



 **ravens**
UGANDA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
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In April, six U.S.-based
volunteers traveled to Uganda.

HERE IS A *recap.*

Lasting memories, life lessons, *decadent* hobbies

Kelly Brunk is a volunteer with Ravens Uganda. When asked what three words described her visit in April, she said: "Inspiring, fulfilling, and joyful."

She knew of the sorrow students had faced in their lifetime, but hearing individuals share their experiences in person was even more emotional.

"I was moved to tears," she shared. **"My heart was broken hearing students' hard life stories."**

During her time in Uganda, Kelly spent time fellowshipping with the larger group of students and baking

with Sedrick and Rebecca—two youth supported by Ravens who are studying hotel management and culinary arts.

"They were so engaged and happy to be doing what they love to do," Kelly said of their shared love for baking.

She was delighted to spend time with youth who share the same passion. Because ingredients for baking differ

in Uganda, Kelly thought it might be fun to bring some from home.

Together, they made brownies and carrot cake cupcakes. Little did she know, brownies are an extra special treat in Uganda.

"I learned so much about the challenges they have there that I don't even think about, like having running water at my disposal while baking," she shared. "[My heart] was mended back together by their stories of gratitude and faith. Their resiliency inspires me."

It's interactions like these that create lasting memories. Today, Rebecca and Sedrick continue to bake treats for their fellow youth using Kelly's leftover ingredients.





Volunteer trip in April was a *'dream come true'*

It had been far too long since Abel and the volunteer team had seen each other in person. Due to the ministry's growth, there was much to celebrate and reflect on.

"It was touching to see a mixture of cultures in one space at the same time," Abel said. "The volunteer team perfectly blended and mingled with the youth and church members."

Together the students and volunteers spent time worshipping, praying, and sharing their testimonies.

"God moved through the storytelling session," Abel said. **"The youth who were afraid to share their childhood stories were able to do so with confidence and ease."**

Storytelling sessions play a vital role in the healing process for people who have endured trauma. Thanks to Ross, one of the visiting volunteers, students had a chance to process and lament during a trauma healing workshop.

This time spent together in God's presence was a "dream come true." In addition to the fellowship time, Abel and the U.S.-based team had time to discuss the future of the ministry.

"These planning sessions helped us envision how we can raise even more leaders through Ravens," Abel shared.

The opportunity to pour into each other during this trip was overwhelming and transformative.

Today, more than 50 youth are being supported by Ravens like you.

We are thankful for the chance to spend time with Abel and the students we have the opportunity to uplift.



Would you join us in sustaining the growth of Ravens Uganda?

A *gift of \$100/month* provides food and accommodations for one student.



Updates from *Uganda*: Resource center and upcoming graduations

The ministry's resource center just keeps growing! This dedicated student space is now equipped with a kitchen, a library—and—10 laptop computers.

Because of your generosity, these laptops provide students with a dedicated area to conduct school work.

“They are making a huge difference in the school lives of our youth,” Abel shared. **“Thank you to our supporters who made this possible.”**

In addition to the new laptops, Rebecca, Sedrick, and Rachael continue to use the resource center's kitchen for baking.

On Sundays, they sell baked goods and use their earnings to cover expenses and pay the electricity bills.

The resource center provides opportunities for youth to grow in their passions and transform them into careers.

*As we look forward to the next few months, we're excited that four Ravens Uganda students will be graduating. Please join us in praying for **Isma, Daphine, Joyce,** and **Ashraf** as they finish their schooling and begin successful careers.*

Write a Note of **Encouragement**

As students continue their studies and prepare to graduate, they'd love to hear from friends like you.

WRITE

Help Sustain **All 50 Students**

Currently, the costs of fuel and food in Uganda are rising sharply. Consider supporting the ministry.

GIVE