

Voices OF HOPE

Uganda

In the early '80s, Josephine Kizza Aliddeki and her husband John were teachers-turned-produce marketers. When war broke out in 1985, they were forced to make a new life on land her husband inherited. "We decided to start growing some food to feed ourselves," says Josephine. "But our crops were not doing well. I asked my father-in-law for two piglets from a recent litter. I wanted them for their manure."

They kept them for four years, using their manure to improve the soil and increase crop yields. Josephine took a course in organic farming and learned about making compost from animal dung, urine and green farm matter. She applied the compost to her banana trees and in just six weeks, the difference was clear. Yields improved tremendously and Josephine began sharing what she had learned. Eager for more manure, they sold the pigs and bought a Friesian cow. One year later, the woman who taught the course visited Josephine and was delighted to discover she was not only using the techniques she had learned, but teaching others.

In 1997 Josephine and John founded St. Jude Family Projects, and today that organization is a leader in teaching organic farming and sustainable agriculture. PWRDF is proud to support St. Jude's programs in reforestation, women's economic empowerment and food security.



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