

## Kids Club Kampala Newsletter 2025



### Welcome Message

Welcome to the 2025 Kids Club Kampala Newsletter! This year has been full of growth, transformation, and strengthened community impact. Thank you for your persistent support in helping us protect children, empower families, and build brighter futures.

### 1. Program Focus Areas

#### a) Ewafe Project – Child Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintegration.

Located in Busiika, Luwero district, our transitional home, Ewafe, continues to provide essential services like shelter, medical care, feeding, skilling and counselling to 83 abandoned, lost, and at-risk children. During this time, these children are prepared for either reintegration with their families, Fostership or Independent living. We managed to identify 47 children, rescue and admit 26 children. A total of 25 families were traced, enabling us to reunite 20 children with their families, while one child was placed with foster parents.



*Aisha being reintegrated with her mother*



*Our rehabilitation centre, Ewafe*



*In a counselling session with our counsellor*



*Mutima with her foster parents*

Our Independent living project aims to prepare our teenagers for whom reintegration with their relatives or placement in foster care has not been possible. These teens receive mentorship and holistic support including financial, emotional and spiritual assistance to enable them to sustain themselves independently beyond our care. We identified and mentored one teen who successfully acquired hairdressing skills, graduated from training, and was introduced to a salon for an internship.



*Maureen on her graduation day after her hairdressing course*

## **b) Access to Education**

At Kids Club Kampala, our commitment to educating vulnerable children continues to yield meaningful results through these projects; Early Education for All, School Sponsorship, Gwenyth, School Support and Feeding. Through our **School Sponsorship Project**, 20 children were identified and 14 were enrolled into the program, 197 children received essential scholastic materials to support their learning journey. We graduated 11 students from our program in different fields of study. These included Peace who earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Computing, Purity with a Diploma in Early Childhood Development, Margaret and Immaculate with a Certificate in Fashion and Design, Merab with a Certificate in Hairdressing and Cosmetology, Junior who graduated with a Certificate in Computer Science, Vanessa with a Certificate in Hairdressing, Samuel a Certificate in Automotive Mechanics.



*Sponsored children after receiving some of their school needs    Namuwongo ECD children during class time*

Under Early Education for All, 99 children aged 3–5 were provided with free quality **Early Childhood Education (ECD)**, supported by free daily hot and nutritious meals, across the three slums of Naguru, Katanga and Namuwongo. This project supports young children from families who are currently unable to provide adequate academic support. Over the two-year period, parents are given an opportunity to continue with their income-generating activities while gradually saving money to prepare for taking full responsibility for their children’s educational needs once they graduate from ECD.



*Lunch time at Namuwongo ECD centre*

*Some of the children on the Gwenyth School project*

After tracing and reuniting the children from the Ewafe project with their relatives, we found that some children who were receiving education while at our home stopped attending school due to lack of school fees. That is how the **Gwenyth School project** came into place; to continue providing support to children from those households that lack the financial capacity to sustain school attendance and for them not to feel abandoned again. In 2025, 20 children were enrolled on this project.

### **c) Keeping Children Safe**

Focused on the safety and wellbeing of children in society, Keeping Children Safe program has positively impacted the lives of children in 10 slum communities of Kampala, Mpigi and Wakiso. This program has operated within five projects; Social Justice, Child Safeguarding, Girls Support Groups, Saturday Kids Clubs and Football. Our work has been made possible with the assistance of government bodies, such as Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD), Uganda Police Force, Justice Law and Order Sector, Kampala Capital City Authority and Probation and Social Welfare Officers (PSWOs). We registered 86 Social Justice cases, helped 129 juveniles attend court hearings and successfully resettled 49 juveniles with their families. Our team was also able to rescue 31 children under Child Safeguarding from child abuse such as defilement, forced labour, physical torture in communities within and outside Kampala such as Wakiso, Mpigi, Kawempe, Kamwokya, with the help of the Uganda Police, PSWOs and local leaders. Child Inclusive Mediation Counselling (CIMC) were

also conducted for the children being rescued to be given a chance of being heard and for the safeguarding officer to know what transpired.

Girls in the Girls Support Groups have been supported through counselling in our different communities and supplied with 8,136 sanitary towels. Play, skilling which includes book making, play equipment making in our centres in Mbuya, Katanga, Bukoto, Bible study, hygiene training has benefited 954 children in our Kids clubs.

We have three football teams; Namuwongo KCK Boys Team, Naguru KCK Girls Team and Naguru KCK Boys Team that comprise of 96 strong and enthusiastic young players. Each team is divided into three age groups i.e. under 9 years, 12 years and 15 years. These teams have led to the development of these players' skills, girl empowerment and a sense of belonging since these young minds come together to play, interact and share their life challenges so that they get counselled. They are also supported through other means like being provided with school supplies.



