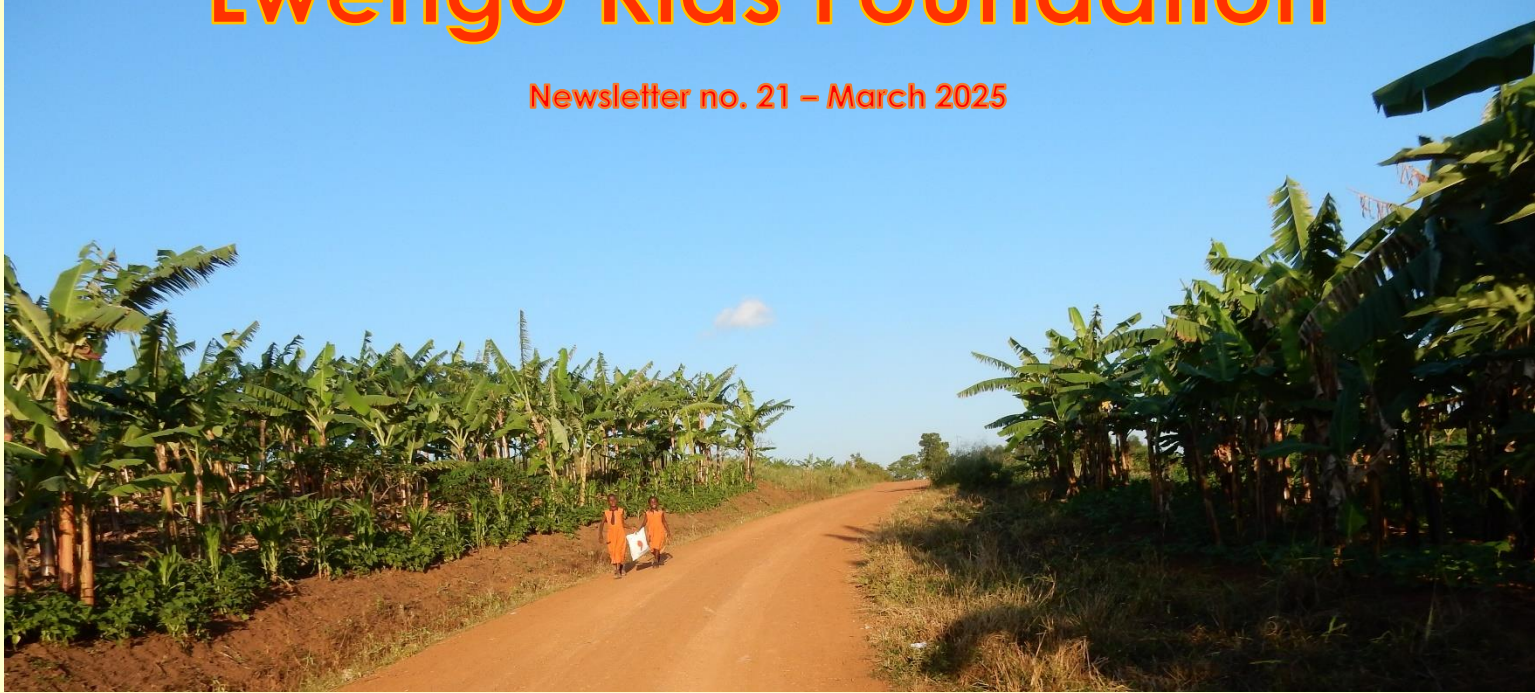


Lwengo Kids Foundation

Newsletter no. 21 – March 2025



From the board

Our concerns

As Lwengo Kids Foundation, we work in an extremely poor area, where our help is more than needed and highly appreciated. Through your and our efforts, we give children a chance of education and thus a future perspective.

In addition, we help the local community by realizing better facilities such as the Health Center, better facilities at school, etc. In doing so, we try to prevent people from feeling forced to move to other countries, in the hope of building a better life there.

A concrete example is Florence, who actually wanted to go to Dubai to earn a good income for her family. By offering conversations and future opportunities, she is now training to become a seamstress in her own country.

We are a private foundation and not dependent on Dutch Development Aid. But the attitude and choices of our government affect many organizations that are active in developing countries. That also makes us sad because we know how essential the help is. Trump's actions to stop USAID are also very worrisome. This means, for example, stopping medication for HIV patients in Africa. Patients who can't live without it. We, with a number of children who are HIV-positive, can also suffer the consequences of this. How sad it is that what we have done with many

The efforts of many organizations are currently reasonably under control are nullified here by Trump in one sentence. Yes, we have our concerns

and we will share them with Anthony and look for solutions to overcome these problems at least in our work area.

