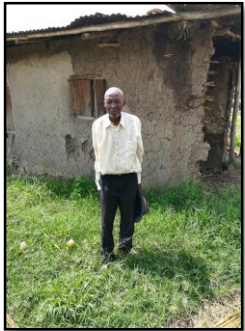


**Ugandan Destitute Need Your Support**

**Funds Urgently Needed for Refugee Food and Medicine**

In March, we received an urgent request from medical missionaries asking for support for a group of very destitute elderly in Isingiro District, 11 miles to the Rwandan border. This area was especially hit hard by droughts and several floods the last four years and people died of hunger. Many of the elderly were refugees who fled for protection to Uganda. There was a lack of food and no medicine of any kind. A 50-year old woman was dying from cancer and had no medicine even for pain. Our care partners told us that they openly wept to see them living their last days in such dire conditions and without dignity.

**We were able to send temporary assistance but we do not have the funds to continue support. Can YOU help us with a generous donation? Ernest Akhona our care partner there said "Please do not let them go back to where they came from after raising their hope. With your support they have become steady. They feel loved and this is giving them life. Those who received food shared with those who did not. They said they could not eat alone while others were hungry."**



This is Simon Tibazindwa, 78 years old, who is diabetic but cannot afford medicine. A part of his house has collapsed and leaks badly.



This is Magdalena Ngoboka, an 85 year old widow that lives alone. She has a back problem but cannot afford medicine to relieve her of her pain.



This is Valeria Nyiranshuti, an 83 year old widow. She lives alone with very poor eyesight and has no medication to help her. A part of her house has collapsed and she has no one to support her.



This is Africano Rwamunaha, 68 years old, who had a stroke 2 years ago and is paralyzed on his entire left side. He is in poor health because he cannot afford the medicine he needs and his house is in very poor condition.



This is Odilia Kamukama. She is only 50 years old but terminally ill and bedridden for over five years. She can't afford to buy the proper medicine or food for her condition.

**Support Continues for Destitute Near Masaka**

Our grannies program which began prior to 2009 near Masaka and is now administered by Helen Delaney following the unexpected death of Dr. Maura Lynch. Your contributions provide food (primarily Maize flour to make porridge), kerosene (for lighting at night which is especially important for the dependent grandchildren to study) and a little help with medical care and expenses such as rent. There are many other indigent elderly on a wait list hoping that Michael's House will soon have the funding to also help them.



Maria Kajuga



Sarah Nalwadda



Fortunate Kannyange



Florence Nandito

### Story of Mariana and Her Daughter Pludencienne

Mariana is 94 years old and one of the oldest people supported by Michaels House. She lives in Bigazi village, about three miles from Kirambi. She has been a widow for more than 30 years and she lives with her daughter Pludencienne who is 66 years old. Pludencienne was born with cognitive impairments and physical disabilities of her legs and hands. She can't work or walk and crawls on the ground to move about.

These two women survive through help from neighbors and food and medical care provided by Michaels House. The neighbors bring them firewood and water, help Mariana cook, and provide assistance to Pludencienne.



Pludencienne (left) and Mariana (right).

Unbelievably, until recently Mariana at the age of 94 walked the three miles to Kirambi to pick up her food from Michael's House. At Kirambi, she enjoyed socializing with other women and reminiscing. However, ailments including diabetes have weakened Mariana and she is no longer able to travel to get food. Our care partners are temporarily delivering food to Mariana and Pludencienne. However they cannot continue to deliver food because of the high cost of gasoline and limited staff. As of this newsletter, the care partners are working with neighbors to try to work out a plan to continue food deliveries. If not, Mariana and Pludencienne may be forced to leave the only place that they have ever lived and move to Kirambi or another place where they can receive food and assistance.

### Homes Collapse from Heavy Rains

Many of the destitute in this very remote area of South Rwanda live in poorly constructed homes built by family and neighbors. Branches are collected from nearby trees and then walls are constructed using dried mud.

