

OUTREACH

NEWSLETTER



A Publication of Reach One Touch One Ministries (ROTOM)

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Transforming lives

With a gift of livestock.

Madeline Nakibale lives in Nabalanga, a rural village in Mukono district Uganda, with her older sister Cotrida Nakku. Cotrida is over 80 years old and Madeline is over 72 years old. Both seniors are supported by ROTOM and each has a unique story of how ROTOM has impacted their lives. With no child or grandchildren of her own, Madeline is the main caregiver for her sister Cotrida. Cotrida is too frail with age and disease, and relies on her sister Madeline for everything. Her only niece lives in a far village and only visits them a few times in the year.

Daily, Madeline cleans and looks after their home, goes to the garden to care for their crops, and helps her sister get around. She also has the burden of meeting their day-to-day household needs like paraffin for their lamp, salt, sugar, firewood, and matchboxes.

For a long time, Madeline desired to have an income-generating activity that could help her

meet some of their pressing needs. It took a gift in the form of a pig from ROTOM to make this her reality. In 2018, Madeline received a piglet from ROTOM which later produced 4 piglets. And to make sure these animals made the biggest possible impact, ROTOM provided training to Madeline on how to care for her pigs.

"I learned quite a number of things", Madeline recalls. "I learned the basic management practices like how to properly feed them, which foods they eat, and at what intervals. I also learned about the vaccines they need-which ROTOM provided, and how to keep them clean and healthy".

After weaning her 4 piglets off, Madeline passed on one piglet to another ROTOM senior and sold 3 of the piglets. With the income realized from the sale, Madeline renovated their pit latrine and the outside kitchen shelter where they prepare their meals.

With continuous support from ROTOM, Madeline has continued to care for her pig and it recently birthed 6 piglets. She is hoping to sell these and do some work on their unfinished house which her niece has been labouring to build for them over the course of very many years.

"I never imagined that keeping pigs would help me do all these things", Madeline says. "We have improved our living conditions one step at a time through raising and selling pigs. Thank you so much ROTOM for this wonderful gift".

Pigs, Goats, Cows, Chickens, Rabbits, and other farm animals go a long way in changing the situations of ROTOM seniors and their households. They not only provide nutritious foods but also help families generate income. And with incredible stewardship like Madeline's, a family can meet their needs for many years down the roads.



"My pig is a timely treasure that is transforming my life and giving me hope for the future".

My Food Never Runs Out...

Across Uganda, the impact of COVID-19 has increased food insecurity among many households including ROTOM supported seniors. Although it's easy to get lost in the statistics, each number represents a real individual going hungry at a certain point in time. This includes Disan Muhanga, a 91-year-old ROTOM supported senior living on his own.



Unlike other ROTOM seniors who have children, grandchildren, or relatives contributing to their food security, Disan has no one. His only surviving son left him and Disan has no idea where he is now or if he will ever come back.

Since the very beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic to date, Disan has needed a constant supply of extra food to supplement his little garden produce. Through ROTOM, he receives 10Kg of Maize flour, 5 Kg of beans, silverfish among other food items monthly which enables him to have at least 2 meals every day.

"I am very grateful for my monthly food support which I receive from ROTOM. My food never runs out. I think I would have died of hunger a long time ago, but this food support sustains me. I love to prepare porridge every day which I keep in the flask that I also received from ROTOM. I then enjoy my porridge throughout the day." says a happy Disan.

It is because of your overwhelming support that ROTOM can provide a constant monthly supply of foodstuffs to seniors like Disan. Your incredible generosity not only allows us to keep doing this work, but it is a huge boost to the nourishment for our seniors. When we give them food, we share your love with them, especially during these difficult times.

SUPPORT A SENIOR

For only **US \$38, CAD \$35/\$60, €25, £27 or UGX 100,000** a month, you can support a senior in Uganda. Your friendship allows a senior to:

- Hear a clear presentation of the gospel of Jesus Christ
- Participate in regular Christian support fellowships.
- Receive bi-weekly home visits from ROTOM staff and volunteer counselors.
- Receive free regular medical screening and treatment
- Receive support to enable improvement in income and food security
- Access safe and healthy water and housing

Friends receive a photo, update report and letters every year from the senior they support.

Donate to the **ROTOM Food Fund**

Give Any Amount of Your Choice.

Visit our website

www.reachone-touchone.org

For Giving Options.

From the Founder and Executive Director

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

Matthew 25:35 (NIV)

Dear Friends and Partners,

ROTOM continues to make sure that older persons live dignified and fulfilled lives. One way we get to do this is fulfilling a ROTOM dignity requirement; that every supported older person gets two meals a day. To achieve this, every supported older person needs to get two nutritious meals a day.

With your generous support in 2020, **95.2%** of ROTOM supported older persons were able to have two meals a day (*ROTOM Baseline Report 2020*). This was especially important because the country was going through the 1st wave of COVID-19 and resultant lockdown. With your support, we gave all supported older persons food supplies which boosted their health. Thank you very much.

Ensuring each supported older person get two nutritious meal continues to be our priority even this year. As I write this message, we are going through the second and more deadly wave of COVID-19. We are in another lockdown and families are struggling to put food on the table. Without our support, ROTOM supported older persons have no other source of help because their relatives who would help are unable to work due to the countrywide lockdown.

COVID-19 pandemic adds to the already dire situation among our supported older persons. Many older persons are frail and without an additional helping hand, they are unable to get food. **25% (225)** of the **956** supported older persons have needed supplementary food support from ROTOM for the last two years. This number increases each year. For this category, our regular provision of seeds, tools and trainings is no longer sufficient to ensure food security

I therefore appeal to you once again to generously support our food fund so that all supported seniors and children in their care may get enough food and be in better health to fight this deadly virus.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to supporting ROTOM.

Kenneth E. Mugayehwenkyi



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