



March 2020

Wow - what a boatload of life changes in the six weeks since we returned from Uganda! We had no idea just how different life was going to get in such a short time. The Covid-19 has hit the world hard and the results have changed the way we all do life across the board.

For Uganda, as in any third-world country, this crisis has only served to emphasize their daily struggles. Although there are only nine confirmed cases of Covid-19 in the country (based on today's report), the lock down is in place from border to border. Food prices have doubled; fuel will soon be in short supply; borders are closed; all schools are closed; public transportation shut down; and even worse hospitals lack proper treatment for the known diseases, not including the current virus.



Of course, this has hit the Development Team hard, too, as well as others that receive assistance from Say Yes. We have sent funds to help them store up food as much as possible. We don't know what they will be facing in the weeks and possibly months to come. Please join us as we pray for the solution to this virus to manifest quickly. Until then we will continue to stay in touch with the Team and provide assistance as we are able.

Here's an update on how we have helped in the last few weeks:

- ✓ Because of school closures Robert's brother, Samuel, had to leave the school he was attending in Mubende. But he had nowhere to go, so he is now living with Robert. That means more food, water and electricity. Say Yes is helping them with these needs. (Robert is a young man we have been helping with education to be an electrician. Samuel is training to be a teacher.)
- ✓ The vanilla and banana trees at the Development Team land are doing great. The vanilla vines needed more support trees and the banana trees needed stakes to support the heavy banana bunches. So we sent funds to purchase the trees and stakes.

- ✓ We sent funds to replace the stolen fence sections at Denis & Sarah Colins property; and to start building the structure over the toilet and sleeping room for the man who will stay on the land as security guard and to tend to the rabbits. The work is ongoing.
- ✓ Prior to the country shutting down, we gave funds to Sam Jackson to replace the truck windshield and for fuel to move maize from Masindi to Mukono.
- ✓ Pastor Joseph has received funds to continue building his home, which has been a very slow and plodding project.
- ✓ Overall, we have sent money to six families to purchase food supplies. And what we know about each family is when they see someone else in need they will share what they have.

As you can imagine any new or ongoing projects have been put on hold for the time being. But people's lives don't get put on hold that easy. They still need medicine, food, water, shelter, etc. Your donations will help us to continue providing basic needs through these times of uncertainty. The other thing our donations do is to encourage them to reach out to their fellow Ugandans in their community to bring hope and confidence in Jesus Christ when they are able to share what provisions they have with those who are in need.

Thank you for keeping Uganda in prayer even as you pray for your family & friends in the USA. We stand believing God's hand of mercy and goodness is on display even in the midst of challenging times. We trust Him!

May you rest in His peace...

*Virgil & Joy*

[www.sayyesinternational.org](http://www.sayyesinternational.org)

Say Yes International is recognized by the IRS as a 501c3 non-profit public charity; therefore, all donations are tax deductible.