For us an extra incentive to continue our beautiful and important work, whereby we of course hope and rely on your loyal support, because it remains indispensable for us!

Pieter Streefkerk, chairman

New board members

We are pleased to announce that we can add two new board members to our board: Sandra Timmer and Ronald van Veen.

They would like to introduce themselves to you:



Sandra Timmer,

47 years old, living with Gert in Hierden. Gert has a 23-year-old daughter and I myself have two sons aged 21 and 19. I am currently working as a manager of local services at the Northwest Veluwe Library and an active council member for the municipality of Harderwijk. I am also a member of the Soroptimist Club Northwest Veluwe. In my spare

time I like sports, but I also like to read to relax. Of course I make enough time for fun things with my family, boyfriend and girlfriends.

Why Lwengo Kids Foundation?

More and more I realize that I am lucky to have been born in the Netherlands. That I grew up in a warm nest and was given every opportunity. Now that our children are older, I realize that our children have had the same opportunities and we have a nice life. That is in such stark contrast to other places in this world.

Unexpectedly, Pieter and I crossed paths and I became very enthusiastic about the stories about the Foundation; Set up from the heart, driven by passion, personal, local and small-scale.

Consequence?

I couldn't get Pieter, Marga and the children in Lwengo out of my head. I am therefore very pleased that I can introduce myself to you as a board member of this wonderful foundation. I am looking forward to working with you and the other board members to make the Foundation future-proof for the school-age children in Lwengo.

Ronald van Veen, 45 years old and lives and works in Ermelo. As an alderman of Ermelo, which is my daily activity, I see opportunities for development every day. Opportunities that can be used, in our society where a lot is self-evident. Water comes out of the tap, the light is on in my living room where I am now typing this introduction. I am aware of all the opportunities I have had.



As the middle of a family of 5 children, I grew up in the green and quiet Ermelo. My parents were not well off. In my teens I got half a slice of luncheon meat on my sandwich. After high school, I went to college. In the place where I am now, I am happy that I was able to get a good education and that our government provided those facilities. Every day I see opportunities in our society. Opportunities that are not self-evident in many places, such as in Uganda.

For that reason, I have made myself available to become a board member of Lwengo Kids Foundation. With the team, including the dedicated Pieter and Marga, I am happy to put my proverbial shoulders to the wheel to offer children in Lwengo that opportunity as well. Good education, the road to an existence. The

path that I have been able to walk and that takes me further in my existence every day.

You can also create chances. By actively standing up for it. With Lwengo Kids Foundation we can offer the chance of a future with an existence. Will you help build on that?

Annual

report

A lot has happened again in 2024. You can read all about it in our annual report as published on the website. If you follow [this link](#), you will automatically be taken to the Dutch version of the annual report. If you follow [this link](#), you will read the English annual report.

Meet your sponsor child

We sent an email to a number of sponsors, who we knew would like to come along, asking if they would like to travel with us in October. If you have not received an email, but perhaps also want to join, please register. On May 24, we are organizing an information afternoon. So if you are interested, please let us know via app or email.

April

trip

April 6, Pieter, Marga, Sandra and her partner Gert leave for Uganda to see all the children again, visit projects, share concerns and solve problems, but especially to see all the good things again and to give feedback to our sponsors. In the meantime, all sponsors have received the well-known email in which we ask to give a greeting for the sponsor children. If you have not done so yet, you can do so until April 4th. We hope for a good trip with many positive stories!

News from Lwengo

Results PLE

In November of last year, the children in Primary 7 took their Primary Leavers Exam and I can tell you that all children passed very successfully. It is always exciting when the results come, because not only the results of the children are important, but also the place on the ranking list where the school has finished. There are 2,518 schools in Uganda and Lwerudeso Primary School is ranked 291st in the list. In Lwengo district itself, the school was ranked 5th out of 155 schools. So we can be proud of "our" school!

The children take exams in four subjects: English, science (biology, physics and chemistry), social studies (history, geography, social studies, economics) and mathematics.

They receive points from 1-10 for each subject. 1 is excellent, 10 is the lowest score. The total number of points determines which division you play in, which again varies from 1 to 4, where 1 is excellent and 4 is not great. Example: Andrew has a 3 for English, a 3 for science, a 2 for social studies and a 1 for mathematics. In total he gets 9 points and thus enters division 1.

From this year on, the B&P form of the sponsor children who go to Secondary School will state what their score is/was.

