To all of our friends, both near & “far away”,

In last year’s Yearbook, I wrote about opening our first school – an extremely gutsy development project for a group of twenty-somethings that took us nearly five years to build, all from $20 donations by friends and family. At the beginning of 2017, we were just starting to see the impact that Global Leaders Primary School would have on the community of Namasale. Our goal was then, and is still, to educate tomorrow’s globally conscientious leaders who will end the cycle of generational poverty.

In July of 2017 during our annual trip to Uganda, our team along with nine of our Cultural Immersion Trip Volunteers, had the great privilege of sitting in on a school-wide debate assembly at GLP. Considering my own fear of public speaking, I was trying to wrap my head around how our students were expected to argue their position on complex topics, in front of a crowd of foreign visitors, camera crew, all of their peers in their second language. When P6 student Tracy (cover girl from last year’s Yearbook) stood up in front of the crowd and in crystal clear English, slayed her speech arguing for the “importance of technology in the modern and increasingly globalized world”, tears welled up in my eyes.

I realized then that this moment was only possible because GLP exists. No longer does it matter that she grew up in a far away village -- Tracy may very well become a Member of Parliament one day (or the first female President of Uganda, or Wonder Woman – the list goes on) because she had a team of incredible teachers behind her, because she was encouraged to dream BIG and most importantly, because she went to the school that YOU helped to create in a rural village in northern Uganda. So many more success stories are unfolding in a community where such stories are uncommon because YOU believe in investing in the transformational power of education.

Do you want to know the best part of this story? It’s only the very beginning.

Last year, with the help of our volunteer team, we were able to gather countless interviews from community members, local leaders, educators and District officials about how our education programs can impact more people across hundreds of villages. Using what we’ve learned and with the tremendous support of the community and friends like you, we are so excited to be officially launching new education, mentorship, sanitation/hygiene, and business programs in 2018 which will impact hundreds more students and families across Amolatar District.

As always, I hope that this 2017 Yearbook allows you to realize the possibilities that have been unlocked because of you. That a sacred space in Namasale is filled everyday with eager students and motivated teachers who are transforming their own communities thanks to your support. We hope you feel as much joy as we feel gratitude for the achievements we’ve made together.

With Tenacious Love & Gratitude,

Jayme Ward
Co-Founder & Executive Director
IT'S ONLY JUST THE BEGINNING.
our mission
We empower rural communities to end generational poverty through education & opportunity.

our core philosophy
EDUCATION IS FOR EVERYONE.
Far Away Friends sees education as a starting point for investing in the economic and social development of a community. Our philosophy is that regardless of a child’s place of origin, they deserve the tools to grow into conscientious global leaders. We aim to partner with schools in rural communities whose educational resources for children and adults are absent or in need of advancement.

PARTNERSHIP OVER CHARITY.
We don’t do charity work—we create mutually beneficial partnerships for the “global good”. We believe in helping to support the vision of globally-minded local leaders in rural communities by sharing their stories and using our time, talent and energy to identify grassroots “investors” who support their dreams for development. Listening carefully to leaders in our partner communities to make informed decisions about our investments is a practice we take very seriously.

CONNECTION CHANGES EVERYTHING.
We believe that by connecting people in both the developed and developing world, they can better understand cultural differences and break down stereotypes by making a new friend. Making these connections, we are able to practice empathy and gain a stronger cultural/social awareness of the world outside of our country of origin. Our hope is that these friendships become partnerships in international development and inspire more acts of global citizenship.

our programs
GLOBAL LEADERS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Opened by Far Away Friends in 2016, GLP is a locally-owned/operated day & boarding primary school educating children grades Pre-K through P7 in one of Uganda’s poorest performing educational districts. Through GLP, we aim to equip students with the tools they need to achieve academic success and end cycles of generational poverty.

TEACHER SPONSORSHIP
Our OperationTEACH program supports the salaries of our teachers, administration & non-teaching staff at GLP, allowing the school to save funds with the aim of becoming self-sustaining by 2020. In a community that typically does not place a high value on the teaching profession, FAF is passionate about giving Educators in Namasale the training, support and uplift they deserve.

SCHOOL OUTREACH
In order to impact more students, teachers & families across Amolatar District, we launched our School Outreach Program in 2017. Our vision is to work alongside Administrators, Educators & Parents at our partner schools to ensure student success. In 2018 our goal is to complete an infrastructure project at Namasale Primary as well as identify four new partner schools in each of the sub-counties of Amolatar District through this program.

CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIPS
"On this life-changing trip, I learned what it truly means to be a global citizen and the importance of cross-cultural connections. The people of Far Away Friends and Namasale became a second family to me." -- Marissa Zamudio, Immersion Trip Volunteer 2017
WHERE WE WORK

Although centrally located, Amolatar District is extremely remote region politically associated with Northern Uganda. Located between two lakes, access to Amolatar from the south was only possible via wooden fishing boat until 2013.

Namasale is the largest of 5 sub-counties in the district and is where FAF’s initial programs began. Our mission in this region is to impact children and families in all 5 districts by 2020.

Because of its isolation from the rest of the country, Amolatar has very limited access to quality education, medical services and economic livelihood programs.

Although Amolatar has massive potential for economic growth because of its natural resources, lack of access to public services has prevented its population from earning a living wage as 85% of residents survive on subsistence farming alone.

Because our Co-Founder and was born & raised in Namasale (a county in Amolatar), FAF has been able to create deep collaborative partnerships and friendships with community members who choose the direction of all of our projects.

ABOUT AMOLATAR

- ~150,000 residents
- 56.5% of population is under 18 years old
- 53% of children enrolled in primary school will not move on to secondary and 14% of children have never been to school
- Local health centers lack medicines, staff and equipment
- Amolatar only receives $40,000/year of government funding for all schools in the district

WHY WE WORK THERE

Although centrally located, Amolatar District is extremely remote region politically associated with Northern Uganda. Located between two lakes, access to Amolatar from the south was only possible via wooden fishing boat until 2013.

Namasale is the largest of 5 sub-counties in the district and is where FAF’s initial programs began. Our mission in this region is to impact children and families in all 5 districts by 2020.

Because of its isolation from the rest of the country, Amolatar has very limited access to quality education, medical services and economic livelihood programs.

Although Amolatar has massive potential for economic growth because of its natural resources,

TOP FIVE MAJOR ISSUES AS IDENTIFIED BY NAMASALE TOWN COUNCIL

1. POOR EDUCATION
2. LACK OF MEDICAL SERVICES
3. LACK OF BUSINESS TRAINING
4. HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT
5. UNPAVED MAJOR ROADWAYS
ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017

**Q1 JAN - MAR**
- GLP starts a new school year, enrolling new students for our second year in operation
- Arvada United Methodist Church Women's Group invites FAF to speak about our work in Uganda
- 8 solar panels are installed at GLP, making it one of the brightest buildings in our village!
- Little Man Ice Cream raises over $1,300 during their Craft Beer Week for FAF
- Three 10,000 liter water tanks are donated to GLP by Zoi Johns & the Evergreen Rotary Club

**Q2 APR - JUN**
- Construction on the Green Family Foundation Teacher's Housing begins
- Annual ALEX & ANI Mother's Day Event
- Market Day Fund is officially launched, allowing supporters to "shop" for items needed at GLP -- livestock is the big hit!
- Charity Ball partners with FAF to donate 25 soccer balls & equipment to GLP and partner schools

**Q3 JUL - SEPT**
- FAF brings 9 new volunteers to Uganda for our 2nd Cultural Immersion & Service Trip
- GLP hosts first "Friendship Match" and invites Namasale Central Primary School to compete in a soccer tournament (we won!)
- School Outreach Program Launched at Namasale Primary & Namasale SEED Secondary Schools
- College Inn’s 3rd Annual Golf Tournament raises over $5,000 for FAF
- Siena Tornillo & Jessie Jennett join the FAF Team as Regional Managers

**Q4 OCT - DEC**
- FAF partners with Backup Uganda to host Teacher Training Workshop, over 30 educators from two other schools in Namasale attend the free training
- The *Where We Live* Year-End Campaign for student dorms is officially launched on #GivingTuesday, raising over $3,000 in the first day and exceeds the $10,000 goal by Dec. 31 thanks to the Schutter Family
- GLP holds very first Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony with over 300 community members and leaders in attendance
- Green Family Foundation donates $20,000 to Far Away Friends
In a community where access to high quality primary education is scarce and most of students don’t make it past Primary 7, we knew that our first project would be to create a scared space for children to learn and for teachers to inspire their students. Four years later, that project has become more than we could have imagined it to be. In its first full year of operation, Global Leaders Primary School (GLP) has already garnered a reputation among the local community for being the most cutting edge and internationally minded primary school in the Namasale area.

