

MUKISA FOUNDATION



**ANNUAL REPORT
2021**

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Message from our Leader



Florence Namaganda.
Director and Co-founder
Mukisa Foundation

Dear Mukisa Angels, friends and well-wishers,
Greetings from Mukisa Foundation!
2021 has been a year like no other. We all got into it with a promise or hope of a better year. For many of us, it would take away the fear and uncertainty caused by the pandemic in 2020, and we hoped that the incomplete to-do lists of 2020 would get done once the new year started. And it did start as we hoped, with lockdowns being lifted in January, travel seemed to ease up and the economy started to get back on track, only to all come to a halt with the Delta variant !!!Delta was mean, left a lot of death, helplessness and pain in its tracks, but thankfully it went away as quickly as it came and enabled us to start rebuilding our lives again. Unfortunately, when we were just beginning to celebrate our new found freedom, in came the Omicron which although more infectious than its predecessors was thankfully quite mild. For us at Mukisa, 2021 has been a 'start-stop' year. There was a new sense of urgency for us to get whatever we were doing done, just in case there was another virus, or another lockdown that forced us to stop leaving our work incomplete.

As a result, we did so much more than we had planned; reaching more children, getting a farm established and hostel built on Bussi, vocational skills students graduating with national Directorate of Industrial training (DIT) certificates, and an emergency team that was always ready with food, medicines and educational materials for all our families that were in need.

As I look back, this experience has taught to plan better, strengthened teamwork as there were many points in the year when our professions/ departments did not exist as we all became emergency rescue committees and to appreciate one another in a whole new way.

This collaborative spirit has also spilled over in the way we work with our partners. We have become more intentional about being part of different working groups/coalitions which has greatly increased our reach, growth and our resource base. Never before in our history has the term 'stronger together' made more sense. We have all learnt that the challenges coming our way in this season are way bigger than us and individual organizations/persons. That our strength is in and with each other, and that we can only get the impact our beneficiaries deserve only if we work in collaboration rather than in silos.

I am excited to see what 2022 brings, knowing that it will have its own highlights and challenges but also confident that there is nothing we can not overcome if we work at it together!

On behalf of the children, families, the entire staff team, all those impacted by the work done here at Mukisa Foundation, and my own behalf, I thank you for continuing to walk and work with us on this journey of restore hope and dignity to children with disabilities and their families.

Wishing you every blessing,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'FN', with a flourish at the end.

Florence Namaganda.

WHO WE ARE

MUKISA FOUNDATION , is a Non-Government Organization (NGO) founded in 2006 to address the challenges faced by children with special needs and the their families through provision of quality care and creating awareness to help demystify disability, so as to give children with special needs a chance to achieve their full potential.

Over the years, Mukisa Foundation has seen its numbers grow from the first eight children, to over 4000 children and their families, who have been blessed by the receiving of various forms of Therapy and assistance. Although based in Kampala, Mukisa has a wider reach through outreaches in Bussi, Luwero and works with a number of partners nationwide.

Mission

To empower families who have children with special needs through quality Medical, Therapy and Nutritional Support, Capacity Building, Resource and Information and Special Education

Vision

To create strong family units in which children with special needs can flourish to their full potential.

