

NGO to build modern school in Nakapiripirit

MUKONO

By Henry Nsubuga

Vulnerable children who were helped by the Fields of Life (FOL) organisation 25 years ago have launched a project to construct a nursery and primary school at Komoret village, Moruita sub-county in Nakapiripirit district.

Moses Magala, the coordinator of Fields of Life Alumni Association, said they want to help needy children from the Karamoja region to get a chance to have education, the same way the founder of Fields of Life, Rev. Trevor Stevenson helped them.

Magala who works as an environment officer in Wakiso district, said the project, which is estimated at sh585m will include the construction of a fully furnished nursery block and seven classrooms for at least 350 pupils, a staff quarter, sanitation facilities for male and female pupils and teachers.

He revealed the plans to guests who turned up to celebrate 25 years of Fields of Life. The event was held at Vision for Africa Hotel in Kyampisi sub-county, Mukono district last week.

Magala said Komoret village has



Pupils of Kawongwe Primary School performing a traditional dance during the function at Vision for Africa Hotel in Mukono. (Inset is) Rev. Stevenson. Photo by Henry Nsubuga Mugisha

only one school that started under a tree and is operating Primary One and Primary Two in a mud and wattle church structure with two unqualified teachers who take care of 44 pupils. He added that Moruita sub-county, with an estimated population of 20,100 people, has only three primary

schools and no secondary school. The former archbishop of the Church of Uganda, Henry Luke Orombi, thanked the FOL alumni for extending the love that they received to other needy Ugandans. He, however, showed dismay at the fact that Ugandans qualify themselves as poor.

"It is high time we started helping the needy people in our communities, instead of always waiting for help from abroad.

The director of FOL, Rev. Stevenson, said he was humbled when he came to Uganda and the FOL alumni told him about their plan to build a school in Nakapiripirit.

"I thank God that in their own lives they have experienced how one person has made a difference to them; now they want to give back and let others feel the transformation," he said.

The state minister for primary education, Rosemary Seninde also acknowledged Rev. Stevenson for changing people's lives and giving hope to Ugandan children.

Seninde urged Ugandans to stop being selfish and extend a helping hand to the needy.

Edna Nyakaisiki, the FOL executive director, said they are also operating in Rwanda, Kenya, Burundi, South Sudan and DR Congo.

She said apart from supporting needy children, the organisation has built 91 schools in Uganda and 118 in East Africa, and also constructed over 700 protected, clean and safe water sources in Uganda.