

# Annual Report 2021



A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN NGO, Uganda

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN (ACFC) is a non-governmental organization based in Zigoti, 53 kilometers from Kampala. We have been operating in Mityana, Kasanda and Mubende districts for the past 13 years but in the year 2021 we managed to extend our services to Mpigi district and also acquired land in Gomba that means we can now provide our services in 5 districts altogether.

## LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF ACFC

The organization has a general assembly and an executive which meets at the beginning of the year to plan how best the organization's activities can be enhanced. ACFC is managed by staff at headquarters, headed by the coordinator who meets with the chairman to set weekly programs.



ACFC Coordinator Betty Nabulimu heads a team of more than 300 people



ACFC Chairman Ceasar Lukango with the management team



ACFC general assembly

## ORGANISATION EMPLOYEES

The Organization ensures that it pays the salaries of its employees with NSSF 12 months a year. As a sign of motivation, a bonus is also given to all employees after a period of 3 year.

1)	Teachers/heads and bursars	173
2)	Administration at headquarters	6
3)	Workshops (Carpentry, Welding, Tailoring, Mechanics, Mill, Hairdressing, Shoemaking)	27
4)	Farm workers and porters	7
5)	Matrons	39
6)	Cooks	15
7)	Health workers	21
8)	Social workers	13
9)	Field officers	4
10)	Askari	4
11)	Laundress	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>314</b>

All employees are registered for NSSF and pay as you earn is also paid. Staff are provided with accommodation when needed and food during working hours.

To ensure effective service delivery in different sectors, various meetings are held each month as follows:

- 1) Department heads meet in the middle of the month.
- 2) Schools' administrators meet at the end of the month.
- 3) Field staff and social workers meet in the last week of the month.



Secretary and Accountant of the Headquarter



Management with Headmasters and Headmistresses of our stations



## DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



Our funding organization is KINDERN EINE CHANCE (KEC) based in Austria, represented by Stefan Pleger and Gabi Ziller plus other board members who not only send money but also come and visit Uganda up to four times a year to monitor value for donor funding. Accounts are sent regularly, at least every other week, to the board in Austria to ensure transparency and to update them on developments. We receive volunteers from Europe regularly to support ACFC staff in developing their skills.



Stefan Pleger and Betty Nabulimu in Nkozi visiting the Equator



Leo Mantl and Niklas Gsaxner two Volunteers helping in our Vocational College Nakaziba



Board member David Croome visiting Nateete and offering Workshops for students and teacher



Visitor from Austria in Christoph Betterman School 2 (CB2)



## 2. ACFC AIM AND MAIN OBJECTIVES

Our major aim is to support orphans and other vulnerable children and give them access to quality services for a bright future. Objectives include:

- 1) To turn children into future job makers rather than job seekers.
- 2) To encourage effective formal education in schools.
- 3) To encourage skills development programmes for children/young adults.
- 4) To empower caretakers with knowledge and skills so they can provide children's basic needs without our support.
- 5) To create a conducive learning environment for children by constructing schools in remote areas.
- 6) To care for all vulnerable children, including those who are HIV positive and have special needs as well as children from very poor families.



Farming plays a vital role in Uganda's daily life and is taught at all ACFC stations



Producing Liquid Soap with the students in Nakaziba for all our stations



School start in the new school for special needs in Nkozi



### 3. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021



Here are just a few highlights of 2021:

- ✓ Construction of boy's dorm at Nakaziba.
- ✓ Completion of school for all at Nkozi
- ✓ Construction of a primary school at Nkozi.
- ✓ Continuation of construction of a Vocational College at Nakaziba.
- ✓ Extension of Ttanda boys' and girls' dorms
- ✓ Construction of a secondary school at Kalangaalo.
- ✓ Support of houses to three needy families in Mubende.
- ✓ Starting our school for all at Nkozi
- ✓ Training 14 girls how to ride a motorbike.



