



Yawe Foundation Uganda Annual Report 2021



FORWARD:

Message from the Executive Director

The year 2021 was a year full of hope and expectations however covid 19 posed a great challenge amidst the already existing challenges carried forward from 2020. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our partners **Perspektive fuer Kinder** and **BILD hilft e.V. „Ein Herz für Kinder“**. and other local and international partners who enabled us to walk through the year 2021 and achieve what we have been able to accomplish. Most importantly our trainees from YAWE Vocational and life skills training centre were able to complete and do their final exams and we were able to support our sponsored children with home learning materials prepared by ministry of health and other relief items to our clients. Secondly I am extending my sincere gratitude to YAWE Staff indeed you are a family I cherish your dedication and commitment towards the service to the less privileged members of our society. Your work is truly commendable and we appreciate your contribution to towards our success for the year 2021.

In conclusion I present to you our annual report which is a summary of what we have been able to do through the year 2021. May the almighty God continue to bless us and at one day we wake up when the covid challenge is no more.



YAWE Staff indeed
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Akora George William,
Executive Director



Figure 1 Photo of YAWE STAFF and Volunteers after our annual retreat December 2021



42

students and pupils were supported with school fees and other scholastic materials

35

pupils and students were given study materials for home studying,

Administration



One of the volunteers at Yawe COMMUNITY RADIO STUDIO

STAFF

This year our family grew bigger with 1 new staff on Administration department, 3 volunteers on the media department. The family is currently having 30 staff and volunteers.



MAIN GATE

This year security was beefed up with fencing around office premises with a gate at the main entrance to increase security around the office as well as the properties around



RETREAT 2021

End of year retreat was held successfully with a reflection on 2021 and a plan for 2022 areas bringing services nearer to the people in hard to reach areas.

FIELD CAR

Our community activities were made easier this year though interrupted by Covid 19 with an acquisition of a field vehicle Prado which transports staff to different areas bringing services nearer to the people in hard to reach areas. and properties around.



Figure 2 Our newly acquired second hand Field vehicle is in good condition ready to traverse villages during home visits and outreaches our roads requires a four-wheel drive

HANDRAFTS

YAWE women make and sell handcrafts including, African bags, baskets, African attire, paper beads, tablemats, jewellery . these handcrafts are sold here and in Austria to generate an income for the women most of whom are widows with orphans to provide for. Although this year's sales were much affected by the lockdown due covid 19 worldwide.



Figure 3 Sample bags made by YAWE Women

OVC ACTIVITIES COORDINATION OFFICE

Despite covid 19 challenges, we continued expanding structurally with an additional new community work based office. This was intended to ease the congestion inside the main office which doubles as a clinic. This office houses 3 departments of Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) services, vocational training, and community based health care services.



Education Support Program

YAWE Foundation supports education of the less privileged and academically talented students to access education primary secondary and tertiary Levels. As a measure of reducing Covid 19 Spreading the schools were closed and the Government encouraged home learning and its is on this background that YAWE Foundation mobilized resources to provide study materials to all our sponsored students.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOME STUDY

MATERIALS



Due to lockdown schools have been closed and the government has encouraged home schooling and it has put all study materials from nursery to senior six for academic year 2020 on the website for learners to access. However not all the learners have no access to internet as the government thinks that they all accessed this home study materials hence YAWE supported 34 learners (20 females and 14 males) it supports to access education to download, printout and file the materials per child per class. After organizing all the materials for each child, phone calls were made inviting the learners to come to office and receive their packages

Outcome Of the activity

The activity started with welcoming remarks and this was followed by self-introduction of learners and individual experience sharing of covid lockdown by each learner. The learners shared accordingly and this was intended to instil self confidence among learners as well promoting public speaking skills. During the discussion it was noted that some learners found it tasking to freely share personal experience with their colleagues hence the need to help them more.

This was followed by psychosocial support because most of the experiences were negative and stressing the learners. The presenter encouraged the learners to be hopeful that schools were to open soon hence keep reading the home study materials that were would be given shortly after. The presenter told learners that they are the drivers of their own lives, they can decide how to drive either backwards or forwards, overspeed, crash, drive sideways, hit road humps or fall in ditches as they wish.



