



INTERNATIONAL CHILD ADVANCEMENT

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Happy Holidays!

Warm wishes this holiday season to all of our Sponsors, Volunteers, and Supporters!!

A special thank you to all that have sent in donations since [#givingtuesday2020!](https://www.givingtuesday2020.org/) We raised \$985 which will help provide the 100 children at GUAOA Orphanage a warm Christmas meal and treats. \$500 of this donation is from our Partners [Food For Orphans](https://www.foodfororphans.org/) to whom we are extremely grateful!

If you would like to help make our children's Christmas bright, please donate on our website: <https://www.childadvancement.org/support-us>



*"The Lord is my
strength and my shield;
my heart trusted in him,
and I am helped:
therefore, my heart
greatly rejoiceth; and
with my song I will
praise him"*

Psalms 28:7



GUAOA Updates

- **56 Orphans are enrolled in school for the 2020-2021 school year:**
55 of these children have been paired with a sponsor with only 1 child needing to be paired which is in great contrast to the 2019-2020 school year where we had 17 children without a Sponsor! Thank you to everyone who have helped spread the word about our need for Educational sponsors and **WELCOME** to all new Sponsors!!
- 100 children reside at GUAOA Orphanage and 50 have been placed in foster homes
- **We have partnered with the nonprofit organization [Food for Orphans](#) (FFO)!**
FFO hopes to provide funding to supply at a minimum, one meal per day to the orphans at GUAOA orphanage starting January 2021 through December 2021



2020 GUAOA Graduate!

We're so proud of Christelle!

Christelle lost both of her parents to Aids and has been at the orphanage since 2016. She has overcome a great deal to complete her high school education – she is the 6th GUAOA orphan to graduate High School!

Christelle hopes one day she can further her education in college.

Congratulations Christelle!



ICA Updates

- We have a new logo, new look coming in January!
- Our **We For Them Campaign** will be launching in January. This campaign will showcase the groundwork conducted by ICA over the years and our persistent efforts towards securing a better future for the children we support. We will feature testimonials from Educational Sponsors, partners, volunteers, supporters and GUAOA orphans.
- Our **We For Them Virtual Townhall** will be hosted in Q1 2020. We invite all Sponsors, Supporters and Partners to attend this virtual event. If connectivity cooperates, we will connect with GUAOA Orphanage during the call so attendees can meet some of leaders and children in Goma. We will share our accomplishments, our short-term & long-term goals and will have an open session at the end for Q&A. Stay tuned for more information!



Empower ♦ Educate ♦ Elevate



GUAOA Special Delivery

The children at GUAOA were very excited to receive two new sewing machines, a printer, and a laptop this month. Thank you to all who donated and made this possible!

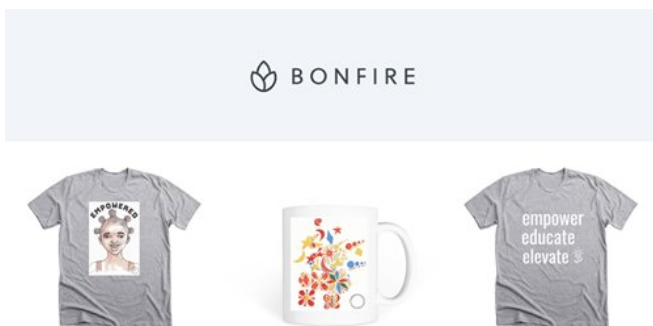


Other Ways You Can Help

Have you checked out our [#WeForThem](#) online store on Bonfire yet?

By making a purchase, you are letting all the children at GUAOA Orphanage know that you support them and that we're all here for them.

Art featured on the products are by children at the orphanage. Click the below image to access our [#WeForThem](#) store.



ICA Board Member, Ché Thompson

Check out other ways you can support ICA by clicking [here](#).



"Pop of Hope" Mug

The mug in our [#WeForThem](#) store features art by 15-year-old Prince

Prince has been at GUAOA Orphanage for over 5 years and has been sponsored since 2017 - he's now in 7th grade. Prince was born to a single teen mother who after giving birth, abandoned him in a public bathroom then fled to a neighboring country and she hasn't been seen since. Prince was saved by a man who heard him crying when he was walking by and was dropped off at the orphanage. Prince is grateful to have an Educational Sponsor support his education ensuring he advances to a better future.



*"When my heart is
overwhelmed lead me to the
rock that is higher than I"*
Psalm 61:2

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Every child is important!



A Look Back at 2020

We've accomplished so much in 2020.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us along the way!

For GUAOA Orphanage we've been able to:

- Enroll 56 children for the 2020-2021 school year!
- Purchase 7 additional sewing machines (they now have a total of 9) for our Vocational Sewing Program
- Purchase 2 computers and 1 printer/copier/scanner for our Vocational Computer Training Program
- Pay rent on space used for the vocational training programs for the entire year
- Contribute towards day-to-day essential needs for the children



For the Buffalo community we've been able to:

- Provide food and school supplies to 140 local refugee children and their families through our 2020 Back-to-School & Food Drive!

Certifying Organization – Presidential Volunteer Service Award



ICA is a Certifying Organization, now able to give out Presidential Service Awards.

In 2003, the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation founded the [President's Volunteer Service Award](#) to recognize the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity.

This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action, too.

Step Out Buffalo Mention!

International Child Advancement was highlighted among other local non-profit organizations that have initiatives in support of and founded by WNY's Black Community. Read [Step Out Buffalo's](#) article.

We're on the Web!
www.childadvancement.org