

CHILD AID UGANDA (CHAU)

“Uganda’s Child, Uganda’s Future”

CHILD AID UGANDA

MUKOMYE OKUFUMBIZA ABAANA ABATO

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

UCRNN

FIDA

LAW DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Freedom House

N'OKUBAKOZESA MU NGERI ENDALA EZIBAKOSA.

TRANSFORMING LIVES OF CHILDREN AND CAREGIVERS ONE AT A TIME



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



BACKGROUND: Child Aid Uganda (CAU) is a registered Non- governmental Organisation (NGO) established in 2004 by a group of Ugandan children rights activists and professionals in response to the ever increasing needs of HIV and AIDS orphans and other vulnerable children living in difficult circumstances superceding the available interventions from other NGO's. Child Aid Uganda was thus established to protect, and bring care; love and compassion to enable orphans and other vulnerable children enjoy their rights, live their full potential and achieve a purposeful future. CHAU operates in Kyotera, Lyantonde, Sembabule with plans to extend to Isingiro where we have links.



MISSION: "To work with and through individuals, families, communities and local governments to contribute to the fundamental freedoms and basic needs of orphans and other vulnerable children. Children are thus assisted to live their full potential, shape their own future and contribute to the development of their communities.

VISION: A Ugandan Society where orphans and other vulnerable children enjoys their

rights and live to their full potential.

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE: The future of the child is at the heart of Child Aid Uganda's work. Our approach is child-centred, offering opportunities for many children to transit from childhood to adulthood in safe and secure environments as they enjoy their rights and live to their full potential.

OUR OBJECTIVES

1. To promote, advocate and defend the rights of orphans and other vulnerable children and care for the environment in which they live.
2. To increase access to equitable and quality education among orphans and other vulnerable children.
3. To prevent further transmission of HIV, improve survival, health and wellbeing of orphans and other vulnerable children and their families.
4. To increase household income and improve food availability and accessibility for vulnerable families at household level
5. To strengthen the organizational capacity for effective management and implementation of the programs.



PROGRAMME AREAS

- Advocacy on children rights and environmental protection
- Education support
- HIV and AIDS, Child health and survival
- Housing, water and sanitation improvement
- Poverty reduction and food security interventions at the Household level
- Organization development and Capacity building.
- Research and information.

TARGET GROUPS.

- Orphans and other vulnerable children and their care givers.
- Child headed households, Youth in and out of school, adolescent girls and young women.
- The elderly, widows and People living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs)



Payment of school fees and distribution of scholastic materials to the supported students.



After the verification and ascertaining that students are in school CHAU paid school fees according to the budget contributions to students by cheque.

Scholastic materials were also distributed successfully to the students as required. Students were also given scholastic materials and these included black books sanitary towels for girls, pens pencils and sets.

Students thanked CHAU-SC for this support and during the distribution exercise acknowledgement lists were signed by students to acknowledge the receipt of these items from Child Aid Uganda - Street Child.

The students appreciated Street Child and Child Aid Uganda for the support.


Since 2010, CHAU has been promoting education for vulnerable children to keep them safe, in school and has supported them to find a path out of poverty. We have supported 610 vulnerable students with an education, renovated schools, and provided desks, water tanks and latrines. Currently, we are supporting 43 students to access education through the provision of school fees, as a lack of funds for education materials and items such as sanitary towels for girls, can result in learners dropping out.

It should be noted that COVID-19 has had adverse effects on the economy and this was among the factors that prompted implementation of the project. The educational support for vulnerable children in Lyantonde faces several

challenges, including financial challenges that prevent them from procuring the materials which allow them to attend school regularly – including sanitary pads.



Girls often do not have sufficient materials to use or a suitable environment to manage menstrual hygiene at school. Because of this, it was important to increase the knowledge and skills of girls around Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) so they can still attend school and not miss large portions of education each month. The project funded by ISOC trained 180 girls from 5 schools in making re-usable sanitary towels to reduce school dropouts and foster regular attendance during menstruation.