Lwerudeso Primary School, Lwengo	eng	sci	ss	math	total	division
North Malawi Education - Lwengo	3	3	2	1	9	1
contribution sponsor secondary school (euro)						40,000

Projects

Construction of teachers' houses

The school is growing and that is good. There are currently more than 600 children at school. We want all children to receive a good education and that requires a large number of teachers. It remains difficult to find good teachers. Once found, we also want to keep them for the school. With housing for them, we achieve that it becomes more attractive to teach at

Lwerudeso Primary School. We have raised the money for a first block of five houses and construction has started.



For the next block of five, AFAS Foundation has requested. We have a lot of work there on March 5. We held a pitch and at the end of the day we held a cheque for 40,000 euros in our hands. For a third and fourth block, we can knock on AFAS Foundation's door again. Very happy with it!



Farewell to Francis

Francis was Anthony's right-hand man. With him we followed a lot of narrow paths in the jungle of banana plants on our way to a new sponsor child to get to know

parents/caregivers. Sometimes I thought: "we'll never get out of here", but nothing was a problem for Francis. He really knew where to find every child, no matter how far and remote.



We had to say goodbye to Francis, he has taken on a new challenge and he also has to take care of his old father who lives far from Lwengo. We wish him the best of luck.

Fortunately, we have Douglas. A cheerful man who is very good with the children and also works excellently with me via app and in the field. He is well aware of the situation in Lwengo. We are also going to have a pleasant time with him!



He talks about his work in Lwengo:

At Lwerudeso, my week is filled with meaningful activities that support the Community and also the children with disabilities. I work with different people in different workplaces. Each day offers unique experiences that leave a lasting impression on both the children, different communities, families, interns and volunteers who join us.

My work mainly consists of working with the community, seeing development, monitoring the project activities, the sponsor children at school and at home,

We receive volunteers and interns who get acquainted with the project and I will involve the children with them in creative activities, with which children can express themselves, for example by means of clay pots, weaving together with women's groups, sports and games. It is incredibly moving to see what a pleasure they have in working together and making something beautiful.

Halfway through the week we also focus on physical and practical activities such as making stoves (ovens in houses), drainers, etc. We also host fun outdoor games designed to improve motor skills and promote teamwork among the kids and in the community.

We make home visits to families in our community to do activities together, such as developing a vegetable garden, keeping the house clean and maintained, doing laundry with them, fetching water, etc. This gives the volunteers and interns a good impression of how the local families live and the families gain a better

understanding of their work. The heartfelt conversations and shared experiences strengthen our community bond and give families resources and knowledge.

At the end of the week, we evaluate the activities together and draw conclusions from them. Being involved in the community keeps us aware of the unique challenges they face.

Each week is an enriching mix of learning, growth, and community spirit. The enthusiastic volunteers, interns, passionate staff, and lovely people in the community create a vibrant atmosphere that makes every day memorable and reminds us of the impact our work has on shaping lives that embrace and change the community.

We continue to brainstorm with each other about creative ways to integrate learning and growth into the community.

Greetings from Douglas

Niels and Annelou



Niels and Annelou are a couple and together they went to Lwengo for about five months to do volunteer work there. Not employed by Lwengo Kids, but in the interest of Lwengo Kids Foundation. They introduce themselves and tell us what they are doing:

Jebale ko! We are Annelou & Niels van den Berg-Meijerink and we are honored to spend several months in beautiful Uganda with all the very friendly people of the LWERUDES organization. Since we have known each other, we have the desire to use our talents in a different way for several months in a completely different environment. We came into contact with Pieter & Marga and heard their infectious stories about LWERUDES in Uganda and how enormously impactful that organization is for the schoolchildren and the community in the immensely poor district of Lwengo. We immediately noticed a match with our desire and we have now been in sun-drenched Uganda for almost two months and we are happy that we can stay here until mid-June 2025.

The first impressions are very positive: what a big heart director Anthony has for the schoolchildren and the community, but not only he, but also his staff members

are enormously dedicated. Annelou is enthusiastically working on the 'girls project' to improve the hygiene during menstruation of girls at school. An underexposed subject among girls and boys. The goal is, among other things, to implement reusable sanitary pads and also to teach them to make them themselves.

Niels is working to improve the quality of life at school and in the village by setting up a program with the local leaders to convert used plastic bottles into money. Plastic, and waste in general, is now first thrown around and then often burned, with all the consequences that entails for humans and animals.



The local leaders, including school director Anthony, visit a location where plastic bottles are collected in Masaka

All in all, a valuable experience and special to see how great the love is for the (sponsor) children!

Greetings from Niels and Annelou

You are up to date again!

We wish you a beautiful spring and a happy Easter.

Our next newsletter will be published in June and then we will tell you more about our projects.

On behalf of the board of the Lwengo Kids Foundation,

Marga Streefkerk