New opened Secondary School in Kalangaalo



Nursery School in Nateete



Primary School in Bongole



### 3. ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- ✓ Teachers carried out home visits during this period to ensure that children did not forget completely about schooling.
- ✓ Re-usable sanitary pads workshop was conducted in 17 government aided schools making a total of 1,546 girls including those in organization schools to ensure that they have what they need during their periods and to reduce the high risks involved when looking for money to buy pads.
- ✓ Learning materials were provided to pupils in 159 government aided schools and 214 private schools in Mityana plus 20 government schools in Mubende and to all pupils in ACFC Schools.
- ✓ Deworming of 1801 pupils and students to improve their health.
- ✓ Launching our vocational college of practical skills at Nakaziba with 79 students and equipping it with modern machines
- ✓ Food support was extended to families who could not afford to buy food. We distributed **25,968kgs of beans**, **32,780kgs of maize** and **4,932 bars of soap** to 579 families
- ✓ Clothing was also distributed to 417 children to improve their hygiene.
- ✓ Through our water program, we drilled one borehole, rehabilitated 163 and motorized 5 boreholes.



Tailoring Class in the Vocational College in Nakaziba



English Lesson in Primary 3 in Kalangaalo



Distribution of learning packages by ACFC in Mityana



### 3.1 CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

Number of sponsored children on 31.12.2020:

	Males	Female	Total
Tertiary institutes	3	25	28
Secondary level	99	100	199
In-service training	5	11	16
Primary	517	496	1,013
E.C.D.C	100	85	185
Workshops	28	48	76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>752</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>1,517</b>



Children studying from home during lockdown



Trainees in our Welding Workshop

All these children are provided with school fees, scholastic material, school uniforms and porridge and/or lunch at school. Those in boarding houses are given additional assistance. ACFC tries to involve caretakers as much as possible and urges them to take over responsibility where possible.

#### 3.1.1 VOCATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME OF ACFC (Trainees)

	Males	Female	Total	Completed in 2021
1) Carpentry	4	0	4	0
2) Tailoring	2	27	29	0
3) Welding	13	0	13	0
4) Shoemaking	1	1	2	0
5) Mechanics	1	0	1	0
6) Hairdressing	0	17	17	0
7) Solar and Electricity	1	0	1	0
8) Plumbing and borehole	6	0	6	0
9) Solar and Electricity	0	3	3	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0</b>

We educate young people to become job makers than job seekers by offering such skills to school leavers who have failed S.4 or P.7, or even those who dropped out earlier. We bring them to our workshops and give them a chance to choose according to their

interest and receive training for two years. In the second year they have the opportunity to sit for DIT (Directorate of Industrial Training) exams at St. Theresa vocational school in Zigoti.

### 3.1.2 IN-SERVICE SPONSORSHIP PROGRAMME FOR NURSERY, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

Males	Female	Total
5	11	16

This programme helps future nursery, primary or secondary teachers to train on the job while studying during holidays. These people help in ACFC schools during their in-service time and acquire a lot of practice. ACFC pays school fees and/or tops up requirements where necessary.

### 3.1.3 HIV CHILDREN POSITIVE LIVING PROGRAMME

Mityana		Mubende		Total
Females	Males	Females	Males	
43	45	40	33	157
Mothers				
46		50		96

This programme operates in Mityana and Mubende districts and caters for HIV positive living children and some positive living mothers as indicated above. Every month we provide transport to the hospital for their medicine and check up by doctors. We provide nutritious food (sugar, maize flour, beans, rice and different types of soya) and bathing soap.

Our social workers carry out regular visits to their homes to check on hygiene, bedding, hospital attendance and health status. In case of severe sickness, if they are admitted to hospital, we cover treatment costs. Three times a year during school holidays, we offer special counselling meetings with nurses and counselors.



HIV positive living children at their home in old project



## 3.2 SOCIAL WORK

→ Our social workers register children who seek support, carry out family visits to their families and select cases which should receive support. Their findings are presented to Uganda and Austria management teams and together decisions about who should be supported are taken.

