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### Heart and Hope for those in Need

[www.abhinc.org.au](http://www.abhinc.org.au)

Australia Bringing Hope Inc has seen some changes in the past year. As C.E.O. I have been focused on bee keeping, helping students with school fees and working with a Ugandan company in agriculture as ways of helping Ugandan's develop.

Our support in Australia has now ceased to decline and seems to be maintained at just over \$20,000. pa. This is a very small budget to run but we have been able to continue our projects and expand in a number of small areas. I take this opportunity to thank our small number of financial supporters who donate so much. The board this year has gone down to only two members in Australia and at our last informal meeting they too announced that they will be resigning come our A.G.M. next week. This leaves ABH in a position of being inoperable if more board members are not found. Being a Christian I'm putting my trust in God as He is able to do all things and if ABH is to continue it will be up to Him to take the lead. I wish to take this opportunity to thank both Greg and Dean for their support both as financial supporters as well as active board members. As I write this report, I am spending 10 weeks back in Australia to earn a little income as well as take care of A.B.H. affairs, I will return to Uganda on the 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2014.

### Life in Uganda

We have seen a steady improvement in many areas in Uganda, in the past year many roads have been upgraded, in fact coming back to South Australia it makes you appreciate what the Ugandan government is doing. Uganda is on the up while it seems here in S.A. We see roads taking a decline. Kampala city is changing into a modern metropolis, almost gone are the pot holes that we seemed to become famous for, traffic jams lessening and a major city bypass is being constructed. There are also plans for commuter trains to be introduced soon. A large number of modern shopping centres have also been built, we are blessed by having one only 600 metres away. While there are also many other major improvements and they extend well out of the city into the village, there are many short falls. Health is one major area where by Australian standards, if you don't have money; you fail to get adequate treatment. Most village people still earn less than \$2 per day and so many people die or suffer needlessly. I see and feel for many people who just need a wheel chair or some

simple support but get around by dragging their body on their hands. I hope one day we can have the funds to assist some of these people who suffer beyond what us Australians could understand. How would we cope with life if we had to drag our selves 3 Km on our hands because our legs were removed and we needed to travel this distance almost daily to get our basic living needs met? Some time ago I saw a beautiful young woman in town who was doing just this. A wheel chair and a few simple things could change her life.

### **What is A.B.H. All about?**

It is important to remain focused and continue to head in the right direction. With many challenges along the way, some that us Australians find difficult to understand, we must constantly be led by God and be willing to evaluate, reassess and change, our direction and methods. But here is, I think the basic purpose of A.B.H.

1. To maintain a board in Australia to monitor its projects, be accountable for funds spent, to raise funds and to focus on helping people in need in developing countries.
2. To inform Australian's about the needs of people in developing countries and how we can help.
3. To help people in need in developing countries to improve their living standards and life styles that is sustainable in the short and long term.
4. To establish projects to be run by local people which will improve their lives and those of their community. These projects must have a holistic approach and be focused on both short and long term.

### **Progress since last A.G.M.**

A lot of things have happened since the last A.G.M. Sept 2013. Since that time I have spent 7 months in Australia catching up with family, help promote ABH, working with the board and working to meet the short fall in my personal finances. With A.B.H. only paying me an allowance of \$150 per week, I am unable to sustain myself and my wife and to perform as C.E.O.

I spent three weeks in Eastern U.S.A. checking out the sugar industry and machinery for a Ugandan company. I assist this company whose directors are Christians, in an advisory role with technical advice as well as training. My work has been voluntary but I hope will develop into a paying position as the company grows. The work there is in line with A.B.H's goals and I see many areas I can help the whole industry grow and improve. Also I hope this will later remove the burden from A.B.H. to increase my personal income. The positions I hold in the company include both director and Plant Operations Manager. There are many challenges but I see it as an important role as I also see small improvements.

The ten bee projects are improving slowly, on my return I asked the participants to increase their effort to make this project work, which they agreed and I also encouraged them by personally donating them their bee hives which was previously agreed to be paid back with honey. A small amount of honey has been extracted which was an encouragement to all involved and we hope to harvest again in February.

On my return, my personal bee hives had declined badly with my numbers going down to 24 from 80. This was due to poor condition but also because those I left to manage them did not fulfil their obligations. This is another area I have been working on to encourage people to do the hard work and also to do better planning. I have spent more money to get my numbers back and improve production, only time will tell how fast this will happen. I do however see that I need to establish myself as a commercial honey producer so I can pass on to other successful ways that will work in Uganda. If I succeed it will also remove the financial burden from A.B.H. I am also now working more to the north of the country where I hope honey production will improve, this also adds to my knowledge of Uganda as a whole.

Thanks to the Clare Valley Christian Outreach, I was able to train 44 people in bee keeping in Mayuge. This adds to the previous times training had been done there by A.B.H. While progress is slow the participants show a lot of promise. They now have been given 5 hives, 5 catch boxes, overalls, smokes and a hive tool to equip and empower them, one of the main aims of A.B.H.

While in Mayuge I was able to inspect the new black boards donated by A.B.H last year at the school of Pastor Fred of Gidco Ministries. It is going well but still lacks much funding, it would be great if we could help a little again this year.

I continue to see how the past work of A.B.H. has improved lives of so many people, with people we have trained dropping in or calling us to share about their lives, many have gone on to work for big companies or run their own businesses. It is a great encouragement to both Irene and myself, making it all worthwhile. Three students we are assisting continue to study and work hard, we hope and pray for them to succeed in life and be a blessing to others.

I will send out a news letter soon to update everyone about our progress after the AGM and give you all more information. Please feel free to give me a call during my stay here in Australia, my number is 0428844885. We look forward to what God has in store for us in this next 12 months, blessings to you all, in Jesus name,  
Phillip. John. Grigg.

**C.E.O. Annual report.**  
November 2014.

