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UGANDA

CHILD PROTECTION

TECHNICAL PROGRAMME 2024

Impact Stories

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ACRONYMNS & ABBREVIATIONS

AP - Area Programme
APs - Area Programmes
CDO - Community Development Office
CDPC - Child Development and Participation Centre
CHAT - Congregational/ Community Hope Action Team
CP -Child Protection
CPC - Child Protection Committee
CPTP - Child Protection Technical Programme
COVA - Community Volunteers
CRC - Child Rights Club
CVA - Citizens Voice and Action
CWD - Children Living with Disabilities
LC - Local Council
LG- Local Government
MHM - Menstrual Health Management
MP - Member of Parliament
PRC - Peace Road Club
PS - Primary School
RC - Registered Child
SDGs - Sustainable Development Goals
SGBV - Sexual and Gender Based Violence
UN - United Nations
UNCRC - United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNICEF - United Nations Children's Fund
WV - World Vision
WVU - World Vision Uganda

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Message from **Luke Siduda**
Technical Programme Lead; Child Protection and Participation
World Vision Uganda.

Dear reader,

I'm thrilled on behalf of the WVU Child Protection and Participation Team and the entire World Vision Uganda to retaliate our commitment to ensuring children are protected, cared for and are participating in making decisions on issues affecting their well-being. This publication of impact stories and videos is a demonstration of our commitment while contributing to the increase in 2,676,032 children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities (free from child marriage, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and child sacrifice and all forms of violence against children) by 2025. This is vivid evidence that the Technical Programme is making strides in contributing to the National strategy of increased and sustained well-being for children, especially the most vulnerable. This strategy enhances child well-being by achieving the Ministry Impact Objective of 'increase in children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities.'

The publication is also a statement of our contribution to the operational excellence Ministry objective of enhanced external engagement and learning to facilitate effective progress towards strategy objectives as we expect stakeholders and partners like government, communities' donors, sponsors, and children to read.

World Vision Uganda takes issues affecting the protection of all children seriously as well as ensures that the Board, SLT and staff involve children at all levels, enabling them to participate all through the project cycle to influence decision-making. During the current strategy 2021—2025 strategy formulation; children were involved in identifying what the priority areas in the strategy should be. Children have been involved in different forums at both local, sub-national, National and International levels to inform or influence decision-making on their well-being.

This publication showcases the Child Protection and Advocacy (CP&A) core model, which is the overarching project model delivering the Technical Programmes goal and outcomes. It lays the foundation for community partnerships to strengthen the child protection system (both formal and informal elements) at the community level, and focuses on participatory analysis, planning, and action for change. This "umbrella" model contains a menu of enabling core models and approaches organized under specific "domains of change" programming areas to address root causes of violence issues in their communities with children as part and parcel of the programme design, implementation and evaluation processes.

As we transition from the current to the next strategy and in alignment with our global strategic direction, we would like to see more children empowered through the established formal and informal spaces, more inclusion of adolescents and young adults especially registered children as well as more empowered families, households and communities that can champion the protection of their children as well as a responsive government service delivery systems that prioritizes services for children well-being at all levels.

Exceeding gratitude goes to the WVU Governing Board, Senior Leadership Team, Our Sponsors/ donors the partner community, boys and girls and the committed and dedicated staff that support the quality implementation of the Technical Programme to address the needs of the Most Vulnerable Children in WV Uganda.

Thank you for serving Children

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Introduction

The World Vision Uganda (WVU) Child Protection Technical Programme champions safe, nurturing environments where children thrive free from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. By empowering families, schools, and communities, it bolsters existing child protection systems, instills core values like respect and empathy, and promotes sustainable, community-driven solutions. Through advocacy, training, and holistic support, the programme ensures that every child's right to a secure, hopeful future is upheld.

VISION

Build loving communities that protect and heal children to prepare them for a brighter future.

GOAL

To contribute to increased children who have positive and peaceful relationships in their families and communities.

Who Does the programme IMPACT?

Most vulnerable girls and boys.
Parents and caregivers.
Faith and cultural leaders.
Teachers and community leaders.
Government (Ministries, Departments, and Agencies) and local governments.
Civil Society Organisations, Non-governmental organizations, and UN agencies.

What will SUCCESS look like?

Children have positive, peaceful relationships with adults and each other.
Parents and caregivers make child-centered decisions and are empowered to respect, nurture and protect children.
Communities, including schools, promote safe environments for children.
Effective laws, policies, and systems are in place and enforced to protect children against all forms of violence.
Increased budget allocations by local governments to support child protection activities/issues.

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NATIONAL CHILD PROTECTION STATISTICS

In the 2024 Financial Year that ended on 30th September 2024. World Vision Uganda (WVU) made remarkable strides in child protection, reporting a 91.4% success rate in achieving its targets over the fiscal year. WVU Child Protection Technical Programme adopted a multi-pronged and holistic approach to esuring the safety of children in schools and communities. The Programme was defined by spiritual nurture, positive parenting, child protection advocacy, and community engagement through CHATs and faith leaders and adopting strategic partnerships

Under spiritual nurture, WVU reached 126,495 boys and girls, nurturing their growth and values. 2,660 active CHATs (Congregational Hope Action Teams) and 1,288 faith leaderswere recorded promoting positive norms, impacting over 38,692 children.

WVU focused extensively on educating parents on positive parenting practices. Over 80,406 parents have over the course of the year shown increased understanding of positive discipline and child protection topics, and 4,010 parents received positive parenting training. Further, 36,763 parents caregivers were engaged by Community Change Groups (CCGs), emphasizing the significance of safe family environments. An impressive 52,619 parents and caregivers were educated on child protection laws, illustrating WVU's commitment to legal awareness among guardians.

WVU made concerted efforts to integrate child protection into governmental structures, incorporating 30 abuse prevention and protection activities into local government plans with allocated budgets. At the national level, WVU took part in 27 dialogue sessions with policymakers, pushing for stronger legislative protections for children.

School Clubswere a safe WVU's mission. Peace Road Club, Spirituial Nurture and Child Rights club continued running in schools. 50,762 children participated in there child protection clubs and related structures across 1,295 schools and in the communities. Additionally, 12,908 children completed a life skills curriculum lasting six months, and 1,602 completed a nine-month program, equipping them with vocational skills, resilience, decision-making skills, and self-worth. Furthermore, WVU supported 4,516 child protection cases reported in schools, with follow-ups ensuring effective case reporting and referral systems for child abuse cases.

WVU also made strides in supporting children with disabilities. A total of 307 boys and girls received assistive devices, helping them lead more independent lives, while 2,332 children with special needs actively participated in programs promoting their well-being.

37 active foster parents provided supportive homes for 30 children over the year. WVU expanded training and capacity building, with 2,264 child protection actors—including social workers, police, church leaders, and school patrons training in child protection reporting and referral systems.

WVU's advocacy for violence prevention encouraged meaningful youth participation. Nearly 47,588 boys and girls joined actions aimed at ending violence against children, along with 5,859 children and 2,909 adolescents who actively engaged in violence-prevention efforts in their communities.

WVU's efforts created life-changing impacts beyond direct protection. More than 95,858 children in WVU's sponsorship programs reported that their involvement provided life-enriching experiences, positively affecting themselves, their families, and communities.

WVU responded to six reported cases of sexual violence, highlighting ongoing challenges in child protection. In total, 3,440 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions, ensuring that all affected children received immediate support and protection.

Overall, WVU supported 27 legislative and normative recommendations, promoting child protection reforms across the country. With 373 active Community Change Groups and 347 functional child protection structures, WVU built a network of support for children across Uganda.



Patience, 12, a P6 pupil at Kanu Primary School in Abim addresses members of the Peace Road Club on 20th September 2024

ABIM AP, AWACH AP, LOBALANGI-KARENGA AP

The Child Protection efforts in Karamoja (Abim, Awach and Karenga 'Lobalangit-Karenga' Area Programs) in the Financial Year ending September 2024 were as follows.

Abim recorded ***1215*** learners actively involved in Child Protection Clubs in schools, while Awach and Karenga recorded ***794*** and ***250*** learners, respectively. Each AP registered six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures running in the reporting period. Abim has 18 school child protection clubs, Awach has ***12***, while ***21*** such clubs are in Karenga.

Karamoja had no recorded children in foster care or documented active foster parents. As a result of WVU interventions, ***80*** reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in ***2024.10.19***

118 abuse cases were followed up in schools in Abim, ***107*** were followed up in Awach and ***247*** in Karenga. ***1196*** boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions that support ending violence against children in Abim, ***818*** and ***987*** in Awach and Karenga, respectively.

WVU CP interventions in Karamoja reached ***4097*** parents in the Abim AP, ***2004***, in Awach AP and ***4694*** in Karenga in the reporting period accounting. The above numbers of parents recorded demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child Protection-related issues.

Abim AP is covered by ***87*** active CHATS and ***35*** faith leaders focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP. Awach AP has ***96*** CHATs and ***40*** faith leaders, while Karenga has 100 CHATS and ***92*** faith leaders serving the same purpose. Karamoja recorded ***599*** children in Abim, ***407*** children in Awach and ***732*** children under the spiritual nurture initiatives in 2024.

In Abim, ***61*** boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affect their well-being in the reporting period. ***32*** children were recorded in Awach AP, while Karenga AP recorded ***59*** children. However, only one assistive device was issued to children with special needs in Karamoja.

WVU equipped ***80*** child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system in Karamoja. ***3039*** Registered Children in the Abim AP report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. ***3019*** of these children say the same in Awach. The same sentiment is echoed by ***2764*** children in Karenga. ***857*** boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in Karamoja in the reporting period.



Backy, 13 pictured heading to class after breakfast at Kanu Primary School in Abim District on 20th September 2024.



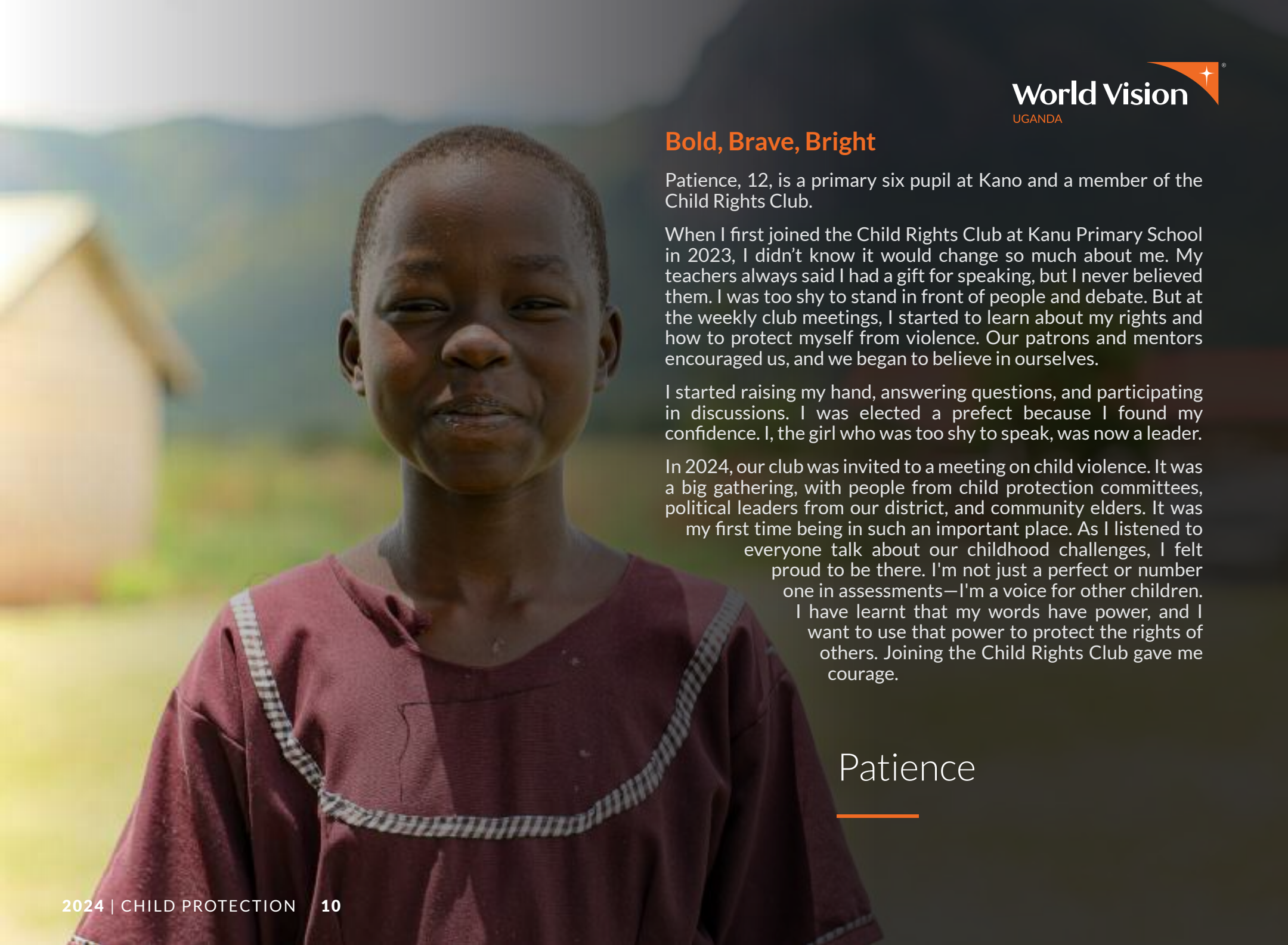
Pupils of Kanu Primary School gather around a shared borehole to wash their cups after a meal of maize porridge on 20th September 2024

How Kanu Primary School, is keeping children safe and in school

Kanu Primary School is one of the schools in Abim district benefiting from WVU Child Protection programming. The school has 1,436 Learners: 733 boys and 703 girls. 32 of the learners at the school are children with different special needs.