Educating caretakers about sanitation and hygiene, food security, economic boosters. Supported families are regularly followed up.

→ Offering counselling and guidance to all children in the organization's schools in Mityana and Mubende Districts.

→ Providing economic booster services, for instance starting up saving groups, providing seedlings (e.g. passion fruits, pumpkins, beans, maize) to selected families, training women in income generating projects like arts & crafts, training families in farming basics.

→ Teaching adolescents how to make re-usable sanitary pads to reduce absenteeism during their menstrual period and educating girls about personal hygiene.

→ Training girls to ride a bicycle or motor bike in order to improve their mobility.

→ Providing bedding (mosquito nets, blankets, bed sheets) to the most needy cases.



Both female and male Social Workers are going in the field with the motorbike



Social Worker Rose Namala counselling needy families in rural areas of Uganda

## CHALLENGES THAT WERE FACED IN 2021 DUE TO THE LOCKDOWN

- ✔ Food shortages where shops raised the prices of food and other items and local suppliers opted to preserve it for home consumption.
- ✔ Positive living children and mothers had challenges in accessing their medical treatment due to high transport costs and limitations on the transport means.
- ✔ Defilement and rape cases were recorded since it was hard for caretakers to protect their children at home.
- ✔ Indiscipline, many children became uncontrollable by caretakers as they had a lot of free time.
- ✔ Poor personal hygiene among children due to lack of soap and old casual clothes which they were putting on.
- ✔ Six unwanted pregnancies among young girls and at worst extent incest also took place.



Special needs plastering program in the villages



Food and Soap Supply in the villages



Children are suffering from worms in villages



## ACTIONS TAKEN

- ✓ Food support was extended to families that could not afford buying food. Here we gave out **25,968kgs of beans, 32,780kgs of maize** and **4,932 bars of soap** to **579 families**
- ✓ Clothing was also distributed to 417 children to improve their hygiene
- ✓ Defilement and rape. This was addressed by imprisoning the offenders as we also provided counseling and guidance to our young girls and ca- retakers who appeared to be psychologically traumatized. On the same note those we felt that they were not safe at home were brought back at our stations (schools).
- ✓ Pregnancy tests, counseling and guidance were conducted in communities to reduce on early marri- ages and unwanted pregnancies.
- ✓ Materials for re-usable sanitary pads were also distributed to 1,546 girls to enable them get what to use in their periods other than suffering without what to use.
- ✓ Deworming: 1801 children were dewormed during the year 2021 to improve their health.



Providing health services to needy families



Deworming with a nurse in the station

### 3.3 ORGANISATION SCHOOLS

ACFC runs several schools of its own. The first were Bongole, Nateete and Butimba Primary schools which opened in 2010. Those recently opened are Nakaziba nursery, Kamusenene and Nkozi.



Kamusenene in district Mubende

#### A.) Primary and Nursery Schools

No	Name of schools	Total in schools	Boys fully supported	Girls fully supported
1	Bongole PS and nursery	239	31	22
3	Kakindu PS	258	34	40
4	Kakindu Nursery	117	2	0
5	Lukingiridde Nursery	58	2	1
6	Butimba PS and Nursery	372	15	10
7	Nateete PS and Nursery	460	113	123
8	Lubajja PS and Nursery	154	10	9
9	Kalangalo PS and Nursery	268	13	8
10	Nakaziba Nursery	36	20	20
11	Kamusenene	106	0	0
12	Busunju	40	23	17
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>250</b>

In the list above nursery and primary schools are only separated where they already have separate administrations. Most of our schools are registered with ministry of Education and Sports.



