

# Our Own Home

A refuge for orphans living with HIV/AIDS in Jinja, Uganda



Dear Friends,

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

October, 2008

Oli otia! That means, "Hello, how are you!" I am very happy to be back home in Uganda! My, but I received a very warm welcome! 34 tight hugs, accompanied by a chorus of happy squeals and shouts! Not to mention, my husband...



*The kids LOVE washing the van...really!*

I was picked up from the airport in our brand new white 15-passenger van! As is always the case in Africa, the 15-passenger seats 36 quite comfortably. :o) It rides like a dream, and even has air conditioning – a definite bonus! The kids have made a game out of washing it every chance they get...wonder how long that will last? For now at least, we have the squeaky-cleanest ride in Jinja with all it's dirt roads! :o)

The house has a fresh coat of oil-based paint on the walls, covering all the old fingerprints and making it much easier to clean the new

ones away! While home I had the chance to print individual photos of each child, which proudly grace the walls in the sitting room. The kids are so excited to see themselves – pictures are not an everyday thing in Uganda. My husband, William, has only one picture of himself on the day he graduated high school. So, I gave the kids each a copy of their own.

In addition to the pictures, I brought glow sticks, ring pops, foam-dart guns for the boys, lip gloss and nail polish and play jewelry for the girls! Boy, did we ever have a party the eve of the 8<sup>th</sup>!

After handing out the gifts, I was treated to a real show! They acted out skits, performed songs and dances – all original! What a time! They really have so much talent!

Speaking of talent, the "Our Own Home Band" performed in church on Saturday night! I have never been so proud! Sharon, 14, led the singing, backed up by Prossy, 13, Lydia, 14, and Mark, 12. Daddy William on the guitar, Uncle Andrew on bass, and Uncle Richard on keyboard completed the sound. They sang, "All Heaven Declares". It was truly beautiful!

House hunting has resumed! As I've shared before, we hope to begin bringing in babies while we continue to add more children as well. The need here is so overwhelming. The Busoga district has the highest AIDS infection rate in Uganda and nearly half of all new infections are in children. We would also like to have our own school for the children to help them escape the ostracism they sometimes experience due to AIDS in their present private school setting. We have a couple of possibilities now, one which overlooks the Nile. A larger home would be a significant new investment for Our Own Home, so please pray for God's direction and provision. As always, our

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prayer is that we would not “get ahead” of God, but walk continually in the center of his will.

We are also very pleased to announce that after an on-site visit, Horizon International has decided to include the children of Our Own Home among its network of sponsored children around the world. People now have the opportunity to sponsor one of our children individually, correspond with them, and truly make a difference in their lives. If you would like more information, please contact Horizon International directly at 866-778-7020, or e-mail [cs@horizoninternationalinc.com](mailto:cs@horizoninternationalinc.com). Be sure to mention your interest in the children of Our Own Home!

Thank you all so much for your love, support, and prayers! Blessings to you!

With joy,

Mommy Holly

Please visit our website at [www.africaourownhome.org](http://www.africaourownhome.org)! Here you'll find an overview of our ministry, pictures, our newsletter archive, volunteer, contact and donor information. Please share and e-mail this link to anyone who might be interested in learning more about Our Own Home!



**Please join us in continued prayer** that God will provide the right facility and resources for our expansion plans to begin receiving babies at Our Own Home.

We are still requesting donations of clothdiapers, Balmex or similar generics, and baby toys that can be sterilized (boiled)...not teethers or cloth toys. Of course we always need children's multi-vitamins....and some deodorant for the older kids. If you are in Casper, call and we'll arrange pick-up of the items. Otherwise, please see shipping information on the website under "donations".

**Please share this work** with your church or others you know who may be interested. If you know of someone who would like to be on our mailing list, please send us their address by mail or e-mail at the address in the next paragraph.

**If you would like to make a donation**, please make checks payable to **Our Own Home** and send to: 1075 Beaumont Dr. Casper, WY 82601. We also accept credit card and Paypal donations at [www.africaourownhome.org](http://www.africaourownhome.org). Donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. If you have any questions at all, please call Joe at 307-267-2712 or write [joe@africaourownhome.org](mailto:joe@africaourownhome.org).

Please write to me [holly@africaourownhome.com](mailto:holly@africaourownhome.com). I'd LOVE to hear from you!  
*Our Own Home Ministries International is a 501(c)3 religious charitable organization.*