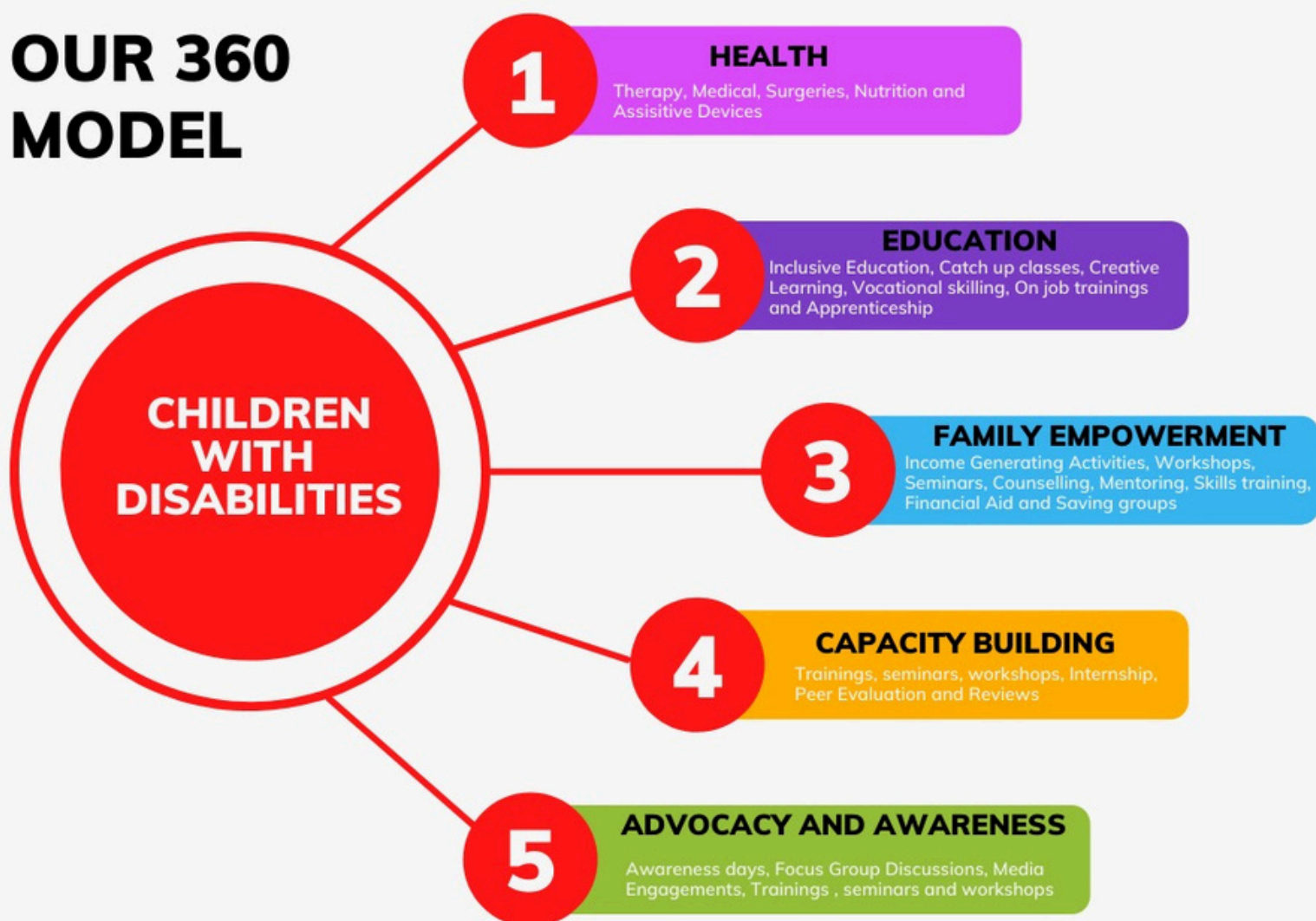


OBJECTIVES

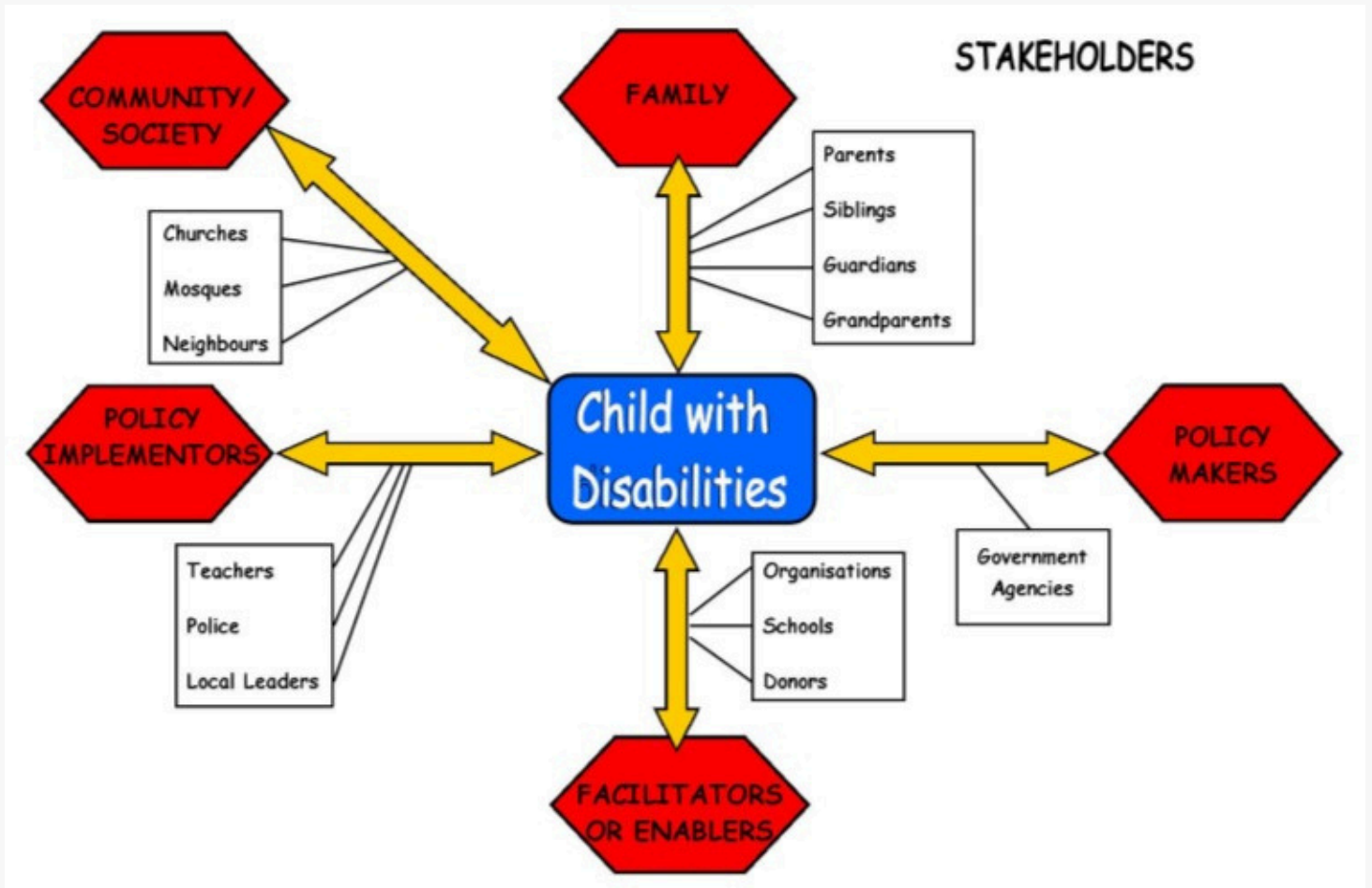
- To reduce the mortality rate and high risk of secondary disabilities in children with special needs through quality welfare, medical, surgical and nutritional support.
- To improve access to education through special education and vocational skills training for children with special needs.
- To improve the household incomes of families who have children with special needs through skills development, mentoring and income generating activities.
- To promote social inclusion of youth and young adults with disabilities into society through apprenticeship programs

