

**ALLIANCE FOR
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
UGANDA
(A4CY-U)**

Annual Report 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear A4CY-U Community,

It is a great pleasure to present to you the A4CY-U annual report for the year 2024 reflecting on our milestones and accomplishments of our projects for the financial year 2024.

This financial year was characterized by significantly increased support in Health advocacy, Rights and protection, the Emergency Response and Education sector. Some of the key accomplishments we are proud of is scaling up sensitization campaigns to include various sector messages, i.e. Education, Environment, Gender Inequalities, Sanitation and Hygiene, Child-led advocacy on the rights of children and their roles in Child protection targeting all stakeholders including children, Parents and Teachers Associations. Simultaneously our campaigns for sexual and reproductive health rights for girls have been continued and the girl child has been empowered to speak up for their rights and to lead.

A4CY-U also expanded its Girl Empowerment and Leadership program to Buhuhira Sub County besides the ongoing Bwesumbu Sub County as well as increased intervention within Ibanda Kyanya Town Council and Busongora County North as a whole.

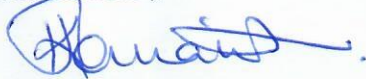
We made a significant contribution to women and Youth Skilling and livelihoods projects in Kasese District in cooperation with the districts' leadership. We have also contributed to a positive mind-set change amongst parents pertaining to the value of education. Most parents are positive towards supporting their children while at school, and this has increased the retention rate of children in schools.

In alignment with GN Vision 2030 "Empowering People, Transforming Communities", we will continue to contribute to achieving SDGs and ensure that all communities that we serve are self-reliant with sustainable development projects, where all children and youth are able to enjoy their rights.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to everyone who has been together with A4CY-U for children, Youth and communities in 2024, including the Board of Directors team, the staff, district Local Governments, numerous supporters and partners to make our planned interventions possible. I also deeply appreciate the entire A4CY-U team which has remained dedicated to its work against all the odds to make a good change for the world.

Thank you for taking the time to read our report and supporting our mission

Yours sincerely,



KABUGHO JOVIAH

ABOUT ALLIANCE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH UGANDA (A4CY-U)

A4CY-U is a registered National NGO in Uganda with its Head office located in Kasese, Uganda. Legally registered first in 2012 and operation certificate renewed in 2019 with the Uganda National Bureau of Non-Government Organization mandated to operate in all parts of the Country.

We are a fully registered and legally operating NGO mandated to work in the Rwenzori region in Uganda. We have been acknowledged and permitted to operate in the districts of Kasese, Bunyangabo, Bundibugyo, Isingiro, Kamwenge and Kyegegwa head offices in Kasese district.

Our work is around advocacy for the rights of Children and Youth in Health, access to quality education, access to second chance education for girls who for pregnant and got married at an early age (eliminating of child marriages), ensuring access to quality health education, information and services, women's economic empowerment and access to safe and quality Water, Sanitation and Hygiene services and practices.

Our Board consists of Nine (4 males and 5 females) members who are vibrant, experienced and committed towards achieving the organizational mandate and are charged with giving strategic direction of the organization and making/passing of laws. These members are drawn from different walks of life with rich experience and skills to manage and support the institutions governance and growth.

LIST OF A4CY-U BOARD MEMBERS AND CONTACTS

S/N	NAME	GENDER	TITLE/POSITION
1.	MRS. MASIKA RUTH	FEMALE	CHAIRPERSON BOARD
2.	MR. MUZIGITI JIMMY	MALE	VICE CHAIRPERSON
3.	MR. KIMUGHA DENITH	MALE	BOARD MEMBER
4.	MRS. MASIKA EVELYEEN	FEMALE	BOARD MEMBER
5.	MRS. KABANYORO REBECCA	FEMALE	TREASURER
6.	MRS. ELLEN ITHUNGU	FEMALE	BOARD MEMBER
7.	MR. KITANYWA SOWED	FEMALE	FOUNDER MEMBER
8.	ORD. ANNA BWABU	FEMALE	BOARD MEMBER
9.	MR. MUTORO JULIUS	MALE	BOARD MEMBER

ORGANISATIONAL THEMATIC AREAS

- 1) Child Protection and Youth Care
- 2) Social economic empowerment for the youth and caregivers
- 3) Provision of Sexual Reproductive Health and HIV/AIDS Services
- 4) Women Rights Promotion.
- 5) Environmental Protection, climatic Change and Adoption
- 6) Water, Hygiene and Sanitation
- 7) Capacity building, Research and Institutional Development

REALISING OUR MANDATE



Our Vision:

A society where all Children and Youth live to their full potential and their rights and aspirations are fulfilled.



