

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN NGO, Uganda: ANNUAL REPORT – 2022





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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 14 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.

2 LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF ACFC

The organization has an executive and a general assembly 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.

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.



General Assembly Meeting 2022

3 ORGANIZATION 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 years.

Employees	Total
1. Teachers/heads and bursars	191
2. Administration at headquarters	07
3. Workshops (Carpentry, Welding, Tailoring, Mechanics, Mill, Hairdressing, Shoemaking)	29
4. Farm workers and porters	11
5. Matrons	51
6. Cooks	19
7. Health workers	25
8. Social workers	14
9. Field officers	03
10. Askari	09
11. Laundress	06
Total	365

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.



Meeting of headteachers

4 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 with political leaders from Mityana and ACFC staff members receiving a letter of recognition.

5 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 programs 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 building schools in remote areas.
 - 6) To care for all vulnerable children, including those who are HIV positive and special needs as well as children from very poor families.
-



6 ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2022

Here are just a few highlights of 2022

Programs:

- ✓ Start of a nursery school for all at Nkozi.
- ✓ Start of a secondary school at Kalangalo.
- ✓ Start of a special medical program for children with special needs
- ✓ Our primary candidates (110) sat their PLE exams, 50 passed in 1st and 60 in 2nd grades.
- ✓ Our secondary candidates (54) sat their UCE exams, 8 passed in 1st, 24 in 2nd, 13 in 3rd and 7 in 4th grades.
- ✓ Start of hatching of chicks at Nakaziba.
- ✓ Re-usable sanitary pads were provided to all girls studying from Organization schools.
- ✓ Training of 28 girls how to ride the motorbike.
- ✓ 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. Distribution of 884kg of beans, 1330kgs of maize and 266 bars of soap to 579 families.
- ✓ Distribution of clothing to 157 children.
- ✓ Through our water program, we drilled 5 borehole, rehabilitated 60 and 5 motorized boreholes.
- ✓ Memorandi of understanding have been acquired with different organizations so that a lot of children can be helped in special needs.

Construction:

- ✓ Construction of boy's dorm and Guest house at Nakaziba.
- ✓ Completion of construction of a primary school at Nkozi.
- ✓ Purchase of plots at Nateete, Kalangaalo and Lubajja.
- ✓ Continuation of construction of Secondary School Kalangaalo.
- ✓ Construction of school for all at Gomba
- ✓ Construction of a nursery school at Kakindu.
- ✓ Construction of a house for a very needy family in Mubende district.
- ✓ Installation of a solar in Nakaziba, providing electricity to the entire campus and workshops





7 CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT:

Number of sponsored children on 31.12.2022:

	Male	Female	Total
Tertiary institutes	6	5	11
Secondary level	103	122	225
In-service training	4	31	35
Primary	672	617	1,289
E.C.D.C	159	153	312
Workshops	22	28	50
TOTAL	966	956	1922

All these children are provided with school fees, scholastic materials, 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.

7.1 VOCATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF ACFC (Trainees)

	Males	Females	Total	Completed DIT in 2022 including secondary
1) Carpentry	3			2
2) Tailoring	2	29	31	32
3) Welding	6	0	6	9
4) Shoemaking	2	0	2	0
5) Mechanics	3	0	3	0
6) Hair dressing	0	33	33	19
7) Solar and Electricity	1	0	1	1
8) Plumbing and borehole	14	02	16	03
9) Catering	0	0	0	0
Total	31	64	95	66

We educate young people to become job makers rather 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 interests and receive training for two years. In the second year they have the opportunity to sit for DIT (Directorate of Industrial Training) exams at our college located at Nakaziba. Additionally we offer DIT exams to students of our secondary schools when they are in Senior 3.



7.2 In-service sponsorship program for nursery, primary and secondary education:

Males	Females	Total
3	14	17

This program 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.

7.3 HIV CHILDREN POSITIVE LIVING PROGRAM

MITYANA		MUBENDE		TOTAL
Females	Males	Females	Males	
52	47	40	34	173
MOTHERS				
49		40		89

This program 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.