One of the major obstacles to educational achievement in rural areas is access to high quality schools. Through GLP, we are creating a model for community centered and effective primary education in the most isolated of villages. In 2017 alone, we have made great strides toward becoming one of the best schools in our sub-county through several infrastructure and extra curricular projects which have added tremendous value to our teacher’s and student’s quality of life including solar lighting, 12-apartment teacher’s housing, four water collection tanks, annual soccer tournaments, teacher’s training workshops, cultural music, dance and drama classes and a cross-cultural pen pal program. GLP was also able to take it’s first steps toward our 2020 self-sustainability goals by funding over $13,000 worth of it’s own operating expenses in year one. Thank you for making this possible in 2017!
Operation TEACH

We’ve all had teachers that made a difference in our lives.

They inspired us, challenged us, pushed us to do our best and be our best -- even and especially when we pushed back. We can all think of at least one teacher who did this for us because that’s what good teachers do. All over the world, day after day, year after year, they’re in classrooms before school, cafeterias and soccer pitches after, and they’re waiting with passion and promises to lift their students up.

These are the kinds of teachers you’re supporting everyday through your contribution to Operation Teach. Whether it’s Sebastian, our music teacher and soccer coach, leading a game with a neighboring school, or Agnes, our Matron, leading sleepy-eyed pre-schoolers to bed after a movie night, you can see how much the teachers at GLP love their students and care about their school. Thanks to YOU, these teachers do all of this everyday -- and get paid a fair wage for it.

Far Away Friends stands firmly in support of these teachers and their passions, and believe that all teachers everywhere deserve recognition, respect, and a fair wage. It is these beliefs that lead us to Namasale and Global Leaders, but it is YOUR passion and dedication that have kept this dream alive and made it grow.

Without you, there is no Global Leaders. There’s no one after school coaching soccer, no one to role model kindness, no one to lead sleepy little kids off to bed. Because of your support, there is a little pink building with a blue roof on the other side of the world filled with students, and in each classroom, a passionate teacher, dedicated to their success. Thank you for another amazing year!
During our 2017 Immersion & Service Trip our team was able to launch our School Outreach Program and engage with students and staff at Namasale Primary School and Namasale SEED Secondary School. During our visit to the public primary school, we learned that 450 girl students only had one bathroom to share, which was one of the biggest hindrances to student achievement, as girls would often stay home from school during their period because of the inadequate facilities. In 2018 FAF will be partnering with this school to construct six more toilets as part of our School Outreach Program.

**CULTURAL IMMERSION & SERVICE TRIPS**

In July of 2017, we brought nine volunteers to Uganda for 22 days on our 2nd Annual Cultural Immersion & Service Trip. This past year, our volunteers helped us to collect interviews from students, teachers, community members, town council and district leaders with the aim of learning about obstacles faced by families in Namasale & Amolatar District which have resulted in issues of generational poverty in the region. Our team also had the opportunity to observe classes at GLP, participate in a school-wide debate, attend our annual "Friendship Soccer Match" and build new friendships while learning about international development through an immersive experience across five areas of Uganda. The trip ended with a 2-day Safari where our team could unwind and experience the beauty of the pearl of Africa.

"On this trip I was shown love & passion on the greatest scale I have ever seen, in one of the most incredible communities" - Kayla Rollins, Volunteer

**SCHOOL OUTREACH**

During our 2017 Immersion & Service Trip our team was able to launch our School Outreach Program and engage with students and staff at Namasale Primary School and Namasale SEED Secondary School. During our visit to the public primary school, we learned that 450 girl students only had one bathroom to share, which was one of the biggest hindrances to student achievement, as girls would often stay home from school during their period because of the inadequate facilities. In 2018 FAF will be partnering with this school to construct six more toilets as part of our School Outreach Program.

**LOOKING FORWARD**

- Our Business Trainings & Village Loan and Savings Groups launching in 2018 will be transformative for struggling families
- Local medical services are practically nonexistent. Community medical services are a needed project we are working on developing
- Working together with more schools in Amolatar district in 2018 will allow FAF to have a broader impact on children & families
our partners

- THE GREEN FAMILY FOUNDATION -

Far Away Friends is proud to partner with Ingrid and Thomas Green Jr. of the Green Family Foundation who have generously contributed to our mission of ending the cycle of generational poverty in rural communities around the world.

For three years, College Inn has chosen FAF as the beneficiary partner for their annual Charity Golf Tournament and has raised over $5,000 in 2017 in support of our education programs in Uganda.

