Year-End Report 2013/2014

“Families are our Roots”
Abide Family Center has touched the lives of 344 Individuals
76 Caregivers received support to care for 268 Children

Letter from the Founders

In August 2013 we opened our doors at Abide Family Center. Since then we have been working tirelessly to keep children in their families. We have learned so much and taking a step back to look at our numbers has been such an exercise in thanksgiving. Seventy-six families kept together. Seventy-six. We are blown away.

We have learned so much this last year and a half. We have made mistakes. We have had to say sorry and promise to do better next time. We have doubted ourselves. We have had failures. Sometimes it is too easy to get wrapped up in our failures and mistakes and forget to look at the big picture. The big picture says we are doing our jobs, and we’re doing them well.

The numbers speak for themselves, our model is working. Families are being lifted out of poverty, children are growing healthier and stronger, and a growing movement is being born that says poverty should never be the reason children are raised by an orphanage and not their families.

We cannot thank you enough. Every person who believed in this crazy dream, every person who believed in children’s right to a family, every person who came along side us and donated and shared. From the bottom of our hearts we want to say thank you. It is because of you that 268 children have a family to call their own.

- Megan and Kelsey
Case Management

At the end of 2014, Abide has covered 76 cases

- **8 cases in direct service:**
  Caregivers engaged in parenting and business classes

- **59 cases in follow-up:**
  Caregivers who have graduated from the program are monitored periodically to ensure the children’s care, stable income through their business, and spiritual well-being.

- **9 Closed Cases:**
  Families have completely moved on from Abide’s services

Demographics of the caregivers:
Who is Abide supporting to keep children in their care?

- 63 Mothers
- 3 Aunts
- 7 Grandmothers
- 2 Fathers
- 1 Brother
“Just as a tree must remain attached to its roots, a child relies on strong attachments with their family to thrive. The relationships built in a family setting are often non-existent in institutional care like orphanages. That’s why we believe children belong in families”

– Abide Social Worker
Small Business Management
Abide Family Center focuses on income-generation and vocational training for caregivers in order for them to develop a stronger source of income to assure family stability.

9 groups of caregivers have completed the month-long training
$120 grant is invested to kick-start every business
71 Caregivers have started new businesses

Business Success Rate

Closed 21%
Ongoing and Successful 48%
Just started 31%

“If lack of finances is the reason for children being raised in orphanages rather than in their families, that is the issue we must address. In order to make sure a tree grows to its full potential, we need to care for the roots and make sure the soil is fertile.”

-Juliet Birungi
Income Generation Director

Pilot Loan Program:
The pilot loan system has had a 100% repayment rate
15 clients received loans to expand businesses

Juliet, Income Generation Director, provided 216 hours of trainings.
Parenting Skills Instruction

Every Abide client, 76 in total, went through a series of parenting discussions.

Caregivers talk about child development, attachment, safety, health, and education.

Child Development Center

- The center has 3 classrooms for babies and toddlers
- Currently, the center has capacity for 20 children at a time
- All caregivers with young children have used the center while they are in Abide’s business and parenting classes.
Emergency Housing

Some families use Abide’s Emergency Housing to stay together as they get back on their feet.

Abide has housed 23 caregivers with a total of 40 children.

When the family moves to their new home, they are given a care package with basics to get them settled.

Medical Support

All Caregivers and their children receive a balanced nutritious meal when they come to Abide for trainings, or during Emergency Housing stays.

25 Caregivers and 50 children have visited the hospital for medical treatment through Abide’s services.

35 people have received extra food support to their homes to improve nutrition of the family.

17 babies have received formula to prevent transmission of HIV.
Some parents who are struggling financially think that orphanages are the best option to take care of their children. However, we teach parents that raising their own children in a loving home is the best gift they could ever give their children. As far as financial stability, Abide can help with that.

- Abide Social Worker
Pastoral Services

23 caregivers have been connected with a new church community for spiritual support.

The Abide Pastor gave 300 total one-on-one counseling meetings with caregivers.

3 Bible Study sessions occur each week at Abide Family Center.

60 pastors were mobilized to spread awareness about Abide’s role in keeping families together.

Counseling:
During one-on-one counseling, The Pastor at Abide documented emotional issues each caregiver faces. These are some of the obstacles that lead caregivers to search for options to care for their children.

![Bar chart showing emotional issues faced by caregivers: Stress, Abandonment/Rejection, Domestic Violence, Rape, Family Rejection, Religious Persecution, and Divorce.]
$140 provides a new sewing machine for a beginning tailor

- 7 caregivers have learned tailoring skills through direct apprenticeship
- 3 women used a business grant to buy a sewing machine and start their personal tailoring business
- Stitched together sales have contributed to Abide’s income
- Yoga bags, backpacks, and ipad cases have been popular!

“The family structure is the base of the way a community functions. We all rely on the structure of family as the roots of our collective tree”

- Pastor at Abide Center
Partners

Local partners in Uganda have referred cases to Abide Thank you:

- **Orphanages**: 27 Cases
- **Medical Centers**: 6 Cases
- **Churches**: 3 Cases
- **Local Government**: 40 Cases

Referral partners support Abide’s mission to keep children with their families when possible rather than entering institutional care. These partners also help to spread awareness about Abide’s services.

Interns volunteer their time at Abide to offer crucial support to program activities and learn about the way the organization works. So far Abide has had:

- 9 American Interns
- 3 Ugandan Interns
Donations
Thank You!

Fundraising Highlights

7 Events:
$20,000

Online Campaign
Countdown to Kindness:
$15,000

60 Family Sponsorships:
$3,000 monthly

The Antioch Group
Lockard Fund

Lower Providence
Presbyterian Church

Little Loves
Clothing Line

Children of the
Light Dancers

Friendspire Fitness

She Does Justice

Sarah Jane Project

Our Anthem is
Hope

Lovishly

Lovelyn

Little Loves
Clothing Line

She Does Justice

Friendspire Fitness

Our Anthem is
Hope

Lovishly

Lovelyn
2014 Financial Report
* Began with surplus

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
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Organization Expenses

- Fundraising: 2%
- Travel: 7%
- Management and Expense: 18%
- Programs: 73%

Program Breakdown

- Income Generating: 10,000
- Special Projects: 7,000
- Social Work: 24,000
- Child Development Center: 2,400
- Emergency Housing: 16,000
- Stitched Together: 6,000
- Misc.: 5,000
Looking Ahead

- **Income Generation** - Given the success of the loan program, more loans will be offered to caregivers who would like to expand successful businesses.

- **Advocacy** - We will be expanding advocacy for Abide’s approach, including creating an advocacy packet for all supporters who want to spread the word.

- **Training** - Abide experts will be consulting for resettlement trainings in East Africa. We will be sharing the process we use with a caregiver who is ready to have a child resettled in their care.

- **Child Development** - The Child Development Center is getting another room to expand the space of learning and fun at Abide Family Center.

- **Pastoral Services** - This year, we will increase the number of pastoral seminars, connecting more with the local church, and bringing in new staff to grow our program.

- **Stitched Together** - Keep an eye out for the debut of Stitched Together’s Spring Collection designed by our fashion design interns.

- **Fundraising** - Mother’s Day fundraising campaign: Show appreciation for your mother, and also donate to show appreciation for the mothers in Uganda who are doing what it takes to raise their children in a stable, caring home.

- **Expansion** – We are looking at expanding Abide’s services and expertise to additional centers in Haiti and Kampala, Uganda.

- **“Rooted”** – Help us fundraise by hosting a jewelry-making party using Ugandan paper beads through our supporter: “Rooted” Jewelry