

IRFF UK: Overcoming challenges in education in Uganda

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July 12, 2024



From despair to dreams: the inspiring journey of Nakkazi Moureen at Destiny Junior School

At the heart of Destiny Junior School is a story of hope, resilience, and transformation. This is the story of Nakkazi Moureen, a 13-year-old girl whose life has been profoundly changed by the opportunities and support provided by the school.

A journey marked by challenges

Nakkazi Moureen's life has not been easy. Orphaned at a young age, she faced the harsh realities of food shortages and a lack of basic necessities like clothing. After losing her mother, Nakkazi had to live with her stepmother, which limited her access to education. The death of her father in 2022 further shattered her chances of continuing her education, leaving her future uncertain and bleak.

A spark of hope

Despite these formidable challenges, Nakkazi's love for reading and the inspiration from her brother, who was already a student at Destiny Junior School, kept her hope alive. Her late father, a local defence officer, was a friend of Teacher Jesca. This connection played a pivotal role in Nakkazi's journey to Destiny Junior School, where she was welcomed with open arms.

Transforming education in Uganda

Since joining Destiny Junior School in 2017, Nakkazi has flourished both personally and academically. The school's nurturing environment has helped her socialise well with other students, improved her morals, and boosted her confidence. Nakkazi has acquired valuable knowledge and developed critical thinking skills, which have been instrumental in her growth.

Programmes that make a difference

Destiny Junior School offers a range of programmes that have positively impacted Nakkazi's development. Counselling and guidance services, extracurricular activities, and arts and cultural programmes have played crucial roles in shaping her character and abilities. These initiatives have not only kept her engaged and motivated but also helped her develop a sense of purpose and direction.

Achievements and aspirations

Nakkazi's journey is filled with memorable moments and achievements. She is an active member of the school athletics team and the school choir, where she has honed her talents and built lasting friendships. Her confidence and self-belief have soared, and she has developed a deep curiosity and love for learning.

Support beyond academics

The support from teachers, staff, and fellow students has been invaluable in Nakkazi's success. They have helped her navigate through various challenges, develop important social skills, and feel a sense of belonging and connection. Additionally, the school has provided essential items like soap, sanitary pads, shelter, and food, enabling her family to allocate their limited resources to other needs.

Dreams of the future

Nakkazi dreams of becoming a teacher in the future, a goal she is working towards with the help of Destiny Junior School. The school has secured partnerships with secondary schools that offer full sponsorships to students who excel, ensuring that Nakkazi and others like her can continue their education without financial burdens. Nakkazi excels in Mathematics and Science, and she aspires to use her education to help others in need, just as she has been helped.

A heartfelt message to donors

Nakkazi's story is a testament to the incredible impact that Destiny Junior School and its supporters have on the lives of students. She expresses her deep gratitude to the donors and supporters, saying, "Thank you so much. Without you, my education and that of other students like me, as well as our well-being, wouldn't be possible. May God bless you all and keep on the good deeds only God can repay you."

A brighter future

Nakkazi Moureen's journey from despair to dreams is a powerful reminder of the difference that education and a supportive community can make in a child's life. Destiny Junior School continues to provide a beacon of hope for many children, transforming education in Uganda by turning obstacles into opportunities and paving the way for a brighter future.