Our Mission

To support Children, Youth and caregivers to participate in Socio-economic initiatives for improved livelihoods and sustainable development.

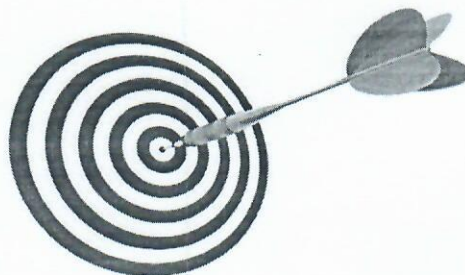
Goal



To contribute to the provision of essential services for children, youth and

their caregivers for sustainable development.

We achieve our mission through the following organizational objectives:



- a) To promote the survival, development and protection of children and Youth
- b) To support out of school vulnerable youth to attain basic life skills and to sustainably enhance their socio-economic status
- c) To enhance the rights of vulnerable women through supporting them to improve the socio-economic status
- d) To build the capacity of the community to appreciate the causes of environmental degradation and take actions to promote its protection and adapt to the impacts of climate change
- e) To strengthen the capacity of the organization to sustainably provide high quality and culturally sensitive services to vulnerable youth, children and women.

OUR THEORY OF CHANGE

A4CY-U has a development approach that allows for close coordination with government, communities, schools, and various key stakeholders. It aims to create an environment where children and community can grow up healthy and their rights are protected. A4CY-U is currently operating in 4 districts in the Rwenzori region and implementing 3 different projects supported by Girls First Fund, Gilead Pharmaceuticals Limited and Oxfam in Uganda, in different thematic areas including education and protection, health, income generation/livelihoods, Gender and advocacy and emergency relief.

A4CY-U pursues sustainable development through empowerment, leadership, ownership, and harmony with environment and strives to promote communities to enable them to rebuild their hope.

Our approach to work is a multi-sectoral one, recognizing partnership and networking as being important in achieving our goal. We very much align with the provisions of our 5 year strategic plan ending December 2026. We partner with stakeholders at both local, sub county, district, regional, national and international levels who have similar work as ours.

A4CY 2024 HIGHLIGHTS IN FIGURES

7,732 CHILDREN GOT
ACCESS TO QUALITY
EDUCATION

900 PEOPLE
PARTICIPATED IN
CLIMATE AND
DISASTER RESPONSE
CAMPAIGNS

3,657 YOUTHS AND
ADOLESCENTS ACCESSED
SRH SERVICES AND
EDUCATION

280 WOMEN, MEN,
CHILDREN AND
YOUTHS TRAINED IN
CHILDREN AND
YOUTHS RIGHTS.

5 VSLA
GROUPS
FORMED
AND
SUPPORTED

100 GIRLS AND 180
WOMEN
RECEIVING
REUSABLE
SANITARY PADS

100 GIRLS RESCUED FROM CHILD
MARRIAGE ENROLLED ON
MARKATABLE 108 VOCATIONAL
SKILLS TRAINING OF HAIR
DRESSING AND TAILORING FOR
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

6 HEALTH FACILITIES
REACHED WITH
HEPATITIS B
MESSAGES. TESTING
AND TREATMENT

108 WOMEN REACHED
WITH CAPACITY
BUILDING ON WOMEN
PEACE AND SECURITY
(WPS) TRAININGS.

12 GBV AND CHILD
RIGHTS VIOLATION
CASES HANDLED
TO CONCLUSION

5 GOVERNMENT
AIDED SCHOOLS
ENGAGED IN CHILD
RIGHTS ADVOCACY

1,098 BENEFICIARIES
WERE REACHED WITH
SERVICES DURING
THIS FINANCIAL
YEAR/ REPORTING

DETAILS OF PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED IN 2024

1. YOUTH SKILLING AND TRAINING

As our niche as A4CY-U, we are greatly rooted in supported youths out of school to attain vocational skills such that they are able to curb down unemployment and idleness. Throughout 2024, we mobilized 233 youths and trained them in sweater knitting, tailoring, hair dressing and craft shoe making. Most of our trained beneficiaries are adolescent girls who dropped out of school, got involved in child marriage and are willing to learn a trade to uplift their lives and that of their children.

