



SECOND CHANCE SUPPORT

Who we are

SCS Headquarters are in the Netherlands and consist of volunteer businessmen, nurses and pastors. The driving force behind Second Chance Support are Victor and Bea Wildeman. They have both been involved for a long time in supporting prisoners in the Netherlands. During a holiday in Uganda, they were struck by the poor living conditions in prisons there and decided to set up SCS.

Victor had a successful career in business, Bea pursued a career in healthcare devoting herself to people with physical and mental illnesses

In their free time, they also helped former prisoners reintegrate into society.

Passion to support people in prisons

What most affects them in Uganda?

Victor: "If your crib stood in

Uganda then poverty plays a major role in your life. The chance to end up in prison is many times greater than in the Netherlands."

Bea: "We looked these people in the eyes and heard their stories and that struck us deeply. We ourselves could have easily been these people but we were lucky enough to be born in the Netherlands."

We want to support these people with their second chance for a new start.

How can you help?

You can us help with your time and talents specifically when you have experience within the justice law and order sector, but also when you have knowledge of logistics, public relations, computers, accounting, fundraising and so on. Please note that we only make use of unpaid volunteers.

For our two projects, the Kigo Prison Health Centre and School, we need to raise € 50,000. We would highly appreciate your support, however big or small. Please donate to Triodos Bank 19.83.79.935 of Second Chance Support (SCS) in Woerden. Second Chance Support has ANBI registration. Your donation is tax deductible in the Netherlands.

Where do I find out more?

Surf to www.secondchancesupport.org and subscribe for the SCS Newsletter.

Want to become a Supporter?

Go to our website at www.secondchancesupport.org/donate

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A new life after desertion

Joseph was 17 when he joined the army. His mother fell very ill but he did not get permission to visit her. He snuck out one morning from his army base to visit her but, at her bedside, he was arrested. He was convicted to six years imprisonment. He has been free now for some years and with the help of volunteers he was able to finish his education in prison. Once he was released he immediately joined university. His dissertation dealt with rehabilitation and reintegration of ex-prisoners. "Look," he says, "in the end prison brought me a totally new life!"

**More Humanity
in Ugandan Prisons**

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a second chance, perhaps for the first time

It is very easy to become a prisoner in Uganda but to be released is a lot less simple. Once released from prison, you have even fewer chances than before. Second Chance Support (SCS) supports prisoners in Uganda. We support them with a second chance. Perhaps for the first time in their lives.

Prisons in Uganda are overcrowded and remand periods are long. More than half of the prisoners are in remand and some for periods of many years. It is difficult to get a lawyer, without money to hire one, and it is even more difficult to get on the courts agenda. Many people see their lawyer for the first time on the day of the trial.

The prisons are overcrowded with disadvantaged marginalised people. Most have little or no basic education. Many people come out worse than they went there and only few prisons offer basic and vocational education.

In the state prisons every day is the same - prisoners struggle for survival.

In the midst of TB, hepatitis and HIV/AIDS, sanitation is a big problem, clean water and healthy food is also a serious issue. In prison sick people lie on a blanket on the bare concrete floor, just like everybody else in prison. Decent preventative and curative healthcare is hard to achieve.

SCS aims to turn this around. In partnership with Uganda Prison Service (UPS) inmates are now being supported to develop further - they are being supported with a second chance, a chance for a better life.

Effective education

Prisoners currently teach each other basic education, sitting on a stone in a dark area which does not make it easy to learn. SCS taught prisoners to make metal school chairs and together with inmates we build partitioning walls so they can better concentrate in a quiet class room. We also provide scholastic materials.

According to the minimum requirements of the United Nations prisons should have a library. SCS is building and stocking a library for Kigo Prison.

Inmates also learn the principles of building, wood and metal working, other vocational training, reading and writing. Education will give them better chances for a job in society. This is the best way to reduce the rate of reoffending.

Vocational education for the future Another goal of SCS is being realised: now that we have improved the Kigo Prison School the Ugandan Ministry of Education and Sports decided to submit official teachers to Kigo Prison!

Good healthcare

Together with the people in prison we are rebuilding the Kigo Prison Health Centre. We have taught them to make metal hospital beds themselves. So they get on-the-job training for metal work and they are even able to participate in the official state exams. Patients can now finally lie in an adjustable hospital bed instead of on a blanket on the concrete floor.

We provide running water, functioning sewage works, sanitation, better ventilation and anti-malaria screens, medical equipment and sometimes medication. We teach them to improve basic hygiene and improve cooking of food. In this way we are able to reduce the influx of prisoners into prison Health Centres.

Despite the high congestion in prisons resulting in a high number of communicable diseases, the number of ill people is falling rapidly. The number of people who leave prison alive and in good conditions, rising sharply.

Volunteer approach

Kigo Prison is situated between Kampala and Entebbe. It is from this prison that Second Chance Support works in Uganda.

Our approach is simple: to create as many opportunities as possible for inmates. Which means no office, no salaries and no expensive cars.

No sticky fingers We have a clear principle: "Give the hungry not only fish but a fishing rod and teach him how to fish." We teach people to help themselves. So that they in turn can do something for someone else. Ultimately they will become law abiding self supporting citizens.

Realistic goals

We arrange a small number of transparent projects but our ambitions are great!

Quality that lasts Furthering the long term we plan to coach staff in the prison with counselling, human rights, computer skills and administration.

Second Chance Support facilitates good education and health care for prisoners in Uganda. We support their struggle for fair treatment and thus we increase their chances of survival during their detention and in life after their prison sentence.

Forgotten

Robert was caught for stealing a few bananas. When his case came to court he was too ill to attend. He had cancer, tuberculosis and AIDS. Robert remained in prison with no one to support him. We got his case seen in court because we were determined that he would not die in prison. The judge let him free and three days later he died. We will never forget the gratitude of his mother because he was able to die with his family by his side.