According to David Muron, the Child Rights Club patron at the school, four child protection clubs are active at Kanu. Peace Road: 23 boys, 32 girls. Child Rights: 24 boys, 28 boys. Dare to Discover has 50 members (25 boys, 25 girls). The clubs meet once a week. The school also has the Coaching Boys into Men project that is focused on equipping boys with positive skills and combating violence among children.

'In the past, we struggled with absenteeism and endless cases of violence among our students. Lessons from the Peace Road Club have substantially reduced absenteeism, fighting and bullying. Our learners appreciate the need for them to stay in school more. Weekly markets are no longer a distraction as much as they were. There is a shift in behaviour among our learners: sharing, politeness, obedience, and general respect have all improved,' David says.



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Bold, Brave, Bright

Patience, 12, is a primary six pupil at Kano and a member of the Child Rights Club.

When I first joined the Child Rights Club at Kanu Primary School in 2023, I didn't know it would change so much about me. My teachers always said I had a gift for speaking, but I never believed them. I was too shy to stand in front of people and debate. But at the weekly club meetings, I started to learn about my rights and how to protect myself from violence. Our patrons and mentors encouraged us, and we began to believe in ourselves.

I started raising my hand, answering questions, and participating in discussions. I was elected a prefect because I found my confidence. I, the girl who was too shy to speak, was now a leader.

In 2024, our club was invited to a meeting on child violence. It was a big gathering, with people from child protection committees, political leaders from our district, and community elders. It was my first time being in such an important place. As I listened to everyone talk about our childhood challenges, I felt proud to be there. I'm not just a perfect or number one in assessments—I'm a voice for other children. I have learnt that my words have power, and I want to use that power to protect the rights of others. Joining the Child Rights Club gave me courage.

Patience

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Lawrence's story of overcoming adversity and learning while at it.

Nine-year-old Lawrence lives in Awach, Abim District. He struggles with learning and is confined to a wheelchair that WVU provided to him in 2023. Lawrence's mother equally uses a wheelchair. The two are under the care of Lawrence's uncle, Dominic. Lawrence is currently enrolled at a Child Development and Participation Centre in Awach, where he receives literacy lessons and psychosocial support. Last year, the land Lawrence and his mother were occupying was claimed by a richer relative who threatened to have them leave the land.

According to John Vianey, a Child Protection Committee member in Awach, Lawrence and his mother, being in imminent danger of violence, were moved to a safer location. Lawrence was given a bag to ease his daily trips to the learning centre. His mother is a beneficiary of a livelihood fund under WVU, which enables Lawrence's mother to look after his son's unique needs. Mother and son are safer here. Obiya has friends to play with and a safe community that looks out for him and his mother.

Lawrence



John Vianey


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PADER PAJULE AP

Pajule AP FY 2024 Statistics

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Pajule AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,000 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 100 active CHATs promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 1,599 children. 40 Faith Leaders also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period. 2,441 parents in Pajule AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. WVU Community. Pajule has 30 active CP clubs in schools and six (6) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 1502 school-going children and children in the communities.

WVU led or supported one national dialogue/lobbying process and meetings with decision-makers Pajule AP. WVU also supported one legislative and normative recommendation in Pajule. 50 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.

83 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 85 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. 2,305 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

2,548 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,549 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 57 of these children are children with Special Needs.

Ociga Child Development And Participation Centre - the Oasis of Hope and Peace

In Ociga Village, Pajule sub-county, Pader district, the OCIGA Child Development and Participation Centre is creating a positive change. This centre, founded to provide children with practical skills and a safe space to interact and engage, has become a centre of hope for this community.

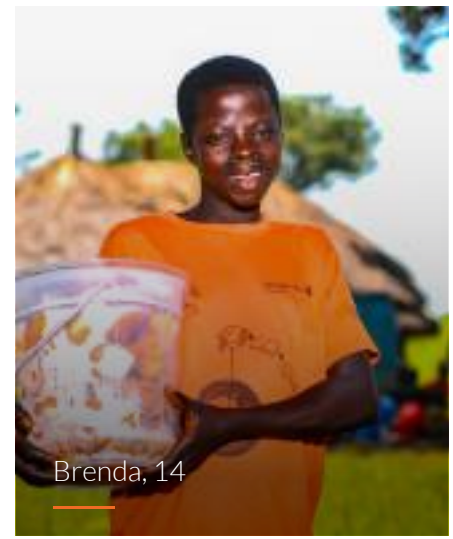
According to Agenrwot Sunday, a facilitator at this CDPC ‘at OCIGA, children are nurtured in spirituality and life skills and empowered with hard skills that prepare them for the realities of life. We offer hands-on poultry keeping, bookkeeping, baking, small business management, and leadership training. We also teach our children teamwork, discipline, time management and communication skills. We use the centre to meet parents and train them on positive parenting. This has helped reduce child marriage, violence against children, and child labour in our community. Children can also report child abuse cases privately here.

One of the examples of the centre's impact is 15-year-old Moriss, a pupil at Ociga Primary School. Moriss is currently learning poultry keeping. Moriss hopes to use his knowledge to raise and sell chickens, with the income supporting his schooling by helping him purchase scholastic materials. He is learning to care for poultry and plan, budget, and grow a small business.

Brenda, a 13-year-old, joined the center in January 2023. Brenda has become skilled in making mandazi, a wheat bread fried in oil. She makes and sells the mandazi. The money she makes contributes directly to her education, helping her purchase necessities for school.

These children are not just learning how to survive but being prepared to thrive. At OCIGA, the focus is on giving them the tools to be self-reliant, resilient, and responsible future community leaders.


Moriss, 12


Brenda, 14

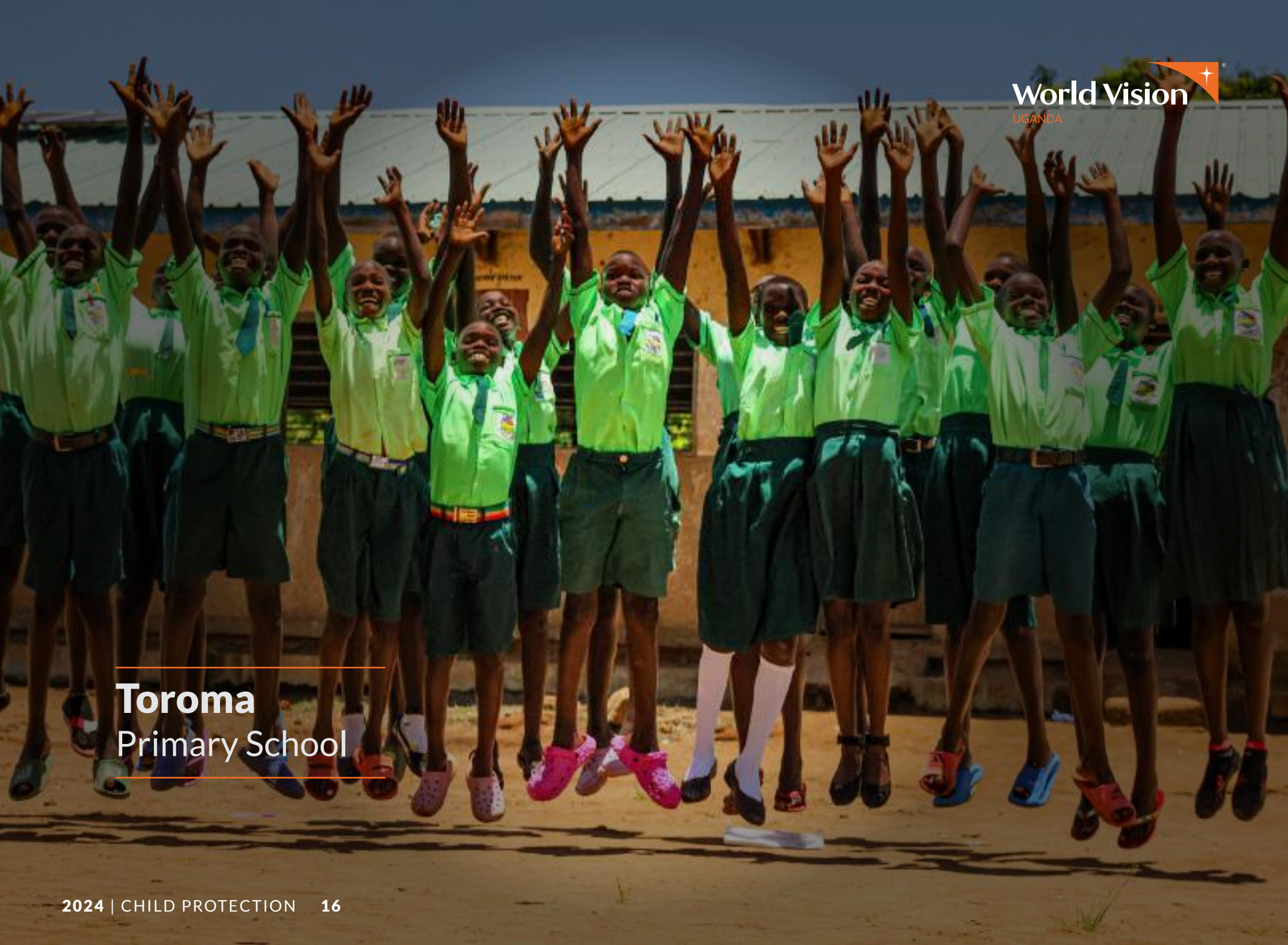
WOL AP

Wol is one of the three APs located in the Pader-Agago Cluster. The Child Protection efforts in Wol in the Financial Year ending September 2024 were as follows.

WVU interventions reached 4,254 parents in the reporting period, accounting for 86.5% of the anticipated number of parents. The recorded 4254 parents demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child protection-related issues.

Wol AP is covered by 93 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 40 Faith leaders. These CHATs engaged with 1,273 children in the 2024 FY. Wol recorded 41 Active Child Protection clubs covering 1,393 learners. Wol also has six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures. As a result of WVU interventions, 26 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024, and 70 such cases were followed up in schools.

1,391 boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions that supported ending violence against children in 2024. In Wol, 15 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affect their well-being in the reporting period. However, no assistive devices were issued to children with special needs. Wol equipped 50 child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system. 2,087 of Registered Children in Wol report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.


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Toroma
Primary School

The Unique approach to fighting school drop out and Violence: The Toroma Methods.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989 provides for the protection of the rights of children. At Toroma Primary School in Agago, child protection is taken seriously. The school recognizes the importance of ensuring children are safe and secure at school and free from violence. To combat violence in school, the school keeps a violence register that helps teachers monitor and address incidents of violence. Names, dates and descriptions of acts of violence like fighting, bullying, or stoning are kept. Teachers are discouraged from caning pupils, too. Teachers are trained in non-violent approaches to discipline. The school runs a dispute resolution system that actively involves parents, especially in cases of violence involving repeat offenders. The school also has three active clubs focused on child protection: Peace Road Club, Spiritual Nurture and Child Rights Club.

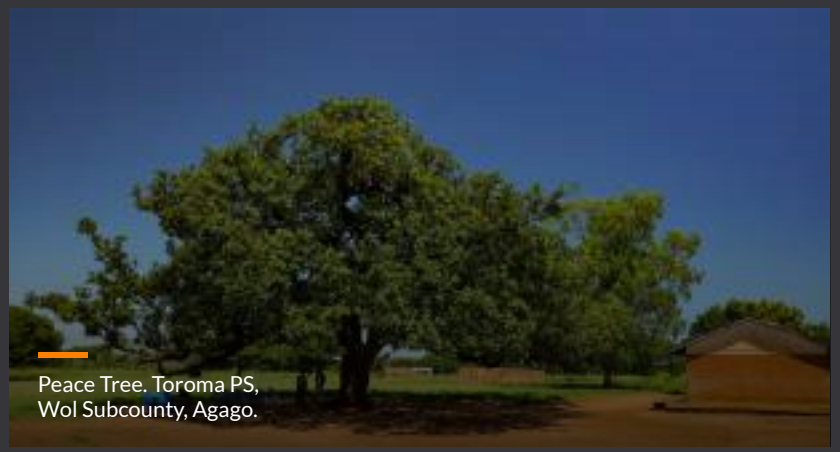
George, 42, an English and social studies teacher, is the Child Rights Club patron here. He says the club has helped the school spread the message of peaceful resolution of disputes. This has significantly reduced cases of fighting.

"When a child is repeatedly involved in trouble, we don't just discipline the child. We bring in the parents, have conversations, and try to find the root of the problem. We initially struggled with children dropping out of school, but now we look for early signs of trouble, like absenteeism, because that's often the first sign a child is at risk of dropping out. We also make it a point to visit the homes of learners who have dropped out. We don't just counsel the child and parent; we sensitize them to the importance of education," George explains.

According to George, girls at the school are looked out for by the senior woman teacher who offers guidance guidance on sensitive issues like sexual abuse, early pregnancy, and child marriage. Through sessions on reproductive rights, the senior woman teacher makes sure girls are aware of their rights, the risks they might face, and where to report abuse in the community.



George, the PRC patron addresses the Club members under the Peace Tree, a large shea nut tree at Toroma PS, Agago on 18th September 2024



Peace Tree. Toroma PS, Wol Subcounty, Agago.



Toroma PRC Club members pose with their teachers after a club activity at the school on 18th September 2024.