Charity Ball sent 25 soccer balls & equipment to Namasale in July 2017 for our annual Friendship Match

Zoi Johns & Evergreen Rotary

Lakewood High School Student Zoi Johns, in partnership with the Evergreen Rotary Club donated $5,000 for the purchase of three 10,000liter water collection tanks for GLP

GoodBookey

FAF is very proud to be chosen as one of GoodBookey’s nonprofit partners. This partnership has helped FAF support the daily needs of students at Global Leaders.

In 2017 LMIC donated nearly $2,000 to provide healthy lunches for students at Global Leaders

Lightworkers Republic traveled with our team to Uganda in 2017 to film & produce our very first “About Us” video
2017 REVENUE

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS BY INDIVIDUALS
$56,170.19
FAMILY FOUNDATIONS
$21,000
CORPORATE DONATIONS
$18,564.09
EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS
$10,593.14
OTHER
$341.59

TOTAL 2017 REVENUE
$106,669.01

2017 EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES
$100,680.03
FUNDRAISING
$5,699.79
ADMINISTRATIVE
$5,096.75

TOTAL 2017 EXPENSES
$111,476.57

2017 ASSETS

Unrestricted Net Assets carried over from 2016
$27,646.85
Change in Net Assets
(-$4,847.10)

TOTAL ASSETS AS OF DEC. 31 | $22,799.75
We are Far Away Friends

FAF USA & UGANDA

JAYME WARD
CO-FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

COLLINES ANGWECH
CO-FOUNDER & UGANDA COUNTRY DIRECTOR

CHRIS SKIRKA
US DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

KAITLYN PHILLIPS
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

HANNAH DRENNEN
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

JESSIE JENNETT
REGIONAL MANAGER: DENVER

SIENA TORNILLO
REGIONAL MANAGER: FT. COLLINS

GLOBAL LEADERS PRIMARY STAFF

OMIA JASS
OMIA ROBERT
AMONG JUDITH
ONGOM TOM
RICHARD
ONGANY JOSHUA
AKENA SEBASTIAN

ANGULU MIKE
OKELLO PAUL
AYAKA DENIS
IPYELO SARAH
APIO EUNICE
OYWESK DENIS "VEVE"

AGNES
JAMES
MAMA ROLEX
OGWAL MORIS
OBOK LEO
OLEE DENIS

OUR BOARD & ADVISORS

COREY WARD
STEPHANIE SKIRKA
RITAH OMIA
BRANDI GOFF
MARC COMINA
**Thank You for Your Support in 2017!**

### Full Teacher Salary Sponsors

- Martek Global
- Hapa Franchise Group
- Alex & Ani
- Pour Brothers
- Britt Hollander
- Daniel Bock
- OneHope

### Operation TEACH Sponsors

- **Monthly Sponsors**
  - Sara & Izzy Green
  - Val Richfield
  - Connor Rock
  - Susan Clasen
  - Jon Jennett
  - Shelbi Souther

- **College Inn**
- The Schutter Family
- Zoi Johns & Evergreen Rotary

- **Little Man Ice Cream**
- Arvada United Methodist Women's Group
- The Eidelweiss Foundation
- Chipotle
- Kayla Rollins
- Jessie Jennett
- Siena Tornillo
- Sean Korbitz
- Andrew Rodriguez
- Anna Thompson
- Kathleen May
- Marissa Zamudio
- Jaclyn Collins
- Quinton Bobb

- **$20,000+**
  - The Green Family Foundation

- **$5,000 - $19,999**
  - College Inn
  - The Schutter Family
  - Zoi Johns & Evergreen Rotary

- **$500 - $4,999**
  - Little Man Ice Cream
  - Arvada United Methodist Women’s Group
  - The Eidelweiss Foundation
  - Chipotle
  - Kayla Rollins
  - Jessie Jennett
  - Siena Tornillo
  - Sean Korbitz
  - Andrew Rodriguez
  - Anna Thompson
  - Kathleen May
  - Marissa Zamudio
  - Jaclyn Collins
  - Quinton Bobb

- **$150 - $500**
  - Ten Point Sales
  - Broadstone on 9th
  - DRGMetrix
  - GoodBookey
  - Belmar Park Dental
  - Sawaya Law Firm
  - Goslings
  - UPS
  - Brian Rodeno
  - Tito’s

### Corporate Matching

- Apple
- Janus Henderson Whiting Oil & Gas Corporation
- HP
- Intel
- Oracle
- Charles Schwab

### Special Thanks to

- Mary Jo Reinhard
- Rachel Geib & i3Logix
- Lauren Ward
- The Ward Family
- The Tornillo Family
- The May Family
- & to all of our incredible grassroots supporters who contributed in 2017!
We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017

