



## Annual Report 2019



## Preface

Child Care Africa Foundation was founded in 2019 in Gouda, the Netherlands. The organization was founded to improve the future prospects of the most vulnerable children in Africa, through access to education, safety, water, food and healthcare.

CCA is a small organization which works together with local initiatives in Africa to make a tangible difference in the lives of vulnerable children. In 2019, we began our activities in Amudat district in the Karamoja region in northeast Uganda.

This first annual report provides information about;

- Where we work
- Our accomplishments and impact
- Our most important lessons learnt
- Our financial overview

We hope you will enjoy reading this annual report 2019.

On behalf of,

The board of Child Care Africa Foundation

Wim van Welzen (chairman), Gerard Mouw (treasurer), Suzanne Brouwer (secretary), Dorian Cosijnse (executive director).



*Figure 1. A pupil in Katikit Primary school, Amudat*

## 1. Introduction

Child Care Africa (CCA) is a Dutch foundation established in 2019 to improve the future prospects of orphans and vulnerable children in Africa (see: [cca-f.org](http://cca-f.org)). We contribute to a world where all children enjoy safety and access to education, healthcare, safe drinking water, food, shelter, protection and the fulfilment of children's rights. Orphans and vulnerable children (OVC's) in Africa, especially in rural and marginalized places, often lack opportunities to complete their education and to build a better future. Their situation is often hopeless. With a lot of love and limited financial means, we help children in a hopeless situation to become a meaningful contribution to their family, community and country.

### **Our goal:**

To support vulnerable children in Africa with access to education, healthcare, safety and counselling

### **Biblical motive:**

“And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not (Galatians 6:9).”

We realize our vision by working together with local development initiatives in Africa, such as schools, hospitals, women associations, local foundations, churches, social enterprises, etc. We are convinced that transformation is most effective when it comes from within. Our local partners know the language, culture, society and challenges affecting their community. Together, we improve access to education, basic needs and counselling. In 2019, we began our work in Amudat district. CCA is planning to extend its programmes to Napak and Kaabong districts in 2020. In this report, we reflect on our development, our achieved goals and our lessons learned in 2019.



## 2. Area of operation Karamoja

### 2.1 Amudat

We started our “Orphans and Vulnerable Children” (OVC) support programme in Amudat early 2019. Amudat was a well-known territory for two of our board members. Our director – Dorian Cosijnse – lived in Amudat from 2017 till 2018 as a trainee for an INGO called ZOA. Our board chairperson – Wim van Welzen – supported several projects targeting beekeepers in the district.

Karamoja is a remote and marginalized area in Northeast Uganda, bordering South-Sudan and Kenya. The region was characterized by cattle-theft and violent conflict between tribes for many decades. The government disarmament in 2009 resulted in relative peace and security, creating some space for the local communities to develop. Karamoja is largely inhabited by nomad tribes. Its population attaches great social, cultural and economic value to cattle. The local communities depend on their livestock and small scale agriculture in the rainy season for survival. Persistent droughts affect crop production and livestock, resulting in rising poverty levels, hopelessness and alcoholism. Karamoja was classified in 2016 as one of the world's poorest areas. 61% of the 1.2 million inhabitants live in absolute poverty. It's remote location, violent past and traditional nomad culture have resulted in low development rates. Only 5% of the adult population can read and write and only one out of every four children attends primary education. With 17%, continuation to secondary education is even lower, especially among girls.

Women in Karamoja give birth to an average of eight children, three times as many as in capital city Kampala. Chronic poverty and large family-size have negative consequences for the development, health and education of Karamoja children. Parents often lack the financial means to support (all) their children to access schools. Or they refuse to pay for their children's education, due to cultural norms

and values. Boys in pastoral tribes are traditionally responsible for cattle keeping and girls are married off at a young age in exchange for a good dowry. It is extremely difficult for children living with HIV or a disability to build a better future, due to stigma's in the local communities.

