

COME TRUE



Project Overview



"Life without enough food is painful,
but life without school is meaningless.
I realized this only after
they made me leave Israel."

A, a Come True student, deported from Israel in 2012.

Thank you for your interest in the Come True project

The Come True project supports the education of nearly 200 refugee children who were deported from Israel. Thanks to the generosity of thousands of individual supporters, they attend boarding schools in Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia.

While the Israeli government continues to turn its back on refugees, our supporters believe that securing the wellbeing and future of refugees reflects the true meaning of being Israeli and Jewish.

200 children attend school in a safe and healthy environment thanks to the Come True family.

Your support can help us bring more refugee children back to school and give them a hope for a better future.



If you'd like to discuss
opportunities or working
together please contact
us directly.

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How did it all begin?

African refugees began arriving to Israel circa 2005. Children were admitted to public schools and merged well into Israeli society. For many of them it was the first chance ever to grow up in safety and enjoy some stability in their lives.

For five hundred (500) refugee children from South Sudan, this experience of stability ended abruptly in 2012, when South Sudan gained independence and Israel deported South Sudanese refugees back to South Sudan. The children were ripped from their homes, schools, friends and neighbors and returned to a country that they hardly knew.

In South Sudan, the children contracted diseases such as Malaria and suffered from malnutrition and hunger. Their families, that only recently had lived and worked in Tel Aviv and other Israeli cities, were unable to obtain potable drinking water, or provide basic healthcare or an education. Things deteriorated even further in 2013, when civil war broke out in South Sudan - a war that has so far cost the lives of 400,000 and forced over 4 million to flee their homes.

War-torn South Sudan is a terrible place for everyone. But for children who grew in Israel, it can be a place in which the chances of survival are particularly slim.

Once again, these children had to fight for their lives. But this time, they were not alone.

[DONATE](#)

Who are we?

Come True was founded in 2012, shortly after the deportation to South Sudan, by a group of concerned Israelis - teachers, neighbors and friends of South Sudanese children and their families.

We vowed to never desert them.

A few of us traveled to South Sudan, and together with the community, decided to help the children travel to Uganda, a stable neighboring country, and enroll in boarding schools there. In Uganda, the children will be able to get good education and be healthy. They will not go hungry and most importantly, they will be safe.

In the first year of the Come True project, we had 35 students. Today there are 200 children in our project. We want to do our best to help them fulfill their potential and become the next generation of leaders and professionals in their community, and hopefully in the young country of South Sudan.

We work closely with the South Sudanese community, make decisions together with the children and their families, and ensure all management positions are held by people who are refugees.

HELP US CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE EDUCATION OF REFUGEE CHILDREN





Meet the children in our project

In Israel, Naka was an outstanding high-school student in Nahariya, a lead singer in a rock band, and even at her young age shoed natural leadership capabilities.

She was 15 when she was deported from Israel.

Once she joined Come True, Naka enrolled in secondary school in Uganda. She overcame cultural differences, the trauma of deportation and other personal challenges to become once again an outstanding student.

Naka then returned to Israel and enrolled as a student at the EMIS school, on a full merit-based scholarship. Today, she is a second-year BA student at the IDC center in Herzliya, studying international relations, again on a full scholarship. Naka is a board member of Become NGO, under which the Come True project operates.

Joanna used to live with her mother in Arad until she was deported to South Sudan in 2012. In 2013 she joined the Come True project. Civil war in South Sudan broke when Joanna was home, spending the school holidays with her mother. To escape the fighting, they had to flee north, to Sudan, and then on to Egypt, where they attempted to return to Israel. However, at the border the Israeli army would not let them in and they were detained in Egypt. They spent weeks hungry, sick and sometimes beaten by guards. Once they managed to contact the Come True team, we managed to recruit the help of international and local organizations and bring about their release from the Egyptian prison. Joanna is now back in school in Uganda and is doing well in her studies.

"We just want to go back to school!"







