

## Featured child- **Asimwe Esther**

Esther is a 6-year-old girl with a big smile. She comes from Lira, 335 kilometers north of the capital city Kampala. In March 2021, Esther was diagnosed with Wilms Tumor and started receiving chemotherapy at the National Referral Hospital in Kampala. Esther's mother did not know anyone in Kampala and so they stayed at the hospital most of the time, with no money to buy necessities.

That is when the doctors referred them to the Bless a Child Foundation care homes that take care of children suffering from cancer. Esther and her mother came to stay at BCF in April 2022. At the BCF care home, they are provided with accommodation, nutritious meals, class, play therapy, and transport to and from the hospital at no cost.

At BCF, Esther enjoys reading, writing and storytelling.



Esther's dream is to become a doctor so she can treat other children suffering from cancer. We are grateful to our donors and partners for the support that has made a difference in Esther's life.

## Grace Home Second Anniversary



On August 3, 2022, the Grace Home of Bless a Child Foundation celebrated 2 years since it opened its doors to children suffering from cancer. The Grace home is located in Mbarara city, 260 kilometers west of the capital city Kampala. It mainly accommodates children suffering from cancer receiving their treatment at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital, of service in western Uganda to children receiving treatment at Mbarara Regional

Since it was opened in 2020, the Grace home has helped to reduce treatment abandonment at the hospital from 30% in 2020 to 10% in 2022. The home can accommodate up to 30 children together with their caregivers. We are grateful to all our friends who have supported us through this journey and still continue to stand with us.

## Child & Parent of the Month



## Homes Visitors

In July we had the privilege to celebrate our friend Bernard Mukasa's birthday at the Mikisa home of Bless a Child Foundation. Many of Bernard's friends and associates joined him on his big day and they raised money and in-kind donations to support the children and caregivers at BCF. Bernard is chairman of the SMACK League, one of our long-time partners.

We also received other visitors from Pipeline Worldwide, Makerere University, University of Cambridge, St Jude Children's Research Hospital, the Lions Club International and Lions Club of Kampala, Uganda Red Cross, among many others. We are grateful for everyone's continuing support and kindness.



St. Jude Visit



US Marines



Cambridge Visit



Craig & Jeannine Robinson



Lion's Club Makerere



Young Life



Who is Hussain



Vet Centre

## Aladina Visit



## BCF TEAM BUILDING DAY

Staff from the BCF Akiba and Mikisa care homes had their team-building day on 16th September, 2022 at Sky Bliss Adventure Park in Kampala. Some obstacles proved too hard to overcome and not all fears were conquered but confidence was high all around. No matter how tough the challenges were, at the end of the day, we all made it to the finish line. Congratulations to the team.

