



The Acholi people of Northern Uganda have suffered from two decades of violent conflict at the hands of the ex-Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). Children have borne the brunt of the conflict. They have lost multiple family members and witnessed brutally violent acts.

Thousands of traumatized children are now in internally displaced persons (IDP) camps seeking for just some normalcy in their lives.



Friends of Orphans, an Acholi NGO in the Pader District of Northern Uganda, is encouraging the use of arts and creativity as a tool to bring communities together to spread messages of peace and further the rehabilitation and reintegration of formerly abducted children, orphans, and others who have suffered from the conflict and accompanying displacement.

The proposed UgandARTS project will assist Friends of Orphans (FRO) by providing arts therapy, creative skill development and procuring musical instruments to help establish a FRO Brass Band.

In addition to improving the beneficiaries' psychological well-being, the UgandARTS Project will give beneficiaries a skills-set that can be used to generate income.

The overall objectives of the UgandARTS Project are to:

- **Assist in the rehabilitation of formerly abducted, vulnerable children and orphans**
- **Empower formerly abducted, vulnerable children and orphans through the transfer of skills sets that can be used to generate income**
- **Strengthen the capacity of formerly abducted, vulnerable children and orphans to participate in peace promotion activities through music**
- **Contribute to an environment of peace and stability in Pader and the neighboring Districts**



UgandARTS Project

- will play an integral role in rehabilitating orphans and vulnerable children and formerly abducted persons/ex-LRA abductees (OVC).
- aims to supply 1,650 of northern Uganda's orphans and formerly abducted vulnerable children with the means and mediums to express themselves through art.
- aims to last two years.
- In addition to the rehabilitative component, will help convey culturally appropriate social messages concerning peace, HIV/AIDS treatment/care, human rights, gender based violence, child protection, self-sustainability, and more.

The centerpiece of the project will be the *ArtMobile* (a portable rehabilitative arts unit) that will travel to different IDP camps throughout northern Uganda. It will transport art supplies and volunteer/local art instructors for the children in the camps.

A four-wheel drive vehicle will be equipped with internal storage containers and lockers to transport the art supplies along with an external rack and trailer hitch for additional means of storage and transport.

A recovery kit will also be included as a precaution against difficult road conditions. At each of the target camp locations, the arts unit will enroll a set number of children and will set up classes in various art mediums including also therapeutic and educational components. Some of these mediums include book making, clay-work, music, theater and more.

In year one, three camps will be visited while in year two, this number will be scaled up to five camps.

In addition to the arts unit, the *FRO Brass Band* will be established.

The band will be also utilized as an income generating activity for not only FRO, but also those children and their families involved in the band initiation process, such as tailoring band uniforms, creating additional local instruments, and participating at the band as a musician engaged/hired by the local officials for special occasions, celebrations, and more.

As the bands' practices/performances this activity will help form bonds, encourage the community to accept the youth and create a sense of community solidarity.

<u>Instruments Needed</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Base Drum	2
Side Drum	2
Drum Major Stick	1
Cymbal	1
Trumpets	5
Trombone	5
Bases	3
Baritones	2
French Horn	2
Sousaphones	2
Uniforms	60
Gloves	24



To accomplish all this...

We need your support.

To learn more about the project and how to support Friends of Orphans in their efforts in integrating the arts in health, social and economic development related activities please get in touch with FRO Executive Director, Anywar Ricky at ngomkwaro@yahoo.co.uk.



For the past two years Arts for Global Development, Inc. has in-kindly facilitated opportunities to communicate the messages of FRO and create awareness around the situation and the need on camps, as well as assisted in planning the UgandARTS project and raising micro-funds .

Pro-bono UganARTS Project Advisors:

Judy Rollins, PhD, BFA, RN; Visual artist and adjunct assistant professor in the Department of Family Medicine with a secondary appointment in the Department of Pediatrics at Georgetown University School of Medicine, Washington, DC., USA.

Aaron Siverston, Music educator, conductor, arts administrator and professional photographer based in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

Ermyn France King, Arts in Healthcare Consultant and Director, Hospital and Hospice Programs, ArtStream, Bethesda, MD, USA.

Edward Bbira, BA. BIFA; Art therapist at the Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service at St. Ann's Hospital London, UK.

UgandARTS Project Volunteers:

Jennifer Williams

William Meeker

Yvette Trapani

Monica Tierney

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Jennifer Empie

OMV Medical, Inc., TreasurePostcards Project Contributing Artists and Donors , Yvette Trapani and Jona Lain have generously donated to this project.

Jose Cuadra, Jennifer Williams, and Joyce Wanda have also assisted in producing the online video PSA.



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<http://www.frouganda.org>