

## The fieldwork

### **Burkina Faso**

The work in Burkina Faso continues to go smoothly and is constantly growing in size. The three story university building is already in use and a foundation has been laid for a new dining hall. It's size is around 375 square meters and can house up to 700 individuals.



Icelandic volunteers visited and lent a helping hand twice this year. They brought with them various items such as laptops, sports equipment and clothes. They assisted on numerous projects such as installing additional solar panels, general maintenance, music teaching and repairing and polishing the athletic grounds. The first field trip took place in February and the second in October.

### **Kenya**

*-The Star of Hope in Nairobi*

A new board; The Mathare Children Education was founded on the 1st of September.

The Poetry group performed well for the annual Kenya Music Festivals and reached the Semi-Finals.

*-ABC Complex School in Namelok*

Two new dormitories were put in use as of January. The annual fund raising event „Children help children 2016“ in Iceland was responsible for funding them.



In motion are plans to build more classrooms as outdoor teaching is still an option that is being used due to a lack of space. The money raised in this year's „Children help children“ fund raising will be donated for more classrooms.

Thrainn Skulason, a board member, visited the school last september.

### **Uganda**

ABC Children's Aid Uganda runs nine schools in all. The operation there continues to go smoothly and the stellar reputation only grows.

The most significant change in the year took place in the Comprehensive College Kitetika. The dining hall went through extensive renovation and is in use today.



By law it is required that a certain distance must be between students while taking national exams and up until today not every student has been able to complete them due to inadequate space. The dining hall has been put to use so that more students are able to complete their national exams and, needless to say, it's been hugely beneficial for them and the whole organization.

### **Philippines**

ABC continues it's co-operation with Barnmissionen in the Philippines and Icelandic sponsors support over 400 children in schools run by the Swedish organization.

### **Bangladesh**

An NGO called Agape Social Concern runs a home designed to educate poor children, orphans and the vulnerable. It's called „Home of Peace.“



Barnmissionen has been sponsoring children at the home for a number of years and now ABC will take over and Icelandic sponsors will support the children.

## **India**

ABC Children's Aid continues to support children in Mt. Carmel English School run by Eva Alexander and Comforter Ministries. Around one hundred children are sponsored in the day school.



The students are „Dalites“ and those individuals belong to the lowest class in India and are routinely subjected to all kinds of injustice solely because of their class status.

## **Changes in the fieldwork**

### **India**

The director of the Little lights school in India decided not to sign a new agreement with ABC and thus ends a long co-operation between the two. Financial support will go to students at The Comforter run by Eva Alexander in Chennai.

### **Pakistan**

The directors of the schools in Pakistan decided not to sign a new agreement with ABC and therefore all payments ceased as of December 1st. The financial support will transfer to children in the „Home of Peace“ in Bangladesh.

## **Domestically**

### **The office**

The new manager of ABC Children's Aid, Laufey Birgisdottir, formally began on March 1st.

Two full time staff members perform the work of treasurer and project manager.

One employee, an accountant, had an 80% job status until december where the status has decreased to 50%.

One employee began mid year with a 50% job status and serves as a project manager.

One staff member is on a temporary basis until the end of the year.

### **The Second Hand Store**

The Second Hand Store, located beneath the offices, continues to perform well. The average income per month is approximately 3 million ISK.

There are three full time employees, one in a 30% position and two active volunteers on a daily basis. Five volunteers assist on Saturdays when the store is open and two volunteers come from the Department of Correctional Service but attendance is infrequent.



The Second Hand Store actively supports other charities and gives merchandise to an animal shelter, a shelter for homeless people and an organization which helps people fresh out of rehabilitation.

### **Children help children**

The annual fund raising campaign „Children help children“ celebrated a significant achievement when it was launched for the 20th time this year. The campaign formally began on March 16th and was active until April 9th. The president of Iceland, Guðni Th. Johannesson, delivered a speech in an elementary school and officially commenced the campaign.



Nearly 8 million ISK were raised and around 2.500 students from 75 elementary schools nationwide took part.

- Namelok computer and printer for the school
- Nairobi music festival, choir competition
- Namelok school building
- Namilok school rooms
- Burgina Faso Dining Hall
- Uganda Kindergarden wall and furniture
- Nairobi Renovation of furniture and housing SOH
- Nairobi school uniform and gear for secondary class

### **Collection trays**

ABC collection trays are found in stores, waiting rooms for various businesses and all over the country. There are four active volunteers handling the Capital area where most of the trays are located but many other volunteers perform the same task outside the Capital.

### **ABC magazine**

The ABC magazine continues and two were published in the year 2017. They're funded with monetary support from businesses, individuals and advertisements. In all there have been five ABC magazines.

They continue to be printed in 8.000 copies and around half of them are distributed to sponsors. The remainder goes to businesses, stores and waiting rooms for various establishments all around the country. This endeavour continues to be a source of income and a good way to distribute the message of the organization.



The magazine can be acquired electronically via the website and therefore its content is readily available and the history of ABC, in the form of interviews and in depth articles, is forever accessible.

A journalist handled all aspects of the magazine.

### **Positive prevention seminar in local high schools**

ABC continues to fund a Substance prevention seminar hosted by Magnús Stefánsson aimed at fifth graders and their parents. For seven years the host has directly spoken to over 180.000 individuals.

### **ABC vehicle**

A vehicle was purchased for official use and Nytjamarkaðinn



## Other fun things

### *Surprise visit from an ABC student*

Amis Agaba, a former student from one of the ABC schools in Uganda, showed up at the office and asked to meet his sponsor. A very touching moment which was captured on camera when a TV station did a report and showed their meeting on television. It garnered massive viewing and huge publicity for ABC Children's Aid.

Around 300 new sponsors were gained as a result and Amis went on to visit schools, churches and even going on the radio to talk about his life, ABC and how his future went from no prospects to endless possibilities.



### *Running for ABC*

The annual Reykjavik Marathon was held in August and many participants raised funds for charities. This year 31 runners collected for ABC and raised 157.500 ISK in total.

### *Playing for ABC*

A noted musician celebrated his 50th birthday and held a concert and all proceeds were donated to ABC. By his request the money was distributed to Burkina Faso.



### *Women's Night*

A special *Women's Night* to further women in Burkina Faso was held in May and the guest of honor was Gully Jonasdottir, one of two directors of the ABC school in Burkina Faso.



# **Narrative report 2017**