*Allan reunited with his mother after a court hearing    The gratitude that comes with receiving sanitary pads*



*Story book reading and play time in our Kids Clubs    Some of our male football club members*



*Naguru KCK Girls Team*

*One of our counselling sessions in our Mbuya Kids Clubs Centre*

#### **d) Family Strengthening**

As we continue supporting families, vulnerable women and the youth through vocational training, we have successfully enrolled and 160 students graduated from under our Tailoring and Knitting project located in Naguru, for the year 2025. Under Carpentry, a one-year training project located in Katanga, 16 youths were skilled while 7 successfully graduated. At the end of the trainings, our beneficiaries are given starter packs which they use to establish their own livelihoods.

We have supported 4 vulnerable families with Income-Generating Activities (IGAs). After engaging in discussions with each family to better understand their needs and explore sustainable business options, they identified the types of businesses that would best support their livelihoods. Based on these conversations, we provided them with financial assistance to help establish and grow these ventures, enabling them to generate ongoing income for their well-being.



*Women gaining tailoring skills*



*Olivia showing off her knitting skills*



*Kate was given a charcoal selling IGA to fend for her family*



*Carpentry skills in action.*

## **2. Activities & Community Engagement**

### **• Stakeholder engagement Meetings**

We met with local leaders from various parts of Kampala; Bukoto, Mbuya, Naguru, Kamwokya, and Nakawa, at our skilling centre in Naguru to present our work and seek their support in mobilizing participants through community outreach, referrals, and local networks, as well as strengthening collaboration at the grassroots level. Other meetings we held included a parents' meeting at our ECD centre in Naguru, where the Education Department discussed measures to ensure the safety of children

traveling to and from the centre. Ewafe also convened a local leaders' meeting at our home to address issues of child protection.

In addition, we participated in a Child Safeguarding meeting at the KCCA headquarters with PSWOs, focusing on efforts to fight child trafficking across Uganda and reduce the number of children living on the streets, among other key concerns.

As key pillars of our community initiatives, their presence at such meetings is always an honour and reinforces the partnerships that enable our work to thrive.



*With the Local leaders outside our Mara Skilling Centre*

*Local leaders during in a session*

- **Skills Groups' UVTAB Assessments.**

UVTAB (Uganda Vocational and Technical Assessment Board, is a national corporate body established by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). It operates under the Ministry of Education and Sports and is responsible for the assessment and certification of competences obtained through TVET. UVTAB is committed to building high-quality assessment and certification of competences, providing individuals with the requisite skills and knowledge needed to drive socio-economic transformation and national development. Some of these skills we do have under our Family Strengthening program; Tailoring, Knitting and Carpentry. With the UVTAB certificates, the qualification of our graduates is nationally and officially recognized which makes them stand a chance of being more employable or start their own businesses using the skills they have gained.



*Tailoring and Carpentry students during their UVTAB assessment period*

- **Graduation**

The youth in Carpentry, Tailoring, and Knitting projects completed their UVTAB assessments from our Katanga Carpentry and Naguru Mara Skilling centre respectively and graduated marking a significant step toward economic independence. The Tailoring and Knitting graduation event was officiated by Nakawa Community Development Officer, Mr. Muwonge Majid (*in a yellow shirt*). He congratulated the graduands and encouraged them to continually seek opportunities for growth, rather than settling at the level they have attained. He further advised them to uphold honesty and integrity in all their endeavours. All groups were provided with starter packs which they use to provide jobs for themselves in their communities thereby generating money to fend for themselves and their families.



*Tailoring & Knitting students on their graduation day*



*Carpentry graduands with their KCK certificates & starter packs*



*Some of the Tailoring and Knitting graduands receiving their starter packs*



- **Kids Club Football Team Gala**

Our football teams: the Naguru teams and the Namuwongo teams, proudly participated in a gala hosted at our Namuwongo football pitch. As a social activity, football attracted a large and enthusiastic audience who came out to enjoy the matches. The turnout was a clear indication of how engaging the sport is and how effectively it brings the community together. Beyond entertainment, football continues to promote teamwork, discipline, and mutual respect among participants.

In the spirit of inclusivity, we were also proud to have the girls' team take part in the gala, showcasing talent, determination, and the growing participation of young women in sport.

Events like these not only strengthen bonds within our community but also inspire young people to stay active, focused, and united through positive and healthy activities.



*Celebration after our Naguru Team scored a goal*

### • Christmas Celebrations

All our centres hosted joyful Christmas celebrations filled with food, games, music, and special Christmas packages, bringing smiles and renewed hope to 1,136 children. The festivities created a meaningful opportunity for underprivileged children to truly celebrate the birth of our Savior in a warm and caring environment.

The celebrations were made even more special as different groups of children showcased their talents through acting, dancing, singing, and Bible verse recitation, entertaining and inspiring everyone present. It was a heartwarming time of sharing, laughter, and togetherness, reflecting the true spirit of Christmas.



*Namuwonge ECD Children (on the left) and Mbuya Kids Clubs (on the right) enjoying their Christmas Day*



*Children receiving Christmas packages containing food stuffs for the season*

- **Community Kitchen**

KCK provided nutritious meals to 326 children across three centres: Namuwonge, Naguru, and Katanga. This activity is carried out every school holiday after we observed that many of our children return to school malnourished due to a lack of adequate food at home during the break. Through this program, the children come to enjoy healthy meals in a safe and supportive environment. We also extend this support to other vulnerable children within the surrounding communities.



