



Speech by

Mrs. Julia Clare Olima Oyet

Chief Executive Officer

**Handover of a donation to St. Jude Children's Home,
Gulu**

March 11, 2021

The Director, Management and Staff of St. Jude Children's Home,

My colleagues from Deposit Protection Fund of Uganda,

Members of the Press,

All guests in your respective capacities,

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen;

I bring you warm greetings, from the Board, Management and Staff of the Deposit Protection Fund of Uganda (DPF). Permit me from the onset, to share with you a brief background of DPF and what it does. DPF is a legal entity established by the Government of Uganda to ensure that depositors are paid their protected deposits in the unlikely event of failure/closure of a Contributing Institution. Previously it operated under the Bank of Uganda and in 2016, the Financial Institutions Act (2004) was amended to provide for the establishment of an autonomous body which led to the commencement of the operationalization process in April 2017. The Fund, therefore, exists to give assurance to the public that they can confidently deposit their money in institutions regulated by the Bank of Uganda and these include commercial banks, credit institutions and microfinance deposit taking institutions.

Ladies and gentlemen, in undertaking its mandate, the Fund is aware of the fact that achieving overall national development is the result of the concerted efforts of different stakeholders. It is for this reason that the Board of Directors of DPF deemed it fit to set aside resources, through its Corporate Social Responsibility program, to support especially the vulnerable members of the community. St. Jude Children's Home is one such entity that is delivering selfless service to orphans and other vulnerable children in society.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is the conviction and philosophy of the Fund that investing in children by according the less privileged

an equal opportunity to that of their peers, in however small a manner, translates to an investment in the future of this nation. It is clear that the Founders of St. Jude Children's Home share the same conviction as seen by its chosen area of intervention. This is even more so, given the peculiar circumstances faced by children in the country generally and the northern region in particular owing to the many challenges that have affected the region over the years.

It is in recognition of this noble cause that St. Jude Children's Home was identified from among many potentials to be the recipient of this humble contribution from the Fund. There are other similar institutions in the region which are grappling with the challenge of providing the innocent children a semblance of a home and a conducive environment in which to grow. However, St. Jude Children's Home stood out from the rest because of the notable high level of commitment and organization in the way you deliver your services. Please join me to applaud and congratulate the Founders, benefactors, Board, management and staff of this great Home for their farsightedness and unwavering commitment to serving humanity.

Ladies and gentlemen, it is not by accident that this event is taking place during the lenten period. A time set aside to praise and worship the Lord, read the Bible more, pray more often and have a deeper intimacy with the Lord. It is a season of deep reflection, repentance and most importantly giving.

In the African context ladies and gentlemen, upbringing of a child is the responsibility of the community. The traditional African community shows concern and care for all children and sometimes this includes matters of discipline. This is in line with the adage that "*the child who is not embraced by the village will burn it down to feel its warmth*". We are alive to the fact that there has been tremendous change and breakdown in the cultural and

social fabric in many African communities mainly because of economic hardships. However, not all hope is lost yet, for it is possible to reverse this trend as long as the different stakeholders, in the public and private arena together with members of the community pull efforts together to work towards achieving this reversal. It can and should be done in earnest if we are to provide the much-desired secure future for our children.

Ladies and gentlemen, through this gesture, we believe that DPF has joined the wider community of For God, Bar Dege Division, Gulu city. We do hope that the donation of a washing machine, fifty mattresses with mackintosh covers and fifty pairs of bedsheets all valued at UGX 20,000,000 (Twenty million), will go a long way in according the beautiful children some level of comfort in their daily life. The washing machine will contribute to their personal hygiene while the mattresses and bedsheets will enable them to have a comfortable sleep.

As I draw to a close, I would like to appeal to leaders at all levels to walk the talk with regard to mobilizing the community to support those who are less privileged. I dare to assert that one day an engineer, a doctor, teacher, leader or even a minister will emerge from the orphans that you are supporting today.

On behalf of the Board, management, and staff of DPF, it is now my pleasure to formally hand over the items to St. Jude Children's Home. As I stated earlier, we have every confidence in the entire management structure of St. Jude to ensure that these items are used for the purpose for which they are intended. We remain committed as the Fund, to continue extending a helping hand to those in need across the country in as far as resources permit.

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Happy Easter. May the Almighty continue to guide you and bless the works of

your hands. And may the glow in the eyes of these orphans translate into a bright future for each one of them so that they too will one day rise up to hold the hand of other children who may find themselves in a similar predicament like they face today.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

Julia Clare Olima Oyet

Chief Executive Officer