Figure 4 Pupils and students receive reading materials to continue learning from home during lockdown

Y A W E gives fuel to them in terms of school fees and the caregivers give shelter, food, medical care etc as motor vehicle oil, tyres and the rest, and the learners role is basically to drive. The bad driving meant indiscipline, absenteeism, pregnancy, bad peer pressure, dodging lessons etc. Again during the discussion it was found out that all the learners had no idea of home study being on the website for them to access.

The second presenter gave career guidance to the learners, he started by introducing himself, relationship with Y A W E, education background and current work. This was aimed at inspiring learners to focus on why they go to school everyday, in coldness, walk long distances, go hungry etc. the learners were each asked what they wish to become and why....this was a turning point for many did not know why they go to school even those in secondary!! One secondary learner said she goes to school because it is a must to go to school. This raised a concern for more career guidance sessions in our workplans for our learners as an organization.



Energizer during the session

Every facilitator had a question and answer moment for the learners, and very outstanding question was from Raphael who asked when and how did Y A W E start?

FEES

This year 42 students and pupils were supported with school fees, 18 in primary school, and 23 in secondary school and 1 in tertiary institution. Females =26, Males =16

Vocational department

Dear partners and friends of Yawe Foundation, this an overview of what the Vocational department achieved in 2021. In acknowledge of your continued support and friendship, as the vocational department, we strive to provide hands-on skills as oneway of reducing the unemployment gap to vulnerable youth in Uganda and providing employable skills to young people that meet the job market demands. The skills will enable individuals after completion to be able to create their own jobs or find employment opportunities to be self-reliant

In a bid to reduce unemployment among youthin greater Kabarole Uganda, Yawe foundation with its holistic skills training approach, we have triedto integrate our training with career development sessions as indicated in the graph below. Besides the Covid-19 restrictions for closure of all training institutions, we managed to have one intake of students were trained following Covid-19 SOPs. Late students 15 students were assessed and accredited with a

certificate that is recognized by the government of Uganda known as modular assessment certificate under non-formal technical education through the directorate of industrial training (DIT)



Figure 3 Learning garment cutting in tailoring class

Holistic training approach

Our approach to training is holistic we train in both soft skills life skills and which helps individual learners to improve their interpersonal relationships, learn business or customer care skills and also learn general life skills like decision making.

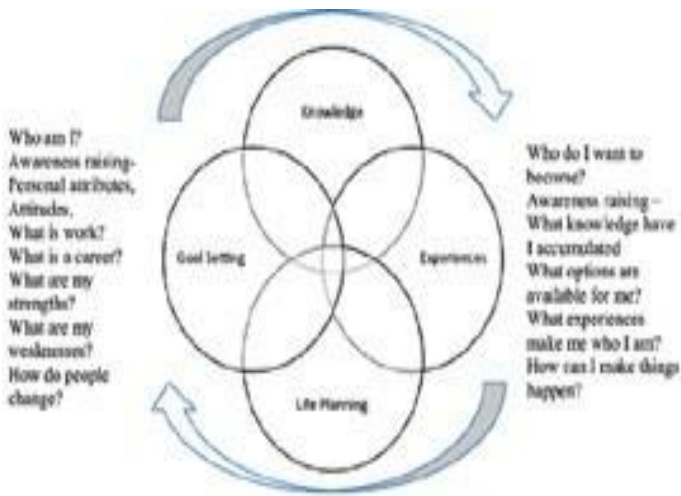


Figure 6 Computer Literacy Sessions



Figure 7 Practical Hair dressing training session

During the year 2021 we had a challenge of lockdown and we could only

WORLD AIDS DAY COMMEMORATION



Annually Yawe organizes the youth conference which bring youth together to share a lot of things in line with health but for this year with Covid restrictions, we had to organize few activities as we joined the rest of the world to commemorate this day. The activities that we planned would raise awareness on HIV stigma and discrimination and also encourage community members for the uptake and utilization of the available HIV

care and treatment programs, especially reducing mother to child transmission of HIV through access and utilization of Prevention of Mother to Child transmission of HIV (eMTCT) and stand in solidarity with those who have lost their dear ones due to HIV and those living with HIV.