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How Peace Road Club is helping Tonny Become Resilient

Tonny, 13, is a primary five pupil at Toroma Primary School. Tonny is a member of the Peace Road Club, which he joined in 2023. 'Before I joined the Peace Road club, I always kept to myself, and I had a bad mouth that would abuse my friends. I stayed alone even during break time. I was sad because I missed my mother. I have never met my father. After my mother died, I went to live with my grandmother. I then moved in with my aunt,' he explains.

'When I joined Peace Road last year, everything started to change. I made friends and became active. I became happier. I gained confidence through the club's singing, dancing, and parade activities. Club members also speak at the school assemblies, which has helped us learn to be confident. We are peace agents. Peace is our role. We advise ourselves to stay at school, avoid bad groups, control our anger, and make good friends. We also are told where and how to report rights abuses in our communities. Our school is now a place of kindness, respect and forgiveness thanks to the peace road.'



Tonny

LOKOLE- PARABONG AP

Lokole - Parabong The Child Protection efforts in Lokole- Parabong in the FY ending September 2024 were as follows.

WVU CP interventions reached 4847 parents in the reporting period, accounting for 86.5% of the anticipated number of parents. The 4847 parents recorded demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child Protection-related issues.

The AP is covered by 97 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 40 Faith leaders. These CHATs engaged with 1101 children in 2024 FY. The AP recorded 24 Active Child Protection clubs covering 1600 learners. The AP also has six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures. As a result of WVU interventions, 110 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024, and 123 such cases were followed up in schools.

In Lokole-Parabong, 20 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affected their well-being in the reporting period. However, no assistive devices were issued to children with special needs during this period. WVU equipped 50 child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system. 2126 of Registered Children in the AP report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. In Lokole, 2110 trained parents/caregivers know the laws regarding specific child protection issues.

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Oscar

Oscar, 15, is a primary seven pupil at Pakor. Oscar dreams of Parliament because he hopes to be a member of Parliament someday. Pakor Primary School has an active Child Rights Club under which the school holds Children's parliament debate sessions. The debates focus on matters affecting children in Pakor, Kalongo, Agago and Uganda.

“My name is Oscar. I live with my grandfather from my father's side here in Kalongo. My father separated from my mother, who now lives with another family. My father grows maize and beans. I miss my mother sometimes. I am a member of the Peace Road and Child Rights Clubs. Under Child Rights, we were introduced to ‘twero wa', which means 'Our rights' in my language, Acoli. As children, we have many rights. The right to education, right to play, right to food, play, health care and protection. In our club, we were taught to report anyone who abuses our rights or children's rights in our communities or at school. Before the club was introduced here, teachers used to cane us, and they would say mean things to us in class. Our teachers no longer beat us to discipline us." reports Osacar



According to Akullo Gladys, the Peace Road Club Patron, the club has enabled the school to impart life skills and values to the learners. "Our children have learnt how to resolve disputes amongst themselves without fighting, unlike in the past. We used to lose learners to farm work during the planting and harvesting season, but the school dropout rate has decreased. The students also know how to identify and safely report instances of child abuse at school and in the communities. We also host music, dance and drama activities to keep our students interested in school," she says.

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Go tell it on the Mountain: Child Protection in the Face of Kalongo Hill.

Pakor Primary School faces the iconic Kalongo Hill in Kalongo Sub-county Agago District. Enrollment: 826 pupils (649 Registered Children). 30 learners belong to the Peace Road Club. The Child Rights Club has 50 members, while Dare to Discover has 100. Each of these clubs has two patron teachers. According to Akello Gladys, the school headmistress, the school has three most vulnerable children. Two pupils here are heads of their families, having lost their parents in an accident.

Pakor
Primary School



Gulu-Omoro
CLUSTER

Francis, 18 helps a colleague pump water at the community borehole located within the Toroma School compound on 19th September 2024. Kica is the PRC Chairperson at this school.

Gulu - Omoro Child Protection Statistics FY 2024

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CHILD PROTECTION	Koro	Lalogi	Paico
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.	1278	1230	1503
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities	100	100	50
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	1188	1117	1007
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices	40	40	20
Parents trained in positive parenting			
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline	4034	4201	1405
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities	2550	2171	2545
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period	36	36	3
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (6 Months or longer)	523	565	466
Functional informal and formal CP structures	6	6	6
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	50	6	6
Parents/caregivers sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues.		2096	1001
Number of reported child abuse cases referred to relevant institutions/ structures	194	105	35
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	259	227	32
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.	3108	4483	802
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in issues that affect their well-being.	1198	997	768
Boys and girlsare supported with assistive devices.	25		21
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being.	55	55	30
Girls and boys reported to have experienced sexual violence.			

KEY:

Koro: Koro-Bobi AP
Lalogi: Lalogi - Lakwana AP
Paico: Paico-Bungatira AP

LALOGI - LAKWANA AP

The Role Child Protection Committees play to ensure Children are Protected in Rural areas.

In most rural communities, like Lalogi, outdated cultural practices are still prevalent. Children are especially direct or indirect victims of practices like domestic violence, gender-based violence and violence against Children. World Vision Uganda is empowering communities to combat harmful practices. Through trained Child Protection Commitees, the communities are abandoning these bad practices and adopting better practices. Congregational /Community Hope Action Teams (CHATs) actively promote positive norms and practices. Trained Child Protection Volunteers like Owor Daniel and Patrick Okumu are essential in ensuring parents and caretakers appreciate their responsibilities towards children.

'We sensitise parents on children's rights like right to education and protection from harm. We guide our people on the dangers of child marriage, the need to keep girls in school, and the risks and dangers of Violence against children. We also guide the communities in reporting and referring cases hinged on child protection issues.' Daniel says. He adds that in the past before Child Protection sensitisation campaigns were launched in Lalogi, child neglect was high. Domestic violence was also prominent.

Lalogi-Lakwana AP has 100 active CHATs and 40 spiritual leaders promoting positive community norms and practices. These CHATs are serving 1117 children in the AP. 84.5% of parents in this AP demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues.

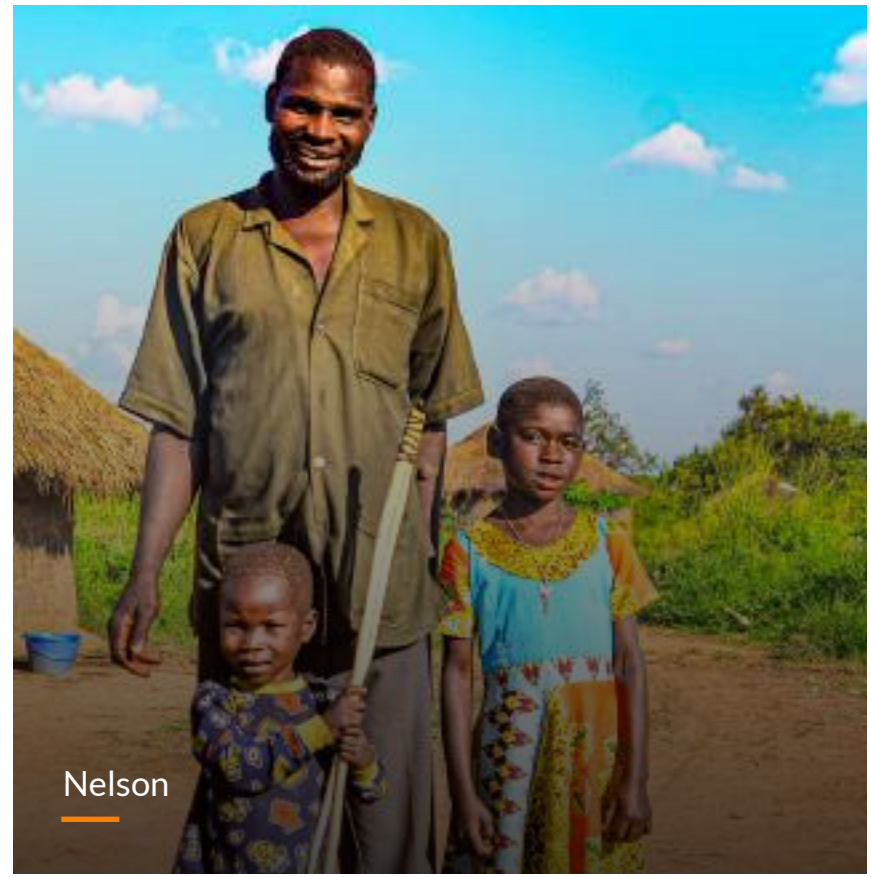
2171 children reported and registered as participating in the 36 CP clubs in schools in Lalogi-Lakwana AP. As a result of WVU interventions, 2096 trained parents/caregivers have knowledge of the laws regarding specific child protection issues. Additionally, 105 reported child abuse cases have been referred to relevant institutions/ structures in the same period.

Combating Violence Against Children in Lalogi

'My name is Nelson, and I'm a resident of Abalobedo in Omoro Town Council. A few months ago, Fred, my grandson, and my daughter Prossy became victims of violence against children in our own village. The suspect, someone we knew, assaulted them badly after the children caught him red-handed, attempting to steal grain in my home. Usually, matters like these are ignored, but the community didn't just stand by this time. We had been trained in child protection and knew the importance of involving the authorities in matters threatening our children.My people of Abalobedo acted fast; they caught the man responsible and informed the Child Protection Committee leaders, who contacted our WVU office.'

'The Child Protection Committees (CPCs) stepped in right away. They gathered evidence from the scene, informed the Community Development Officer (CDO), and reported the case to the police. With their support, we knew that the case would not be overlooked. The suspect was taken to the police station, and the CPCs kept following up to ensure justice was served.'

'I sold one of my oxen and a goat—animals I had worked hard to raise—to pay for these children's medical expenses. This experience showed me the strength of our community. The CPC used the opportunity to remind us about our important responsibility to protect our children and to always report any instances of abuse suffered by any child in the community.'


Nelson



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Spiritual Nurture
Panykworo Primary School

PAICO-BUNGATIRA AP

How Panykworo Primary School is Ensuring Children are Fed, Violence-free and thriving.

The one thing that stands out about Panykworo Primary School in Paicho is that every first few days of reporting, parents carry dry food in sisal sacks to school. Beans and maise sacks are carried and weighed at the school before being stored away. The food is cooked and served to pupils here. Parents who cannot pay school fees in cash, are allowed to carry dry food which is weighed and valued by the school. One of the core objectives of the WVU CP programme is to ensure children are in school and that their stay in school is premised on wellness, safety, and freedom from violence. Children in safe schools are shielded from harmful cultural practices like excessive child domestic labour, child marriage and even bad influence in the communities from adults who might have access to such children.

2,545 children are reported and registered as participating in the 3 CP clubs in the Paico- Bungatira AP schools in 2024. As a result of WVU interventions, 1001 trained parents/caregivers have knowledge of the laws regarding specific child protection issues. Additionally, 35 reported child abuse cases have been referred to relevant institutions/ structures in the same period.

At Panykworo Primary School, the pupils meet every Wednesday under tree shades, on the football field or in classrooms. Wednesday is the official Spiritual Nurture Day. Through Bible studies, praise and worship, and self-discovery sessions, learners are taken.
In addition to spiritual teachings, the classes sometimes include lessons on practical life skills such as conflict resolution, handling peer pressure, and developing self-esteem—all rooted in a faith-based perspective.

According to 14-year-old Guma Jonathan, who joined the club in 2023 and wants to be a lawyer, *'the club has helped me improve my discipline, connect better with my colleagues and how to pray for those that need prayers like the sick or those who are in pain.'* Guma, whose mother is a teacher and father a road contractor, says he used to insult and abuse people regardless of their age or size, including his brothers and sisters at home. He thus had a strained relationship with his friends, who avoided him. He now considers himself a better-behaved boy.

Prisca Angella Laker, a primary seven pupil, says the club has enabled her to appreciate the importance of community. She says she has learnt the value of cooperation, kindness, and sharing through group discussions, games, and shared activities. *'When you share, the next time you do not have, your friends will share their things with you,'* she advises. Laker wants to be the Speaker of Parliament.


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Okwir
Primary School

KORO-BOBI AP

Koro-Bobi AP has 2550 child participants in the 36 Child protection Clubs in the schools within the AP. As a result of WVU interventions, 259 reported child abuse cases in schools have been referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024. 1198 boys and girls have meaningfully participated in actions that support ending violence against children in Koro-Bobi in 2024, according to Patrick, who is a community volunteer for Child Protection. Okwir Primary School is located in Omoro district. The school has 478 pupils, 10 of whom are special needs children. The school has an active Peace Road Club, which is slowly but surely impacting pupils' lives. Okwir Primary School equally has the Child Rights Club and Spiritual Nurture Club. Below is Naome's story.

"My name is Naome, and I'm a 15-year-old twin. My sister is Dina from Okwir Primary School in Omoro District. , I'm a proud member of the Peace Road Club, which has 50 members. When I first joined, I struggled with expressing my feelings. I used to hold everything in or say things that hurt others without realising it. But through the club, I've learned how to express my feelings without hurting anyone else. This has helped me build better relationships with my friends. We were also taught to have a heart for our community. We clear the bushes on our roads and visit the elderly in our village to help them fetch water and clean their compounds. I want to be a policewoman in future."

Mathew, the PRC patron at Okwir Primary School, says the club runs a Peace Garden project focused on beekeeping. The garden has compound flower seedlings and watermelons. He says projects like these teach learners about responsibility and the value of working together as a team. He reports that the club has enabled his learners to adopt the culture of supporting, resolving disputes, and encouraging each other.



Naome & Dina
Peace Road Club Members


World Vision
UGANDA
Oyam
Kole

ABER AP

Statistics

Aber AP is one of the three Area Programmes under the Oyam-Kole cluster. The AP is covered by 92 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP. These CHATs engaged with 533 children in the 2024 FY.