During especially hard rainy seasons, some of the homes collapse from the weight of absorbed water. A paint-like solution or a stucco can be applied to the outside walls to prevent water from soaking the mud, but most of the poor cannot afford these supplies to waterproof their homes.

During the visit of Michael's House President, Dennis Turner, he and our care partners responded to help an elderly destitute couple whose home had collapsed find a place to stay. Fortunately, neither husband or wife were seriously hurt. Poverty can manifest itself in many ways. Hunger and medical care are foremost. But, like this home construction, it can strike in many ways that we cannot envision.



Above: New home being constructed using branches and mud.  
Below: Home of destitute woman receiving help from Michael's House. Her house has a good roof that helps carry water away from the walls.





***Michael's House Needs New Donors.  
Would you Share This Newsletter With a Charitable Friend?***

***Impoverished Nigerians Receive Michael's House Support***

Many of Nigeria's destitute have never had medical care or been tested for age-related conditions such as diabetes or blood pressure. However, their primary concern is not healthcare, it's worrying about whether they will have food to eat. Those with dependent grandchildren sometimes choose to feed their grandchildren while going hungry. Those that receive care from Michael's House are provided food and limited medical care. Below are pictures of the elderly with food provided by Michael's House. Because of your support, these elderly and their dependent grandchildren did not go to bed hungry.



***Your Support Sustains Elderly in North Togo***

With your generous donations, Michael's House continues to provide food to the destitute elderly in the Togo Kara region. Our dedicated volunteer care partners continue to travel to these remote villages every month because without the food the elderly would likely starve. Most are between 65 and 100 years old and do not have other means of support as many of their children have left them to find work or have died from disease or lack of medical care. Below are a few of the elderly that were fortunate to receive food through your contributions.



## Golfers Hit the Links at the Ninth Annual Michael's House Golf Tournament

On Tuesday May 8, Hawkins Electric Service and Hawkins Electrical Construction sponsored the Ninth Annual Michael's House Golf Tournament at the Whiskey Creek Golf Course in Ijamsville, MD. An immense thank you to Hawkins and all of the other sponsors for their continued support of the golf tournament.



Left: Whiskey Creek Golf Course.

Right: Dennis Tarner, President and Lynda Mischler, Vice President, recognize Todd Shatzer, Executive Vice-President and Eric Shatzer, President/CEO of Hawkins Electric for their support. The engraving read: *"With our deep appreciation for your unwavering support of the destitute elderly throughout the years."*

### About our Photos of the Destitute

It is common to see emotional advertising by charities that are shocking in the images they portray. The photos of the destitute posted by Michael's House are usually of elderly who have been receiving very basic food and care for some time. You are looking at people who are alive and have hope because of you and your donations.

With new found strength also comes restored dignity. Our beneficiaries will sometimes know in advance that photos will be taken or if they will be visited at their home, children will often run ahead and let them know that care givers are coming. If they have one good dress or shirt they may put it on or borrow clothing from neighbors. They are just like us, wanting to look our best for the camera.

### Become a Michael's House Volunteer!

Want to be part of our team to help the destitute elderly around the world? If you are passionate about helping the world's most needy people and willing to commit a few hours each month, consider joining our team.

We have a wide range of needs including help with managing records, administrative support, communicating with our care partners overseas, and fundraising. It's also a great way to learn about the developing world and cultivate leadership skills.

Just send us an email at [info@michaels-house.org](mailto:info@michaels-house.org) – we look forward to talking with you!

## SUPPORT

Your support makes all that we do for the destitute elderly possible. They have come to depend on the love and generosity from those of us more fortunate on the other side of the world.

We cannot let them down!

Donate on the web ([www.michaels-house.org](http://www.michaels-house.org)) or make checks payable to:  
Michael's House Inc., Post Office Box 856, Burtonsville, MD 20866

Michael's House is a U.S. based 501©(3) charitable organization.