HOW WE WORK

OUR 360 MODEL



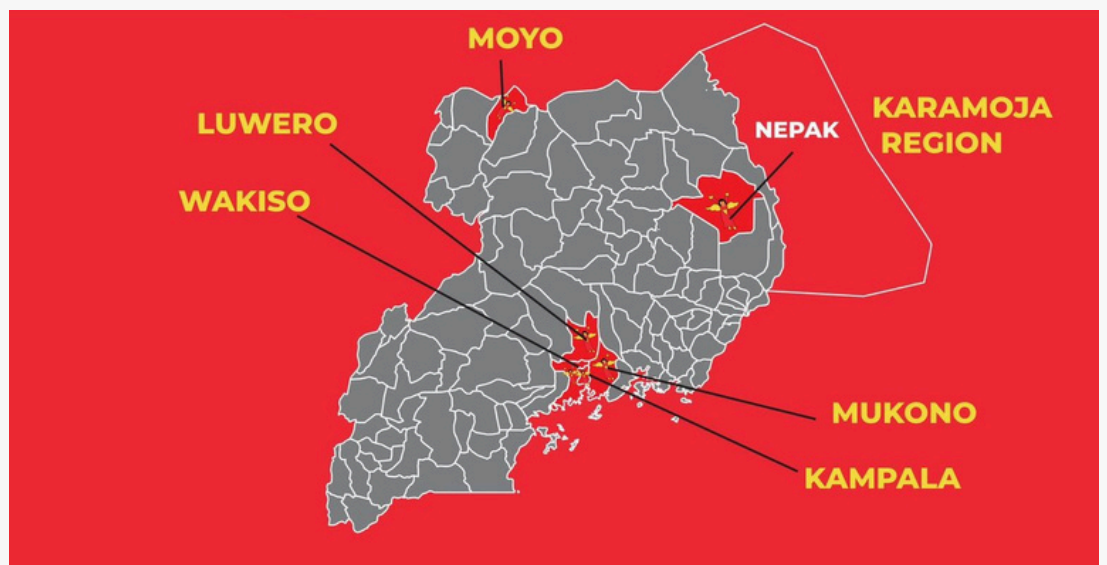
WHO WE WORK WITH



WHERE WE WORK

Our work is spread in different parts of Uganda and the districts include;

- Kampala
- Wakiso
- Luwero
- Moyo
- Karamoja





HEALTH

4588

THERAPY
SESSIONS

322

HOME VISITS
AND HOSPITAL
VISITS

234

NEW CHILDREN

305

ASSISTIVE
DEVICES
DISTRIBUTED

The team was able to carry out the health activities despite the covid 19 pandemic, These include Therapy , outreaches, home visits and nutritional care.

a)Physio and Occupational Therapy ,
During this year, therapy activities went on well in both general therapy and in the classes. The turn up of clients for therapy on different days was good between January and first week of June. A total number of 3937 sessions of Occupational and Physio therapy for 148 children under general therapy.

b) Music therapy

This went on well in the first five months of the year but came on a standstill in June when the lock down started up to July because this being a group session, we had to ensure that all the social distancing guidelines were followed.

HEALTH

c) Speech Therapy

One hundred twenty-seven (127) clients were registered and assessed for their level of functioning in communication (speech and language), social interaction and feeding abilities (chewing and swallowing) from February to December 2021. The majority of clients presented with speech and language delays. Out of 127 clients, 89 clients were diagnosed with feeding difficulties (chewing and swallowing challenges), and an appropriate intervention process is ongoing. A total of 651 sessions were conducted for 124 clients over 11 months (February to December). These sessions were conducted on Wednesdays and Thursdays every week.

d) Home / Hospital Visit

322 Home and Hospital visit clusters around the suburbs of Kampala made a total of 64 clients that were reached out to from 16 clusters, which include the following:

- Namugongo
- Nansana A
- Namasuba-Kikajjo
- Nansana B
- Gangu
- Bunamwaya
- Kawempe-Kazo
- Masaka Road
- Mukono-Seeta
- Kawaala Kibuli
- Kosovo-Lungujja Kamwokya
- Buloba Busega

e) Medical and Nutritional Support

The health department provides medical and nutritional support, surgeries and medical referrals to hospitals including including Rubaga, Mulago, Victoria, CORSU, Cure and specialized medical units such as Katalemwa cheshire home and children's medical centre. 7 children were referred to Lubaga Hospital for further medical attention.