8 SOCIAL WORK.

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

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES/SERVICES CONDUCTED IN OUR SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ✓ Educating caretakers about sanitation and hygiene, food security. This is regularly done whenever we do follow ups in each individual families and for this time round we did it also with children who study from organization schools like ACFC Kakindu, Lubajja, Bongole primary and Bongole secondary.
- ✓ Offering counseling and guidance to all children in the organization's schools in Mityana and Mubende Districts.
- ✓ Provision of transport and nutrition support to 173 positive living children and 89 mothers in Mityana and Mubende districts. We also provide continuous counseling and guidance to them whenever we deliver nutritious food to these families. Every year we organize three parties where we meet with all positive children and their caretakers and we get enough time to share different issues to each other and on the same time we also involve counselors who always add a voice on different cases.
- ✓ Providing economic booster services, for instance starting up 4 saving groups or providing seedlings (e.g. vegetable seedlings) to 55 HIV positive living families.
- ✓ Teaching adolescents how to make re-usable sanitary pads to reduce absenteeism during their menstrual period and educating girls about personal hygiene, this has been done in all organization schools of Mityana and Mubende District. Materials for re-usable sanitary pads were also distributed to 527 girls to prevent them suffering without what they needed during their periods.
- ✓ Training 28 girls to ride a bicycle or motor bike in order to improve their mobility.
- ✓ Clothes have been given out to the majority of our supported children: f.i. 157 sets of clothes, 351 pairs of school shoes and 512 school bags are you sure.
- ✓ At the beginning of every term, we give out deworming tablets to 4,368 children studying from our organization schools.
- ✓ Providing beddings (mosquito nets 32, blankets 24, bed sheets 31, mattresses 30) to the neediest cases.
- ✓ Food support was extended to families which could not afford to buy food. Here we gave out 894kg of beans, 1330kgs of maize and 266 bars of soap to 579 families – see page 3
- ✓ Pregnancy tests, counselling and guidance were conducted in communities to reduce early marriages and unwanted pregnancies.
- ✓ Sensitization of caretakers about sanitation and hygiene, food security, economic boosters
- ✓ Regular follow up on our supported families.
- ✓ Offering counseling and guidance to all supported children and caretakers of how important it is for the children to come back early in schools.
- ✓ Empowerment of the girl child by continuing to teach them different life skills like motorbike training and many others.
- ✓ Social workers should clearly inform the caretakers of what they are supposed to get from the organization in terms of support and also show them their responsibility as soon as the family is given support. This will help us to avoid the high expectations.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2022.

- ✓ Food shortages where shops raised the prices of food and other items and local suppliers opted to preserve it for home consumption.
- ✓ Overwhelming number of children requesting for support due to high level standards of living.
- ✓ Poor performance of learners which has made some children to repeat classes and some have refused to repeat hence dropping out of school.
- ✓ Big number of fathers neglecting their responsibilities whereby at the moment you find out that most of the children stay with their mother and grandmothers who cannot manage all responsibilities.
- ✓ Rising costs of school fees due to the high costs of living.
- ✓ High expectation from caretakers of our supported children who think that if the child is given support all responsibilities have to go in the hands of the organization hence abandoning all of their responsibilities.
- ✓ High birth rates, whereby you find a very needy family with a good number of children which they cannot afford to support but still mother continue to conceive.
- ✓ Poor turn up of supported children at the beginning of the term as they always give different reasons.
 1. Poor hygiene and sanitation mostly in the newly recruited families.
- ✓ Poor sleeping conditions of some families where by children sleep in compacted rooms, sleeping on sacks, covering themselves with old blankets or old Gomes's.
- ✓ Registered 5 cases of pregnant girls where 3 were in Mubende district and 2 in Mityana District.



Team of ACFC Social Workers



social workers at home visits



teaching how to make re-usable pads



sorting letters to sponsors

measuring land for seeds program



distribution of solar systems to a supported family



9 ORGANISATION SCHOOLS

ACFC runs several schools of its own. The first were Bongole PS in Mityana district, Nateete PS in Mubende district and Butimba PS in Kasanda district, all of which opened in 2010. Others followed, those recently opened are Nakaziba nursery in Mityana district, Kamusenene nursery and Primary school in Mubende district and Nkozi school for all in Mpigi district.

9.1. Primary and Nursery Schools

No	Name of schools	Total in schools	Boys fully supported	Girls fully supported
1	Bongole PS and nursery	417	44	47
3	Kakindu PS	384	61	51
4	Kakindu nursery	211	9	18
5	Lukingiridde nursery	104	2	0
6	Butimba PS and nursery	338	9	16
7	Nateete PS and nursery	606	114	132
8	Lubajja PS and nursery	357	31	41
9	Kalangalo PS and nursery	500	22	25
10.	Nakaziba Nursery	73	0	0
11.	Kamusenene PS and nursery	228	15	12
12.	Busunju nursery	76	19	
13	Nkozi nursery	66	15	9
	TOTAL	3,360	341	356

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



ACFC nursery school Nakaziba

9.2 Secondary Schools

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Bongole S.S.S	222	38	44
2	Nateete S.S.S	198	42	47
3	Kalangaalo SS	66	10	17
	Total	486	90	108

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



ACFC Senior Secondary and Vocational School Bongole



students in group work at ACFC Secondary School

9.3 Nursery teachers College

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Nakaziba College	46	1	22

NB. 26 were in the college on full time and 23 were on In-service training

The Nursery teachers college is located in Nakaziba with an adjoining model nursery school where students are trained in teaching. Exams are taken from Kyambogo University.