Today we are proud of 229 young mothers supported and are actively undergoing training and by September 2025, after completion of the training period, A4CY-U shall avail them with startup tool kits such that they can start practicing the learnt skills and make personal incomes thereby refraining from risky behaviors. This project was mainly funded by Girls First Fund and Uganda Women's Network (UWONET).



Below and Above are girls involved in craft shoe making





Above are girls on training on hair dressing and below are the same girls on their graduation day



2. HEALTH

We have implemented two projects in health which are;

- access to adolescent reproductive health services in Bwesumbu and Buhuhira sub county
- Accelerating Hepatitis B epidemic control in the Kasese and Ntoroko districts of Rwenzori region

Under these projects we have been able to train more 48 girl to girl mentors in Buhuhira Sub County, making the number of mentors to 96 of which 83 are female and 13 are males, these are charged with reaching out fellow adolescents with health messages, counselling and referral and linkage to health services at the established adolescent centers at Buhuhira and Bwesumbu Health Center III's respectively.

In 2024, we were able to reach out to 934 adolescents with SRH services and information which is 61% of our two years project target for 2024 and 2025, we are hopeful that in 2025 we shall be able to reach out to the remaining 39%.

We have supported girls in and out of schools with reusable menstrual pads, but also trained girls and women in the making of pads using local materials for sustainability purposes. This has been done in both schools and communities.

We have done health advocacy meetings especially on health among sub county and district stakeholders on allocation of essential drugs to hard to reach areas, also having stocks given reallocated to places where there stock to where there's stock outs. This has resulted into follow up and supervision visits of the district health teams to some health where issues have been raised from the community for them to ascertain the challenges and finding solutions.

Establishment of Adolescent Center in Buhuhira and Bwesumbu sub counties, these are hard to reach and live sub counties that are hit mainly by GBV and child marriages. We then established in Buhuhira and maintained the one in Bwesumbu to ensure that SRH services are accessible and given to the youths to curb down on teenage pregnancies and other risky behaviors. An adolescent nurse is always at the center to attend to the adolescents, make follow up visits and link to other health service providers.

A lot of work has been done in schools to ensure that children are aware of their health rights but also know their bodies. Many times, children are ignorant of how their body functions, they are fed on myths and misconceptions which do not work and land then in health risks and sometimes lead to death when practiced.



Above and Below are the trained mentors in Bwesumbu Sub County



STRENGTHENING OF COMMUNITY YOUTH ACTION AND ADVOCACY GROUPS

We have formed 5 Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) in Bwesumbu and Buhuhira of which two of them are for the trained adolescent mentors. We are using these groups as a basis for all our community engagements and activities for sustainability services. We have introduced other innovative activities to keep these groups engaged like basket making, liquid and bar soap making, making of mats etc.

