

**FAMILY SPIRIT CHILDREN CENTRE
PRIMARY SCHOOL
PROFILE**

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Background

Family Spirit Primary School is a brain Child of Family Spirit Children Centre, a Community Based Organisation that was found to respond to the suffering children from the effects of Civil Wars, home violence and HIV and AIDS among others. The organization was meant to provide a home to the absolute Orphans and vulnerable children.

After a number of such children were enrolled at the Centre, it was shortly realized that education was among the priority basic needs. A primary school was therefore adopted as the first and key Project for the Organisation.

Rationale

Family Spirit Primary School was started in 2004, and it currently provides free education to 235 orphans and vulnerable children, and 120 children from the surrounding Community. The parents from the Community are obliged to make a minimal contribution as fees, to facilitate the smooth running of the school.

Location

The school is located 1 km from Masindi Town, along Kijunjubwa road, in Nyangahya Cell, Masindi Municipal Council – in Uganda (East Africa).

Infrastructure

The school is housed at the Children Centre, which sits on 4 acres of land. It has permanent structures for all the classes (Nursery to Primary Seven). It has a library, sick bay, and a space for playground. Most teachers are accommodated at the school. A girls dormitory with the capacity of accommodating 200 children is at the final stage of construction. The school has a modern kitchen, spacious and well-constructed Pit latrine, and the construction of flush toilets is underway.

The school has pens and houses for chicken, rabbits, goats and pigs. The birds and animals are used as learning aids, as well as nutrition supplements.

Construction of the main hall which will also act as the dining hall is at final stage.

Financing

The school gets finances from the Organisation membership, contributions, donations, gifts, grants and fees contributions from external beneficiaries of the School.

Management / Staff

The school activities are monitored by the Management Committee of 5 persons, which resorts to the Board of Directors of 7 people.

It is headed by a Head teacher, who works with a team of 12 teachers and 4 support staff. The teaching staff is usually supported by a team of 4 international volunteers who are replaced after every three months.

We also have a patron who is Bishop Stanley Ntagali of Masindi Kitara Diocese.

The board of directors

No	Name	Designation	Profession
1.	Bigabwa John (Eng)	Chairperson	Engineer
2.	Ssesanga Mary (Ed. Assistant)	v/Chairperson	
3.	Kyaligonza Joab (Eng.)	Secretary	
4.	Rev. Evas Kabagabu	Treasurer	
5.	Dr. Abiriga Jino	I/C Health	
6.	Mr. Keith Bitamazine	Co-ordinator	
7.	Mr. Wuzi Anthony	Food production	

Management committee

No	Name	Designation	Profession
1.	Angamita Susan	Chairperson	
2.	Mugume Lenox	Secretary	Social worker
3.	Nyakoojo Isaac		
4.	Feza G. Ashley	In-charge Adrian	Teacher
5.	Ochaka John		

Teaching staff

No	Name	Designation	Profession
1.	Byaruhanga Bob	Head teacher	Teacher
2.	Were William		Teacher
3.	Kiza Helen		Teacher
4.	Kiwanuka Nabiira S.		Teacher
5.	Kiza Mary		Teacher
6.	Anyijukire Precious		Teacher
7.	Byaruhanga Ronald		Teacher
8.	Nakabirwa Florence		Teacher
9.	Namukasa Harriet		Teacher
10.	Okeiio Yona		Teacher

Volunteers as at January 2012

No	Name	Designation	Profession
1.	Caroline Vedelsby	Denmark	
2.	Mie Jonassen	Denmark	
3.	Julie Glarup Bay	Denmark	
4.	Birgit	Denmark	Nurse

Registration

The school is in the process of registering with the Ministry of Education and Sports, to enhance the smooth running of activities.

Challenges

- Not duly registered with the Ministry of Education and Sports
- Lack of a UNEB Centre to enable pupils sit for their final exams at school
- Without a formal funding mechanism
- A heavy influx of orphans and vulnerable children
- Lack of funds for the construction of the boys dormitory and the dining hall
- Lack of transport (School truck)
- Lack of staff, equipment and medicine to provide a functional clinic / sick bay, in order to manage the children infected with HIV and other diseases.