Throughout the year we carried out the following health workshops;

- Feeding and Nutrition support
- Selfcare Workshop
- Reproductive health
- Family Planning
- Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
- Downsyndrome workshop

There has been a noticeable improvement in the lives of our children especially in feeding and swallowing in some children after training parents on the best postures and right food consistencies.

f) Assistive Devices

The team had wheelchair clinics in Luwero and Kasengejje, where children received mobility aids like wheelchairs, walkers, walking canes and crutches. walkers, walking canes and crutches.

305 Assistive devices were distributed throughout the whole year.

145 clients were fitted in new chairs at the mobility hub in kasengejje, 160 at the Luwero Outreach,

The team participated in a 5-day fitting of different people living with disability for different appliances which took place at SOS in Luwero. The team gained more skills and experience in seating, posture and mobility appliances prescription.

Therapy, Medical, Nutritional Support and Assistive Devices

HEALTH



Success Stories

Carlos Zziwa

Carlos Zziwa was born on 1st Jan 2020 by Oliver Nalwadda and Kyeyune Nicholas at Wakiso Health Centre III.

Mama Carlos reports a normal pregnancy throughout the 9 months but at birth, she experienced prolonged labour and had to undergo a C-section. After 3 days of birth, child experienced seizure attacks and was given medication. They were later discharged after a week.

Carlos went on to experience delayed developmental milestones. At 8 months, he could not sit independently, couldn't crawl nor could he reach out or grip. At 9 months, he experienced an accident in which he was burned with hot water on his head, and this further retarded his development.

In May 2021, Carlos was enrolled for therapy at Mukisa Foundation. The various physiotherapy and occupational therapy techniques aimed at improving his cognitive senses, his gross and fine motor skills, his balance, stability and coordination in various positions, initiate the transfer process e.g. from sitting to standing and walking.

With these interventions, by the end of 2021, Carlos has been able to achieve the following milestones;

- Can transfer from place to place through shuffling on his bottom.
- Can transfer from sitting to standing independently.
- Can stand independently in open space with good balance and stability.
- Walks short distances without support and long distances when held at hand.
- Improved cognition.

Mama Carlos is a happy parent and she hopes this year the child will further progress and also attend school.



Carlos celebrating his 2nd birthday



EDUCATION

200

WORK BOOKS

56

EDUCATION TABLETS

140

HOME VISITS

- Through beading, Vocational class managed to design 100 bracelets for the mothers on Pampering day.
- Through crocheting doormats, vocational class sold three pieces of Doormats to Namabaale and raised 100,000/= (one hundred shillings).

The schools were opened in a staggered manner following the presidential directive due to covid 19 pandemic.

The department however worked out a plans to have learners cotinue learning. the first 5 months saw us enroll 43 learners in the mukisa school i.e 16 learners in catch up class, 6 learners in the behaviour class , 21 learners for Vocational and CLC.

Unfortunately the learners had to stay home in june after the president's directive to have schools closed.

The foundation through different partners was able to reach out to these learners in abide to continue learning even at home. we were able to distribute workbooks, scholastic materials and other study materials to learners

The team was able to reach out to 56 learners with Education Tablets

Vocational Classes

In 2021, we had our first set of learners sit for DIT exams. We are glad to report that all the 9 learners who sat for these exams passed very well and graduated with DIT certificates in different skills i.e. Bakery, Tailoring, Hair Dressing ,Art and Design.

Success Stories



Mulungi Phiona Samantha

Phiona is 15 years living with intellectual disability and lives in Lungujja – Kosovo with her mother and 5 siblings. She joined Mukisa CLC in 2016 with difficulty in learning. Through training, she was then integrated in typical school (Mengo Primary School) in 2017 and in 2020 sat for Primary Leaving Exams. she scored 20 aggregates (Division 2). Phiona is able to follow instructions at school, home and can do activities of daily living very well. She wishes to join either Mengo Secondary School or Kasubi secondary school in case she is offered a bursary.



