

News from Piet and Pita About Noah's Ark Children's Home

September 2017

Dear friends and family,

After a few very busy summer months, it's now time for a new newsletter!

We went for a few weeks to Canada in June to visit our friends and sponsors. During the last months 30 children came to Noah's Ark but we have been able to resettle most of them. Six have remained with us, not all of them will be able to be resettled.

Amber!



On May 21st a small, malnourished baby was abandoned at a hospital in a nearby village. The police asked for our help and of course we went to pick the baby. A little girl of approximately 6 weeks old, she weight 1850 grams. We called her Amber. And again we have seen a pitiful tiny person change into a happy, smiling, friendly baby. That is what gives us encouragement to continue our task, which isn't always easy but worth the effort.

Our visit to Canada!

we left Uganda on the 22nd of May and spend our first days in Canada with Pita's oldest brother and



his family. There we also got the chance to meet most of their children and grandchildren, we have fully enjoyed it. From there we made a trip through the Rocky Mountains, a beautiful drive. We went to BC to visit a church which is supporting Noah's Ark already for quite some time, a number of our (school)children are supported from here. Back in Alberta we visited other churches and friends and sponsors. And we were able to make a partnership with a Canadian foundation, Share Life, which is founded by a good friends of us. They will handle for us the sponsorship money. In conclusion, we had a good, fruitful trip which we have thoroughly enjoyed.



Lucinda!

The 15th of June, the day Lucinda was born, was a day full of adventure for her. Wrapped in newspapers and a piece of cloth she was left on the roadside to die. She was found and the police rushed to bring her to Noah's Ark. In our clinic she received first aid. Her umbilical cord was tied and cut, and she was put on



oxygen, because her breathing very irregular. Her weight was not bad, 2300 grams. She was welcomed in the Noah's Ark family and received the

name Lucinda. By now she is a healthy, happy baby.

Adam!

On August 14, again a baby who was in need of a home. We

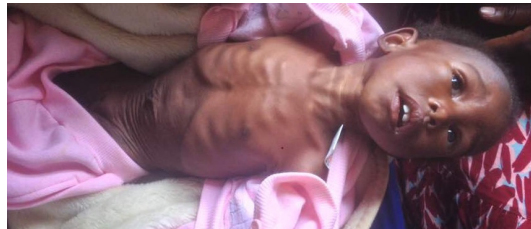


estimated him 4 days old, the umbilical cord had not yet fallen off. According to the one who brought him to the police, he was found on a garbage heap. We called him Adam, a handsome little boy, 2600 grams, so his weight didn't give much problems. After four weeks, we got a phone call from the police: the woman who had brought him there was actually

his mother and she regretted the way she lied: she missed him so much. The police wanted to put her in prison for some time but we got that changed into community service which she could do at our place. We were able to help her to lactate again, and she is now breastfeeding him again. So we hope that by October we can say farewell to a happy mother and her baby.

Grace!

The fourth of September again a phone call from police. A little girl of approximately 1 year old, was found in an empty, locked house. The neighbors had alarmed the local government and together with the police



broke the lock of the house. They found a severely malnourished baby. The neighbors told that the father always locked her in and did not come home often, they tried to push some food for her under the door but that didn't help the little one. The parents are no where to be seen. Her name is Grace. Very quickly she started changing, fed with the special food we use in the malnutrition clinic. We discovered that she has TB but nowadays there is a good cure for that. She will be fine.



Michel en Rosa!



Twins of 2 months old. They are from Serere, a village near Soroti. Their mother passed away during labor. The first 2 months they received some help in their neighborhood but now the

help stopped. The father however, a 22 year old man has 4 more kids and can't take care of these small ones. We have agreed with him that we will help him for



2 years, then he has to come and take over. They were born on the 5th of July and we picked them on the 6th of September.

Elroy

On the 20th of May we received another child: Elroy! A boy of approximately 2 years old with a serious heart condition. He needs to get surgery for this. His mother wanted to bring him to his father and grandfather but did not go to the right family: the man in the house had the same name but denied having any relation to the boy and so he ended up in Noah's Ark. We spoke about him and his condition with some friends in Canada and



spontaneously they gave us the money for the surgery. Wow, there is hope for Elroy! Unfortunately there is a long waiting list and no progress yet. In the meantime we were able to trace his real father and grandfather. The father is a cousin of the people where he was left. This father is very willing to accept his boy and care for him but he absolutely lacks the funds to pay for the surgery. They took him up in their family and we are keeping in touch to arrange for the surgery.

Resettled children!

Charles could be resettled with his own father and also Sandra and Maria, about whom I wrote in the last newsletter we reunited with their fathers. And Kevin could go home with his mother, she had served 3 months of community service here at Noah's Ark as punishment for abandoning her baby.

Elijah en Rick,



Two babies that we got last year October and November have been adopted by an Ugandan family. The couple who weren't able to get children came here to ask for help and fall in love with those baby boys.

Here is a photo with their new mother and one with their new father.



Benjamin! A Baby who has been with us for one and a half years because of the fact that his mother died when she gave birth to him. Early September his father collected him to live with his own family. This is absolutely the best for the children, to be with their own relatives when possible.

The Schools!

The last semester of the school year has started again. Quite a number of children have started this term anxiously, because it is the term in which exams are done. At the primary school it are the P7 students who have to prove that they are ready to change from primary to secondary education. This is an official exam taken for the Uganda government. At the secondary/vocational school the third class, S3 has exams in the practical subjects which they have chosen. The fourth class S4 has to do the 'Ordinary Level' exams and S6 their 'Advanced Level' exams. This is the first time that we have S6 as a class, which means that our oldest children are coming close to the day that they will fly out of Noah's Ark to continue life on their own two legs. All together a nerve breaking time with lots of extra study hours

Girl's Family Unit 4!

Again we opened a new family unit, this time for girls. Joan, Abigail, Manuela, Michaela, Dorothy, Hulda, Simone, Jaelle and Fatuma together with auntie Evelyn got their own home.



The food situation in Uganda!

In our last newsletter we wrote about the worrying food situation in Uganda. Extreme draught has cost lives and the food which was there became terrible expensive. Fortunately the

rains have come and the situation is improving bit by bit. We received many donations from you and others and because of that we were able to continually feed our children. We want to give you thanks for all you did. and for all the special help we received.

The summer months, which for many is a time of vacation, are very busy here with many visitors and teams. The children enjoy these visits and the extra attention it brings them. Also in the coming months we will receive teams from The Netherlands and Germany.



Reception Center!

As you can read and hear we have an increasing number of children which temporarily need our help. That is why we want to involve you in finding a better solution to handle this problem. We would like to build a new house where we can welcome these children temporarily. Together with police and probation office, and in connection with court we want to build a house where 30 children can find a safe, temporary shelter. Then together with the police and probation office we can resettle these children into a safe and permanent place. We have been asked for this regularly and see that for our children in the children's home this would be a better solution. Now when children come and go they often come to us with the painful question: "when do I have to leave"? this gives so much insecurity to them that we would like to separate

those who need temporary shelter from those who are here permanently. Therefore we are looking for €45,000 / \$54,000 to make this possible. We have the land and the space, but not the funds. So if you are willing to help us with a big or a small donation, please get in touch with us to know how to give towards the reception center and we'll be happy to help you along. Thanks in advance!