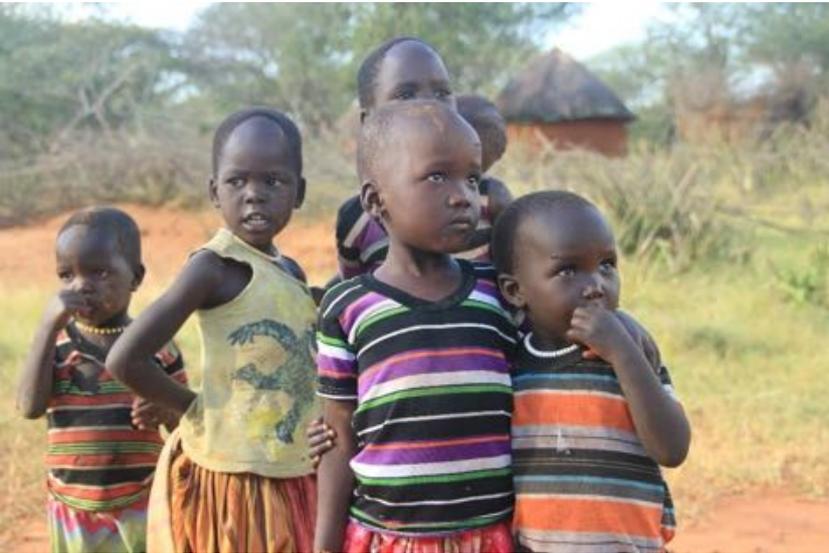


Figure 2. Children in Amudat.



Figure 3. A student and his family.

The situation in Karamoja gave us plenty of reasons to start a programme to support vulnerable children in Karamoja. We decided to start in Amudat. The first step in the development of our programme was the identification of a local partner. Our director visited all local partners in Amudat, and finally received five programme proposals. After a thorough selection process and a visit from our donor company "WVS Consulting", we decided to move forward with "Hope for the Children" (HFC). HFC is a local organization founded by a group of mothers and well-wishers in Amudat who were concerned about child abuse and neglect in the district. A group of individuals with a great dream: to defend the rights of children and to offer opportunities for OVC's. But HFC was also a group of people with limited experience. Our director spend six months full-time in Amudat to train and support the HFC team. We worked hand-in-hand to develop a financial system, to arrange logistics, to report on activities and to mentor the children enrolled in the programme. It was a steep learning curve, but HFC improved. Self-esteem grew and the impact of our common efforts was felt and appreciated in the community.



Figure 4. Wim van Welzen (chairman CCA), Dorian Cosijnse (director CCA) and the team of Hope for the Children

The level of trust in the community grew as a result of our open and transparent selection of children. Everyone in the community, including religious leaders, political leaders and traditional leaders understood why these specific children needed a helping hand. We started with 30 children in June and added 14 children in October. We closed 2019 with a total of 48 children in our programme. Our support includes: food, clothes, shelter, education, healthcare and psychosocial counselling. We also organized three holiday programmes for all children, focused on children's rights, health and sexuality. The combination with leisure, sports and games worked out well, and will be repeated once a year.

2019	Primary education	Secondary education	Tertiary education	Total
Boys	14	8	0	22
Girls	20	6	0	26
Total	34	14	0	48

Figure 5. Table with the number of sponsored children in 2019



Figure 6. Sensitization about children's rights, by a police officer from the Child and Family Protection unit of the police

Figure 7. A sponsored pupil after the session

Figure 8. HIV testing

Figure 9. Sponsored students together with the police, end of the year

Figure 10. Esther in the hospital, after surgery

Figure 11. Sponsored students in their foster care family during the Christmas holiday

In 2019, the majority of our sponsored students received medical treatment at least once. Especially malaria, typhoid and scabies were common among the students. Two girls living with a disability were taken to a specialized hospital in Entebbe, Uganda. For one of them, physiotherapy offered some relief. The second girl, 13-year old Esther, was operated twice. She recovered well from a post-burn contraction she got as a baby (figure 9).

