

# Mama Jael's Home

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Uganda

## IMPROVEMENT ROADMAP

June | 2023





# Overview of this Children's Home

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## Background & Mission

Mama Jael is one of the caregivers assisted through the 92 hands foster program that offers support and care for children within her home. There are 7 children in her home, the eldest 14 years old and the youngest 3 years old.

Mama Jael was deserted by her husband during covid 19, leaving her with 2 children. She took them to the village as she looked for means to provide for them. When the 92 hands team approached her and asked if she could be a mother and care for additional children, she gladly took on the responsibility and was also able to bring her own children to join others in the foster home. Since then, she has devoted her life to serving and caring for the little children God has entrusted her with. She is a skilled professional teacher and helps educate children in her home. Her dream is to see all children thrive and become beacons of hope. She raises them to believe in themselves and to take every opportunity to better their lives.

## Recent Accomplishments

- Mama Jael's home has had the opportunity to engage in intense 1:1 therapy sessions for each child at home during the weekends and there's great improvements and behavior amongst the children.
- Mama Jael has also been able to receive counseling and comforting through the grieving of her father by the 92 hands team along with other colleagues, which has helped her bounce back easily.
- Three children were able to start attending school.



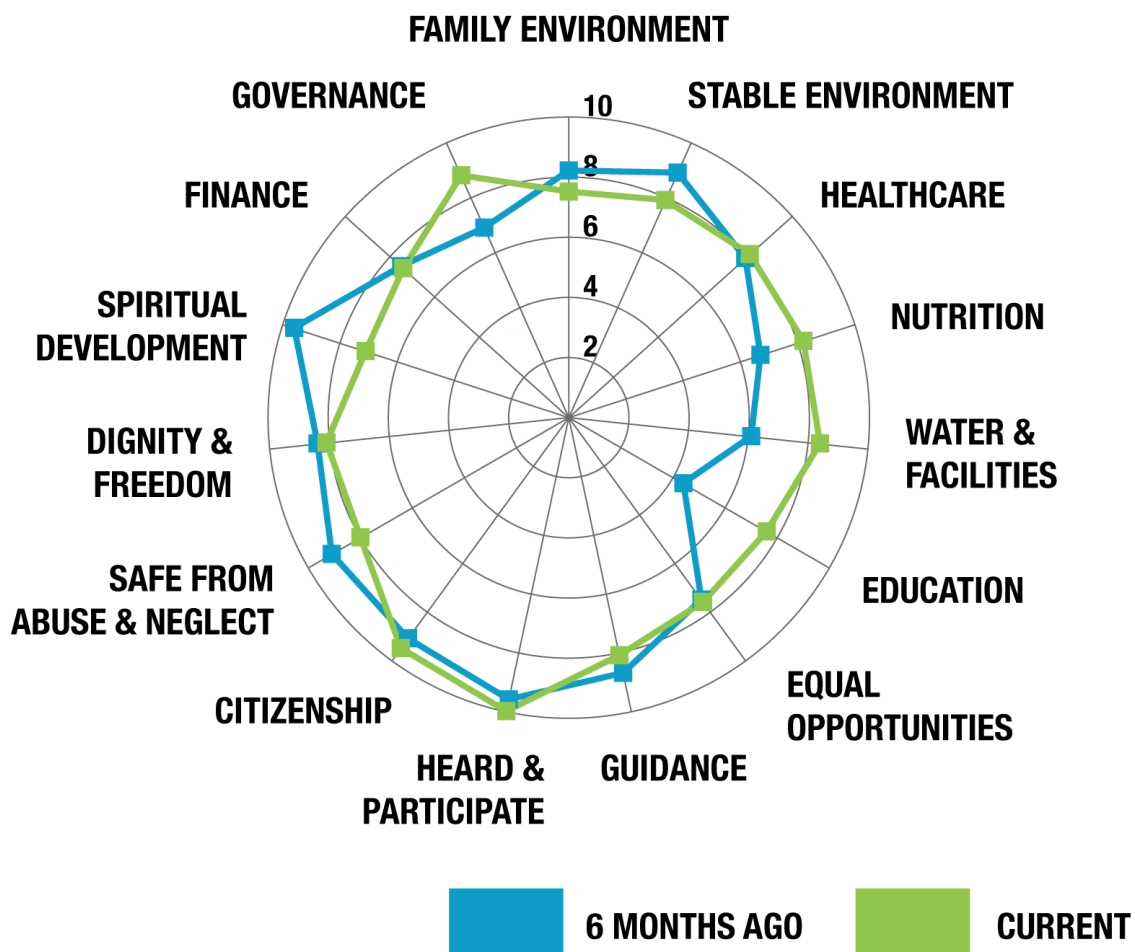
# The Thrive Assessment

## What is the Thrive Assessment?

In 1959, the United Nations (UN) adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, which defines children's rights to protection, education, healthcare, shelter, nutrition and more. We have codified all 13 Rights, as well as a Finance Standard and a Governance and Human Resource Standard, resulting in a total of 15 standards. These standards ensure that children receive care that truly helps them to thrive, now and in the future.

The Thrive Assessment will be administered every 6 months with each partner home to chart the progress of each standard. Our team works with caregivers to outline next steps which and compiled into an Improvement Roadmap.

## Current Thrive Scale



# Strategic Initiatives

## KITCHEN RENOVATION & NUTRITION PLAN

<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	Renovate the Kitchen area for more safety, which will cost \$600 USD. Increase the monthly food budget which will cost \$300 per month, \$3600 per year. Hire a well trained nutritionist for the caregiver to receive training, cost \$200 per session.
<b>ESTIMATED FUNDING</b>	UGX 4,070,000shs + 1,110,000shs USD \$1,100 + \$3600 (\$300 per month)

## HEALTHCARE SERVICES

<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	Visit the doctor for a checkup twice a year. Per child, this would cost \$400 a year per child. Create a medical emergency fund for the home.
<b>ESTIMATED FUNDING</b>	UGX 11,100,000shs (per year) USD \$ 3,000

## CHILD FREEDOM AND PRIVACY

<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION</b>	Provide a bed and bedding for every child. The beds will cost \$216, and the bedding around \$100 for 3 children for a total of \$1,000 USD. Create more 1:1 with the mentors and therapists, which costs \$200 per session.
<b>ESTIMATED FUNDING</b>	UGX 7,400,000shs USD \$ 2,000



