso is only accessible by boat, made this choice a difficult one, but the right one. We knew there was an extremely limited opportunity for the community to improve their school and provide an education to their children there otherwise.

the first phase of the school. The 200 chickens arriving in October 2013 will provide an egg every other day for each student at the school as part of their school lunch.

Clean water and learning about health and hygiene is paramount for the children in Nanso. Lake Victoria is an unsafe drinking water source and as the spring nearby dries up during the dry season, little other option exists. As a step forward in meeting the water needs of the children, the school plans included provisions for rain water collection and sterilization. The first of two 5000L crest tanks on the school site was installed in September 2013.



implementation of a school lunch program. Accomplishing this goal on the school site by complimenting the Ugandan agriculture curriculum that the students already studied in school became an obvious way to achieve this.

Early on in the design planning and process, land was secured for growing maize and cassava and a chicken coop was build as part of



OUR WORK AT A GLANCE

- Built and delivered benches for 3 classes of students so students no longer had to sit on the ground.
- Installed chalkboards in each of the 4 main classrooms in the original school structure
- Delivered school kits to each individual student and teacher to equip them with supplies each year for the last 3 years.
- Provided hygiene kits to each of the 250 students
- Sourced, purchased and delivered the Ugandan curriculum books and teacher guides for P1-P5 in all five key subject areas
- Designed and drafted school facility blueprints and phased school grounds masterplan
- Hired local labourers to construct 4 classrooms and an office with teacher workspaces
- Equipped the new school classrooms with furnishings such as chalkboards, teacher desks and chairs.
- 5000L water collection tank sourced, purchased and delivered to the school
- Purchased 200 chickens and built a chicken coop to supplement the agriculture curriculum and improve the nutritional merit of the school lunch program

...THE NEXT CHAPTER

In July 2014 Just Cause plans to begin construction of the second wing of the school. This will involve constructing 4 more classrooms to accommodate P4-P7.

The next steps will be furnishing all 8 classrooms with desks for the students and completing a floor in both wings and offices. Storage cupboards and bookshelves will also be part of this as we hope to be able to bring very

valuable resources, especially books, to the school.

The agriculture portion of this project will continue using permaculture principles to plant more nutritious food crops to improve the health and nutrition of the students. Sourcing quality seed, encouraging seed storage and collection, and using modern techniques improve yields and maximize the food produced. We will also be pur-

chasing goats and Ankole cattle to begin livestock production to help the school support itself as time goes on.

Finally, we will be designing, building and installing a playground at the school in 2014 as part of our health & school facility improvement plans.



Painting the school with some extra little helping hands!



Just Cause is founded on the principle that "education is the long term solution to poverty"

BE PART OF THE STORY!

The financial support and donations from so many generous and motivated individuals, companies and schools and students, has made the work possible.

If you would like to make a contribution to the next phase of Nanso Community Primary School please contact us!

20 volunteers travelled to Uganda to work with us through the summer months of 2013 to Uganda. With their helping hands and enthusiasm we were able to build the chicken coop from start to finish, paint and preserve the doors and windows on the school, feed hot lunches to the children at the

school and engage in many school activities with the teachers and students alike.

Are you interested in seeing the school first hand and meeting the staff and students in person? Consider being part of one of our teams! Contact us for more information—we would love to hear from you!



Just Cause volunteers serving a hot school lunch to the students at Nanso Primary School.