Growing up in Israel, Rita loved going to school. After she and her family were deported to South Sudan, despite being hungry and sick, her parents used what little they had to send Rita and her siblings to school - a daily two-hour walk each way. When war broke out, it got too dangerous for the children to go to school. Rita heard about Come True, and with incredible resourcefulness contacted the team. She did not just think of herself and her siblings. Rita gave us a list of 20 children, all deported from Israel, fluent in Hebrew, trapped by the violence of war and desperate to return to school.

We were not going to let Rita down. We launched a special fundraising campaign for the trapped children and thanks to the incredible generosity of ordinary Israelis, got them all a place in schools in Uganda. The entire Come True family held its breath as the children made the dangerous journey from South Sudan to Uganda. We succeeded. All the children, Rita included, are now enrolled in boarding schools - thanks to the kindness of our supporters and especially, thanks to Rita.

JOIN US IN CHANGING THE LIVES
OF MORE CHILDREN!

Our Achievements in numbers

- ⑤ 500 South Sudanese children were deported from Israel in 2012 and found themselves in a reality of destitution, hunger and war.
- ⑤ Since 2012, we have helped over 200 children enjoy life-changing education in a safe, healthy and empowering environment.
- ⑤ Three of our graduates are now in University, where two have won special scholarships for their academic studies. Four of our graduates have completed vocational certificate programs. Of the thirty Come True students who have successfully completed the Ugandan National Primary Exams for (PLE), twenty were graded Division 1 - the highest grade in the Ugandan system. Seven of our students are studying in prestigious international schools in Israel and three in Uganda. Over ninety of our students have taken part in community activism projects in Uganda. Two of our students have published articles in the media to raise awareness to the problem of refugees. We are affiliated with nine schools in Uganda, three schools in Kenya, one school in Ethiopia and three schools in Israel.

BE PART OF OUR SUCCESS STORY!

Come True Tomorrow - our goals for the future

- ⑤ By 2020 we aim to enroll 100 additional children in safe and nurturing educational environments.
- ⑤ By 2022 we aim to start a special academic studies program, that will enable Come True students to continue studying for academic degrees.
- ⑤ In 2019 we aim to start a community activism program in collaboration with the South Sudanese community in Uganda and South Sudan.

HELP US ACHIEVE OUR GOALS

Our Team

Dr. Rami Gudovitch - co-founder and director of Come True. Rami is an Adjunct Professor for Philosophy. See [here](#) for an interview with Rami in Haaretz.

Adv. Lea Miller-Forshtat - co-founder and director of Come True, an advocate and mediator, partner at SGF law firm in Tel Aviv, married to Shai and mother of four.

Mr. Jacob Berry - Come True country director in Uganda - from Darfur, formerly an asylum seeker in Israel, holds a MA degree in International Relations, with legal, political and humanitarian background.





Donations

A full scholarship for a child under Come True is 4,800 NIS (\$1,400) per year or 400 NIS (\$116) per month.

Any donation on a monthly basis to Come True, from 40 NIS (\$13) and up will be used for sponsoring a child.

Donations can be made by credit card in this link,
or by bank transfer to the Become bank account:
Bank Hapoalim, Branch 772, Account No. 390924, Become R.A.

Checks can be made out to Become R.A. and mailed to:
Lea Miller-Forshtat, 13 Hame'iri St., Tel Aviv 6941313

Donations are tax deductible to US donors by donating in USD
and to UK donors by donating in GBP [here](#).

Find out more

Watch what the media said about us:

- ▶ [A short documentary by Tami Harel](#), aired on High Definition on i24news channel in December 2016;
- ▶ Uzi Dann's [story about Come True](#), published in Haaretz on March 2018;
- ▶ The France 24 Observer's [video about Come True](#), aired in September 2018;
- ▶ This [article and video by Vice](#), including a section about Come True, published in October 2018.
- ▶ You're also invited to read our recent [annual activity report](#), published on the Become website.
- ▶ For more information, please contact lea@become-world.org
- ▶ Come True is operating under Become R.A., a non-profit registered in Israel with the goals of assisting orphans and vulnerable children in developing countries.



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