Figure 9 The youth marched with messages to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS prevention and anti HIV stigma

Due to Covid 19 challenges the day was not commemorated as it used to be in the past years. However, YAWE Foundation joined Fort Portal city authorities to commemorate World AIDS Day on 1st December 2021 in Fort Portal town with the following activities.

A health walk with youth and different stakeholders, through this walk we had key messages that we had on posters as one way of giving messages on HIV prevention, treatment to the public. This was led by having a march past with the band through town. Further still we had different activities and performances from drama, extra dances, brass band which also aimed at giving key messages all generated from the theme for the year which is "End Inequalities End AIDS".

We had different speeches from different stakeholders who thanked YAWE for having organized for this day beside Covid error and were impressed with the work that YAWE is doing to the youth especially in HIV prevention and treatment. In conclusion we had Ecumenical Prayer and candle light from different spiritual leaders led by protestant in honor the memories of people died from AIDS and support for people living with HIV and AIDS. Also we had to light the candles as our last activity as we were commemorating this day with the march past led by the Deputy Resident city commissioner (DRCC) from the city Conclusion, Thanks to YAWE Foundation, partners and all those who offered their time and resources to have this day colorful, educative and entertaining. Let us continue with such good works so as to support young people living with HIV and to work towards having a HIV free generation. We hope for the same cooperation in forthcoming activities next year.

COVID 19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROJECT

The global COVID-19 pandemic led to country-wide lockdowns and interrupting service delivery in several countries, and we all know that the challenges of natural disasters and pandemics does not stop the need to provide HIV and health services, therefore this project was designed to respond to the immediate needs of vulnerable children and young girls who are breastfeeding young girls living with HIV and Disabled children to access the basic needs like food, sanitary pads and other necessities.

Uganda recently underwent and is still undergoing a difficult moment of a Covid-19 lockdown, due to its more deadly second wave. Most people in Uganda are no longer working because of the restrictions imposed by the government to contain the spread of the virus. In fact, the most affected people are children and their parents from very poor backgrounds who normally get their daily bread from their daily earnings. Currently, the situation of Covid-19 patients is still alarming. Health experts under the umbrella body Uganda Medical Association (UMA) have said that 80% of people infected with Covid-19 do not know they are infected

YAWE Foundation in with its limited resources in conjunction with other partners joined the activity of feeding the poor during this critical moment by visiting and giving some food to the most vulnerable families of disabled kids. A total of 59 kids living with disabilities

were fed during this exercise.

Objectives

- ◇ To support the vulnerable disabled children with food in ensuring they don't suffer hunger during this period of lockdown.
- ◇ To provide relief to vulnerable caregivers who stopped earning from their daily jobs.
- ◇ To maintain the immune system of the disabled kids to enable them stay healthy and strong.

Methods used

Door to Door Delivery



Description

The impact of the lockdown is being felt by every section of the public, but particularly even more so by vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities. Persons with disabilities in Uganda, expresses great concern that COVID-19 will have a disproportionate burden on the lives of persons with disabilities in Uganda. The impact of coronavirus pandemic is lethal to children living with disabilities, who are the most vulnerable people. In their daily lives, they depend on third parties, such as helpers and guides, who find it hard to feed them in this period. Children with disabilities are at increased risk of developing more severe symptoms and dying due to weakened immune system due to poor feeding in this period.

YAWÉ foundation took a step ahead to support 59 kids living with disabilities enrolled with our community home-based health care program with relief food packages containing essential needs such as posho, sugar, rice, cooking oil and salt. This activity took 3 days and caregivers and their kids expressed maximum happiness towards this generous contribution.



