

## The Rumble

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### AN OFF-THE-BALL LOOK AT YOUR FAVORITE SPORTS CELEBRITIES

Kiwanuka helps Ugandan cause

Giants defensive end [Mathias Kiwanuka](#) delivered toys Tuesday for the National Ethic Coalition of Organizations (NECO) to 12 year-old Ugandan Samuel Tebawesa, who was recovering from open heart surgery at Children's Hospital at Montefiore.

The health and welfare of Ugandan children is a cause that is important to Kiwanuka.

His grandfather, Benedicto Kiwanuka, was elected Uganda's first prime minister in 1961 and assassinated in 1972 by [Idi Amin](#).

"They [NECO] started out taking children from Uganda, bringing them here, and having different kinds of surgeries specifically for hearts," Kiwanuka told the Rumble. "And recently they've gone to Uganda and are actually teaching the doctors how to perform these surgeries, and they're getting the hospitals to be self-sufficient."

Kiwanuka brought his mother and visited with young Samuel and met the doctor who operated on him.

"The biggest part is his mom and my grandmother are from the same village," Kiwanuka said. "There's a good chance that maybe somewhere down the line, I'll be able to help somebody that I'm related to. The doctors who are involved in the organization, they're the ones who are actually doing the work."