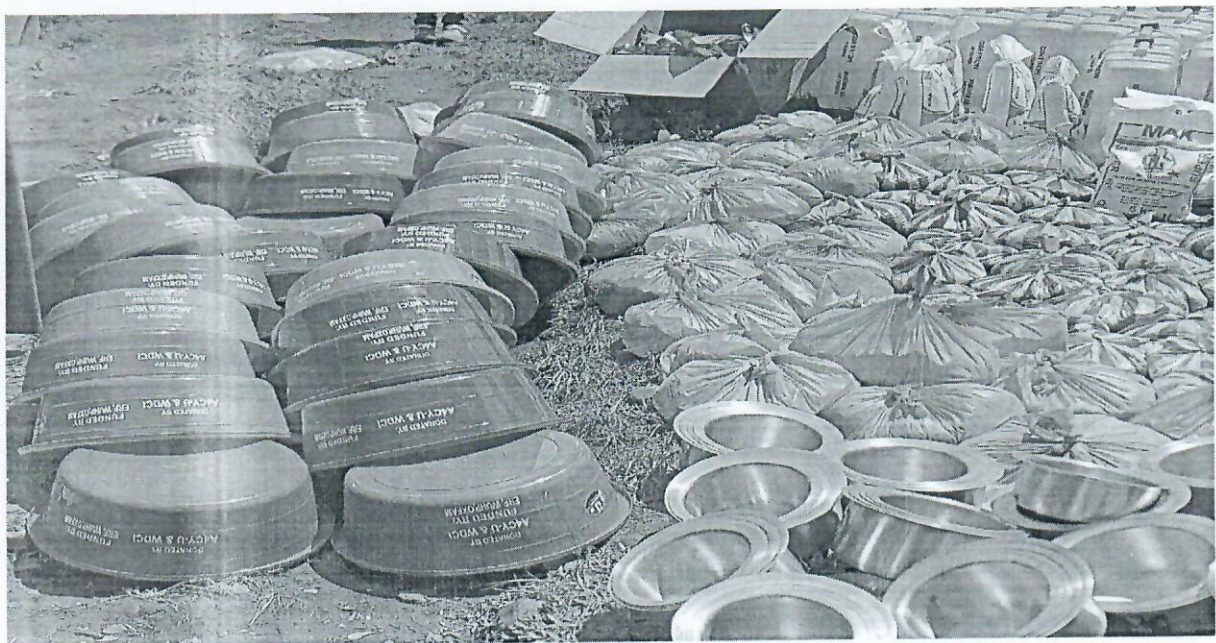
At school level we have formed 3 school rights and advocacy groups that we plan to continue engaging in 2025 and going forward.

DISASTER RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT

A4CY-U in partnership with western Uganda Humanitarian Platform with support from OXFAM in Uganda implemented the disaster response and advocacy project for three months reaching out to the people internally displaced at Nyambuku SDA Primary school.

We supported them with relief items including (maize flour, cassava flour, beans), non-food items like basins, jerricans, taplines, sauce pans reusable menstrual pads, water purifying tablets, scholastic materials (pens, mathematical sets, exercise books and pencils) for school going children. We also supplied some clothing to old women these were given to us by our A4CY-U board members.

We also created awareness about climate change resilience looking at the fact that disasters happen every year round in Kasese district and most mountainous sub counties are mostly affected we thought it wise that communities need to embrace attitude change and resilience mechanisms to ensure we mitigate the effects of climate change disasters, by planting more trees and vegetation cover especially the bamboo trees, stop erecting houses on steep slopes, invest in rain harvesting etc.





A cross section of Relief items that were supplied to displaced people



Above are beneficiaries with cassava flour and below with jerricans



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Total revenue for 2024 was USD 51,319 which was received through donations, grants and in kind contributions from A4CY-U board members. It made it possible for Alliance for Children and Youth Uganda to carry out various projects and campaigns for children and people who need help in all our operating areas.

Alliance for Children and Youth Uganda spent 90.0% of the total revenue on operating programs. Child rights protection and youth care is the main program area spent on followed by youth skilling and livelihood, then health and finally disaster preparedness, response and management.

Total revenue in USD 51,319

GRANTS AND DONATIONS	
GIRLS FIRST FUND	57.3%
OXFAM	9.2%
OTHERS	27.4%
BOARD CONTRIBUTIONS	4.9%
PIGGY BANK CONTRIBUTIONS	1.2%

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Alliance for Children and Youth Uganda (A4CY-U) has again maintained a good working relationship with Institutional donors and worked hand in hand in creating innovative and sustainable changes. We value our supporters, donors and partners who have continued to support the organization in all its interventions in the vulnerable communities in this past year.

We are honored by the generous support of every individual, local governments, private sectors, corporate bodies, Institutions/schools, beneficiaries and the entire citizenry who have supported our mission and services throughout this financial year.

Our partners and valued stakeholders in 2024 include:

1. Uganda Women's Network (UWONET)
2. Girls First Fund (GFF)
3. World Hepatitis Alliance
4. OXFAM in Uganda
5. Uganda Women Rights Defenders Network (UWRDN)
6. Uganda Child Rights Network (UCRN)
7. Western Uganda Humanitarian Platform (WUHP)
8. Kasese district Local Government (KDLG)
9. Great Lakes Peace Center (GLPC)
10. Ntoroko District Local government (NDLG)
11. Mayanja Memorial Hospital Foundation (MMHF)
12. Enabel
13. Bundibugyo District Local Government (BDLG)
14. Women Destiny Changers Initiative (WDCI)
15. Young Agro Green Africa Network (YAGANET)
16. African center for treatment and rehabilitation of torture victims
17. Inspire Girls Foundation (IGF)
18. Gender Environment Development Advocacy (GEDA)
19. Bwera United Women With Disabilities (BUDWA)
20. Justice Centers Uganda (JCU) Kasese Office
21. Center For Gender Equity (CEGE)
22. Creations Forum Afrika (CAF)
23. Girl Empowerment Foundation (GEF)
24. Kikorongo women for Development
25. Green Home Foundation for Development.