Achievements

- ◇ All the 59 children living with disabilities were reached and served which brought extreme happiness in their lives.
- ◇ There was good team work which enabled smooth run of the activity.
- ◇ Members implementing the activity were well facilitated thus everything went well.
- ◇ There was timely reporting of the above implemented activity.
- ◇ There was good time keeping and management that enabled starting and ending on time



Figure 11 Group Photo of Young Single mothers after receiving food relief

Young Mothers Recive Food RelifeDuring Covid 19 Lockdown

The combined impact of early motherhood and HIV is particularly challenging, especially when the pregnancy is unplanned. Girls who are tested and newly diagnosed with HIV, have to cope with a pregnancy confirmation, a positive HIV diagnosis, initiation onto lifetime treatment and potentially HIV and pregnancy related stigma among other challenges. When compared with older women, adolescent and young mothers living with HIV, fare less well at various points along the prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV (PMTCT) continuum, including high unmet demand for contraception, lower rates of retention in HIV care and treatment and higher new infections of HIV during pregnancy and breastfeeding, posing risks to their health and increasing the likelihood of mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Despite these adverse outcomes, most HIV and health services treat women the same, regardless of age, thinking that once someone is pregnant, is old enough.

Yawe Foundation have been working with young people living HIV in Kabarole District and the neighboring Districts, offering Psychosocial support, life skills, including all the information concerning Adherence, and unemployment issues, after sensing that young mothers face also other challenges that people, or stake holders don't give time to realize. On 9th and 10th of September Yawe foundation organized Girls of Hope, the young Mothers living with HIV, 50 of them, but since we are in Covid 19 Pandemic, we grouped them in two groups, they were educated on life skill, making them understand more about how they can work together to improve the quality of life. Young mothers living with HIV, this is where we shared challenges of young mothers, face, which are, being single mothers, is a challenge, where you have to take care of yourself and your children, feeding the family alone as a woman it's not easy, another challenge is unemployment, most of the Girls are school dropouts, meaning that they didn't go further with studies, so finding what to do is a problem to most of them.

So, this is where YAWE Youth Social Enterprise came in to solve one of the challenges of unemployment through building a social enterprise, where youth can express their talents and learn skills on hand, that can help them earn a living to support themselves.

Another challenge was, taking the whole day at the facility, on their appointment date to pick their medication, and also lacking most of the information. So, this is where Yawe Medical and Health Information center came in, and health information was conducted by Dr. Gildo, he talked about A combination of: Psycho-social support, Information on HIV, SRH Screening for STIs, nutrition, TB, SGBV and mental health Child development assessments and early childhood development Birth registration, Income generation, linkage to continued education he educated them about how Yawe was approved by the Ministry of Health through the Uganda Ministry of health, Medical Store, it was a big surprise to most of the youth and they were very happy, however much they had many questions that were not answered and let them requesting to the director Mr. Akora GWilliam, to meet them again specifically to talk about their ART issues and have more information on that, so all Girls that will be viral load suppressed, will be able to qualify for the ART, and other service at Yawe. Youth and Women Empowerment foundation did not stop from there, provided lunch for all of them, and also gave them a package to with, at home, it was containing, Posho, Rice, soap, sugar, cooking oil, and Salt



One of the Young Mothers, Sharing some of the Challenges

Description

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Figure 12 YAWE E.D Giving his message to the Young mothers

Pregnancy and motherhood force girls and young women into adulthood, whether or not they are emotionally, cognitively or physically prepared. HIV infection adds another challenging dimension to their lives. Adolescent and young mothers, both living with HIV and HIV free, have the right to correct information, quality support and respectful health services that are responsive to their needs, including offering multiple services, either directly or through linkages and referrals. It is unlikely that global goals to eliminate HIV and AIDS and secure adolescent reproductive health and well-being will be reached unless these tailored services and support are provided. Several studies have been conducted to increase understanding of the HIV and health-related needs of adolescent and young mothers and their experiences within the health system, but they have not thought about other challenges like unemployment, and that's why Yawe want to reduce unemployment, through promoting skills on hand among the Young Mothers.



Dr. Gildo facilitating about the SRHRs.



