

**YOUTH AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT (Yawe) FOUNDATION  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH PERSPEKTIVE FÜR KINDER (AUSTRIA)**



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## **Yawe REPORT FOR END OF DECEMBER 2024**

### **Community based Health care program**

During the month of December, We participated in World Disability Day. This was funded by Kyaninga Child Development Center. An organization that works with disabled children in areas of physiotherapy, occupational and speech therapy plus special needs education and mobility workshop. The day was celebrated under the theme “Amplifying the leadership of persons with disabilities for an inclusive and sustainable future’ The observance of the day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. They were speeches from different partner organizations and testimonies shared. Yawe was appreciated for their substantial work being done in communities to improve the lives of people living with Disabilities.



In the same month we visited Ronald Aheebwa who has now gone in primary seven at Blessed child school. Aheebwa expressed how is doing well at school is and was happy to get promoted to primary seven. His mother was glad too to see his child reaching that level. However his mother

expressed that they are visitors who visited the school and proposed that Ronald should be taken into a special needs school. However as therapist we encouraged the mother to keep Ronald in the same school since we are promoting inclusive education. The main objective of inclusive education is to identify and enroll children with disabilities in regular schools and to provide them with effective academic support.

In the same month we participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> stake holder's ongoing research by Mountains of the moon University on teenage pregnancy. This meeting was at Kalya courts and this round we had supervisors from Belgium like of Sophie and team attending. Over 50 participants from religious, political, local councils, youth leaders were present. There was presentation of video clips on research done on teenage girls. This research is being done by PhD student at mountains of the moon in Belgium.

In the same month we attend a meeting organized by ministry of Gender Social and Labor development which was looking at mapping civil society organizations to help the ministry know which organizations are doing what is in the district. The ministry is doing all country mapping of civil society organization to enable smooth partnerships and support from government in confounding some of the work they do. In this meeting we were made to fill 81 questions under a tool called Kobo collect. This information will help in allocation of resources equally among civil society organizations.

On a sad note we lost another child in our disability program by the names of Aheebwa Christopher. Christopher suffering from spina bifida and for years we have been supporting him in physical and material needs. In the beginning we supported Christopher to strengthen his trunk muscles and eventually he attained a good sitting balance. He had inabilities to stand since his condition was permanent. He had good hand function and was intellectually sounding with good speech. Christopher for the past weeks developed a severe wound that became chronic and eventually came with other sicknesses such as high fevers that eventually made him die. May His soul rest in internal peace.

On first of December the volunteers participated in World AIDS day commemorations which took place at Booma grounds in Fort Portal City. Every year since 1988, is an international day dedicated to raising awareness of the AIDS pandemic caused by the spread of HIV infection and mourning those who have died of the disease. World AIDS day serves as important reminder that we must remain steadfast in our commitment to prevent new HIV infections and provide essential services to all people living with HIV globally. The day was commemorated under the theme "Collective Action sustains and accelerate HIV progress"

In addition 2<sup>nd</sup> December marked the last day of the 5 days annual conference where the volunteers participated in handling logistics. The Fort Portal Member of Parliament was the Guest of honor who called upon the youths living with HIV to be at the fore front of prevention. The Director Yawe also thanked the volunteers for their tireless efforts to participate in the youth conference

right from planning phase up the last day of closure. The volunteers thanked participants for being a great team to champion the struggle of ending HIV spread and living health positive lives



### **YAWE youth Participating in World AIDS Day**

#### **Annual Staff retreat**

On 23/12/2024, we had a staff and support staff retreat whereby 29 staff attended and 3 of them missed with apologies. The retreat was held at the social enterprises centre hall beside being under construction but we were able to occupy the finished main hall where all activities for the retreat happened.

An annual staff retreat is our annual activity that brings all staff and support staff to share ideas and on how the year has moved in all departments and share ideas on how improve on work in the coming year. In the executive director communication, he first thanked all stakeholders for having worked tireless for the whole to achieve what we have been able to achieve especially in the finished and ongoing projects such as OVC program, journey plus, mosquito distribution exercise, all community activities and for the concluded annual youth conference.

He further gave a brief back ground on the social enterprise centre which is sustainability strategy that we all need to appreciate. This centre will be social enterprise business comprised of bakery, clinic, carpentry, welding workshops, tailoring and hair dressing saloon, hotel among other business. All these enterprises should be actively operating in the coming year 2024 whereby we all need to have combined efforts and this will help to generate local income which can boost our work that we do in the community especially supporting the vulnerable community.

Lastly departments shared what they have been able to do in the current year and all focus was to be driven on the coming year with new targets per department and all staff committed themselves



to work as team to achieve the set objectives in line with organization mission and vision. Later we had fun moments and sharing of lunch which was well prepared and departure was at leisure.



## DAY 2 29<sup>th</sup>/11/2024 PRESENTATIONS

### Session 1

The first presentation was facilitated by YAPs (Peer leaders) led by Musobozi Patrick who facilitated about adherence stigma and discrimination, viral load suppression. The objective of this session was to promote healthy habits among youth as they grow.



*HIV prevention ambassadors Mr. & Miss Y+ and peer leaders facilitating a session*

The Executive Director Yawe Foundation officially opened the annual youth conference, he welcomed participants especially those who attended for the very first time, he encouraged them to choose happiness all the time and feel at home while they were attending the conference in his topic about named 'Mood today'.

Session 2 Nutrition

This session was presented by Murungi Ezekiel the in charge Yawe medical center he taught about balanced diet and how different food like proteins, vitamins and carbohydrates compliment the body, he taught the importance of eating 5 meals day and the negative implications of poor nutrition. The goal of the session was to embrace good nutrition in promoting positive living with locally affordable food like vegetables and fruits. The youth asked several questions in line with the nutrition and HIV which were well answered by the medical experts.