## Right to Live with Family

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Mama Jael is the sole caregiver of her home and stays with the children day and night. The home has 6 children and with Mama Jael, the entire household has 7 people. While there is house help that comes and goes, she doesn't sleep there. The home is open to visitation of relatives to children, but it's not very common as children's relatives rarely come to visit and others are not known. Additional efforts to find relatives of the children could be made to help with healing. They live as a stable family and Mama Jael is 24/7 available to care for and protect the children. Mama Jael completed her quarterly training on trauma and is also being guided and supervised by Cynthia, a 92 hands team member and therapist, but additional training on child protection, participation, and trauma is needed. Being a professional teacher, Mama Jael loves keeping the children together as a team like eating together, playing, and praying together. However, more time for children and Mama Jael to bond through joint activities as a family is needed. The 92 hands team is also working on a caregiver plan for the training and evaluation of caregivers like Mama Jael.

- ☐ Trace of some relatives to the children and this will as well be helpful during the therapy sessions and easy healing to the children.
- ☐ Create more time for the children to have more joint activities done as a family.
- ☐ More training sessions should be created for mama jael about child protection, participation and trauma.



## Right to a Stable Environment

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

House rules in Mama Jael's home are clearly explained to the children and they know there are consequences if rules are not kept. Children are called by their preferred names in this home. There are no children with special needs in this home. The homestead is safe for children since it's enclosed and the neighborhood is peaceful. Children get to play, eat, and pray together, which strengthens their bond. However, one area of improvement could be for Mama Jael to have time set aside for meeting with each child weekly to allow them to express themselves. Mama Jael has scheduled monthly meetings with Cynthia to discuss how to effectively teach and discipline in her home. Mama Jael is a full time mother hence and therefore doesn't have rest days, but in case of emergencies the 92 hands team helps support her.

- ☐ Create weekly talk days/gatherings for the caregiver to meet up with the children for them to express themselves.
- ☐ Have Mama Jael meet Cynthia more often to discuss how to effectively teach and instill discipline in the home.



## Right to Healthcare

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children receive annual check ups and examinations, especially the young ones. Not all children have documentation of their vaccinations, but the 92 hands staff with the help of the caregiver are working on them. Soap and water are adequately provided to children to promote good personal hygiene. 92 hands partners with a local hospital to help in case of emergencies. There is only one adolescent in Mama Jael's home, and Mama Jael is doing her best to teach her about feminine hygiene and provide all she needs. Children receive vision, dental and all other examinations once in a while, but only see a doctor and get medical treatment in case of emergencies. There is still no medical emergency fund for this home, but in case of one, the 92 hands are willing to support them.