Aceng Charity
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 6

Luyonde Evans
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 4

Akoli Mercy
P.4
Age 10

Amuge Sumaya
P.2
Age 6

Sebuliba Ramsey
BABY CLASS
Age 3

Odur Edmond
P.4
Age 10

Nakibuka Vivian
P.2
Age 8

Adeno Demi Francis
BABY CLASS
Age 4

Akello Michela
P.2
Age 5

Adoch Tabitha
TOP CLASS
Age 7

Otima Timothy
BABY CLASS
Age 3

Apolo Rhoda
BABY CLASS
Age 4

Ogwang Felix
P.2
Age 10

Acede Miriam
P.2
Age 10

Odongo Issac
P.1
Age 7

Atam Rolex
TOP CLASS
Age 6
We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017

Pule Simon
P.6
Age 13

Acot Lameck
P.2
Age 9

Egang Ritah
TOP CLASS
Age 7

Nam Jackie
P.3
Age 10

Egang Ritah
TOP CLASS
Age 7

Nam Jackie
P.3
Age 10

Pule Simon
P.6
Age 13

Acot Lameck
P.2
Age 9

Egang Ritah
TOP CLASS
Age 7

Nam Jackie
P.3
Age 10

Apio Valencia
P.1
Age 8

Ogwang Jonathan
P.5
Age 11

Angom Jennifer
P.6
Age 15

Wonarik Oscar
P.6 *Head Boy*
Age 14

Apio Valencia
P.1
Age 8

Ogwang Jonathan
P.5
Age 11

Angom Jennifer
P.6
Age 15

Wonarik Oscar
P.6 *Head Boy*
Age 14

Among Cissy
P.6
Age 15

Ecan Monica
P.5
Age 12

Apili Isha
P.4
Age 9

Rhoda
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5

Among Cissy
P.6
Age 15

Ecan Monica
P.5
Age 12

Apili Isha
P.4
Age 9

Rhoda
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5

Innocent
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5

Open Allan
P.2
Age 10

Odur Emmanuel
P.1
Age 7

Marrion
P.1
Age 6

Innocent
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 5

Open Allan
P.2
Age 10

Odur Emmanuel
P.1
Age 7

Marrion
P.1
Age 6
We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017

Rochelle
P.2
Age 9

Emmanuel
BABY CLASS
Age 3

Owiny Emmanuel
P.4
Age 10

Akello Fiona
MIDDLE CLASS
Age 4

Okot Joshua
P.4
Age 13

Ogwal Leonard
P.2
Age 8

Obira Eddie
P.2
Age 9

Akello Rochelle
P.5
Age 12

Helly
P.2
Age 7

Louis
TOP CLASS
Age 6

Aloyo Meron
P.4
Age 9

Ouma Junior
P.3
Age 7

Agalo Beatrice
P.3
Age 10

Okello Daniel
P.3
Age 10

Acar Arafat
P.3
Age 9

Amuge Racheal
P.2
Age 7
We are Global Leaders

MEET SOME OF OUR INCREDIBLE STUDENTS FROM 2017

Adongo Leah  
P.4  
Age 13

Kazoola Denis  
P.6  
Age 12

Omina Amos Ezra  
P.6  
Age 12

Olima Samwiri  
P.3  
Age 9

Ongom Abel  
P.4  
Age 10

Okwang Jonathan  
P.3  
Age 9

Obira Edmond  
P.4  
Age 10

Amek Edina  
P.3  
Age 9

Ocen Gabriel  
P.3  
Age 10

Awor Melisha  
P.4  
Age 11

Ayao Rebecca  
P.5  
Age 11

Apili Penina  
P.6  
Age 13

Apio Janella  
*Head Girl*  
P.6  
Age 16

Akello Sarah  
P.5  
Age 12

Oyo Elly  
P.3  
Age 11

Namayanja Caroline  
P.6  
Age 11
We are Global Leaders

Meet some of our incredible students from 2017

Opeto Daniel
P.5
Age 12

Akullo Fiona
P.6
Age 13

Auma Moreen
P.5
Age 12

Alaba Mystica
Tracy
P.6
Age 12

Acayo Charity
P.4
Age 9

Zulu Abel
P.2
Age 9

Get Involved!

Donate | Travel | Advocate

Learn more about how you can make an impact at www.farawayfriendsglobal.com
DISTANCE
means so little
• when someone
means so much