In 2022 Child Aid Uganda (CHAU) secured funding worth UGX 7,000,000 from the Irish Society in Uganda and empowered 180 girls from 5 primary schools of Kiyinda, Kawungu, Lugala, Kinuuka and Nabigoye with skills to make their own sanitary towels and consequently improve their access to quality education and improve retention and completion rates amongst orphans and other vulnerable children. 36 lead peer girls were selected from each of the 5 rural schools and trained in making re-usable pads.



EMPOWERING YOUNG GIRLS IN MAKING RE-USABLE SANITARY TOWELS

To Menstruate with Dignity and Keep in School



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Supported by: THE IRISH SOCIETY IN UGANDA (ISOC)

Lessons Learned



- The commitment of CHAU Staff to follow up beneficiaries built discipline and good character among students and strengthened ties with the parents/ guardians to undertake their roles and send their children to school. Consistent follow up of the caregivers who were supported with the IGA's has enabled CHAU to graduate some of the students that do not require further support from the program. Involvement of the community and local leadership in identification of challenges, project formulation, implementation and monitoring is a strong pillar for ownership and sustainability
- Consistent follow up of the caregivers who were supported with the IGA's and forming guardians into village saving and loan associations enabled some of them to graduate at the end of the year. Some of these need no support

while some still need a boost to be able to generate income and take up the responsibility of educating their children.

- Involvement of key stakeholders in the district through joint monitoring with the education department, engaging school management committees, conducting project review meetings increased the visibility, transparency and minimized duplication of services with other service providers in the community. The whole district leadership, community members, students, schools, teachers, parents/guardians are very grateful about the wonderful work CHAU is doing in these communities

CHAU – Rotary club of the Vale of Belvoir Solar Lighting Project

Child Aid Uganda (CHAU) received funding worth UGX 3,285,407 from the Rotary Club of Vale of Belvoir for solar lights and ending period poverty among vulnerable girls in Lyantonde, Uganda. With the funds Child Aid Uganda was able to support 10 families and their caregivers with solar lights and train 40 girls in making sanitary pads so they can be able to menstruate with dignity and keep in school.



Since 2007, CHAU has been working in close collaboration with Rt. Jane and the Rotary Club of Vale of Belvoir supporting various projects in solar, health and hygiene, promoting education for vulnerable children to keep them safe, in school and has supported many vulnerable children to find a path out of poverty.

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A big thank you to the big family of The Rotary Club of Vale of Belvoir that made for reaching out to many families as possible in the vulnerable communities CHAU works in.