Children in Kamusenene





Hand washing in special needs school



Hand washing with liquid soap in all stations



Learning environment



Making re-usable pads with children



Play time in Christoph Bettermann School 2 (CB2)



Students at one of ACFC's Secondary schools preparing for the new year

## B.) Secondary schools

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Bongole S.S.S	213	50	57
2	Nateete S.S.S	197	49	43
	<b>Total</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>111</b>

Both Schools have registered Centers for UCE (O level) exams with facilities for boarders. Both schools offer vocational subjects and the best students can do the DIT exams at the end of Senior S3.



S4 candidates back at school in Nateete



Senior 4 candidates back at school in Bongole

## C.) College

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Nakaziba College	28	1	24
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>24</b>

The college only started in 2020 and due to a very short period of teaching it was not easy to attract a higher number of students which will hopefully change in future. In-service-training shall be offered soon. The college has an attached training kindergarten.



### 3.4 SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMME

This programme caters for children who are physically handicapped or deaf and also includes children with severe learning difficulties and speech problems. ACFC runs two schools for handicapped children in Zigoti: Christoph Bettermann School 1 (catering for children who are too young to study and very severe cases) and Christoph Bettermann School 2 (focusing on those who can benefit from some education and also vocational training) and Schools for All in Mubende and Busunju. Additionally, there is a nursery and primary school for the deaf at Ttanda.

Schools	Females	Males	Total
CB 1 Zigoti	19	20	39
CB 2 Zigoti	42	45	87
School for All Mubende	36	48	84
School for the deaf Ttanda	56	54	110
Busunju	17	23	40
Nkozi	12	18	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>390</b>

#### Some of the activities/services conducted in our special needs programme include:

- ✓ Introduction to formal education.
- ✓ Outreach programme to families with children with special needs in the community, field visits, home therapy, counseling.
- ✓ Physiotherapy and occupational therapy in our schools for handicapped children at school and in the communities.
- ✓ Speech therapy for children who need it.
- ✓ Providing plaster casts for children who need them – mostly those with club foot, knock knees and related cases.

- ✓ Support for children who need surgery through Namutamba, Cure and CORSU.
- ✓ Regular home visits including home therapy.
- ✓ Regular therapy camps where caretakers come with their children for two weeks to the schools to get better treatment and therapy.
- ✓ A nutrition programme where malnourished children are given support every month.
- ✓ An orthopedic workshop making plastic aids for legs and arms.

### CHALLENGES FACED IN 2021 DUE TO LOCK- DOWN

- There was a challenge of food shortage in our community due to high prices. Whoever had some food for the market opted keeping it for home consumption
- Schools were closed and all children went back home hence studying was disrupted.
- Children in Ttanda declined in sign language due to long period without studying.
- School terms were shortened and this affected us because the content to teach the children was large yet limited time.
- Some children who were far away and were not accessed with the motorbikes didn't benefit from the field visit programme.
- Some employees left the organization during this year 2021
- Epileptic children, Positive living children had challenges in accessing their medical treatment due to high transport costs.

## ACTIONS TAKEN

- ➔ The organization provided food to the children in the community.
- ➔ When we noticed that the children were dying, the department requested local authorities concerned to bring back the very needy children in the homes for home care support and offered all the necessary treatment. This saved the lives of a lot of children.
- ➔ To some children who were accessed with the help of motorbikes we started the field visit program by teachers, therapists and social workers.
- ➔ We supplied beddings to the children in the community. Children were sleeping on the floor and didn't have beddings like mattresses, bed sheets, blankets and mosquito net.
- ➔ We distributed holiday packages to all learners and different learning materials.
- ➔ Our social workers created more awareness in families about SOPs.

Both our nurses in Busunju and Mubende division started visiting children who were sick in the field and offered them treatment services.