Figure 13 Teddy welcomes visitors at her saloon

Success Stories from our beneficiaries

Teddy says” in the period I was attached to the saloon; I can earn around 70,000/ per month which I use for personal up keep and save some money to start my own saloon because it’s my passion and dream.

Kabahweza Teddy (second right) grew up in hardship with the grandmother and brother in fort portal town. Teddy completed P.7 and she could continue for further formal education because the family couldn’t manage to provide school items. Teddy was reached by one Yawe staff that was and was referred for apprenticeship/ vocation training at Yawe vocational training centre, with the commitment and zeal she attended her training regularly for six month until she graduated. On the sad noted the grandmother who used to provide what she canto Teddy passed away life became completed since the whole family moved in the village. After six month of hardship in the village she later reached our Director who attached her to one of the busy salon around town

Clovice our student who successfully completed tailoring studies got a new hand sewing machine which will help him to earn income and becoming more self reliant.



Medical Department

The clinic report is presented in deferent sectors as follows: HIV testing services, Care and treatment, laboratory services medical outreaches community home based health care (youth psychosocial program and treatment.

HIV testing Services, care and treatment

During this reporting period, am happy to reportthat our clinic was accredited by ministry ofhealth to receive ART services and reproductive services mainly targeting youth. The youth and the entire community have been yawning forthe services at the center. During this period wehave been able to receive the supplies 3 times from joint medical Accesses and joint medical stores (JMS). This has helped us to avail servicesnearer to the people and since then there have been significant increased HIV test, care and treatment at our clinic. We have continued to work with nearby facilities especially the regionalhospital through the hub rider through taking our viral load tests.

We have a total of 186 ART clients already at our facility who are closely monitor/ followed by our health workers especially through phone calls and home visits. This have result into reduced lost of clients, improved adherence and treatmentup take evidenced only having 1 client who is unsuppressed during this reporting period.



In addition we have continued to provide HIV testing services to the community through conducting community outreaches especially in rural communities especially Kicwamba, Bukuuku and Kasenda.

SERVICES	MALE	FEMALE
HTs	165	279
malaria	43	78
syphilis	15	38
Blood sugar	39	82
Typhoid	21	33
General treatment	195	310



LABATORY SERVICE

Medical Outreaches

Yawe continues conducting medical outreaches under strict SOPs despite the number of medical outreaches being reduced by the covid-19 lockdown but routine immunization kept on being conducted.

Yawe carries out health education, immunization, family planning, cervical cancer screening, HIV testing and counseling, STI screening and testing e.g. RPR, nutritional assessment and counseling, blood pressure monitoring and glucose measurement and provision of essential medicines. Monthly we offer immunization and family planning services in the community, we conducted 12 outreaches fully packaged with health education, immunization, family planning, cervical cancer screening, HIV testing and counseling, STI screening and testing e.g. RPR, nutritional assessment and counseling, blood pressure monitoring and glucose measurement and provision of essential medicines.

Generally we managed to provide family planning to 738 clients, 870 children below 5 years received vaccination according to the Uganda routine immunization schedule and guidelines, 121 clients were tested for blood glucose, 3 were found with lesions on the cervix during cervical cancer screening, one underwent hysterectomy after confirming cervical cancer stage 2, then the other two underwent cryotherapy after being referred to RHU. Identified 5 HIV positives from the outreach sites and were enrolled into care at Yawe medical center.

ELDERLY PSYCHOSOCIAL PROGRAM CONDUCTED

AT Bishop Magambo counselor training institute (BMCTI)

We conducted 6 outreaches with each having an average of 61 clients aged 50 years and above. The package there involved health education about covid-19, chronic illnesses like hypertension, diabetes mellitus, PUD, etc. nutritional counseling, syphilis testing, blood pressure monitoring, glucose testing, HTS, Counseling, free medical consultation and provision of essential drugs like vitamin B-complex, omeprazole, paracetamol, etc.

COMMUNITY HOME BASED HEALTH CARE (CHBHC)

YAWE FOUNDATION continues bringing services nearer to the people (community) through our various programs like community home based health care (CHBHC), youth psychosocial program and conducting of medical outreaches under strict SOPs against covid-19 especially targeting preventive, diagnostic, curative, rehabilitative, sexual reproductive health and pediatric health.