- ☐ Work on obtaining the vaccinations and health documentations of each child.
- ☐ Visit the doctor for a checkup twice a year. Per child, this would cost \$400 a year.
- ☐ Create counseling and guidance sessions for the adolescents about hygiene and also about reproductive health awareness.



## Right to Nutrition

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children eat enough calories everyday. Cooking areas are free from toxic substances and pests. The kitchen is well ventilated, children get nutritious food at least every week that has proteins and other calories. However, there's a need for more food in order to have a balanced diet daily and for the kitchen to be renovated. Mama Jael serves food and has been prepared on food safety and preparation. Additionally, sometimes the oldest child in the home also helps in the kitchen since she loves cooking.

- ☐ Increase the weekly food budget to add more healthy foods and boost their immunity. \$300 USD per month.
- ☐ Renovate the Kitchen area for safety. Cost \$600 USD.
- ☐ Train more children on how to cook and serve food.





## Right to Safe & Adequate Water & Facilities

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Mama Jael's home has been inspected and found to meet the set standards for orphanages. There is safe and reliable water to drink. The bathrooms and the living room all have functioning bulbs. There is a proper disposal method that does not contaminate drinking water. The home still doesn't have an emergency plan laid out, but they are working on identifying all possible measures in case of an emergency. Children have access to clean drinking water at all times. Outdoors are safe for the children since the house is enclosed. All electrical appliances are wired in a safe manner that doesn't expose danger to the children. There is also a monthly inspection of all electrical appliances and they now have a written plan to address property maintenance.

- ☐ Develop an emergency fund plan in case of any outbreaks in the home.



## Right to Quality Education

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Not every eligible child is enrolled in school due to limited resources. Those with half sponsorships do attend, but not all are attending school currently. The home still does not have internet or access to computers, but there are more children taking an interest in the internet and technology. If a computer and internet were obtained, volunteers from 92 hands could help with teaching the basics of computer skills. Children are tutored by Mama Jael since she is a professional teacher, but there is a need for additional help to tutor and support the children academically. Mama Jael has also developed games for the children to boost their reasoning and intelligence. There are currently no children with reading disabilities and the home has some books for the children to read.

- ☐ Obtain financial resources to enroll all children in school.
- ☐ Hire a tutor to help the children with subjects/topics they are behind in. Cost \$137 USD per month.
- ☐ Provide internet and purchase a computer for the home. \$400 USD per computer.



## Right to Equal Opportunities

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children sometimes share a space where they keep their dedicated personal items. While not all children are in school, those that stay at home are tutored by the mother since she is a professional teacher. Children can play at all times in order to develop their talents and keep fit. Mama Jael's home doesn't have children with disabilities at the moment. There is currently no transition plan for adolescents since the only adolescent is 14 years old and doesn't plan to live independently yet as she loves her home. Children get equal opportunities to be mentored by both male and female role models from 92 hands staff.

- ☐ Create a transition plan for the children in the home.
- ☐ Create more time with the children and engage with them during playtime and while doing house chores.



## Right to Guidance

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children are taught to be respectful at all times and usually receive counsel and guidance from the caregiver. There is no profile or job description for new caregivers since the home is not hiring additional staff at the moment. All children receive equal opportunities to meet with a therapist on a monthly basis. Usually the mother discusses changes associated with puberty with the one adolescent. Mama Jael is evaluated as a caregiver by the therapist and has been found fit to carry out mentorship.

- ☐ Partner with another organization to provide guidance and counsel for the teenager and others.
- ☐ Schedule more mentorship sessions with the 92 hands mentors.



## Right to Be Heard and Participate in Decisions

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children are free to do what they want in their free time, as long as it aligns with the home values. They also get an opportunity to participate in the menu planning and help choose what food to cook at home. Mama Jael gives them freedom to pick what they want to wear, as long as it's appropriate. Children have freedom of speech and also the right to know about health procedures prior to them happening. Mama Jael provides leadership roles every week such as allowing children to select a fellow child to spearhead cleaning and spiritual devotions.

Continue with the current practices.