*Nutrition presentation being facilitated by Yawe medical center in charge*

### Session 3 UTILIZING INTERNET

This was the last session of day 2, it was facilitated by Anna and Justus Volunteers from VUGA working with Yawe who used group work presentation on the use of social media, the goal of this session was to caution youth to consider the viewers' opinions before posting any information since everyone perceives such information differently.



*VUGA volunteers Anna Justus facilitating a session*

### **DAY 3 PRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ECUMENICAL AIDS CANDLELIGHT**

The presentation was facilitated by David Kwagala from Kampala who has always been of our external facilitators from the previous youth conferences. He taught youth to develop their self-esteem, believe in themselves have self-love, know their potential and direction if they are to fulfill their purpose





*Guest facilitator David Kwagala facilitating a session on mindset change and entrepreneurship*

From the session the youth and Yawe staff and Volunteers assembled and marched to Fort Portal Town for AIDS Candlelight and ecumenical prayers led by Yawe brass band the chief walker was Executive Director Yawe Foundation. The chief guest was Resident City Commissioner Fort portal with different religious leaders, HIV Focal Person Fort portal.



*YAWE joined other partners to for AIDS Candlelight in respect of the loved ones who succumbed to AIDS*



*Main ceremony in Fort Portal Taxi park*



*Executive Director with peer YAWE with peer leaders giving remarks on the rational of candlelight*





*RCC Fort portal middle with Hajji Bashir Kayondo representing religious leaders*



*Candle lighting event ahead of World AIDS day commemoration*

#### **DAY 4 1/12/2024 COMMEMORATION OF WORLD AIDS DAY**

Commemoration of world AIDS Day has been one of the activities that Yawe champion in mobilization of resources and youth participation. The theme for this year's world AIDS day was **ACCELERATING INTERVENTIONS TOWARDS ENDING HIV BY 2030**. Different organizations and schools joined the commemoration including medical team and brass band from Uganda People's Defense Forces who also lead the march from the palace gate to Boma playground.



*UPDF brass band leading the march in Fort Portal city*





*The chief guest, Yawe foundation ED with other guests pose for a group photo.*

## **DAY 5 2/12/2024 EVALUATION AND CLOSURE**

Having gone through presentations and outings, the conference climaxed on the last day 2/12/2024

### ***Positive comments***

The peer leaders handled the evaluation session, members were given opportunity to express their views about this year's youth conference in relation to the expectations.

Meals were good as youth enjoyed balanced diet.

It was discovered that sessions were matching the expectations and the facilitators were knowledgeable.

Outings were enjoyable and fun like participating in candlelight and world AIDS day since Yawe provided transport.

Some youth enjoyed interacting with Volunteers for the first time.

Youth were happy to hear and watch news about the commemoration of world AIDS day.

Some Youth got new friends

There was respect and order amongst themselves.

### ***Negative comments***

On the side of boys' accommodation, the room was too cold.

There was switching of rooms which made so youth to lose items.

Some girls were dressing indecently in public

Some youth were affected by rain as they were coming, so transport means had weakness.

Some youth came in to dance which drunk.

One youth clarified that those who came drunk were strangers who were attracted by music not participants as one complained.

The Executive director thanked the chairperson organizing committee and the team for coordinating well towards successful conference. In his response to feedback, he promised to complete the second floor which has a large main hall which we be hosting conferences if God

provides and for the coldness he told the youth that construction is still ongoing there will be better hostels in future.

He encouraged youth with smart phones to register for WhatsApp group platform, he revealed to the youth availability of safe space with games and music instruments which can benefit them in their free time whenever they are in Fort Portal, for those who are not in formal education he encouraged them to join Yawe vocational and Life skills training center. He advised Peer leaders to form a strong association with strong leadership that is strategic and visionary.



*Executive Director Yawe giving closing remarks and receiving Chief guest, Hon. Alex Ruhunda Member of parliament Fort Portal central.*



*Final end of conference ED Yawe Foundation and the participants Yawe social enterprise center building.*

## **VOCATIONAL SKILLING DEPARTMENT**

### **Mobilization and enrolment,**

In the mobilisation strategies, we have tried out to reach communities especially targeting continuing students in vacation, dropouts and any member in the community who would wish to attain hand on skill. We have tried to mobilize on common local radio station thus VOT and Jubilee radio with adverts and DJ mentions. In addition, we have supplied out of written fliers or brochures clearly outlining both short and long courses. We have also reached out community leaders who can easily pass information to public especially VHTs, peers among other and using social media handles.

With all the mobilisation strategies developed, we have a number of applicants who have shown interest and joined especially for short courses, these courses include computer training, music and instrument training and we are hoping to be joined by other students the coming month across all trades.

We also took part in medical outreaches whereby we were able to pass information concerning the courses that our institute offers and many questions that we ably answered since there was knowledge gap about school. This was because most people were thinking that we offer free



training. All these strategies will help the community aware the programs that we have as far as our training program.

**Training**, during this reporting that marked as the beginning of new intake, we have so far enrolled 6 new students in both trades and looking forward to enroll more since it's the first month of training. With our advertisement strategy deployed, we expect to get more students in the upcoming month especially January after festive season. The training of the new students moved on well with orientation of the environment and working place, introduction to all class materials and equipment's, and some simple fashions making among other was taught during thi/ first month

### New enrollment

Trade	Boys	Girls
Tailoring	01	03
Hairdressing	00	02
<b>Total</b>	<b>01</b>	<b>05</b>

### Pictorial overview of students during training



Tailoring students showing some fashions





## **Conclusion**

We completed all planned activities and we therefore extend our sincere thanks to Perspektive fuer kinder and all Partners for the great support.