The program aims at achieving the following objectives;

- To enrich caregivers with the right information in the proper management of the disability.
- To restore good general health in case of any other acute illness like malaria, typhoid, ulcers, etc.
- To help clients to be physically active or comfortable, clean, safe and well fed through health education, nutritional support, etc.
- To help clients learn different basic skills in life to favorably interact well with others.

- To improve the clients welfare in maximizing their potentials to carry out a few activities independently.

Our CHBHC program targets those with chronic illnesses like epilepsy, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus Sickle cell disease, etc and those with congenital defects like hydrocephalus, mental retardation, plus those with disabilities (PWDs) or advanced HIV disease. The community based rehabilitation is also done to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities and their families, meet their basic needs and ensure their participation and restoration to function so as to combat poverty and health effects. During the reporting period we had 68 clients whom we served and happy to report to you that through our interventions with other stakeholders, 31 clients were graduated because they have attained some milestones from our intervention



Aheebwa Margret moving with the help of our community health worker Kenneth during home visit for proper management and drug refill plus rehabilitation therapy.



Since Margret needs close attention and monitoring of her condition, the mother cannot leave home for employment. Her single mother was supported with a new tailoring machine so that she can earn a living to take care of Margret.



Kyomuhendo Cathy 14 got a new modified cerebral Palsy Chair. Cathy has greatly improved in speaking and feet and hand function. Can do some activities such feeding herself and play with toys. She has intellectually improved in understanding her environment. Cathy is supposed to start school.

COMMUNITY HOME BASED HEALTH CARE(CHBHC)



Mackline also got a new prosthesis which will help her to walk properly. Mackline has uneven legs whereby one grows in length leaving the other. Mackline is joining secondary school next year after successfully completing primary level under our support



We have also supported our clients with assistive devices of wheelchairs, crutches and walkers. These will improve their mobility in becoming a more independent.

In goats for life project we reached a total of 129 goats given to our clients. This project helps in sustaining the independence of clients in meeting some of their basic needs.



Figure 14 Beneficiaries of goats for life Program



Also our Kids participated in special Olympic Games that will help improve their talents in sports to compete With others nationally and internationally.

YOUTH PSYCHOSOCIAL PROGRAM AND TREATMENT.

Our youth psychosocial program targets mainly young people living with HIV/AIDS but with others who are negative which is a strategy to eliminate stigma. On average each PS day which happens on every Saturday registers a number of about 30 or more youths. Activities carried out include health education sessions, life skills training, band training, savings, extra dancers, guitar training, etc.

Despite the inconveniences caused by Covid-19 lockdown we managed to resume our PSS day upon easing of the lockdown by the president under strict SOPs and none of our youths contracted covid-19. On average 21 youths seek treatment from Y A W E medical center every month which is rendered to them free of charge. Common illnesses include malaria, typhoid fever, common cold, peptic ulcer disease, coryza, Pneumonia, STDs, etc.



SocialEnterprise

Yawe has established a social enterprise center as a place for training, Productive, and marketing of our products. This year we were able to complete the ground floor which is full Operational. Currently, it's accommodating our Welding Workshop, Yawe SACCO office, Showrooms for Tailoring and Baking Products.



YAWE SAVING AND CREDIT COOPERATIVE ORGANISATION

YAWE SACCO is one of the projects at the YAWE Social Enterprise Center was formed on 10/7/2019 with a vision “A leading SACCO promoting prosperity of members through enhanced saving and access to convenient credit” and a mission “To Mobilize financial resources and provide to members through competent and professional human resources, appropriate technology, and management practices in the dynamic competitive environment ensuring efficiency and sustainability”. This idea



came after realizing the challenges of banks charging high interest rates. It now holds 31 members (Male:11, Female 20) it targets YAWE staff, graduated youth in vocational skills, care takers of sponsored students, neighboring community vsla saving groups and well-wishers. Membership is share based and we offer group loans and individual loans with 3% interest rate.

OUR PARTNERS



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