Nakityo Esther

Esther is a Ugandan girl aged 14 years; she lives in Lungujja – Kosovo with her mother and 2 siblings. She joined Mukisa CLC in 2016 due to her slow learning problem caused by an epileptic condition. In 2017 she was intergrated in Mengo Primary School in primary four. She is able to follow instructions and she can do house cores like mopping, cooking and washing very well. Esther sat for Primary Leaving Examination PLE for 2020 and scored 20 Aggregates Division 2. She wishes to enroll for secondary school.



Catch up class, Autism, Creative Learning Centre and Vocational classes

EDUCATION





FAMILY EMPOWERMENT



Workshops and Seminars

The family empowerment program comprises of both social and economic empowerment.

These work shop arranged for our parents monthly to equip them with business skills so that they can have different ideas to help them generate more income to sustain their families.

There are also educative workshops aimed at equipping our parents with knowledge about different disabilities because most of them even with special needs children they still lack facts about their children's conditions.

Despite the restrictions of caused by the pandemic, the team continued to organise workshops, seminars to enable the parents continue to learn about disabilities, care for the children and how to provide a safe environment;

- Reproductive health work shop
- Siblings' Workshop
- Pampering Day
- Family Planning workshop
- Self-care workshop
- Cerebral palsy workshop [CP]
- Nutrition workshop
- Disability and Baking
- Feeding and nutrition workshop
- Soap making and Child protection workshop.

10 WORKSHOPS / TRAININGS

84 NEW MEMBERS IN KWAGALANA SAVINGS GROUP

27M MEMBER SAVINGS

"Most of the mothers are involved in businesses like soap making, scarfs and door mats which they were trained from here in IGA. This is actually sustaining their families because some door mats that were brought in the craft shop were sold."

Success Story

Asiimwe Derrick

Asiimwe Derrick is a jolly and friendly 7-year-old child living with cerebral palsy and has been receiving therapy from Mukisa since 2017. He lives with his mother by the name of Akomugisha Annet aged 32 years and with three other siblings; - 2 older sisters aged 14, 12 and a 7 months baby boy. Derrick's father left him when he was 2 years old and later returned after 5 years promising the mother a better life that did not last because he still ran away and this time even his contacts are totally off. The family is really struggling for mother moves around washing people's clothes for survival and also lives on people's kindness which is all not sustainable. There was a home visit made mainly for fact finding about the life Derrick and the family are going through so that the financial assistance the mother had asked for can be based on clear ground.

INTERVENTION BY MUKISA FOUNDATION

Derrick's mother is so grateful for the help she continuously receives from Mukisa, she refers to it as her home the only people that understand her and her son because her own mother is ready to take her back but without Derrick. She gets time to time work from Mukisa especially in the kitchen which helps her a lot by using the payment to buy food and requirements for the school going children. Mukisa has already provided food, medicine for Derrick and a wheelchair which is a very relieving situation for her.

Mukisa further provided the family with rent and now has a place to call home in a medical centre in Kasengejje where mother is now the care taker of the place.

The family is grateful for empowering Derrick's mother and giving her and the children such an opportunity.



**FAMILY
EMPOWERMENT**

INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES, WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS





MUKISA INCLUSIVE VILLAGE

1

DEMONSTRATION FARM

30

PARENTS TRAINED IN FARMING

13

VOCATIONAL SKILLS STUDENTS GRADUATED

"The project that is aiming at empowering families of children with disabilities on Bussi island located in Wakiso district is powered by Rotaryclubs of Lubowa and Telgte"

The Mukisa Inclusive village on Bussi island has had a number of activities running despite the pandemic in 2021.

The project activities aim at empowering families of children with disabilities and they include;

- **Vocational skills trainings**

we trained 13 students above 13 years in vocational skills , basic numeracy and literacy. we saw these students successfully graduate. 8 students gained good farming skills and practice whereas 5 gained skills in art and designing.

- **Demostration Farm.**

A demonstration farm was set up to enable parents learn the good farming practices and in return replicate them at their homes among the set up farms are vegetable gardens, fruits gardens, livestock farm demo for pigs, cattle, goats and Poultry.

