

## WHEN POVERTY BITES

On 12<sup>th</sup> Dec 2017, the Rays of Hope Hospice Team went to Buyende on routine patients care visits. Buyende is the Northern most district of Busoga region and one just included in our catchment area about five months ago. The poverty in Busoga Region is harsh, but in Buyende and the other two new districts in the periphery of Busoga where we are now working (Bugiri and Namayingo), the poverty reaches another low level - there poverty really bites.

**Baisi** has cancer of the cervix, she is 45 years, she is a farmer, and she has seven children between 30 and 4 years. During our visits the children and grandchildren were sitting close by – all dressed in rags. Baisi was so happy for the food we brought, but she needs more and farming is getting hard due to the cancer.



**Monica** is 45 years and a widow. She has lost 4 of her 9 children. She has been paralyzed due to HIV/AIDS for years, can only drag herself over the floor, but she has never even imagined to dream about a wheel chair. Monica never went to school, but she is hoping to get her last born daughter to get to Primary 7. Monica has been selling oranges from her tree to get fees – unfortunately not enough – the daughter, 14 years and in Primary 4, was thrown out of school due to lack of fees.

**Catherine** is around 50 years. She has HIV/AIDS and is not taking the medicines well. She was also delighted to get the food help – but she needs more. She is taking care of seven grandchildren, and they are all dressed in rags. She

sleeps in a hut where you can look at the stars through the thin roof. There is one half mattresses on the dirt floor, no mats. Apparently the kids sleep ON mosquito nets, which were recently distributed through health centres.



### FOOD, CLOTHES, SHELTER, BASIC EDUCATION ... BASIC HUMAN RIGHTS

Rays of Hope Hospice Jinja cannot help all the many people in need in Busoga Region, but we can try and help our most needy clients and dependents have a better quality life even with the disease.

As we plan and prepare for a prosperous 2018, let us help these poor patients and their families live a bit more comfortably, get their children in school and give them a new hope for the future.

Thank you for whatever you can give – even a small donation goes a long way.

For details on how to donate please see

<http://www.raysofhopehospicejinja.org/donate>

We shall make sure your gift will go directly to support these people in need.



PS We tried to make these kids smile for the photo, but we couldn't – and that's really the worse part.