

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN NGO, Uganda: ANNUAL REPORT – 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION:

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN (ACFC) is a non-governmental organization based in Zigoti, 53 kilometers from Kampala. We are operating in 6 districts i.e Mityana, Kasanda, Mubende, Mpigi Gomba and Kakumiro districts for the past 16 years.

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.

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.

E	mployees	Total
1.	Teachers/heads and bursars	252
2.	Administration at headquarters	07
3.	Workshops (Carpentry, Welding, Tailoring, Mechanics, Mill, Hairdressing, Shoemaking)	36
4.	Farm workers and porters	12
5.	Matrons	70
6.	Cooks	24
7.	Health workers	38
8.	Social workers	15
9.	Field officers	03
10.	Askari	05
11.	Laundress	12
Т	otal	474

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.



4. DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

Our funding organization is KINDERN EINE CHANCE (KEC) based in Austria, represented by Stefan Pleger, Thomas Knapp and Gabi Ziller plus other board members who not only send money but also come and visit Uganda regularly 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.

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. CHILDREN'S SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT.

Number of sponsored children on 31.12.2024:

	Male	Female	Total
Tertiary institutes	04	19	23
Secondary level	164	174	338
In-service training	01	21	22
Primary	834	796	1630
E.C.D.C	08	39	47
Workshops/Vocations	43	66	109
TOTAL	1054	1115	2169

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.

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

Males	Females	Total
01	21	22



There has also been an improvement in the enrolment of students in our Nursery college, a total at both in service and pre service. The enrolments really increased a lot.

Last year we were also able to start up a diploma in Nursery teaching, to improve the quality of our teachers both in the community and also in our Schools. But it is also meant to respond to the need of the government which requires all teachers to enter classrooms at least with a Bachelors. And so, in doing this, we shall be able to upgrade teachers up to the requirements of Government.

7. VOCATION SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF ACFC (Trainees)

		Males	Females	Total	Completed DIT in 2024 including secondary
1)	Carpentry	02	-	02	01
2)	Tailoring	2	39	41	22
3)	Hair Dressing	00	32	32	09
4)	Plumbing	15	02	17	08
5)	Knitting		01	01	01
6)	Catering	01	03	04	03
7)	Welding	24	00	24	12
8)	Shoe Making	08		08	05
9)	Solar and Electricity	05	04	09	09
10)	Mechanics	22		22	12
11)	Building	22	00	22	09
	re were coming from our dary schools				50
		101	81	182	141

With the current Uganda, the education has shifted from not just learning for the sake, but to learn a skill and be productive. A chance for Children has come up to participate in this skilling process of the young youths in Uganda. We offer 10 vocational courses that are all practical. And our students have been a success in the employment world. To us, every learner can be a job creator and can sustain him or herself in future.

ACHIEVEMENTS

We kindly send our sincere gratitude to the donating community and the Entire Management Team from Austria. We would like to appreciate your endless support, towards us as an institution, it is for years ever since we started our operations as a college and each year, we have seen ourselves grow and develop. We promise to continue doing the same and we shall use the support in the best way possible to skill the Youths.



Increased Enrolments. Our Enrolments have Gone high where a population of 248 students were part of us last year in vocation and 60 students were part of us while doing Farm work. Among these 79 have done final exams and will find jobs in their communities.

About our staff.

We can say we have a fully committed staff, in all our departments we completely don't miss a teacher, and this explains the good performance of our students.

About Our Workshops.

The Vocation workshops have been equipped with the modern tools and equipment, that make teaching and learning possible

We have a challenge that the local government has not provided us with power from the grid, but last year we managed to have another strong solar panel system of **20KVA**. The fact that we have a lot of activities that need power, we would need power that is more reliable. And the system we had was not enough on its own. So, with the Donation and support from the Donor Community, we managed to secure a more reliable and locally organized system of solar power.

Inclusion of People with Disabilities.

Our Inclusive, program of people with disabilities has yielded some fruits, we were able to graduate one girl from Catering, one Boy that is physically hand caped from shoe making two deaf girls from Hair dressing. To us it is such an example that gives a good picture to the community and other needy physically hand caped children.

Other Additional Skills.

Farm work.

60 Students have been able to finalize their one year from the farm, these have been trained to be hard working and being self-Driven. To us its not a year for working but to learn to be responsible and acquire skills. During this period a lot of skills in farm are transferred, like poultry management, animal keeping, Vegetable growing and a lot more.

We have been able to grow, harvest and provide a lot of vegetables last year, in all nearby schools, to add a diet on their meals. we also managed to revamp the tree nursery planting and these have been delivered to other station of A chance for children.

DIT Achievement

A total number of 141 students have sat and graduated with us last year, among them 50 students came from our secondary schools. These have been learning Vocation courses throughout the last three years until S.3. These got adequate skills and we are sure they can be of great help in the societies in which they live.