## Right to Be Prepared for Citizenship

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

All children have birth certificates in the home. Children are taught that every wrong committed has a consequence. In the case a child breaks a rule, they are disciplined and taught that what they did is wrong so that they don't repeat it. Each child helps with house chores at home like washing utensils, sweeping, and mopping. Children get to celebrate public holidays like Easter, Christmas, and Independence Day. The home is free from litter and one rule Mama Jael has taught them is that everything has a home, whether toys or clothes, and after use they should take it back to where it belongs. Children have mentors that come frequently to spend one on one time with them. Children who are old enough also participate in cleaning the community with the local church. The only current events shared in the home are the children's birthday parties, but they also get an opportunity to attend field trips for those in school.

- ☐ Need to progress on every child's identification card as a Ugandan citizen.
- ☐ Engage the children more into community work to help engage them to be generous to one another.



## Right to Be Safe from Abuse & Neglect

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

All Children have access to a private bathroom and toilet for use. However, there's a need for renovation on both the bathroom and toilet for it to be safer for children and others. Currently the children share a bedroom, but they require 3 additional beds and bedding to create more privacy and ample space for them. Trainings are always held to guide Mama Jael as caregiver on childcare. No child is allowed to work for wage as this would violate the law. Currently, the children receive a few learnings from their mentors about abuse and reporting techniques. In the future, 92 hands hopes to partner with an organization to help with such trainings. As caregiver, Mama Jael takes full responsibility of the children, whether at home or during an outing. A visitor policy is being developed which will include rules, background checks, and the criterias of visitors.

- ☐ Provide a bed and bedding for every child. Beds cost \$216 USD. Bedding costs \$100 USD.
- ☐ Create and implement the visitor policy for safety.



## Right to Dignity & Freedom

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

The teenager in Mama Jael's home helps out with bathing the infants, under the guidance of the caregiver. This opportunity serves as a way of caring for the little ones, showing love, and being kind to one another. Although some children share a bed, beddings and a bedroom, all have their own clothing. Infants are immediately cleaned every time they soil themselves, and the same for their beddings. No alarms or any safety protocols are installed in Mama Jael's home at the moment. Every child has a clean towel and toothbrush and brush regularly. Mama Jael awards those who do more chores with simple gifts to motivate the rest.

- ☐ Create some ample time for the children to get some alone.
- ☐ Provide a bed and bedding for every child. Beds cost \$216 USD. Bedding costs \$100 USD.





## Right to Spiritual Development

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

Children are fully allowed to be part of a spiritual community under the guidance of Mama Jael and mentors. All the children in Mama Jael's home attend Sunday School (children's church) every Sunday where they get to interact with their fellow worshippers and make friends. Religious holidays like Christmas are celebrated together as a family with new clothes, delicious meals and gift sharing. A few religious materials like books are available for reading, quizzes and interactions, however, more materials for the teenager are needed. Mama Jael's home has daily devotions and prayer sessions during mornings and evenings, which are participated in by the entire home.

- ☐ Engage and help children participate more in Sunday School



## Finance Standard

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

There's an accountant who records income and expenses for the home, with the help of Mama Jael. They also keep receipts from purchased products. There's a home budget for food on a weekly basis, but more nutritious meals are needed. The budget should be increased for the children to have better balanced meals. A budget is always drafted by the 92 hands staff for the home to help cover the estimated annual expenditure of the entire home.

- ☐ Involve Mama Jael in the purchase of products and home budgeting.
- ☐ Find additional resources to increase the food budget for better balanced meals.



## Governance and Human Resource Standard

SURVIVING

SUSTAINING

THRIVING

All mothers within the 92 hands program go through a training program at the start of every period. This includes going through documents such as terms of their employment, which are stored in a safe place. In the case of any concerns being raised in the home, Mama Jael always informs the 92 hands staff and a solution is immediately formed. The home has a safe, well covered drinking water dispenser accessible for the entire home, and infants are always encouraged to drink water regularly. Caregivers from various homes, including Mama Jael, meet up to discuss challenges and receive trainings on child development, child participation and more.

- ☐ Receive more training sessions on attachment and child development.



## Current Improvement Partners



### 92 Hands

92hands is a Ugandan nonprofit that focuses on supporting single mothers in the slums of Kampala to care for street kids. They prioritize education, skill building, and healing for both the mothers and the kids.

For a list of projects and opportunities to coordinate on go to  
[www.ACHF.org/Projects](http://www.ACHF.org/Projects)





I LOVE MY  
SCHOOL



**A CHILD'S  
+ HOPE**  
FOUNDATION