College students during their practicals in an ACFC nursery school

10 SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM:

A Chance for children strongly focuses on this program which caters for children who are physically, mentally handicapped or deaf and also includes children with severe learning difficulties and speech problems. This is a sensitive department with **454** direct beneficiaries who are residing at 6 stations as shown below, and **3120** all together in the database. All these children have benefited through different programs in the department which include physiotherapy, occupation therapy, speech therapy, camps (both therapy camp and holiday camp), provision of assistive devices (from our workshop and sometimes we buy them for example wheelchairs), Support in surgery (through corsu hospital, emergency children's hospital in Entebbe and Mulago National referral hospital). We have also given direct financial support in form of transport, nutrition and so many others.

Schools	Females	Males	Total
CB 1 Zigoti	23	27	50
CB 2 Zigoti	34	46	80
School for All Mubende	42	40	82
School for the Deaf Ttanda	65	61	126
School for All Busunju	31	29	60
School for All Nkozi	32	24	56
Total	227	227	454



SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES/SERVICES CONDUCTED IN OUR SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ✓ We have had our operation certificate renewed through the ministry of gender labor and social development.
- ✓ The special need department has expanded to Gomba District where a team of social workers happened to visit 120 families some of whom will be direct beneficiaries next year when the department officially begins.
- ✓ In all stations, 53 children have been promoted to primary inclusive schools.
- ✓ Holiday and therapy camps which included 776 children and caretakers went on well this year which gave children in the community a chance to receive therapy. More so intensive therapy in our organization inclusive schools was emphasized.
- ✓ We have conducted a workshop for male parents after realizing that most male parents have abandoned their responsibilities towards special needs children and a great change has been realized.
- ✓ We have strengthened our referral and linkage program and on this note we have been able to sign two MOUs, one with Corsu hospital and as per now we have 111 beneficiaries and Emergency children's surgical hospital in Entebbe. With these MOU we hope to reach as many children as possible.
- ✓ We have had a mutual understanding reached with SHAU (spinal bifida and hydrocephalus association Uganda) who help us with equipment to use with children having hydrocephalus and spinal bifida.
- ✓ We have strengthened our operations in Plastering program where 115 children have gotten assistive devices and all station reached including follow-up of these assistive devices in the community because we employed a second orthopedic technician.
- ✓ We are closely working with Cure hospital and 60 children with spinal bifida and hydrocephalus have been operated up to now.
- ✓ We have happened to appoint a medical coordinator in the special needs department and through this department a lot of children have been helped financially in the community to get their operations done.
- ✓ Water pump at Christoph Bettermann 2 has been installed and running water in the building is working well.
- ✓ The organization has supported families in mubende which were highly affected due to Ebola epidemic with food support.
- ✓ Piggery project has been closely monitored to improve on the economic standard of living because our target is to reach all children in our database. We had 29 families in Zigoti Mityana District and 24 families in Mubende district having a total of 53 families.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2022

- ✓ We are challenged by a big number of children who approach our centers seeking for support and some of them we are not doing a lot.
 - ✓ Some children have been abandoned both in the field and at station
 - ✓ Namutamba reduced on the number of children they are able to support which has increased on the requests coming to A Chance for Children.
 - ✓ Ebola outbreak in Mubende reduced the home visit program and the therapy
 - ✓ Scarcity of therapists in all departments and those we approach ask for a lot of money as remuneration.
 - ✓ Economic standards of living in the community have risen yet the biggest number of caretakers are not financially stable.
 - ✓ Abandoning children with the grandmothers has been rampant due to search for green pastures abroad
 - ✓ Sickness of children both at stations and in the community
 - ✓ Malnutrition of children because most caretakers cannot afford giving nutrition to the physically handicapped children.
 - ✓ Poor hygiene and sanitation mostly in the newly recruited families.
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Children at Christoph Bettermann School II



Pupils at Ttanda School for the deaf



Josephine works as a matron, Pascarsia (right) is washing dishes and helping in the kitchen, Both women have disabilities but are fully employed at ACFC.



In all stations, 53 children have been promoted to primary inclusive schools.



11 PORRIDGE AND MONITORING PROGRAM IN GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS

Under the porridge program 84,368kgs of maize flour in Mityana and 41,401 kg in Mubende, totaling **125,769 kg of maize flour were distributed**. This program 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.

As requested by both Mityana and Mubende Districts' education department, A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN responded positively and provided self-study materials to 156 government aided schools in Mityana and 20 in Mubende District..

A - BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN PORRIDGE PROGRAM:

Mityana district 47 schools
Mubende district 14 schools

B - BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN MONITORY PROGRAM:

Mityana district 56 schools
Mubende district 20 schools

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES/SERVICES CONDUCTED IN OUR PORRIDGE PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ✓ Provision of Beginning of Term Exams to the 156 Government aided schools.
- ✓ Monitoring of the 56 schools on the monitoring program.
- ✓ Provision of maize flour for mid-day porridge to 47 schools in Mityana and 14 in Mubende and these share both monitoring and porridge.
- ✓ The 56 schools have been provided with preparation books and pens for every term.
- ✓ -Number of learners increased in schools where the program was conducted because of assurance for mid-day lunch.
- ✓ -Learners' number that usually began on first day of the term increased because of BOT that ACFC always provide.
- ✓ -Cases of gloss absenteeism among teachers slightly reduced because of frequent monitoring.
- ✓ -Teachers increased on their preparation before lessons are conducted.
- ✓ -Support supervision always provided to teachers strengthened them and kept them updated with every new change of the curriculum.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2022

- ✓ Slow action response from the Education department of the districts to the various reports that were usually forwarded to it.
 - ✓ -n some few schools, there still existed some teachers that were not cooperative.
 - ✓ The learning environment in many schools was poor in that some schools even lacked classroom structures and thus, effective monitoring was hampered.
 - ✓ The turn up of learners at the first day of Beginning of Term in many schools was still poor and this affected the BOT exams program.
-



coordinator and donors' representative



*Maize flour milled at ACFC mill
Team of field officers discuss together with ACFC*



meeting headteachers at beginning of term



Beginning of term exams given to govt. aided schools



School inspection



children getting porridge

12 WATER PROGRAM

The water program drills and rehabilitates boreholes in rural areas. Since the program started 71 boreholes have been drilled in different sub counties which 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.

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES/SERVICES CONDUCTED IN OUR WATER PROGRAM INCLUDE:

- ✓ A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN **drilled 5 boreholes** in 2022
- ✓ The water team of ACFC also managed to **rehabilitate 60 boreholes in 2022 making a total of 382 rehabilitated** boreholes in Mityana, Mubende and Kasanda districts.
- ✓ We also motorized 5 in the year 2022 of a total of 10 since we started.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2022

- ✓ Poor response from community regarding water user fee.
- ✓ Delayed payment by the committee as per the government directive of paying for the boreholes.
- ✓ Some communities are not cooperative, members vandalize the boreholes, others break the padlocks, some pipes are stolen which disorganizes our work.
- ✓ Conflicts between other organizations that provide water services in the communities such as wave and wells of life, at times they encroach on our areas of service without our knowledge and the committees become confused on whom should be contacted incase of break down or even payment.



13 CONSTRUCTION

Sites	No of buildings	rooms
1) ACFC Nkozi, completion of primary section	3	12
2) ACFC Nakaziba, new boys' dorm, new guest buiding (workshops.	2	29
3) ACFC Bongole SS 2 buildings, dormitory for girls and staff quarter	2	10
4) ACFC Butimba Staff building	1	7
5) ACFC Bongole PS fence		
6) ACFC Kamusenene 1 dormitory, 1 matron room.	1	2
7) ACFC Gomba staff and school for all	2	33
8) ACFC Nateete SS classes.	1	7
9) ACFC Nateete PS Incinerator	1	1
10) ACFC Kalangaalo SS, I dorm, 1 kitchen, Dinning block, Classroom block, toilet	5	18
11) Needy family Mubende	1	2
12) Old project Toilet	1	2





14 LAND ACQUISITION

- ✓ Purchase of 3 acres of land Nateete
- ✓ Purchase of 1.1 acre of plot Nateete
- ✓ Purchase of a plot at Kalangaalo
- ✓ Purchase of plot for reserve at kalangaalo
- ✓ Purchase of a plot at kalangaalo.
- ✓ Purchase of 4 acres of land at kalangaalo
- ✓ Purchase of a plot at Lubajja.
- ✓ Purchase of a plot in Lubajja.



15 FUTURE PLANS:

- ✓ Open a school for all at Gomba.
 - ✓ Open a school for all at Nkozi.
 - ✓ Increase local production and stop purchasing local food in the organization
 - ✓ Ensure quality services (i.e. education) to beneficiaries
 - ✓ Advertise nursery college and vocational college at Nakaziba
 - ✓ Provide more support to children in need.
 - ✓ Construct a Nursery School at Kalangalo
 - ✓ Construct a Nursery School at Kamusenene.
 - ✓ Construct, rehabilitate and motorise boreholes in places of need.
 - ✓ Open A level at Nateete.
 - ✓ Reduce numbers in our nursery sections to 27 per class instead of 40 to enable effective learning.
 - ✓ Construct boarding sections for Nkozi Primary
 - ✓ Construct of a boys dormitory at Kalangaalo
 - ✓ Consolidating all Organization programs.
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16 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



Education means a change – A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN UGANDA.
