



Am Akok Doreen, am 24 years old. I grew up from Kiwanga Home which is one of Sister Rose's three orphanages(the others are Sabina in Rakai and Nsambya home in the heart of Kampala).

One night in 1998 when I was a baby, my father was chopped to death using an ax and panga terribly and bloody by an attack of Kony's soldiers. It was so horrible for me, we lost all we had and I lost my father, my hero, life was not worth living.

Then Sister Rose (Rest In Peace) came and rescued me and other kids in my community in Northern Uganda, she brought us to Kampala and gave us Kiwanga home as a safe new home and we did not have to worry about the rebels again. That was 1999. I was able to go to school which was a myth in Gulu not with the constant running from the rebel attacks!

I completed my senior four at Mbuye farm school and told by Children of Uganda to study a catering course instead of acquiring high school education. Really, catering is good but it wasn't what I wanted to do. I obliged and studied the course but they dropped me off their program before I could even complete it! Many children through Children of Uganda had their dreams shattered and are now living miserable lives than they would if they were given the same support given to the Rakai kids who even have parents!

I had no option but to go back to Gulu which has now stabilized security and lived with my relatives, I could not get a job since I was half baked, I mean I was not qualified for any job.

I later got a boyfriend, I really trusted him but at the last moment he disappointed me after impregnating me. I gave birth to a little boy, Nicholas Scanlon Omara who is two years now and would love to go back to school, get qualifications that can enable me get a good job to give him a decent life. I need shelter, support for my son and myself.

My son is to start school next year, I have tried my best to raise his kindergarten school fees but at the same time I have to provide him the basics of life. He has to eat, dress, have medicine and I end up spending the little I get from odd jobs on him not even Vaseline for myself, so it is difficult to even attempt to save his school fees.