Children making eats during breakfast in CB2



Child improved in nutrition



Training children how to make eats in Christoph Bettermann School 1 (CB1)



Art and Craft in Christoph Bettermann School 2 (CB2)



### 3.5 PORRIDGE AND MONITORING PROGRAMME IN GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS

#### A – BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN PORRIDGE PROGRAMME:

Mityana district 46 schools  
Mubende district 14 schools

#### B – BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN MONITORY PROGRAMME:

Mityana district 56 schools Mubende district 20 schools

Under the porridge programme, in 2021 we supplied **15,487kgs of maize flour** in Mityana and **8,633kgs** in Mubende, totaling **24,120kgs of maize flour**. This programme aims to reduce the absenteeism rate of learners and save children from hunger while at school. Our field officers check on teachers' presence and preparation and write reports which are sent to district officials after each term. The district reacts to these reports by warning non-performers (or even cutting salaries) and boosting best-performers.

Pupils were sent home due to the lock down as a result of the pandemic. All children especially those in local communities did not have access to education and were left idle. Therefore they were prone to all sorts of bad outcomes such as early marriages, early child hood pregnancies, child labour and decline in their academic progress.

As requested by both Mityana and Mubende Districts' education department, A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN responded positively and provided self-study materials to government aided schools 159 in Mityana and 20 in Mubende District. Also 214 private schools were given learning materials for related problems due to the prolonged stay of learners at home.

#### ACTIVITIES

- Delivered food support to supported families and ACFC schools.
- Bringing medicine to positive living children to and from the Hospitals since transport was restricted to a few people and sometimes took children and mothers to the hospital.
- Supervised teachers as they were carrying out home visits.
- Delivered seeds to supported families and monitoring on how they should be planted to enable caretakers get food.
- Typed and delivered study materials to pupils of government schools and also supported children in our schools.
- Made follow up on self-study materials ACFC provided to government aided schools to allow continuity of learning in the lockdown.
- Trained motorbikes to supported girls to enable them get skills for future jobs.

#### ACHIEVEMENTS

- Continuity of learning of children from government aided schools.



Porridge programme continues in 2021

## CHALLENGES

- ✔ Monitoring in government aided schools was affected due to the lock down.
- ✔ Illiteracy of some caretakers to comprehend to the measurements of seed planting.
- ✔ Poor storage of the self-study material by children at homes hindering proper evaluation by teachers.
- ✔ Some children delayed to complete their learning materials since they had to spend a lot of time in gardens.
- ✔ Inadequate learning materials for pupils in the communities.
- ✔ Remoteness of some areas where many learners failed to access the self-study materials especially on televisions, newspapers and radios

## 3.6 WATER PROGRAMME

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN **drilled one borehole** in 2021. Since the programme started 66 boreholes have been drilled in different sub counties. They help communities to get clean water and reduce absenteeism of learners due to carrying water long distances. All boreholes are drilled on community land and each community has to form a water committee which is responsible for care of the boreholes, reporting to our team when there are problems. The water team of ACFC managed to rehabilitate 163 in 2021 making a total of 322 rehabilitated boreholes in Mityana, Mubende and Kasanda districts. We also motorized five in the year 2021 of a total of ten since we started.



Water given out from the community taps



High demand of clean water in rural areas



### 3.7 CONSTRUCTION

Sites	No of buildings	rooms
1) Three needy families	3	9
2) ACFC Nakaziba boys dorm, store and bathroom	1	13
3) ACFC Nkozi, special needs 22, staff house 18, primary 12	3	54
4) ACFC Ttanda extension	2	5
5) ACFC Kalangaalo SS classroom block	1	9
6) ACFC Kalangaalo SS dormitories	3	11
7) ACFC Kalangaalo SS latrine	1	16
8) ACFC Kalangaalo SS fence	1	
9) ACFC Bongole SS boy`s dorm	1	4
10) ACFC Lubajja Pit latrine	1	3
11) ACFC CB1 staff house	1	7
12) ACFC Bongole PS fence		
13) ACFC Kamusenene completion		
14) ACFC Gomba fence		
15) ACFC Nateete fence		
16) ACFC Kalangaalo PS fence		



