



The shelter for people afflicted with leprosy and polio "Little Denmark" is required to relocate in Kampala.

When "Lisacare Association" started in 1994 in Uganda, it was a small grass root movement started by Lisbeth Bach Sorensen, to make a difference in a developing country like Uganda. Transparency so all could see how the money was spent has always been of utmost importance.

The association developed to become involved in several projects, from construction of two schools for 150 and 1000 students, mobile clinics giving free treatment for street children and homeless adults. Further the Association supported "Suyno Babies Home" and provided support to improve conditions in a youth prison for 280 children. The association also created a school programme for 50 street children in a five years period and presently the association has a school programme for 43 children in Lira district.

In 1999 the association opened the shelter "Little Denmark" in Kamwokya / Kyebando in one of the worst slum areas of Kampala. Presently more than 50 children and adults are living here. Before that they stayed for years on a platform at the old Taxi Park in Kampala. They all come from the north of Uganda where the armed conflict between the Government and LRA displaced many people. Several of the residents had arms, hands, fingers and feet amputated by the LRA so they couldn't provide any resistance to LRA, and further they became a burden for the local population, which was also part of the terror strategy.

People living with leprosy and polio are generally ostracized by the local communities. They have all been exposed to reactions like verbal abuse, being thrown stones at and chased from their homes as well as ostracized by their families. It was not possible for them to work in the fields, markets etc. due to their disabilities and only alternative for them was begging in the streets of the bigger cities.

When the Shelter opened in 1999, the plot was leased for 99 years which is a normal procedure for acquiring land in towns. The Shelter has been regularly expanded and renovated, i.e. last year half the buildings got new roofs to cope with the heavy rains.

Now the owner of the land has decided to sell the land to a big construction company planning to construct a new shopping center and housing blocks and thereby forcing Lisacare Association to relocate the Shelter. If Lisacare Association does not succeed in obtaining funding for a plot and for building a new shelter, more than 50 people will again be back on the streets.

The Association expect to receive a small compensation equivalent to USD 3.000, which is woefully insufficient to relocate the Shelter. The present estimate for purchase of plot and construction of a new Shelter is USD 100.000, required to house 80-100 residents with access to electricity and drinking water.

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