Aber has five (5) Community Change Groups (CCG), which had the Herculean task of reaching 2020 parents/caregivers in the reporting period.

Aber had 506 child participants in the 36 Child protection Clubs in the schools within the AP. As a result of WVU interventions, 133 reported child abuse cases in schools were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024. 1872 boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions that supported ending violence against children in 2024 in Aber. This year, 55 boys and girls with special needs participated in issues that affect their well-being.



Speak up. Your voice matters.

Once every two weeks, learners at Amati Primary School located in Kamdini Sub-county, Oyam District, meet under the shade of a large mango tree to sing, recite poems, debate and learn about their rights under the Children's Parliament, a mock parliamentary debate activity under the Child Rights Club.

My name is Daniel, and I'm 13 years old. I go to Amati Primary School in Kamdini Sub-county, Oyam District. I'm in Primary Six now, and I want to be a soldier one day. My father is a carpenter, and my mother is a farmer. I am a member of the Child Rights Club. The club has 50 members. Before joining, I didn't know that children have rights. I never thought about things like my right to go to school, to be protected from harm, or even to be treated fairly. Now, I know that all children deserve to be safe and respected. I've learned that if something bad happens, I have a voice that I should use to speak up for myself and for my friends, too.

"The Peace Road Club teaches us how to solve problems without fighting. We are learning how to listen to each other and find solutions by discussing our problems. We are taught to share, respect others, be confident, and avoid bad peer groups." ***Alfred, 13.***

Joyce, the Child Protection Club patron, mentions that members of the Peace Road Club and Spiritual Nurture, the other two Child Protection clubs at the school, meet every Friday. She adds that the clubs have improved discipline, respect and obedience among the learners in school.



Daniel

The 60-year-old Mother of All Children in Aber

For the past seven years, 60-year-old Awor Milly Babu has volunteered time and effort towards her community. The mother of six is a Child Protection Committee member and a Trainer of Trainees empowered by WVU to conduct training of other volunteers on child protection. According to Milly Babu, her role entails conducting home visits to sensitise parents on their responsibilities towards children. Milly Babu actively encourages community members to report incidents of abuse, neglect, exploitation, child labour, mistreatment, or any form of violence. Milly ensures these cases are brought to the attention of the WVU offices, police and local leaders. In the 2024 reporting period, 48 child abuse cases in the community were referred to relevant bodies in Aber.

'For me, protecting children is not just a responsibility. It's something I deeply care about. I hold dialogue meetings with families and community members. We discuss the best interests of children—their right to education, health, and protection from harm. I remind parents that children are a blessing and need our love and guidance.' she says.

As a result of Milly's work in conjunction with other volunteers, child marriage, child neglect, teenage pregnancy, and school drop, our rates have all significantly reduced in Aber. She says that the mindset of the people in her community has changed dramatically for the better. In the 2024 reporting period 1986, parents demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child protection issues in Aber.



Babu

Why Child Mothers Need To be Supported, not Sacrificed.

Nancy* (not real name) is a 17-year-old child mother to a 10-month-old baby. Nancy conceived last year in unfortunate circumstances to an 18-year-old boy who ran away upon learning of her pregnancy. In July this year, a man approached some of Nancy's relatives proposing marriage. The man suggested that since Nancy is his mother, she is a second-hand woman and should be handed over to him for a few goats. Nancy reported the news of this offer to her mother, who swiftly reported this matter to the Child Protection Committee. The committee visited her family and called for a meeting focused on sensitising the community on the rights of children, the dangers of child marriage and why child mothers should be supported to find their feet again and not married off. Considering accepting the marriage offer, Nancy's family rejected it, warning the man never to set foot in the courtyard again.

'World Vision Uganda took me back to school. I am currently studying tailoring at a vocational institute here. I am also a focal person and advocate of exclusive feeding immunisation. I serve as a peer mentor. My role is to advocate against teenage pregnancy and child marriage as a child marriage survivor.' Nancy explains.



ABOKE AP

Special Attention for Special Needs Children in Wigua Primary School.

Wigua Unit Primary School is located in Great Aboke Sub-county in Kole District. The school has 1690 pupils (869 boys and 821 girls). Wigua Unit is also home to 201 children (98 boys and 103 girls) with special needs, some of whom come from Lira, Oyam and Alebtong. According to David Okwee, the Citizen Voice and Action chairperson In Aboke, the school is the only school in Kole that enrols and teaches learners with various categories of needs: hearing impairment, motor challenges, dyslexia, and intellectual needs. Wigua Primary School is one of the 13 primary schools in Aboke that have schools set up child protection clubs.

'In Aboke, we use the Citizen Voice and Action model to sensitise the community on Child Protection Laws and Policies, child protection case management and referral. CVA also emphasises the protection of Vulnerable Children and sensitises parents and caretakers of children with disabilities on care-giving equal opportunities in education,' explains David.

Aboke AP is covered by 98 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 30 Spiritual leaders. These CHATs engaged with 1080 children in 2024 FY. In the reporting period, Aboke's five (5) Community Change Groups (CCG) reached 2087 parents/caregivers. Aboke also has six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures.

As a result of WVU interventions, 63 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024. 1063 boys and girls have meaningfully participated in actions that support ending violence against children in 2024 in Aboke, and 57 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affect their well-being this year.



WIGUA PRIMARY SCHOOL



Prosy flashes the Peace sign flanked by **Naume** (left) and **Gladys** at Wigua Primary School, Aboke Sub-county, Kole district on 19th September 2024

Prossy, the Sign Language Expert of Aboke

My name is Prossy , and I study at Wigua Primary School in Aboke, Kole District. I am 12 years old and proud to be part of the Child Rights Club at my school. My father is an English teacher. He is also a sign language instructor. I learnt from my father how to read and interpret sign language. Because of what I learnt from him, I can now communicate with my classmates who are deaf. Here at Wigua, we have many children with disabilities. Some are deaf, others are blind, and some have physical challenges. But we are all treated equally here.

Because I know sign language, I help my friends who are deaf communicate with teachers and classmates. I also help them understand the lessons during class. Being part of the Child Rights Club has taught me a lot about how important it is to stand up for the rights of every child. I want to be a prison warden like my aunt, who works at Luzira prison. We also learned how to debate and be confident about our rights in the club. Our patron tells us we must report any incidents of abuse against our disabled brothers and sisters in the communities.

MINAKULU AP, OYAM.

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Minakulu AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,513 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 96 active CHATs promoted positive norms and practices in the communities, covering 1,232 children. 39 Faith Leaders also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period. 4,029 parents in Minakulu AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. WVU Community Change Groups reached 2027 parents in the same period. Minakulu has 25 active CP clubs in schools and six(6) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 1511 school-going children and children in the communities.

WVU led or supported one national dialogue/lobbying process and meetings with decision-makers Minakulu AP. 139 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 110 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. 1,027 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period.

2,050 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,888 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 60 of these children are children with Special Needs.

Children's Parliament at Okule Primary School: A Voice for Every Child.

At Okule Primary School in Minakulu, Oyam District, Children's Parliament sessions are serious matters. All learners look forward to the sessions. The speaker wears her white wig, and she is accompanied by her deputy speaker and two sergeants at arms, who both carry maces similar to what is held inside Uganda's parliament. The mace empowers the speaker to control the parliamentary business. When the speaker walks into the August House, everyone stands up. The National Anthem is sung, and prayers are said. The day's motion is announced, and Honourable debaters are invited by the speaker to discuss the motion.

According to the Child Rights Club patron at Okule Teacher Robert, 'the Children's Parliament has given children a chance to voice their concerns, debate important issues, and advocate for their rights. The Child Rights Club has empowered our learners with important skills like confidence, research skills, and teamwork.' he says.

Sarar, 13, the Children's Parliament speaker, said, "Before becoming the Speaker, I was shy and didn't speak up much," Sarah admits. "But now, I feel confident. I've learned to listen carefully to all points and ensure the rules are respected. I have also learnt how to be a good, fair leader who listens.' she says.

Honourable Prisca, a club member, says she has noticed significant changes since joining the Child Rights Club. "Before we had the parliament, many of us didn't know much about our rights," Prisca says. "But now, we know that we have the right to be safe and the right to go to school," she adds.

Regan, 14, who serves as one of the Sergeant at Arms, plays a key role in maintaining order during the parliamentary sessions. His job is to ensure everyone follows the rules and silence is kept.



Left - Right
Regan, Sarar, Patrisia, Joshua

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ACABA AP

Acaba's Child Protection Figures.

Acaba is one of the four APs located in the Oyam-Kole Cluster. The Child Protection efforts in Acaba in the FY ending September 2024 were as follows.

WVU interventions reached 4000 parents in the reporting period, accounting for 100% of the anticipated number of parents. The 4000 parents recorded demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child Protection-related issues.
Acaba AP is covered by 90 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 30 Faith leaders. These CHATs engaged with 1331 children in 2024 FY. Acaba recorded 18 Active Child Protection clubs covering 1200 learners.

Acaba's five (5) Community Change Groups (CCG) reached 1000 parents/caregivers in the reporting period.

Acaba also has six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures. As a result of WVU interventions, 63 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024.1197 boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions that support ending violence against children in 2024. 3193 Registered Children in Acaba report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.

In Acaba, 56 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affect their well-being in the reporting period. However, no assistive devices were issued to children with special needs during this period. Acaba equipped 50 child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system.

The Magic of Positive Parenting.

In Alongmwoc Parish, Western Ward, Oyam District, the Child Protection reporting and referral system is one way the community ensures that parents and caretakers respect children's rights. Here, Positive Parenting sensitisation efforts are slowly uprooting outdated parenting methods focused on violence as a mothods of discipline. According to Local Council One Chairperson Josephine Auma, a Positive Parenting facilitator, *'Positive parenting emphasises mutual respect, communication, and non-violent discipline. We are fighting violence in our homes. Violence as a form of disciplining distances children from parents,'* explains Auma.

Auma narrates that a 34-year-old single mother, early this year, badly wounded her son Kizito, who she accused of stealing 2,000UGX. Concerned for the boy's safety, the community reported the incident to Ms Auma, who intervened. Auma housed Kizito for three weeks while the boy received treatment. The matter was also reported to the police. The mother of the boy was arrested and remanded in prison. Upon her release, she apologised for her actions.

The Child Protection Committee (CPC) in Alongmwoc offered this mother rehabilitation. The mother learned about positive parenting, safe discipline, and peaceful dispute resolution. With support, the Mother has since transformed her parenting approach. She agrees that she was wrong to use violence to teach her son.

"I now understand that violence only hurts our children. We should discipline our children by talking to them and not beating them. We should listen to them, too, and respect their rights," advises the boy's mother.




World Vision
UGANDA
Bugiri

The Child Protection efforts in Bugiri in the FY ending September 2024 were as follows:

CHILD PROTECTION	BU	NAB	NAN
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.			
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities.	40	31	62
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	1006	970	1116
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices.	40	31	52
Parents trained in positive parenting.			
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline.	1280		
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities.	2228		1696
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period.	32		60
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (9 Months or longer).	180	545	184
Functional informal and formal CP structures			
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	50	97	110
Parents/caregivers sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues.	50	979	110
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG).	6	6	6
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	11	395	21
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.	3719	3401	2490
Children participate in actions that support ending violence against children.	1106	1669	2083
Boys and girls recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being.			
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children.			
Boys and girlsare supported with assistive devices.	14	14	17
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being	21	87	22
Girls and boys reported to have experienced sexual violence.			

KEY:

BU - Buwunga AP
NAN - Nankoma AP
NAB - Nabukalu AP

BUWUNGA AP

Meals, Manners and Menstruation. The Magic at St Jude Imuli, Buwunga, Bugiri.

"Two years ago, we noticed that more and more of our learners were staying away from school right after the chaos of the COVID-19 school closure. We had lost a significant number of learners to teenage pregnancy, child marriage and child labour. We needed to devise another way of encouraging learners to return and stay at school. We realised that our learners were hungry throughout the day during school days. We were losing learners to hunger. We sensitised parents to the need to provide food to their children. The school and the parents agreed to give the kids in the lower classes porridge and lunch to the older learners. Parents decided to contribute maise and beans in kind and modest sums to enable us to mill the maise and pay the cooks. World Vision community volunteers played an incredible role in amplifying our voices to the parents on the need to keep children in school.

Around the same time, we established the Peace Road Club to counter the problems we were facing at St Jude Imuli. The lockdown did something to our children; they were irritable, and it appears the confinement at home for long had resulted in abuse for some of them. Absenteeism and violence at school were high. PRC has been very helpful in changing the mindset of our learners, especially regarding respect and discipline."

Namuleke Irene, Peace Road Club Matron, St Jude Imuli Primary School, Bugiri.

While the lack of meals kept a significant number of children away from school. Another crisis reared its head, targeting young female learners. Half the girls in the upper classes resorted to missing school for prolonged periods due to period poverty and shame.

According to Akello Devonta, 13. "Girls who lacked access to sanitary towels to contain their flow opted to stay home." Akello Devonta, the head prefect at St Jude, is also the chairperson of the Peace Road Club. Akello lives with her maternal grandfather. She says she felt the Club had to do something to protect the girls who were missing school. 'We received training from WVU trainers on how to make reusable sanitary towels. We passed on the skills to our colleagues. We teach them how to clean and dry the towels, too. Now, our girls only miss school when they fall sick.

Akello also learnt valuable leadership and dispute-resolution skills through the Club. "As head prefect. I resolve all small cases involving students. I use the assembly to condemn fighting and promote peace at school. Violence among the pupils here has reduced. The Peace Road Club has enabled children to appreciate the importance of asking for forgiveness and reconciliation instead of fighting.' she adds. 'I want to stay in school to become a doctor like my sister, who works at Mulago National Referral Hospital."