Vocational Skills Training

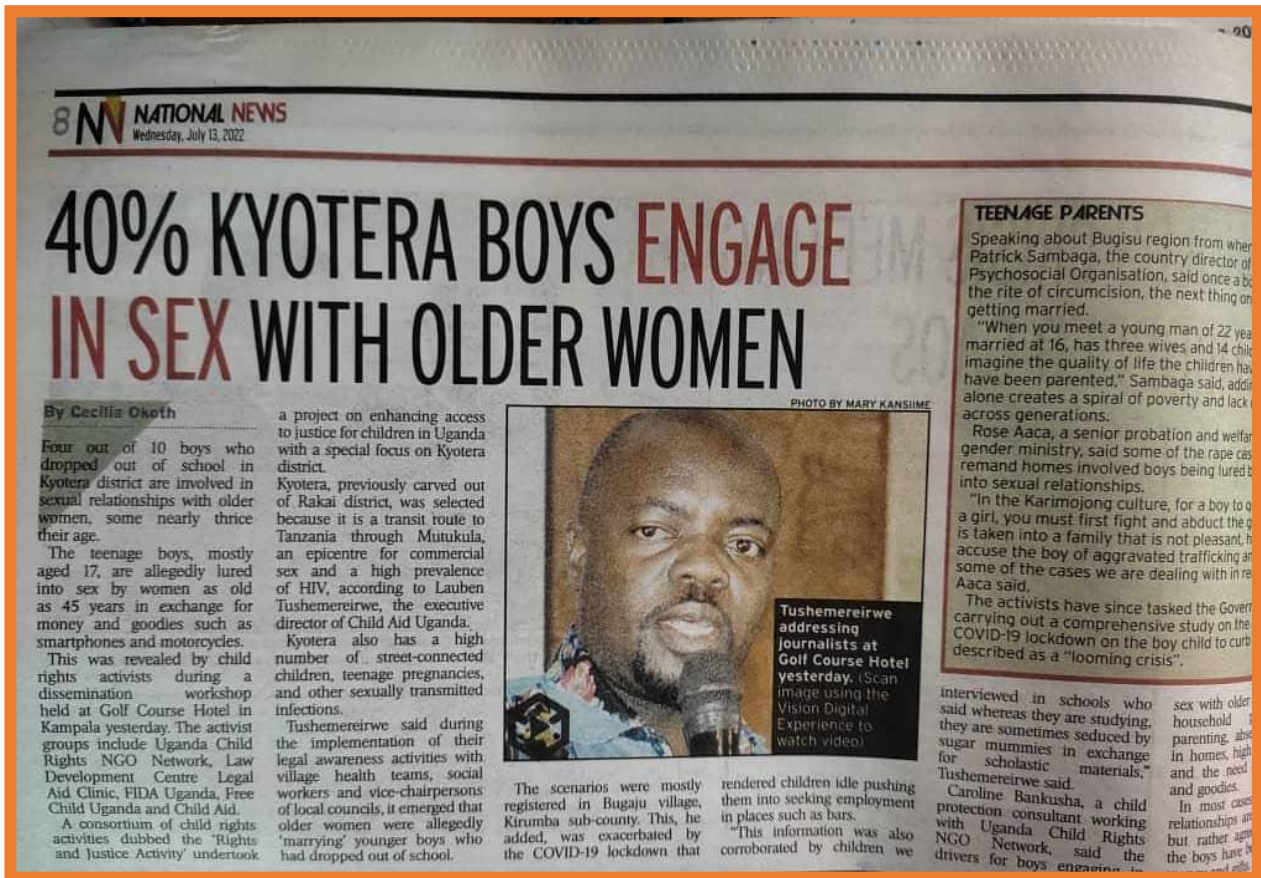
The AGYWs were so much appreciative of learning such practical skills that will help them in future. During tailoring training since there was an outbreak of the COVID19 pandemic the group tried to understand the preventive measures and were put in place for example washing facility, maintained wearing of masks and social distancing where by materials to use could be given individually to keep social distancing.



The major purpose of conducting these trainings were to ensure that there is an increase in vocational skills and confidence amongst AGYWs and their families, to improve on the economic status of their families ,remove idleness among AGYWs, Improve on mental health and social support, Improve on problem solving skills, decrease harsh discipline. The project ended well and more funding shall be explored to support more girls on this program.

Ending Child Marriage Project

Many parents don't have the capacity to provide the basic needs to their daughters due to impact of economy on household income, and this forces many girls to find ways including getting sexually involved with men that are ready to support them



Communication from journalist perspective

- Poverty in the family has led parents to send their girl children to get married in order to get wealth.
- Parents are no longer exemplary to their children.
- The aspect of communal parenting is missing.
- In some communities they still have this attendance of stealing girls and marry them by force.
- Some parent do not want to take their children to school that even for them they never studied.
- Some families still have the culture of keeping the families' dignity by sending their girl children to get married when they are still virgin.
- Some parents take their children to their friends and marry them in order to keep the friendship between two families.
- Children are given too much freedom ie watching television and social media without guidance
- Parents take their young girl's as business.



Child marriage is an infringement on the rights of a child. This is due to the nature of child's consent, or lack of consent, to enter into such a relationship. The right to 'free and full' consent to marriage is recognized in the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Child marriage is further prohibited by the 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the major international agreement defining the rights of girls and women, which requires Governments to condemn all forms of discrimination against girls and women and pursue all appropriate means to eliminate it. Child marriage has a range of further implications that significantly infringe on the rights and protections guaranteed for children (defined as those under age 18) under Article 18 in the 1989 Convention on the Rights of the Child.

A number of strategies have been developed, including the National Strategy to End Child Marriage and Teenage Pregnancy, aimed at combating child marriage by creating awareness among the public of the need to protect girls from underage marriage and support them to acquire education and achieve their maximum potential in life. These strategies end on paper and they are not known in the grass root communities where these child marriages and teenage pregnancies are happening, especially during this period of the COVID-19 pandemic. This project will roll out the national strategy to end child marriage and teenage pregnancy, while working to rescue some of the victims and restore their plight.



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