Construction of our Secondary School in Kalangaalo



Builder Godfrey and one student working on the plastering



Constructing a pig shed mainly done by students



### 3.8 LAND ACQUISITION

- ➔ 3 Plots at Kalangalo
- ➔ Land at Kamusenene 3 acres
- ➔ Land at Kamusenene 6 acres
- ➔ Land Lubajja
- ➔ Land Nateete
- ➔ Another Plot of land at kamusenene
- ➔ Land at Kakindu



Nursery beds in our farm in Nakaziba

### 3.9 College of Practical Skills in Nakaziba

After two years of construction most work was finalized in 2020. The place hosts a big vocational training college with space for workshop training rooms, classrooms, a big kitchen, a dining area, a big verandah which serves both as a dining area and a meeting place. 5 buildings offer accommodation for staff and students. Set in a bit of a distance of the vocational part of the land the newly established college for nursery teachers found a home together with a big kindergarten for the children of the villages around. Both the college and the nursery school started in 2020.



Borehole & Plumbing students learning how to connect pipes

The vocational training program started off well in 2020 with courses on solar energy, basics of electricity, plastic recycling, cooking and most of all modern farming.



Students in Nakaziba learning animal husbandry



Building students working on the floor for the Workshop building





Students catching fish in our hatchery in Nakaziba



Catching fish from the pool in Nakaziba

A fish and larvae project started off well and was conducted throughout 2021 with reasonable success. Furthermore, the drip irrigation and a wider irrigation system for a big part of the farming land was established. Staff stationed at Nakaziba includes several farmers, teaching staff of the college and the nursery school, a matron for students on ground, a cook and a manager for the entire area.



larvae fed from bio waste serves as chicken and fish feeds



Nursery teachers' college student during his school practice



Children using the self-made slide from the welding in Nakaziba



#### 4. CHALLENGES OF THE WORK OF ACFC IN 2021.

- ✔ Lock down due to COVID19 which led to a standstill of our activities especially schools.
- ✔ Dropout of some children from the programme due to prolonged stay at home.
- ✔ Increasing number of requests for support from the community due to poverty and changing seasons.
- ✔ Limited number of trainees in our nursery training college.
- ✔ Transport hindrances especially to positive living mothers and children which prevented them to acquire their medication in time.
- ✔ Food insecurity especially among needy families.
- ✔ Lack of access to learning materials for some learners.
- ✔ Unwanted pregnancies due to insecurity in the communities which resulted into school dropout.
- ✔ Scarcity of basic needs due to increased expenditures as a result of children being at home rather than at school.
- ✔ Poverty due to closure of most of the businesses

#### 5. FUTURE STEPS

1. Open a secondary school at Kalangaalo.
2. Open a primary school at Nkozi.
3. Increase local production and stop purchasing local food in the organization
4. Continue to carry out good protection and use of organization land by fencing our land.
5. Ensure quality services (i.e., education) to beneficiaries
6. Advertise nursery college and vocational college at Nakaziba
7. Extend of the pads training workshop to government aided schools.
8. Distribute solar to needy families.
9. Provide more support to children in need.
10. Construct a School for All at Gomba.
11. Construct, rehabilitate and motorize boreholes in places of need.
12. Put in place standard operating procedures to prevent COVID in our schools.
13. Carry out sensitization and awareness about COVID in communities and schools



ACFC staff



## 6. CONCLUSION



We thank the donating community which has enabled us to operate in this challenging pandemic year. Thanks to our funding organization KINDERN EINE CHANCE (KEC) and to all our Austrian friends represented by Stefan and Gabi for continued support. Thanks to local leaders of all districts where we are operating for the good cooperation, they have given us especially during COVID period, the management and staff of A Chance for Children plus the pupils are hugely appreciated for the combined effort because without team work, we wouldn't have achieved everything listed above.

Nabulimu Betty, ACFC Coordinator

Lukango Ceasar, ACFC Chairman



Baby Class in Kamusenene Nursery



Welcome  
to  
A Chance for Children