NANKOMA AP

How The Passion For Fruits And Poultry Is Inspiring Progressive Parenting In Bwawula, Nankoma, Bugiri.

43-year-old Mulimba Sadala is a proud man. His source of pride stems from the positive experience the lessons he took from the WVU Empowered World View classes have brought to his family's life.

Empowered World View is a faith-based development approach focused on empowering individuals and communities to adopt transformative mindsets, beliefs and behaviours which affirm their identity, dignity and agency. The approach focuses on equipping communities to harness local resources to change their lives.

"In 2023, I put into practice the teachings our community trainer, Mutebi Halidi, had been singing about setting up income-generating projects. I decided to convert my front yard into a trial passion fruit garden. The passions did really well. I made enough from the harvests to pay school fees for my 11 children and pay up part of the money required to buy a motorcycle, a few goats, and poultry. The decision to grow passion fruit changed my family for the better," narrates Sadala.

Sadala's story is inspiring. It shows how small decisions can have positive ripple effects on others. The economic gains arising from Sadala's mindset change benefit the family. Sadala can pay his children's school fees and provide for their other needs. Sadala volunteers with WVU weekly to train other community members to empower their families economically. 'I am grateful for the Empowered World View Training from WVU. The training opened my eyes to the opportunities around me. I can now keep my family safe and happy," he adds.

Balancing Books, Baby and Ball.

Two years ago, Irene (not real name) conceived. She was 17 at the time. When news of her pregnancy reached her mother, she was devastated beyond count. Irene has always lived with her maternal grandparents. Her mother, a vegetable farmer, lives with another family nearby.

My grandparents were very disappointed in me. I was so confused about what to do. I discovered that the 25-year-old who had gotten me pregnant ran away because he worried he would get arrested for defilement. When I gave birth to my baby, I decided I would return to school at the earliest opportunity I could. There was pressure in the community that I should get married. I did not want to get married. I would only be signing up for suffering,' she narrates.

"I approached Ordinand Arone Kasadha of St Stephens Church early this year for help. He is a lay reader and works with World Vision Uganda as a community leader. I knew he would best advise me on what to do," she adds.

When Irene approached me in January 2024, I advised her to secure her and her child's futures. As a Child Protection Committee Member under Channels of Hope, I am mandated to help children overcome their challenges. I offered guidance to Irene's grandparents and gave them hope again. Girls in Irene's position need guidance and support, not judgment.

WVU invited Irene for training and mentorship sessions. We used some of the facilitation saved from the training to enable Irene to return to school. I mobilised my Christian community to contribute small amounts of money to allow us to buy books, pens, and a bag for Irene to go back to school. Irene's grandparents agreed to babysit Irene's child.

Irene wants to be a lawyer when she grows up. She is currently in senior three at a community secondary school in the neighbourhood. She plays football to stay fit and avoid bad peer groups.

'I advise girls to focus on their books, be patient and not admire material things that men offer young girls. Pregnancy is not a joke. Always speak to trusted adults for help.' Irene advises.


Irene


World Vision
UGANDA
Buikwe

BUIKWE: BUIKWE AP, KAWOLO AP, NGOGWE AP

BUIKWE CHILD PROTECTION STATISTICS FY 2024.

CHILD PROTECTION	BU	NAB	NAN
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.	600	591	969
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities.	50	52	
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	400	590	1000
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices.	50	20	20
Parents trained in positive parenting.			
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline.			
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities.	1680	1682	2100
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period.	48	60	51
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (9 Months or longer).	600	576	722
Functional informal and formal CP structures	11	11	11
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	50	54	147
Parents/caregivers sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues.			
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG).			
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	120	137	150
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.	2708	2709	1690
Children participate in actions that support ending violence against children.	900	1089	1280
Reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures	120	121	159
Boys and girlssupported with assistive devices.	5	15	
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being	36	37	100
Girls and boys reported to have experienced sexual violence.			

KEY:

BUI - Buikwe
KAW -Kawolo
NGO - Ngogwe

Reaching For The Skies In The Face Of Adversity

In Buikwe District, in Eastern Uganda, St Lwanga Technical Institute, Malongwe, stands tall. Within the walls of this school, renewed hope rings out. The institution offers vocational training to young people who find themselves out of school due to factors beyond themselves.

The school partners with World Vision to give young boys and girls renewed hope, hands-on skills and a future to look forward to. 30 students are currently sponsored by World Vision Uganda here.

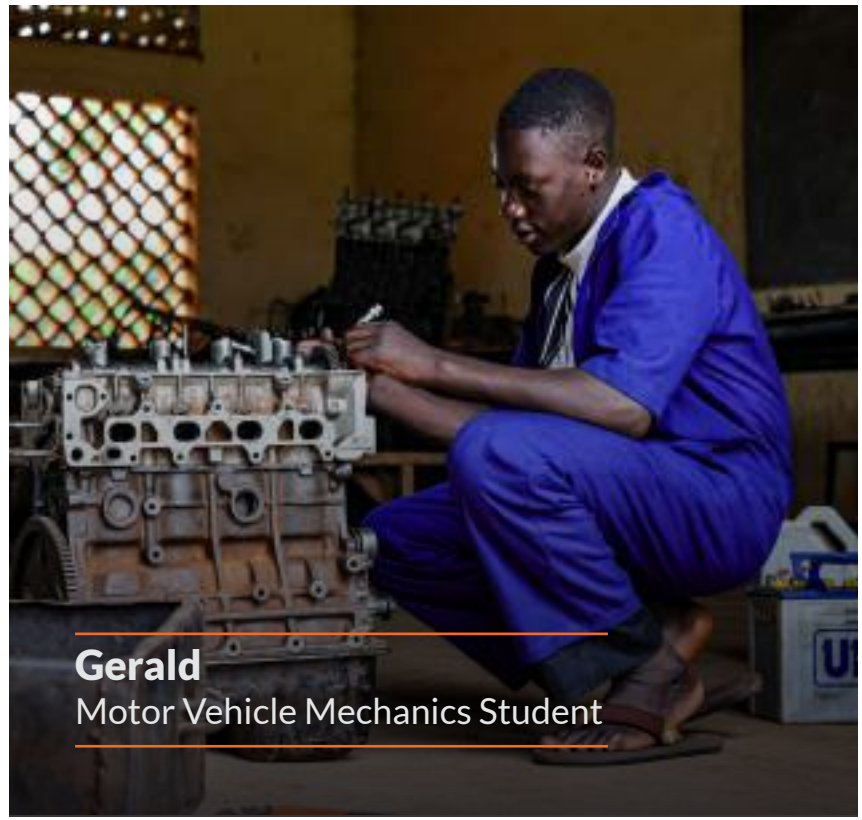
From Surviving Child Labour in Water Drills to Dreaming Big

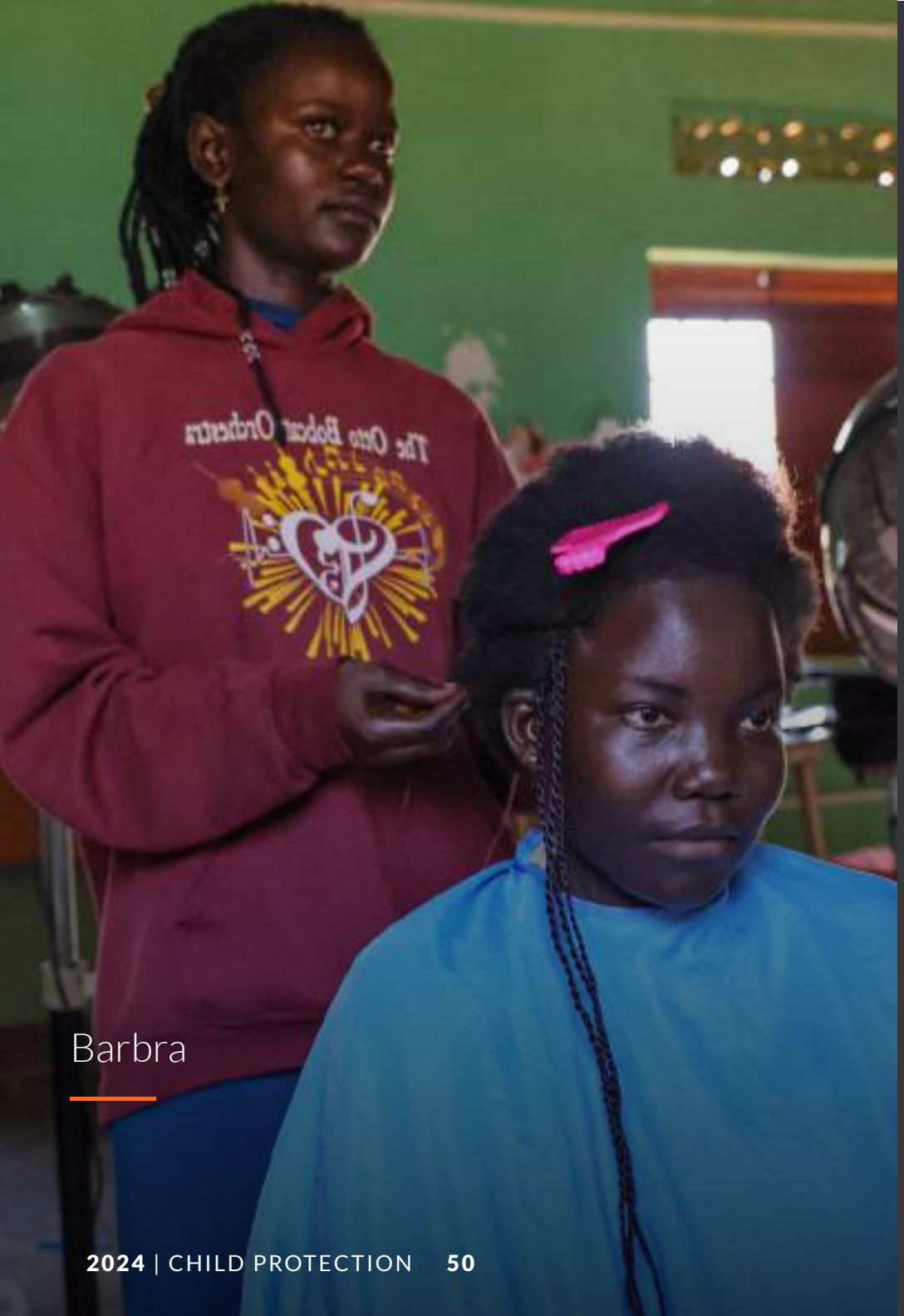
My name is Gerald. I am sixteen years old. I am currently enrolled at St Lwanga Technical Institute, where I am learning Motor Vehicle Mechanics (MVM) nuts and bolts. I am a direct paricipant of a World Vision scholarship. I dropped out in 2021 because my parents could not afford to keep me in school. My mother is a maize farmer. In contrast, my father is a self-taught village builder. My parents have seven children who are quite expensive to take care of because of my parents' income. When I dropped out of school, I stayed home doing nothing in particular for a while. An opportunity to work came my way, so I joined a small company in Kampala that goes around villages and drills boreholes. I was hired to do casual work on the drilling sites. The work was hard and dangerous, and my small pay was often delayed.

I had a chance encounter with David in my village, to whom I narrated my struggles. Ssalongo works with World Vision. I was offered the option of studying tailoring, electrical installation, Building, hairdressing or mechanics. I opted for mechanics.

I feel alive again. When I wake up in the morning, I feel like there is something for me out there to work towards. The lessons here are practical and engaging. I will put in the work and learn as much as I possibly can. The plan after here is to work as an assistant in my uncle's garage in Jinja, perfect my skills and if God blesses me. I will set up my own garage. I cannot thank World Vision enough for extending a hand to bring me back to my feet.

Gerald, 16. Motor Vehicle Mechanics Student.





Barbra

World Vision
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The Girl with magic in her fingers.

Seventeen-year-old Barbra was wallowing in the village after she dropped out of school. Barbra was scheduled to sit for her primary leaving examination last year. Unfortunately, she was denied the opportunity to sit her exams because she could not raise money to clear the required examination fees and school fees. 'I was devastated when I didn't sit my final exams. I felt like I had wasted six years of my life. I was depressed and suicidal. I was always isolated. I had always desired to be a doctor, but how would that work out?'

Barbra comes from a simple family. Her father is unemployed, while her mother trades in South Sudan. She has largely survived off her paternal grandmother's elderly fund benefits, which allowed her to attend school.

'World Vision offered me an opportunity to give life a second chance. I opted to study Hairdressing at Malongwe. I think there is capacity in hairdressing to change my life. I already know what I want to do with my life after here. I want to move to Mukono and set up my own saloon there. My future is in my hands again, and I am grateful.'

Barbra, 17 Hairdressing Student.



World Vision
UGANDA

I hope to own my own Garage - Ronnie

Like Barbra, Ronald 15 dreams of setting up a business in Mukono. Ronald is enrolled at St Lwanga Malongwe, where he will soon master motorcycle repair basics and dynamics. Ronald dropped out of school in primary three last year because poverty has a cruel sense of humour. Ronald hopes to run a small business focused on selling spare parts repairing and servicing motorcycles. He believes there is huge potential owing to the many motorcycle riders in the country. *'I want to be my own boss. I want to be the best motorcycle point anywhere that life takes me. May God bless the people who donate to World Vision Uganda because those are the people who make it possible for World Vision to change our lives.'*

Ronald, 15. Motorcycle Repair Student.