### 3. Success & Impact Stories

#### Grace's Story: Strength Beyond Age

Despite caring for many dependants with the little money she got from street vending and being told she was “too old to learn,” Grace, who was widowed at an early age and left with 4 young children to take care of, finally decided to learn a skill at the age of 54 by joining our Tailoring project. She graduated, started her own tailoring workshop, and now teaches other elderly women uplifting her entire community. *“I want to show my children and these women that in life, you must never give up. Keep going. However little your strength might be, use it. You never know what tomorrow holds. God can make a way, and sometimes, that way is something as beautiful as Kids Club Kampala,”* says Grace.



*Grace at her workstation in Naguru with some of her handmade clothes*

## Rita's rescue story.

After being defiled by her stepfather, Rita became pregnant at 14 years, emotionally shattered and the future at risk. Her mother reported the issue at KCK, the first respondents in the communities.

We immediately arranged for a medical examination, and it was confirmed she was 7 months pregnant. After reporting the case to Wakiso police station, we went through a series of counselling sessions with Rita to help her emotionally as the police was investigating the case. The perpetrator was finally arrested. With the help of the probation officer, we were able to refer Rita under the care of another organization we are in partnership with that takes care of pregnant adolescents. Rita feels safe and grateful to Kids Club Kampala for all the emotional and physical support it offered, enabling her to cope with the situation. ***“I'm now happy and no longer worried because I have people like Kids Club on my side and I know they will stand with me throughout this situation. Thank you so much and may God bless Kids Club Kampala,”*** she concluded.



*Rita at Wakiso Police Station*

## 4. Visitors

### Sharon – UK Volunteer

Sharon volunteered for two months in our three ECD centres; Namuwongo, Naguru and Katanga and offered support in Community Kitchen. Our ECD teachers had a lot to learn from her as well as from them in terms of the education systems. She also brought the children scholastic, play and crafts material. Her dedication in volunteering with us brought joy and consistency to the children.



*Sharon at Naguru ECD centre during the Rotarians' visit*

### Benard & Maria from Austria

We had a moment with Benard and Maria and they took some time off to go and visit our skilling centres; Carpentry in Katanga, Tailoring and Knitting in Naguru. They donated clothes, scholastic and play materials.



*Benard & Maria at Mara Skilling Centre in Naguru*

## RC Kisaasi-Kyanja

The team donated a motorcycle to Ewafe, boosting reintegration and family tracing efforts. Some members also offered to sponsor eight children to enable them access education for a brighter future.



*Our team and RC Kisaasi-Kyanja team at Ewafe in Busiika*

## Alumni women skilling group

Some of our tailoring and knitting former students paid us a visit at the headquarters in Naguru. With a grateful heart, they thanked Kids Club Kampala for the opportunities that were presented to them and how far they have taken them in life. They also gave us gifts, cake and kitchen appliances.



*Our Alumni with the KCK Director*

## Helping Hands

We were also honoured by the presence of a group of women from Helping Hands who visited our ECD centre in Naguru. They brought foodstuffs, snacks, and scholastic materials for the children.



*Helping Hands group with some of our teachers and children at Naguru ECD centre*

## 5. Development Updates 2025

### **Pavilion Construction at our football ground in Namuwongo**

A new structure has been successfully developed to support youth sports activities within the community. It will serve as a sports equipment store, comfortable changing space for the teams and shelter for spectators during the matches.



*Some team members and spectators on the pavilion during a match*

### **Motorcycle Donation for Ewafe**

RC Kisaasi-Kyanja's motorcycle donation has simplified our work activities in terms of mobility during reintegration, family tracing, and urgent child protection response.



*Our team with the donated motorcycle*

### **Greenhouse for Year-Round Food Security.**

A newly established greenhouse will play a vital role in supporting the children at Ewafe. It will also ensure a steady supply of fresh, nutritious vegetables throughout the year, mainly during prolonged droughts. This will increase on food security and reduction of dependence on external sources. Beyond nourishment, it will also offer the children hands-on experience in gardening.



*External view of our greenhouse*

## 6. Team Updates 2025

### Leadership & Team Growth

- Miss Sandra Kantunga transitioned from Executive and Media Secretary to Head of Programs.
- Miss Diana Tuhumwire joined the team as the new Executive Assistant, supporting operations and communication.
- Miss Peace Iraguha transitioned from a Volunteer to IT Support Officer



*Miss Sandra*



*Miss Diana*



*Miss Peace*

### How You Can Support us

- Donate to support child protection, education, and family empowerment.
- Foster a child
- Partner with us in our projects.
- Purchase crafts made by women and the youth in our programmes.
- Volunteer at our events or centres.

### Contact Us

✉ [ugline@kidsclubkampala.org](mailto:ugline@kidsclubkampala.org)

📞 +256 200905793

🌐 <https://kidsclubkampalaug.org/>

Thank you for standing with us in 2025. Together, we continue to build brighter futures for children in Uganda!