



UGANDA MAGAZINE JEWELRY

UGANDA

Every 14 seconds a child becomes an orphan due to AIDS. In Africa alone, there are 11.6 million AIDS orphans (AVERT). With such staggering numbers, individual stories can get lost—the young teenager left to provide for her siblings or the widow with children but no job skills or education. In Uganda, our partners saw the different souls and heard the individual stories of those broken by the AIDS epidemic. Longing to bring healing and wholeness, they created a program providing employment, health care, counseling, and education for widows and their families. At the community center, now nearly eighty widows gather to make a living by crafting jewelry from recycled magazines. With a new sense of emotional and financial empowerment, these widows have begun expanding their circles of protection and adopting the orphans in their own neighborhoods. WAR is proud to stand shoulder to shoulder with these brave women who are mothers to the motherless, offering homes and hope to the lonely and abandoned.



STORIES OF RESCUE & EMPOWERMENT

COUNTRY: UGANDA • PROGRAM: MICRO-ENTERPRISE



Alice

When Alice lost her five year old daughter to AIDS, she felt paralyzed by grief. Yet she could not ignore the many others grieving around her, especially those orphans mourning the loss of their protectors and providers. Burdened by their helplessness, Alice mustered the strength to become a mother again, this time to the motherless. With funds from the jewelry program, she now supports six orphans, earning just enough income to send them to school. As her family grew, so did Alice's heart for those in her village. At the jewelry center, she teaches other at-risk women and children how to work with dignity and support themselves. She also serves as a community counselor, leading support groups and educating nearby neighborhoods about HIV/AIDS prevention. Despite the hopelessness spread by the AIDS epidemic, Alice has transformed her story of suffering into one of purpose and renewal, breathing hope back into her hurting community.

*For more stories of rescue & empowerment, please visit our story gallery at www.warinternational.org/story-gallery
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