Ronald

The Impact of a Community United to Protect their children

In Kawolo sub-county, Buikwe District, change is quietly taking root. Community members, once on the sidelines, are now at the forefront of child protection efforts. The people know the challenges their children face and are now rising up to stand tall and speak up for the 'emiti emito (young trees) in their communities. The community dreams of a Buikwe where every child is safe, valued, and given the chance to thrive. Within Kawolo's vibrant community, the protection of children is not just a responsibility but a shared commitment.

Buikwe District boasts of 100 active Community Hope Action Teams (CHATS). 40 of these CHATS cover the Buikwe Area programme while 60 cover Kawolo; 2,078 children in total are reached by these CHATS in Buikwe. 80 religious leaders are tasked with promoting positive norms and practices in the communities. 1,315 parents in Buikwe and 1,285 parents in Kawolo demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other child protection-related issues.

According to Bakali Muyagu, a community volunteer with World Vision stationed at Buikwe Area Programme, Buikwe is faced with the unique problem of Child Labour. Children are persuaded out of schools to work in sugarcane plantations as sugarcane cutters. Armed with slashes and pangas, the children labour in the hot sun on school days, risking snake bites and missing school. The sugarcane dealers also hire children to load sugarcane onto vehicles. Children are trafficked from other regions to work in the fields. The district is also marred by cases of domestic violence, neglect, violence, defilement, teenage pregnancy and child marriage.

Community Testimonies of Change

Three years ago, our community received training under the Channels of Hope, which focuses on raising children between the ages of 6 and 11 in the line of spirituality. We were trained on how to build awareness and use our influence to protect children. I always labour to explain to the community that all children belong to us, and if we do not combat harmful practices, our children will be in danger. We use prayer points, household centres, and literacy centres. On Saturdays, we use Community Based Child Protection Committee (CDPC) centres to meet parents and children. Before I received training, I was hard on my children, I did not give them room to raise their

concerns with me. My children would fall ill and shy away from telling me because they were never sure of my reaction. My kids are my friends now. I hear them out. I am now, because of the World Vision training, at the forefront of reminding people to appreciate children's rights and their responsibilities towards children.

Namusoke Zaitun, 49, is a mother of six. She grows maize, leafy vegetables, and beans and rears two cows to look after her children.





World Vision
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I used to hold onto anger every time I had issues with my husband. I would transfer my anger to my children by beating them. Under Celebrating Families, we were trained to open up to our partners when angry as a means of dispute resolution. I learnt to open up to my husband. I tell him when he has hurt me within. My dreams are bolder now. I want a lot more out of life. I want to set up a catering and sound system hire business. I want life to be easier for my children. I have hope that we can overcome any challenges. My dreams are bigger than me. We were also encouraged to organise ourselves into Savings Groups. We have 10 members in Nakibole Masjid Savings Group and 30 members in Peace of Hope Saving for Transformation.

Sylvia is 36 and a mother of five.

Ssekayina Sylvia



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I have benefited from training in dispute resolution. Domestic violence is a thing of the past now, and I have added my voice to the community members advocating against domestic violence in my community. Our children also no longer go to discos, as was the case. We have embraced progressive parenting methods that don't encourage corporal punishment.

Abas, 34. Father of five and member of Nakibole Masjid CHAT.

Gizamba Abas


World Vision
UGANDA
Busia

Restoring Hope through Celebrating Families: How a Community Leader's Interventions Helped a Family Heal in Butangasi Village, Lunyo. Busia District.

When Wandera Godfrey first approached Reverend Ouma David over the challenges he faced in his marriage, he noticed that the fights between him and his wife had taken out all happiness from his home. The bad blood between the couple had spread to the children, who were withdrawn, missed school days, and unhappy. 39-year-old Godfrey is a peasant farmer in Butangasi village, Lunyo, Busia. His wife, Scovia, is 36. The couple grows and sells cassava. The two have children from earlier partners. According to Reverend David Ouma, Scovia accused Godfrey of discriminating against her son. In contrast, Godfrey accused Scovia of denying his children food. David is a child protection community trainer and volunteer with WVU. David also heads 40 Faith Leaders In Busia.

Through counselling and mediation facilitated by the local child protection committee, Godfrey and his wife were able to address the root causes of their marital problems. David introduced Godfrey and Scovia to Biblical teachings on forgiveness and lessons in line with the competencies of Hope and Dreams for my family under the Celebrating Family Model. The family reconciled. More importantly, the children were offered a safe space to express their fears and receive material, emotional and spiritual support. Today, the family is on the path to healing, and the children are thriving once again.





Wandera Godfrey **&** ***Taaka*** Scovia

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'I have nothing against my stepchildren. I raised them, and they call me mother. I thank Reverend for counselling us about prioritising the safety and wellness of all children in our care. Ever since stability returned, our circumstances have changed. My husband has never beaten me again. Even on our bad days, we sit and work out our differences.' **Scovia**

'My wife is now very supportive and loving. We are a happy and exemplary family. We gave our lives to Christ. We laid bricks and moved from a mud house to a house made of bricks and iron sheets. I want all our six children to prosper. One of my daughters wants to be a doctor. Our family can only thrive when we all are united.' **Godfrey**

The Godfrey household is testimony that domestic violence is a threat to the safety and wellness of children and that even the most intense family problem can be resolved.

BUSITEMA AP

Empowering Ourselves: My Journey as Chairperson of the Child Rights Club

'My name is Praise. I'm 12 years old and a primary six pupil at Nangulu Primary School in Busitema Sub-county, Busia. I'm the second-born in a family of three. My mother is a primary school teacher. My father was the Busitema LC3 chairperson before he passed. I've always held onto my dream of becoming a doctor and, one day, the Speaker of Parliament of Uganda.

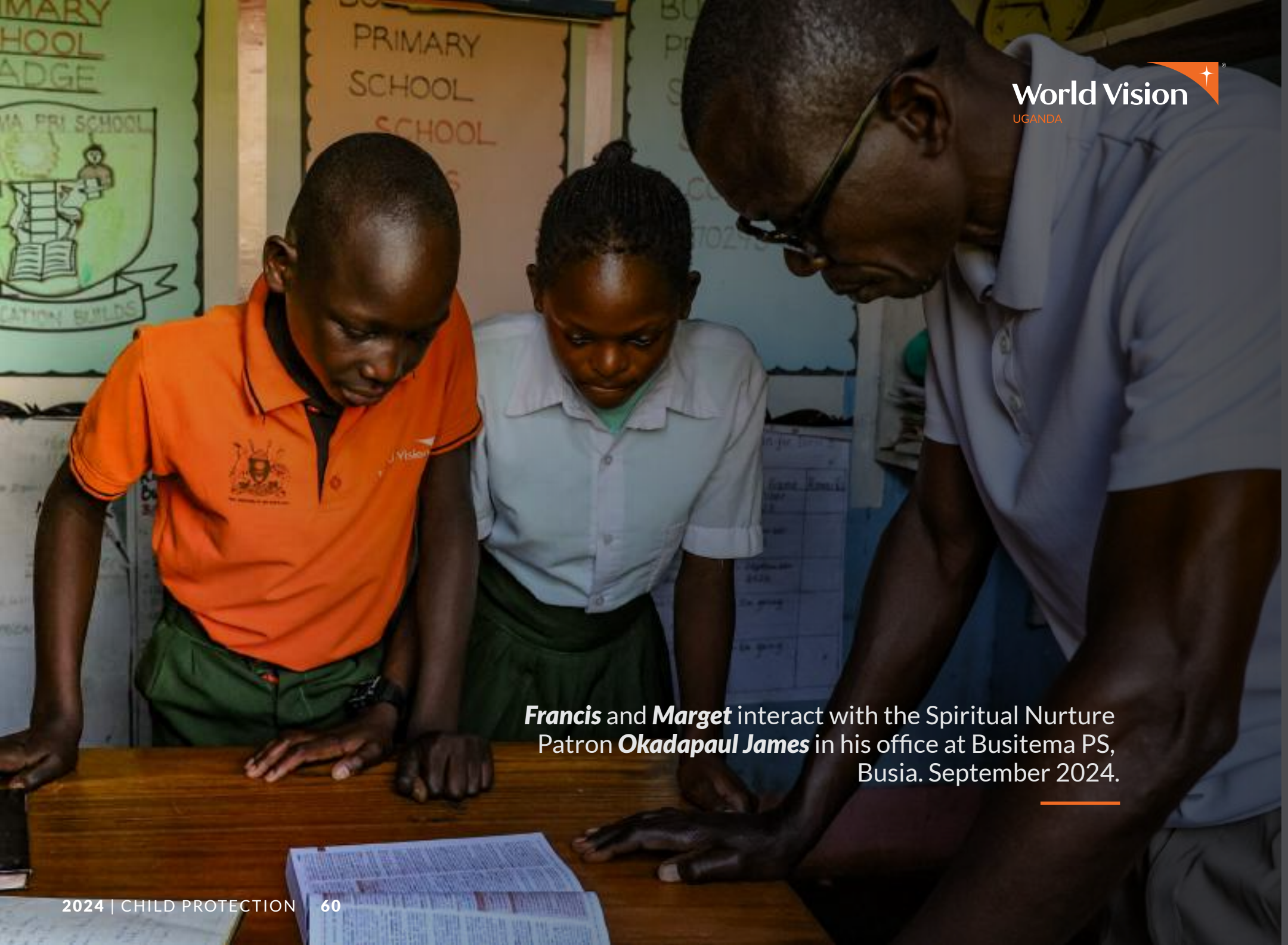
Being the Child Rights Club chairperson has given me a platform to make a difference in my school. Our area faces many challenges, especially illegal gold mining in Agata and Tiira. Miners come to us pupils, offering small amounts of money to boys so they work in the gold mines. These miners also disturb girls.

The Child Rights Club has taught us that we have rights as children, and we must speak up when we are abused. We now know how to report cases of abuse. the Busitema sub-county office is open to us. The Club has also helped us learn public speaking skills because of the debates we have. Since the Club was introduced, corporal punishment, which used to be expected, has been reduced at School and in our community. I've learned a lot about leadership and values. Being in this position has helped me understand what it means to guide others and stand up for what's right.'

According to Shadrack, a 13 primary seven pupil and Child Rights Club Member, the Club has enabled him to befriend good friends. *'The Club has enabled me to make good friends focused on their books,' he says. 'Our Club Patron Teacher, Juma George, also encourages and advises us on discipline and school.' he adds.*



Child Rights Club
Nangulu Primary School



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Francis and ***Marget*** interact with the Spiritual Nurture Patron ***Okadapaul James*** in his office at Busitema PS, Busia. September 2024.

To stay in School or raid the Tempting Gold Mines of Busia?

Busitema Primary School in Busitema Susbcountym Busia is home to 697 students. The School runs three Child protection clubs: the Spiritual Nurture Club, the Child Rights Club, and the Peace Road Club. Each Club has 50 members. The Spiritual Nurture Club patron, Okadapau James, mentions that the Club has helped regulate discipline in the School. 'We use Biblical teaching to keep our pupils in line. Once a week, the members meet for Bible Study, Quiet time or Praise and Worship sessions. The children here are learning to read the bible and to pray. We help them reflect on their problems and choices through Quiet time sessions. Child pregnancy rates have declined, and harmful cultural practices, such as disco matanga (funeral discos), which often expose children to risky environments, are becoming less common. "The club has helped instil a sense of discipline and responsibility in the students," says Okadapau.

Margret, 13, is a primary seven pupil and member of the Spiritual Nurture and Child Rights Club. 'Thanks to the Child Rights Club, we know our rights. We know that our rights should not be abused. I am also now a confident pupil, unlike before. Being a member of Spiritual Nurture has taught me how to pray for myself, my family and my friends. I also now go to Church and listen to my elders.' she says.

Margret comes from a large family of 12. She lives with her aunt. She says spiritual nurture has also taught her to be kind and generous. She is no longer selfish.

Beth, patron of the Peace Road Club, says the Club has helped the school combat unhealthy behaviour among pupils, like sneaking from School to work in illegal mines. The Club teaches our children to be self-accountable. Our fight against gold miners has brought down absenteeism and dropout rates.

Francis, 12, says he has learnt how to associate with other pupils thanks to Spiritual Nurture. 'I am from a family of five members. Being a member of the Peace Road Club has taught me to learn to be respectful and obedient. I know that everything should be done at the right time. These lessons have helped me work harder at School, which has improved my results in class,' he says.


World Vision
UGANDA
Mayuge

The Child Protection and Advocacy Programme covers two Area Programs in Mayuge. Busakira AP and Kigandalo AP. The Staistics and Stories cover the 2024 FY reporting period.

Mayuge Child Protection Statistics for the 2024 FY

CHILD PROTECTION	Busakira	Kigandalo
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.		678
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities.	50	60
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	635	656
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices.	10	15
Parents trained in positive parenting.		
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline.		
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities.	1057	2108
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period.	12	39
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (9 Months or longer).	500	650
Functional informal and formal CP structures	5	10
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	30	30
Parents/caregivers sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues.		
Number of reported child abuse cases that are referred to relevant institutions/ structures	15	62
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	24	11
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.	557	3025
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children.	482	1547
Boys and girls are supported with assistive devices.		5
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being	164	100
Girls and boys reported to have experienced sexual violence.		



KIGANDALO AP

Small Village, Big Dreams.

At Peterson Memorial Primary School, the Child Rights Club is where all dreamers convene once every week to dream big, express their concerns and learn. Located in Kyoga Village Kigandalo, Mayuge district. The Club has 40 active members. 20 boys and 20 girls. The Club has made its mark here. One of the unique challenges threatening education here is the false promise sugarcane gives learners. Sugarcane dealers in Mayuge prey on both boys and girls. The sugarcane dealers offer boys manual jobs as loaders and cutters. They offer girls money and gifts and promises of better lives and then abuse them sexually. The Child Rights Club is standing up to the sugarcane dealers and saying: No. Enough is Enough.