8. HIV CHILDREN POSITIVE LIVING PROGRAM

Location	Mityana	Mubende	Kalangalo	Nkozi	TOTAL
Children	108	82	10	10	210
Mothers	49	58	04	10	121

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.

9. SOCIAL WORK.

Our social workers register children who seek support every year and carry out family visits to their families, here they select cases that should 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 supported children in the organization's schools as well as outside schools
- ✓ Provision of transport and nutrition support to 210 positive living children and 121 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.
- ✓ At the beginning of every term, we give out deworming tablets to 6,739 children studying from our organization schools and those who are supported in outside schools.
- ✓ 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 report back on time at school.
- ✓ Empowerment of the girl and boy child by continuing to teach them different life skills.



✓ 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 such that we avoid their high expectations from the organization.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2024.

- ✓ 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.
- ✓ 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.

10. 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, Nkozi school for all in Mpigi district and Kasanda Nursery in Kasanda district.

No	Name of schools	Total in schools	Boys fully supported	Girls fully supported
1	Bongole PS and nursery	414	49	39
3	Kakindu PS	414	61	74
4	Kakindu nursery	231	07	06
5	Lukingiridde nursery	100		
6	Butimba PS and nursery	433	11	08
7	Nateete PS and nursery	616	117	140
8	Lubajja PS and nursery	399	32	35
9	Kalangalo PS and nursery	594	38	37
10	Nakaziba Nursery	80	01	00
11	Kamusenene PS and nursery	390	60	54
12	Busunju nursery	108	10	7

Primary and Nursery Schools



13	Kassanda PS and nursery	55		
14	Ttanda PS and nursery	153	03	03
15	Nkozi nursery	131	31	28
	TOTAL	4118	371	392

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.

Secondary Schools

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Bongole S.S.S	296	46	60
2	Nateete S.S.S	291	61	69
3	Kalangaalo SS	207	56	43
	Total	794	163	172

✓ 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.

Nursery teachers College

No	Name of schools	Total	Boys supported	Girls supported
1	Nakaziba College	104	03	28

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

11. SPECIAL NEEDS DEPARTMENT A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN

A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN SPECIAL NEEDS is a department of A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN that offers a variety of activities but also concentrates more in the school services. We have two stations who accommodate only those children who are physically handicapped and four stations who are inclusive and can accommodate both the physically handicapped and those who are not in order to promote incursion. We have other two stations in pipeline and hopefully next year they will be in existence.

This is a sensitive department with 456 direct beneficiaries who are residing at 6 stations as shown below, and 3626 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. We started supporting children who need surgeries through surgery camps for example in Kumi hospital for orthopedic and general surgeries and Lamu hospital for reconstructive surgeries.



Vision: To achieve self-sustainability for both, mentally and physically handicapped children in Uganda.

Mission: Emphasize physical development and the development of everyday life skills in therapy and education for children with disabilities to be independent.

Objectives:

- To observe that everybody is special regardless of their disability and see to it that children reach their full potential.
- To conscript well qualified and experienced therapists' teachers and service providers.
- To produce model citizens and make sure they are well accepted in the community.

Schools	Females	Males	Total
CB 1 Zigoti	19	32	51
CB 2 Zigoti	33	48	81
School for All Mubende	46	47	93
School for All Busunju	33	47	80
School for All Nkozi	39	42	81
Gomba school for all	31	39	70
Total	201	255	456

SPECIAL NEEDS STATIONS:

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

Some of the children graduated to primary

In all stations, 43 children have been promoted to primary inclusive schools.

Holiday camps

We had three Holiday and therapy camps sessions in each of the 6 stations which included 1176 children and we are glad to report that all these camps were successful because this gave children in the community a chance to receive therapy. More so intensive therapy in our organization inclusive schools was emphasized.

Therapy camp in Zigoti

Our cooperation with other institutions like Shau, Corsu, Katalemwa, Cure hospital worked on well because children were referred for other services that we cannot offer at our stations for example so far, we have 67 children sent to corsu for further management.

We have supported these children in different areas

- Corsu hospital.....67 children
- Surgery camps in lamu and kumi hospitals36children
- Emergency hospital......13 children
- Cure hospital in mbale.....13 children



- New life hospital to get artificial limbs......2 children
- Plastering programe......71 children
- Nutrition programme......73 children

We have given all children that need assistive devices like sprints, walkers, cp chairs and wheel chairs through our orthopedic workshop plus many other aids that help in the mobility depending on the nature of disability.