Home visits were conducted throughout the year. Our director and the staffs of Hope for the Children were able to sensitize parents about the rights of children and motivated them to embrace education and to make a financial contribution. Six students were not able to return home during holidays, due to an unsafe situation. We worked together with our local partner to arrange a safe foster home for them. During holidays, home visits were conducted to monitor the well-being of students at home. This was especially crucial for girls at risk.

School visits took place throughout the year. These regular visits helped the children and the staffs to get well-acquainted and to open up about concerns and problems. The staffs learned more about the characters and backgrounds of the students and motivated them to be focused. Six children (five boys and one girl) dropped out. They had a negative influence on other students and were chased out of school. These six students were replaced by our local partner, after repeated efforts in cooperation with the police, school management, parents and/or caretakers.

## 2.2 Kaabong

Our director visited Kaabong district twice in the last quarter of 2019. Kaabong is located in the far north of Karamoja, bordering south-Sudan and Kenya. The district is inhabited by the Karamojong and minority Ik tribe, and suffers from persistent droughts. Its violent past, nomad culture, rapid population growth and high poverty levels have resulted in low development figures. CCA was able to interact with 11 organizations. We plan to sign an MoU with the preferred partner in the first quarter of 2020.



*Figuur 12. Vee in Kaabong, Karamoja*



*Figuur 13. Traditionele kraal woningen in Karamoja*

## 2.3 Napak

Our director visited Napak district late 2019 after an article was published in a national newspaper about child trafficking networks in Uganda and east-Africa. We have decided to explore opportunities of developing a programme in Napak in 2020.

## 3. Impact and lessons learned

In 2019, we supported a total of 48 orphans and vulnerable children in Amudat district with access to education and basic needs. We were able to involve parents actively in our programme and motivated some of them to start paying school fees for their out-of-school children. Our work has made a tangible difference for our local partner. The training and mentorship helped HFC to attract positive attention from the local government and offers potential to attract future funding from other donors. 2019 was a year of learning. A few challenges:

- The population of Karamoja has a negative perception towards education. Most parents were reluctant to contribute financially to the education of their child, especially if the child was a girl. Some of our supported girls were not able to go home during holidays, due to fear of forced marriage. Despite our efforts and signed MoU's, risks remain prevalent. Continuous sensitization is needed to change the mind-set of parents / caretakers and the community.
- Parents and caretakers who embrace education, often lack resources to contribute financially to the education and care. CCA however emphasizes on the responsibility of parents. We

believe regular home visits and coaching are crucial to maintain a close relationship with the parents and caretakers.

- The children enrolled in our sponsorship often endured a lot of hardship. Their traumatic past, irregular school attendance, poor feeding and care affect their school performance. It is difficult for these students to make the transition and to catch-up. Good care and conversations with teachers are required to address these challenges.

#### 4. Financial overview

CCA spent a total of 54,333,666 Ugandan shillings in 2019. 95% of this amount was donated by “WVS Consulting”, our founding company. The remaining 5% came from private donors. The overview below indicates how this total amount of 13,583 euro’s (€) was spent.

### Annual financial report 2019

	Year 1 (2019)
<b>Incoming:</b>	
From individuals	679
From companies	12,904
From lotteries	-
From government subsidies	-
From (international) organizations	-
From other non-profit organizations	-
<b>Grand total incoming:</b>	<b>13,583</b>
<b>Outgoing:</b>	
<b>Spent on the following objectives:</b>	
Education of vulnerable children, Amudat	12,870
Children with disabilities	713
<b>Fundraising costs</b>	-
<b>Admin costs</b>	-
<b>Grand total outgoing:</b>	<b>13,583</b>
<b>End of year:</b>	-

*Fundraising costs are not paid from CCA funds. The salary and travel costs of our director are paid private, outside of CCA. 100% of all donations go to Africa.*