SUCCESS STORIES

STORY 1: THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF HEALTH OUTREACHES IN NTOROKO; SARAH'S TESTIMONY

Amongin Sara, a 27-year-old mother of four from Rwebisengo in Ntoroko district CDP has a testimony on the importance of regularly attending the community health outreaches organized by A4CY-U

Recently, Sara tragically lost a child to malaria because the local health facility ran out of antimalarial medication, and she couldn't afford to buy it. "I didn't have the money at that time and planned to work in someone's garden to earn enough to buy the drugs, but God took him before that," she recounts.

Sara expresses her deep gratitude to A4CY-U for their dedication to providing medical care through these outreaches. She hopes that such support continues and that the government will also step up its efforts to increase the supply of medicines to their health facility.

She explains that through these outreaches she has been provided with crucial access to medical services with her remaining children that are often difficult to obtain at local health facilities.

"These outreach services, supported by A4CY-U, ensure we have the necessary medicines and information on Hepatitis B unlike when we go to the health facility where we often have to pay heavy consultation fees to access services and buy expensive drugs from shops," she says. "These camps helped us to have trained medical workers get closer to us and consult them for free for not only hepatitis B related sicknesses for general health services", Sara Added.

STORY 2: GIRLS' ADOLESCENT MENTORS, FOSTERING GROWTH AND CONFIDENCE AMONG YOUTHS IN BUHUHIRA

A4CY-U has long supported the identification of girl adolescent mentors in Bugoye, Maliba, and Bwesumbu and Now in Buhuhira Sub County.

A4CY-U supported the establishment of the Adolescent clinics in the above mentioned sub counties, these are Girl and adolescent Friendly Spaces (GFS) where they walk in and access free health services and information. We facilitated the formation and training of Girls Adolescent Mentors equipped them with skills in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), using information from workbooks and with support from Senior Women Teachers (SWTs) and Senior Male Teachers (SMTs).

This approach has promoted the sustainability of SRHR interventions among in and out of school adolescents. With guidance and support from SWTs and SMTs, the Girls and Boys select topics and engage their peers according to a schedule within the activity time allocated by the schools.

This program has enabled peers to dispel myths and misconceptions, empower each other with personal support skills and cultivate a sense of belonging. The participants, who identify as Girls Adolescent mentors positively impact their self-confidence and school environment.

STORY 3: NANJURA SARAH: SAVED FROM VIOLENCE AND TORTURE

Sarah a resident of Maghoma village in Bugoye Sub County is 51 years old and a mother of 9 children. She lives in abusive relationship where her husband uses any slight provocation as an opportunity to beat her.

On fateful evening after she had sold two basins/tins of coffee and bought a few home provisions, the husband returned home very angry and threatening to kill her. The argument lead to a bitter a fierce fight that left Sarah beaten up to pulp, unable to walk and help herself. The husband dragged her to a store room where she was locked there for a day with food or drinking.

One of her children tipped off a neighbor who also reported to the VHT and she was rescued from the house. Alliance for Children and Youth Uganda, a member of the Kasese District Rapid Response Network working in Bugoye Sub County was contacted to provide support inform of transporting Sarah from her home to Bugoye Health Center IV for treatment.

On arrival to hospital, the woman was almost naked since her dress was torn and soaked in dirt, A4CY-U informed the sub county community development officer, ensured she gets proper medication, other clothes to change in, food and psychosocial counselling for her mental wellbeing.

After 4 days at health facility, A4CY-U together Sarah's relatives cleared the bill and took her to her maternal home (which was the safest place for), where the CDO kept visiting her for counselling sessions. Sarah's Husband fled the village fearing arrest and has never returned.

Alliance for Children and Youth Uganda is hoping to support Sarah with small seed capital to help her start a food stall at Bugoye trading center to support her feeding and other necessities.

CONTACT US

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