- ✓ All stations in the special needs have been well equipped with all the staff to provide a motherly love and better treatment services. We are glad to have nurses, therapist; matrons, teachers and other support staff including social workers enough to take care of children both at the station and at home.
- ✓ We have supported children in the medical department to obtain treatment and surgery both in our schools and in the field.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2024

- ✓ Some of our children have died and may their souls rest in peace
- ✓ A lot of new children have been registered and this time we noticed that most of them are too young below 5 years.
- ✓ Financial constrain of the parents resulting to neglect of the children.
- ✓ Sickness of children both at stations and in the community
- ✓ Epileptic medication was scarce hence setback to this category of children

12. PORRIDGE AND MONITORING PROGRAM IN GOVERNMENT AIDED SCHOOLS

Under the porridge program **138,246kgs** of maize flour in Mityana and **49,544 kg** in Mubende, totaling **187,790 kg of maize flour were given out to schools**. This program aims at reducing the absenteeism rate of learners and save children from hunger while at school. Our field officers monitor teachers' presence, preparation and performance and write reports which are sent to district officials at the end of each term. The district reacts to these reports by taking appropriate action to the concerned through; warning non-performers (or even cutting salaries) and boosting best-performers.

A - BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN PORRIDGE PROGRAM:

Mityana district 43 schools Mubende district 14 schools

B - BENEFITING SCHOOLS IN MONITORY PROGRAM:

Mityana district 54 schools Mubende district 19 schools

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

- ✓ Provision of Beginning of Term Exams to the 156 Government aided schools of Mityana District and 19 for Mubende.
- ✓ Monitoring of the 54 Government aided schools on the monitoring program.
- ✓ Provision of maize flour for mid-day porridge to 43 schools in Mityana and 14 in Mubende and these share both monitoring and porridge.



- ✓ The 54 schools in Mityana were always provided with preparation books and pens for every term with Mubende having 19 schools.
- ✓ 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 exams that ACFC always provided for all Government aided school of Mityana District and the 19 of Mubende.
- -Cases of gloss absenteeism among teachers of Government aided schools of Mityana and Mubende District greatly reduced because of frequent monitoring basically to schools where we operated.
- ✓ -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.
- ✓ Ninety, three-seater desks were donated to three schools; Kiwawu C/U received 30, Namungo R/C got 30 and Kawoko C/U Primary school got 30.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2024

- ✓ Slow action response from the Education department of the districts to the various reports that were usually forwarded to it.
- ✓ -In 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 blocks where to conduct lessons from, furniture, and latrines. This has been reported for several times but low action taken.
- ✓ 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 with some School-Heads still not so cooperative.

13. WATER PROGRAM

The water program drills and rehabilitates boreholes in rural areas. Since the program started 80 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 6 boreholes in 2024
- ✓ The water team of ACFC also managed to rehabilitate 68 boreholes in 2024 making a total of 525 rehabilitated boreholes in Mityana, Mubende and Kasanda districts.
- ✓ We also motorized 4 boreholes in the year 2024 making a total of 16 since we started.

CHALLENGES FACED IN 2024

- ✓ 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 stollen which disorganizes our work.



14. CONSTRUCTION

Construction:

- Construction of 1 building in Nakaziba
- Construction of 1 building at CBS 1
- Construction of 1 building in Lubajja
- Construction of 1 building in ACFC Nkozi
- Construction of 4 buildings in Kassanda
- Construction of 3 buildings in Kalangalo
- Construction of 4 buildings in Nateete
- Construction of 2 buildings in Busunju

Sites	6	No of buildings	rooms
1)	ACFC Busunju	02	24
2)	ACFC Nakaziba	01	15
3)	ACFC Kassanda	4	64
4)	ACFC Lubajja	01	4
5)	ACFC Kalangalo	03	20
6)	ACFC CBS 1	01	05
7)	ACFC Nateete SS	04	27
8)	ACFC Nkozi	01	20

15. LAND ACQUISITION

- ✓ Purchasing 5 acres of land in Kassanda
- ✓ Purchasing 5 acres of land in Kalangalo
- ✓ Purchasing 1 acre of Kibanja land in Kakumiro
- ✓ Purchasing 24.4 hectares of land in Kakumiro
- ✓ Purchasing 25 acres of land in Kasanda

16. FUTURE PLANS:

- ✓ Construction of a special needs home and a nursery school at Kakumiro
- ✓ Construction of a secondary school at Butimba
- ✓ Ensure quality services (i.e. education) to beneficiaries
- ✓ Provide more support to children in need.



- \checkmark Construction of a nursery and Primary school at Kasambya
- ✓ Extension of our services to Kiboga and Sembabule
- ✓ Construction of a primary school at Kasanda
- ✓

17. CONCLUSION

We feel humbled and grateful to have KINDERN EINE CHANCE (KEC) as our funding Organization, we are so thankful to all our Austrian friends represented by Stefan and Gabi for the un ending support. Thanks to the government and local leaders of all districts where we are operating for the good cooperation, we wouldn't have made it this far without this support. Dear management, staff and all kinds of beneficiaries of A CHANCE FOR CHILDREN kindly accept our deepest gratitude for the combined effort you have put in which has enabled us surpass.

Nabulimu Betty ACFC Coordinator Lukango Ceasar ACFC Chairman