

## **A Letter from the Founder....**

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter to all those who may visit the Doingood website and wonder exactly who we are and what we do. To better understand how we came to be The Doingood Foundation it is wise to start at the beginning of our journey to Uganda.

In 2004 my husband, Jeff, and I started to ask questions like, “How will we teach our children to be generous givers?” and “How do we put our faith in action while including three young daughters”? While contemplating these questions our family of five researched many wonderful ministries and eventually landed on a small organization called, African Village Ministries (AVM). Collectively we decided to partner with AVM because they needed our time, treasures, and talents, while welcoming the inclusion of our young children.

Our daughters who were fifteen, nine, and six at that time were encouraged to help design the layout of the school, choose the paint color for classrooms, name the school after their Uncle John, and choose fabric for school uniforms. The founding of The John T. Miller II Primary School in Wamala, Uganda, succeeded in honoring the memory of my only brother who passed away from AIDS while at the same time provided hope through education to the children in the village of Wamala. Education is extremely important in Uganda due to the lack of resources for many years under dictators like Idi Amin and Milton Obote.

In 2005 my oldest daughter and I made our inaugural trip to Uganda with others representing AVM to help organize the classrooms and introduce the school to the village of Wamala. We had an arduous task ahead of us because we were attempting to teach a biblical worldview based on heuristic learning. This was a whole new concept in Uganda where most government schools were overflowing with eager students and too few teachers. Instruction was based on copying from a textbook to a black board and then requiring students to copy information into a student notebook for later memorization. Learning to think critically, relationally, and independently is uncommon in a typical Ugandan government school and therefore we were excited to introduce a new way of teaching and learning to the children of Wamala.

Prior to arrival in Uganda our family received a phone call from the Directors of AVM requesting that we allow seventeen children who were in peril live at the John T. Miller II Primary School until further arrangements could be made. We happily agreed to do so with a great deal of naivety in how to manage what would become a day school turned orphanage to children at risk. The children became precious to us and our refrigerator is covered to this day with their pictures.

While I have made several trips to Uganda over the years this past summer marked the first time we visited together as a family. This is a family ministry and we all love engaging in the work started when our children were young. My oldest daughter is preparing for college and her applications have been full of stories about personal memories working with precious children who without help would not have much hope for a brighter future. My husband is using his business skills and relationships to bring much needed business seminars to Kampala in 2009. All of our daughters are planning return trips while engaging school friends and neighbors to join the Doingood team. We have helped coordinate and chaperone annual travel teams through Bellevue Christian School and to date we have shared Uganda with over 50 friends, families, and neighbors.

One of our passions is bringing others into an understanding of the work that needs to be done while encouraging young and old to put their faith in action helping us or many other incredible organizations that seek to bring care, peace, and love to children around the world.

I trust this gives you a glimpse of how we got started and how we are able to continue helping children through the generous support of people like you who are also “Doingood”.

Mukama Yebazibwe!

(Praise be to the Lord)

*Amy Rogers*

**President and Founder  
Doingood Foundation**