



Dear Suncreek United Methodist Congregation,

March, 2015

I am writing to each of you to let you know that your generous spirit in working with BeadforLife this past November at your Alternative Gift Fair makes a huge difference to impoverished women and their families in far away Uganda. Your generosity towards others in need who you will most likely never meet, is inspiring. BeadforLife is an organization of people working together to make the world a bit better. With your help BeadforLife touched the lives of 10,000 extremely poor people last year, people who try to stay alive on a dollar or two a day. By buying paper beads and other products made by women in our programs you enable us to do the work. Thank you so much for this partnership.

Here are three of the programs that you have supported this year through your collaboration with BeadforLife.

**Our Street Business School (SBS)** is a six-month entrepreneurial training program in which very poor people who have small business endeavors like selling avocados at the side of the road learn entrepreneurial skills of starting a small business and making it grow. We enroll about 50 people at a time in this program and have several groups going at the same time. Through a carefully crafted curriculum based on experiential learning and a lot of cheerleading, coaching, and caring, members of our Street Business School report steady steps toward continual success over the six months.

Meet one graduate of our Street Business School, Stella Kabaganyiza



After Stella's first session she gained the skills and confidence needed to ask her sister for a \$4 loan to buy a dozen rolls of toilet paper. Together with her son, she re-sold the rolls individually along the street, making a small profit each time. After three days, she paid back her sister and started selling small candies and candies. After two months of hard work and savings, she is now earning a profit of \$10/day, enabling her to pay her children's school fees and support her family. And she is continuing to grow her business.

**Our Bead Making Entrepreneurial Development Program** is an 18 month program where impoverished women learn to roll beautiful paper beads while at the same time becoming business savvy, planning and launching their own business in the local economy. These women start earning money as soon as they start making quality beads. They open bank accounts and learn how to handle money. They have at least one business such as a beauty salon, a poultry business, restaurants, rental units, dry goods stores, and used clothing stalls. By the time they graduate they are able to sustain themselves and their families. They make the beautiful beads you bought!

**Our Smart Girls Education Sponsorships** is a four-year high school sponsorship program for the brightest girls who are too poor to attend school. We have 130 adolescent girls in boarding schools where they are able to study, create hopes and ideas for their future. They are safe from sexual predators, and they avoid early marriage. Sponsorship includes tuition, room, board, uniforms, computers, lab fees, bedding, shoes, transportation to home, and a summer Women's Empowerment Camp. All of this for just \$1,150! We have 8 girls currently needing sponsors.

I hope you enjoy wearing your beautiful beads. Remember that each bead was made with immense hope for a better life. When you wear them you feel the power of your participation in igniting potential and ending poverty.

If the women in our program could thank you they would throw their arms around you, shed a tear, cry with joy and bless you by saying something like;  
"May you have a long life, may you die in a real bed, and may you always have something to eat. God sees your good heart".

Warmest regards to each of you,

Torkin

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Co-Founder & Global Ambassador



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