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Stories from
Peterson Primary School



Petronella

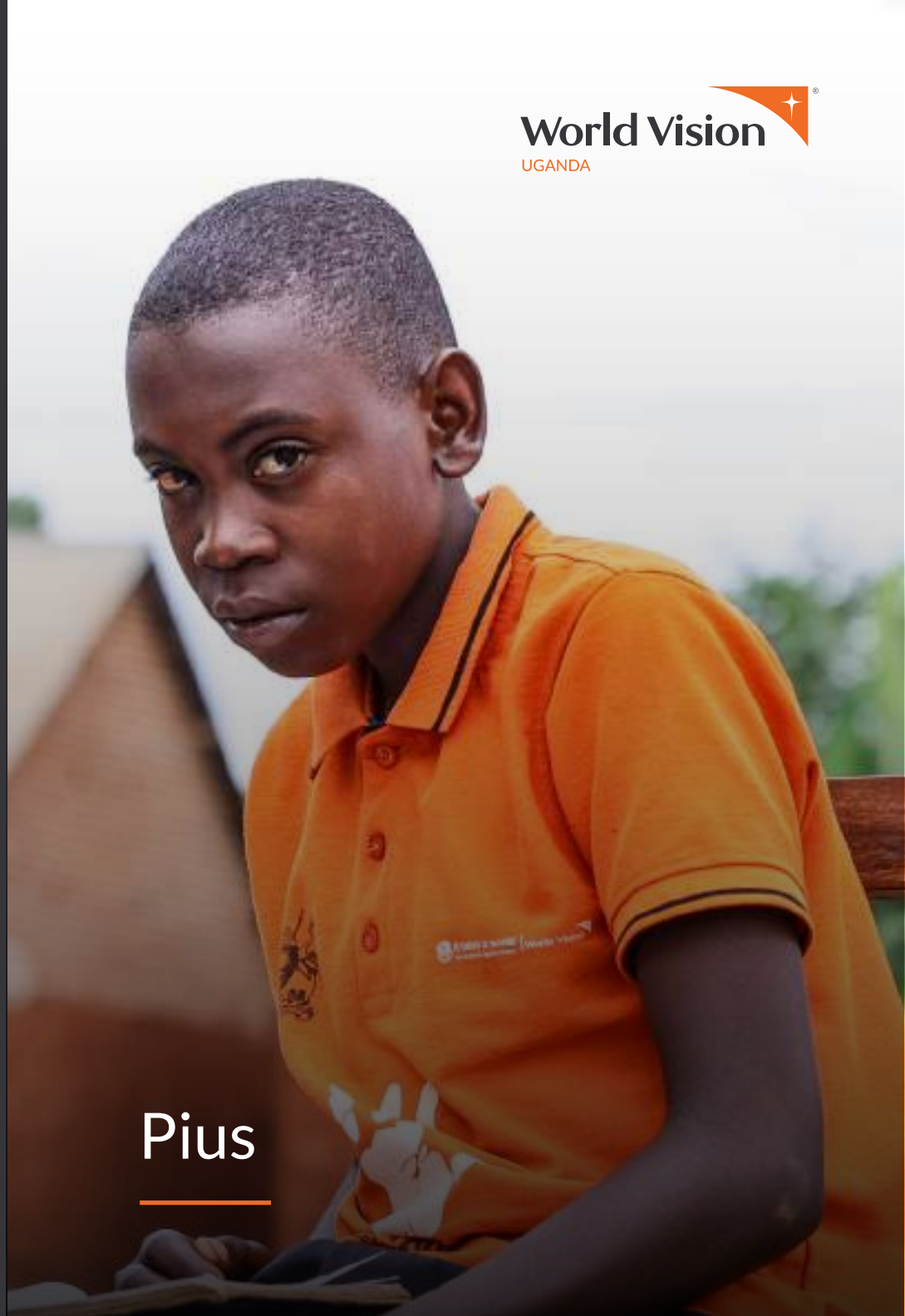
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"I have always wanted to be a doctor, a brain surgeon. That is my dream. I know my friends have dreams, too. We talk about these things. Sometimes, I worry if I will achieve my dreams. I am from a simple family. My father is a sugarcane truck driver. There are several sugarcane plantations here that feed the sugar factories in this region. My mother is a primary school teacher. My parents have five other children. I joined the Child Rights Club in 2022. I wanted to learn more about children's rights. The best part of the Child Rights Club is the opportunities to learn about our rights as children and how to protect ourselves from abuse. The Club has taught me to say no bad touches and report rights abuses suffered by myself or my friends. We know we can safely report men in the community who disturb us. The boys who used to disturb us stopped. It is way safer to be in school because of the lessons from the Child Rights Club. So the girls here now feel more protected. We also have a say in our lives. Early this year, we attended an event celebrating the Day of the African Child in Busakira, where we discussed issues affecting children with district officials. We called upon our leaders to act against child marriage, defilement and violence in schools and home."

Petronella, 13. Primary six, Peterson Memorial, Mayuge

Fourteen-year-old Pius is also a member of the Child Rights Club. Pius is a dreamer, too. *'I want to be a leader like the former speaker of parliament, Oulanyah Jacob (RIP). The Club has helped me make more friends. I was very shy. I am now more confident, and I have learnt to speak up for younger pupils who used to get teased and beaten by older boys. The Club not only teaches us about our rights but also about our responsibilities. I know I cannot be inappropriately touching girls in my school or at home. Or bullying other children.'*

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Pius



Sharon (16) and Joseph (17) are both members of the Child Rights Club. Both Joseph and Sharon want to be lawyers. Joseph says the biggest cause of boys dropping out of school was sugarcane cutting. Boys and girls were drawn to the small monies sugarcane dealers gave them. They were spending days at plantations during the sugarcane cutting and loading season and, in the process, missing school.

'Through our activities with Child Rights Club, we fought the habit of boys going to cut sugarcane. Very few boys still sneak to cut sugarcane. We can tell who has been cutting sugarcane by the cuts and bruises they have on their bodies, so we know who to advise or who to tell the teachers to talk to. Child labour is illegal. When we attended the Day of the African Child celebrations in Busakira this year, we appealed to the politicians to protect us from child labour.'
Joseph says.

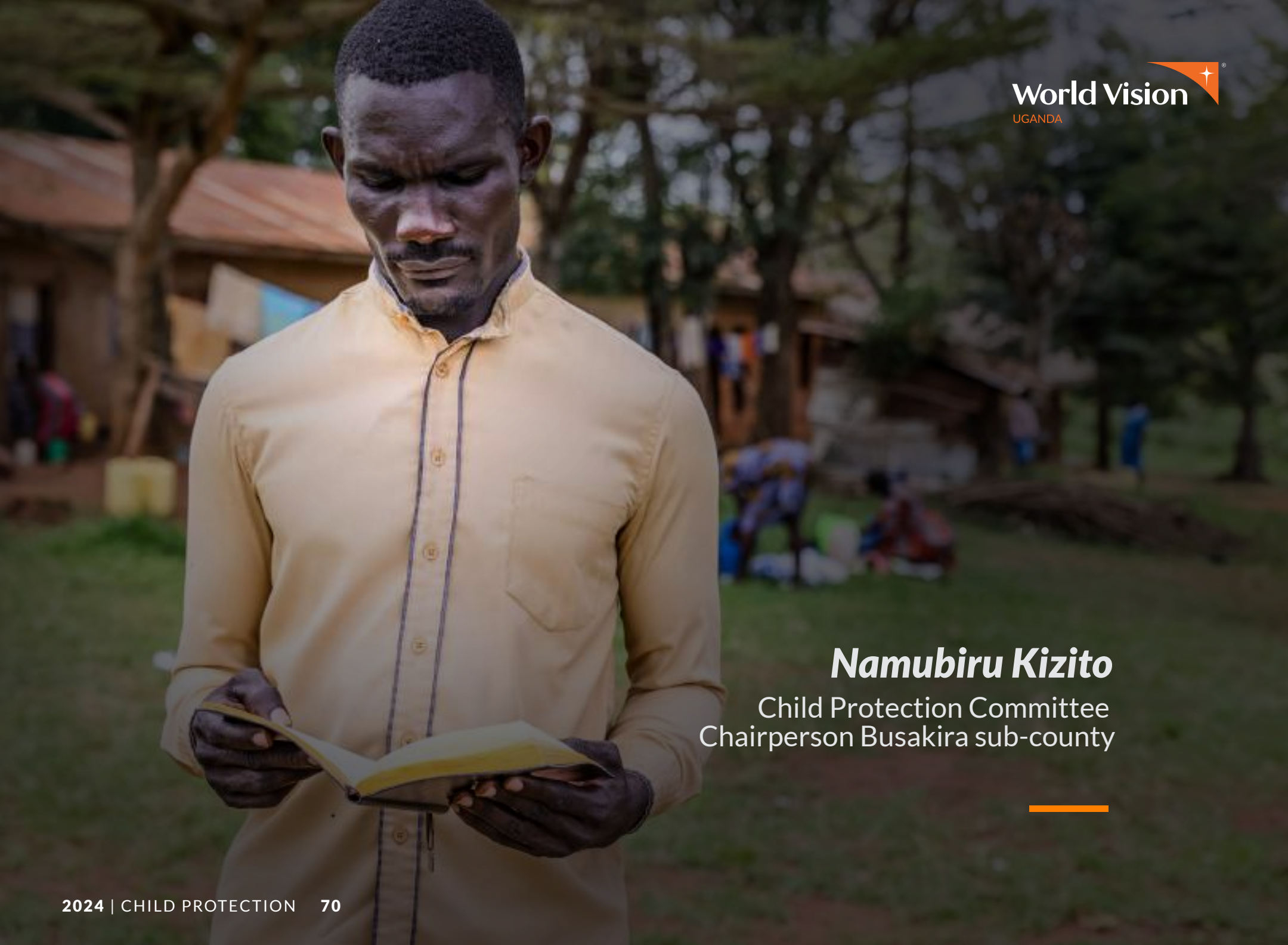


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"I am the Child Rights Club Patron at Peterson Memorial, Mayuge. Other patrons and I received training on how to look after our pupils. We are the first line of protection for our children since these children spend more time at school than at home. Through the Child Rights Club, we have taught the children their rights. We offer them access to reading material and even controlled access to the internet, where they conduct research in preparation for their debates. More children are expressing themselves and speaking up. Through these debates, which teachers also attend, corporal punishment is a thing of the past here. We have also established channels of trust through which pupils report to us cases of child-to-child violence, domestic violence and sexual or physical abuse. We are grateful to World Vision for equipping us with the tools and resources to protect our children from violence and harm. The most beautiful thing about my work as a teacher is how my relationships with pupils have improved. Children confide in me more and trust me. They no longer fear me but rather respect and love me. It is a blessing."

Sylvia, Patron Child Rights Club, Peterson Memorial, Mayuge.

Namubiru Sylvia



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Namubiru Kizito

Child Protection Committee
Chairperson Busakira sub-county

BUSAKIRA AP

Coffee, Cocoa, Child Protection.

Namubiru Kizito is a 30-year-old father of one. Kizito lives in the Busakira sub-county, Kaluba A, where he grows cocoa, coffee, sugarcane, and tomatoes to take care of his family. Kizito is the Child Protection Committee Chairperson of his area. He is the overall chairperson of the 35 Child Protection Committees in Busakira.

'My role as a child protection advocate entails mobilising and sensitising my community on children's rights. Through the Child Protection clubs in schools, we serve 1057 girls and boys in 26 clubs in Busakira and 2108 boys and girls in 39 clubs in Kigandalo.'

'I ride my small bicycle through the communities to preach the gospel of child protection. I work with other focal people like Local Council Chairpersons and school patrons to fight child labour and teenage pregnancies. Before World Vision trained us on the Rights of Children and other Child Protection issues, we were exposing our children to defilement, teenage pregnancies, child marriage and child labour. Our parents were marrying off their children or even forcing them to work as housemaids or on farms to support their families. With the training we received from World Vision Uganda, we increased our efforts to fight the school dropout rate, which was getting out of hand.

I receive up to 60 calls a week relating to children's issues from children, community workers, police, and families. In every school I go to, I give children my number. Children call me to report the problems they are facing or to follow up on their cases. Through the Child Protection Committees, we speak to families on domestic violence and alcoholism and how these two evils affect children and families. I am glad to report that domestic violence is on the decline.

Mayuge has 110 active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities. These CHATs are serving 635 children in Busakira and 656 children in Kigandalo. Kizito works with 60 child protection actors in schools, communities, churches, and the police to ensure that child protection cases are reported or referred systematically.



Peace Road Club, Wambete Primary School

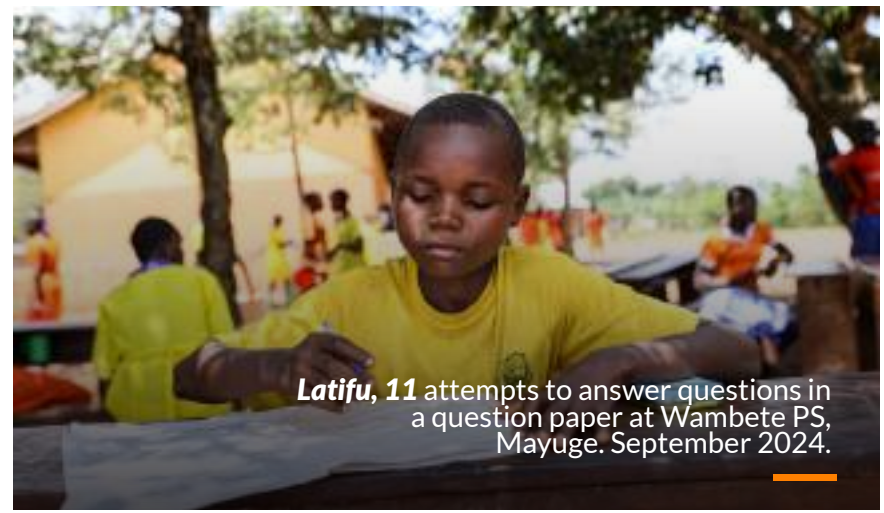
Where There is Peace, There is love.