- **Parents' training**

30 parents of children with disabilities below 13 years were also trained in Urban farming, live stock and livestock farming . At the end of the trained the parents received different animals i.e goats, pigs, cattle and some birds as startups for their income generation projects.

Demonstration Farms, Skills trainings and Graduation On Bussi Island

**INCLUSIVE
VILLAGE**



OUR RESPONSE TO COVID 19

56

EDUCATION
TABLETS
DISTRIBUTED

5001

FOOD
HAMPERS
DISTRIBUTED

248

WORKBOOKS
DISTRIBUTED

As we entered 2021, we're still facing limitations due to Covid 19, the foundation still carried on with the emergency response to the needs of the children and their families. These included transporting children to hospitals, providing medical care and medicine for those with chronic conditions, provision of food, emergency rescue, care for sexually abused children and providing learning resource materials to enable learners study during the lock down.

We were able to join other networks, organisations and coalitions to support our children and their families.

URBAN LOCAL COALITION ACCELERATOR.
(ULCA)

The coalition that brought together 14 organisations including Mukisa was formed to respond to Covid 19 and its impact on health, livelihood and Education.

The pandemic that created a negative impact on education where we had temporary closure of schools and since then learners including those with disabilities have been greatly affected due to inability to access learning materials. While government had developed and distributed learning materials, many of these were not tailored to meet the unique needs of learners living with disabilities. Re-opening of schools had started, but the second wave then led to another closure.

Through the project, Mukisa carried out the following activities:

- Retailor 7 levels of both pre-primary and primary school resource books to suit learners with special needs
- Assessment of 310 learners
- Distribute Education Tablets to 56 learners
- Distribute assistive devices to 31 learners
- Distribute Resource books, Scholastic materials and food hampers to 200 learners
- 2 talk shows on both CBS Radio and BBSTV to sensitise parents on how to take care of learners amidst the lockdown.
- Participate in the word spina bifida andhydrocephalus day whose theme was strengthening stakeholder engagements in the care of children with special needs.

COVID RELIEF

Food Distribution, Medical Support, Learning Resources



URBAN LOCAL COALITION ACCELERATOR

Funded by: The Share Trust

In partnership with:

Baby Class
Term 1 Workbook
Weeks 1 to 6

Name:

Designing and implementing development and humanitarian actions that respond to the effects of COVID-19 and beyond

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URBAN LOCAL COALITION ACCELERATOR

Supported by: The Share Trust

In partnership with:

Primary One
Term 1 Workbook
Weeks 1 to 6

Name:

Designing and implementing development and humanitarian actions that respond to the effects of COVID-19 and beyond

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Our 2022 Focus

As always our children and families will continue to enjoy holistic care in our 5 thematic areas ,but we would like to put emphasis on the following:

1

Increasing our reach through collaborations and outreaches.

2

Strengthen parent support and Income generation groups.

3

Improve our Mobility, staff/children's travel to centers.

4

Monitoring, evaluation and impact assessments.

Acknowledgements

OUR PARTNERS

- AFRICAN SKIES
- AVAIL MISSIONS
- CHILDREN AT RISK NETWORK (CRANE)
- DAK FOUNDATION
- DUTCH CHURCH
- EBU GERMANY
- ELMA PHILANTHROPIES
- GOULD FAMILY FOUNDATION
- KINDER MISSIONS
- MEDICAL MISSIONARY NEWS (MMN)
- MIKWANO CHARITABLE TRUST
- ROTARY CLUBS OF LUBOWA
- ROTARY CLUB OF TELGTE
- SEGAL FAMILY FOUNDATION
- SHARE TRUST
- SPECIAL CHILDREN'S TRUST
- TAWINGO FUND
- INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS AND WELL WISHERS

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to contribute to create strong family units, which will enable children with special needs lead purposeful lives to their full Potential.



Contact Us



*...hope for
children
with
special
needs*

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