

Welcome to October's Prayer E-News. As ever, we want to start by saying thank you to you for joining us in praying for the work of Retrak. It's amazing to think that the creator of the universe wants us to bring our longings and requests to him – as Jesus says in Matthew 5:6 to “hunger and thirst for things to be the way they were supposed to be”. This issue of prayer e-news has a bit of a Uganda theme. We give thanks for 2 boys who spent some time with us with us and have recently returned as part of a team to talk to the current group of boys at Tudabujja; We also ask you to pray for Retrak's transition Centre for Girls at Bulamu in Uganda where our current funding runs out in November. And we remember 12 months on from last year's accident in Kampala. Thank you again for your faithful support and for all that you do to help us journey towards a world where no child is forced to live on the street.



Boys on a mission



Marvin and Herbert are two boys who, following trauma in the home, spent time on the streets of Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. They eventually met Retrak's outreach workers and stayed at our Tudabujja halfway home. Marvin had suffered terrible beatings as he had tried to protect his mother from a drunken step father, and Herbert's parents both died from an AIDS related disease. Like Marvin, Herbert was subject to abuse from his step father before his mother died.

Reintegration proved difficult for both boys and so Retrak referred the boys to OFF-TU-Mission, a partner organisation who

provide educational support. Both boys are in school and their performance has greatly improved.

In August this year, a team from OFF-Tu-Mission visited Tudabujja. Our team report “The amazing thing was these two boys were the ones sharing/ preaching the word of God to the children at the centre”.

Please pray:

- For Marvin and Herbert's continued progress - in school and in the repair of family relations which are now improving.
- For the boys who heard them speak; that they will be encouraged and motivated by their example.
- For ongoing relationships with organisations like OFF-TU-Mission and for our ability to build new, mutually beneficial partnerships with like-minded organisations and service providers.
- For Retrak's team in Uganda as they seek to help more children to return to a safe and sustainable home in family and community.

Bulamu Transition Centre for girls

All Kampala's street children lack everyday needs - they have no safe shelter, access to education and healthcare, or adequate nutrition – but girls are especially vulnerable. 77% of girls who live on Kampala's streets have been forced into modern slavery, 73% have experienced some form of sexual abuse or unwanted pregnancy and all lack access to necessary sanitary pads.

However, Retrak's Bulamu Transition Centre is giving these girls hope. The centre provides them with a safe and hygienic space to sleep, access to education, medical care and counselling sessions, and most importantly offers services and tools to equip these girls for a healthy and happy future life away from the streets.



In 2015 Bulamu helped to refer 61 girls for specialist medical care and reintegrated 71 girls to safe and secure family settings away from the dangers of Kampala's streets.

Yet from November, when current funding ends, Bulamu's services are under threat. Retrak no longer has an adequate source of funding to cover the £5500 per month operational costs to run the centre.

To help us whilst we find a longer term source of funding, we have launched an emergency appeal to raise three months running costs of £16,500. If you would like to use our film in your church or small group (or just watch it yourself) please go to our web site and click on the emergency appeal flash on the right of our home page.

Please pray:

- That we are able to continue giving this vital support to girls living on the streets of Kampala.
- For staff as they try to help these girls return to a safe family environment and deal with the reasons that pushed them to the streets.
- For the success of our appeal – and that Churches and their members will respond generously. (To give please go to our web site and click on the emergency appeal flash on the right of our home page.)
- For a long term funder(s) for our work with vulnerable girls at Bulamu.

Twelve months on

It's now 12 months since a number of boys from our Tudabujja Centre in Kampala were involved in a serious traffic accident. Many of you responded in prayer and with emergency funding for medical care and we wanted to take this opportunity to, again, say thank you. All but one of the boys involved have now been reintegrated into family and all are doing well. It has been our privilege to walk alongside them as they have dealt with both the mental and physical trauma. We continue to work with Yusuf, the young man who lost his leg in the accident. He is still at Tudabujja as his reintegration is more complicated by his injury. In recognition of his remarkable bravery Yusuf received the Fergus Moran award.

Please pray:

- Thanking God again that no one lost their life in this traumatic incident; That all the boys have made amazing progress in spite of what happened; For their successful reintegration into safe homes in family and community.
- For continued healing from the trauma – both mental and physical and for their families as they adjust to having them home and make changes to ensure they aren't pushed back to the street.
- For Yusuf and his family as we help to work out the necessary support for his reintegration.

Thank you so much for the part you play in realizing our vision of "A world where no child is forced to live on the street". It is a bold vision - but with God's grace, Retrak's proven model of care, and your support, it's a reality we are already moving towards.