Kasadha Simon, a teacher at Wambete Primary School in Busakira Sub-county, Mayuge, believes Peace Road Club has fundamentally changed the way of life at the school. Where bullying and Violence Against Children once prevailed, now only peace rules. *'Bullying was a big-time problem here. Each time we released our learners for break time or lunchtime, they reported cases of beating, bullying and teasing. Teachers were employing canes to solve these cases. As a result, children would fight. In caning the learners, we were pushing them away. The smaller or weaker children continued suffering. The Peace Road Club brought to our attention the concept of psychological abuse. Teachers in our communities initially thought by abusing and beating the children, we were disciplining them. We did not know we were damaging and abusing their rights to safety.*

According to Nakagolo Swabulah, being a member of the Peace Road Club has taught her how to interact with her classmates. She has learned that everyone deserves respect and safety. *'The peace road club has fostered unity and peaceful coexistence among children in our schools.'* she says.

The Club is a safe haven for 11-year-old Kasamba Latifu, who wants to be a doctor when he is grown. Latifu lives with his single mother, who is unemployed but offers to do any menial job in the community to look after her two children.

'My mother struggles with money issues. She has no job. I see how hard she works to send me to school. I work hard at school to encourage her. Each term, I am the best in my class. Mr Ntende encouraged me to join the Peace Road Club because I was too shy. I am now confident, and my friends call me honourable. I love the Club because it teaches us self-esteem, respect, dispute resolution and peace.' Latifu, 11.



Latifu, 11 attempts to answer questions in a question paper at Wambete PS, Mayuge. September 2024.

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The Role of Community Policing In Child Protection

Mariam Kaahwa is, without doubt, the most popular policewoman in Mayuge. Fondly named Maama Police by the community, the Assistant Superintendent of Police heads the Child and Family Protection Unit at Mayuge Central Police Station.

'I think police can only do a little with the support of organisations like World Vision Uganda, which have more ground presence and access to children. The Uganda police are mandated to protect and serve children and other citizens. The main problems that World Vision Uganda has helped us fight are child labour and child marriage. We were really struggling with parents sending young children to work in sugarcane plantations or in other people's homes as maids. Through sensitisation and mind-change campaigns by WVU, child labour has immensely reduced in Mayuge. I commend World Vision for sensitising families, referring them, and following up on cases involving children. World Vision has directly or indirectly referred 94 cases this year alone. With such supportive partners, we are solving problems where children are victims of abuse or are in conflict with the law. Our core and shared mandate is to ensure children are safe, in schools and at home.' **Asst. Superintendent of Police, Mariam Kaahwa.**




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Soroti
Amuria
CLUSTER

Asamuk AP. Gweri AP, Morungatuny AP FY 2024 Child Protection Statistics

CHILD PROTECTION	Asamuk	Gweri	Morungatuny
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.	375		
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities.	66	60	166
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	397	2731	1605
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices.	33		
Parents trained in positive parenting.			
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline.	1943	1891	3001
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities.	899	1495	420
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period.	15	47	45
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (9 Months or longer).	153	309	241
Functional informal and formal CP structures	15	12	
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	17	9	
Parents/caregivers sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues.	1469	1140	4909
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG)			
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	87	98	106
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.	374	1922	
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children.	401	1640	1114
Boys and girls are supported with assistive devices.		10	
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being	11	36	60
Girls and boys reported to have experienced sexual violence.			

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Ateuso Primary School



Ameso Miriam & Emeru Elijah

MORUNGATUNY AP

A Story of Inclusion and Resilience in Morungatuny.

At Ateuso Primary School in Morungatuny, a vibrant group of young minds is being nurtured right. The school located in Amuria proudly hosts a Peace Road Club, a Child Rights Club and spiritual Nurture Club. Opejo John Robert, a science and math teacher, also serves as the patron of these three clubs. John Robert ensures that the Clubs impact the learners positively.

'I believe teaching is a calling. I also believe in supporting young people. These clubs have enabled us to provide our learners with an opportunity to productively use their free time at school. The members of the Peace Road Club have a garden project. They are planting eucalyptus and tomatoes. Through these projects, we teach them unity, problem-solving, patience, responsibility and other values and life skills.' Robert says.

Pastor Ecungo David, the head of 35 faith leaders in Morungatuny, is pivotal in guiding learners and parents to embrace values rooted in spirituality and community. Under his leadership, the faith leaders in Morungatuny support the clubs in the sub-county to connect the club members to their spirituality. *'I am proud that we have been able to offer counselling, sensitisation and preaching to parents and children. More children now go to church, and our lessons from the bible are taking root.' he says. In our communities, we include lessons on positive parenting in our sermons. We also serve as advocates against Violence against Children and domestic violence. I am proud to see that over the past year, violence has reduced in our communities here.'*

Ameso Miriam, 14 says PRC has enabled her become more intentional. *'I now pay attention to my environment. I am more focused. I keep time and when I find children fighting, I help them reconcile. The club has also helped me resist bad peer pressure.'* she adds.

Emeru Elijah, a deaf boy in Primary Six, is one of the members of PRC at Ateuso. Elijah, despite his condition, is treated like any other learner. Elijah's colleagues welcome him and support him in and outside class. Ateuso is proof that a future where all children are safe, respected, and empowered is possible.



Elijah


World Vision
UGANDA
Asamuk
Child Protection Committee

ASAMUK AP

Partnership, Protection and Peace in Asamuk, Amuria.

WVU prides itself on partnerships. At Asamuk, the Asamuk Town Council and the local Child Protection Committees work closely together to protect their children. The Asamuk Community Development Officer Oboi Emmanuel is a true champion of child protection. The 46-year-old understands the importance of ensuring that the children of Asamuk go to school are safe and thriving.

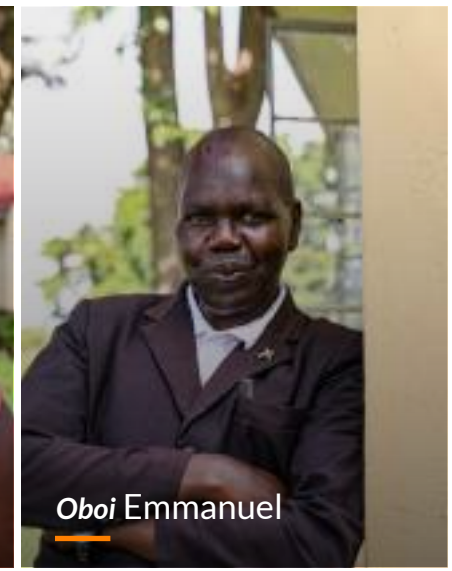
'Every term, just two weeks before schools reopen, my office works with WVU Child Protection Committees to remind parents to send their children to school under the "Go Back to School" campaign. We have seven government schools and six community schools in Asamuk. Asamuk sub-county comprises 38 villages while Asamuk town council has 42 villages. We have over 450 children here. Our parents need reminding on the bad practices to abandon and good practices to adopt.' explains Oboi

Aiyo Immaculate, 42, a member of one of the CPCs in Asamuk, says the CPCs work tirelessly to combat child labour, particularly in family gardens, where children are often exploited for their labour. The CPCs use markets, schools, village savings groups, and churches as strategic platforms to reach out to children and their parents. The CPC also work to fight against torture in all its forms in the communities in Asamuk.

'As a result of these collective efforts, the community of Asamuk has seen a notable decline in defilement, child labour, and corporal punishment. Parents are becoming more aware of their responsibilities, and children return to classrooms. Oboi concludes.



Aiyo Immaculate



Oboi Emmanuel

GWERI AP

The Wonderfully Resilient Winnifred

Winnifred, 17, goes to school at Awoja Primary School, in Sorot. Atai is brave and resilient. Winnifred walks through life confidently and bravely.'I lost my father when I was six. My mother struggles with alcohol problems. I want to be a mechanical engineer when I grow up,' she says.

To keep her dream alive, Winnifred digs in people's gardens and sells local doughnuts (Mandazi) over the weekend, which she makes herself. The money she earns covers her school fees and basic needs. "It's tough," she admits, "but I need to work hard to reach my goal."

'Peace Road Club has been a source of emotional support. The club has provided me with a sense of belonging and hope. We are taught to be resilient, forgiving, and problem solvers. I have never considered asking men for assistance. I use money I make to pay for examinations and school fees. Last year, I bought two sheep. If I ever fail to raise money for fees, I will sell one of the lambs.

"I want to fix things," she says with conviction. "Not just machines as a mechanical engineer, but also my life, my family's life, and the challenges around us."

'PRC has transformed our students. The sensitisation sessions we have every week have changed the learners. We have reduced cases of bullying among boys. When we invite the learners to participate in cleaning the school compound, we face less resistance. The boys have do not disturb girls as much as they used. The school is relatively more peaceful.' **Alyebo Susan, the PRC patron at Awoja Primary School.**



Winnifred


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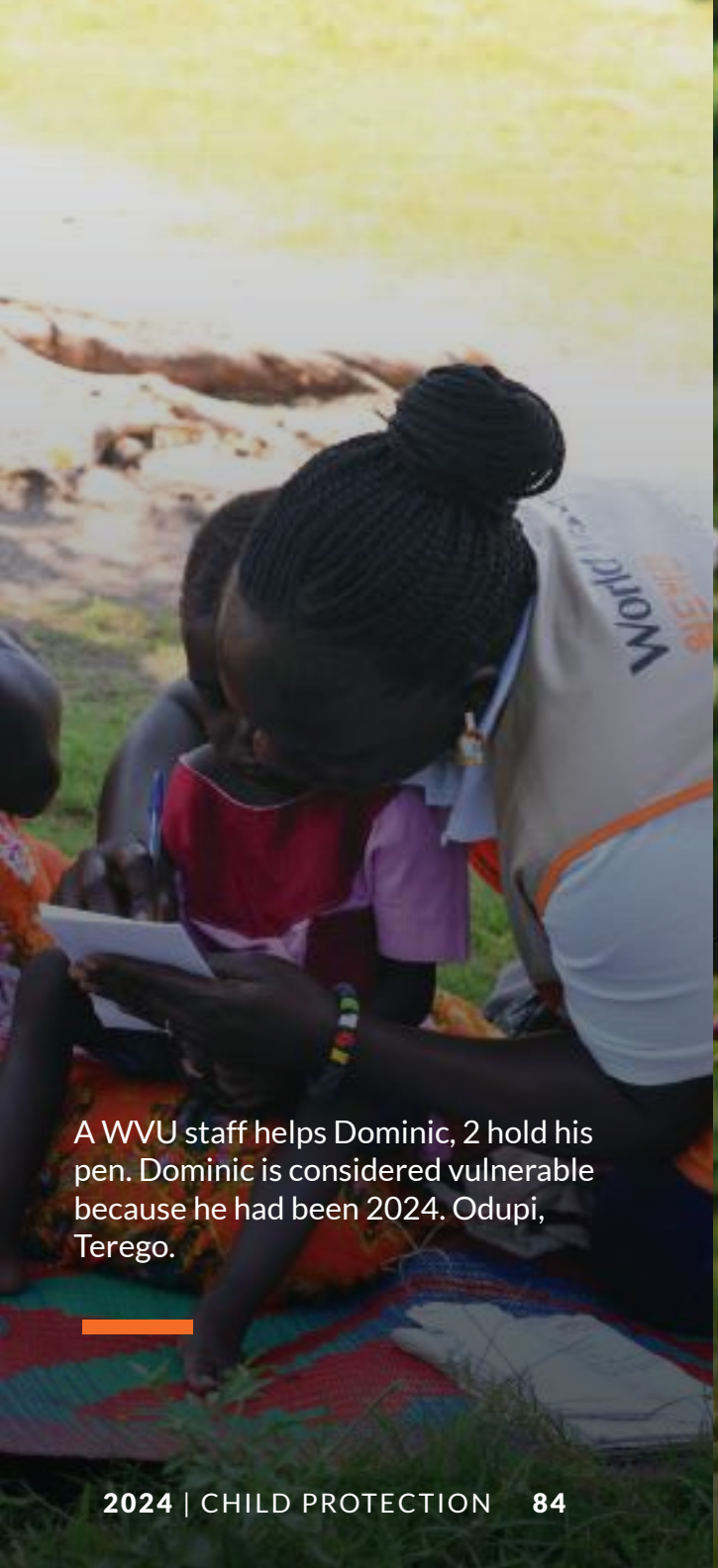
ODUPI AP

The Child Protection efforts in Odupi in the FY ending September 2024 were as follows.

The AP recorded 1497 learners actively involved in Child Protection Clubs in schools. The AP also had seven (7) functional informal and formal child protection structures running in the reporting period. Odupi has 10 recorded children in foster care and 20 active foster parents. As a result of WVU interventions, 80 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures in 2024, and 80 such cases were followed up in schools. 1058 boys and girls meaningfully participated in actions that supported ending violence against children.

In the reporting period, WVU CP interventions in Odupi reached 2360 parents, accounting for 182.3% of the anticipated number of parents. The 2360 parents recorded demonstrated increased knowledge in positive discipline and other child Protection-related issues. The AP is covered by 50 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 20 Faith leaders who interacted with 995 children under the spiritual nurture initiatives. These CHATs impacted 1094 children in the 2024 FY.

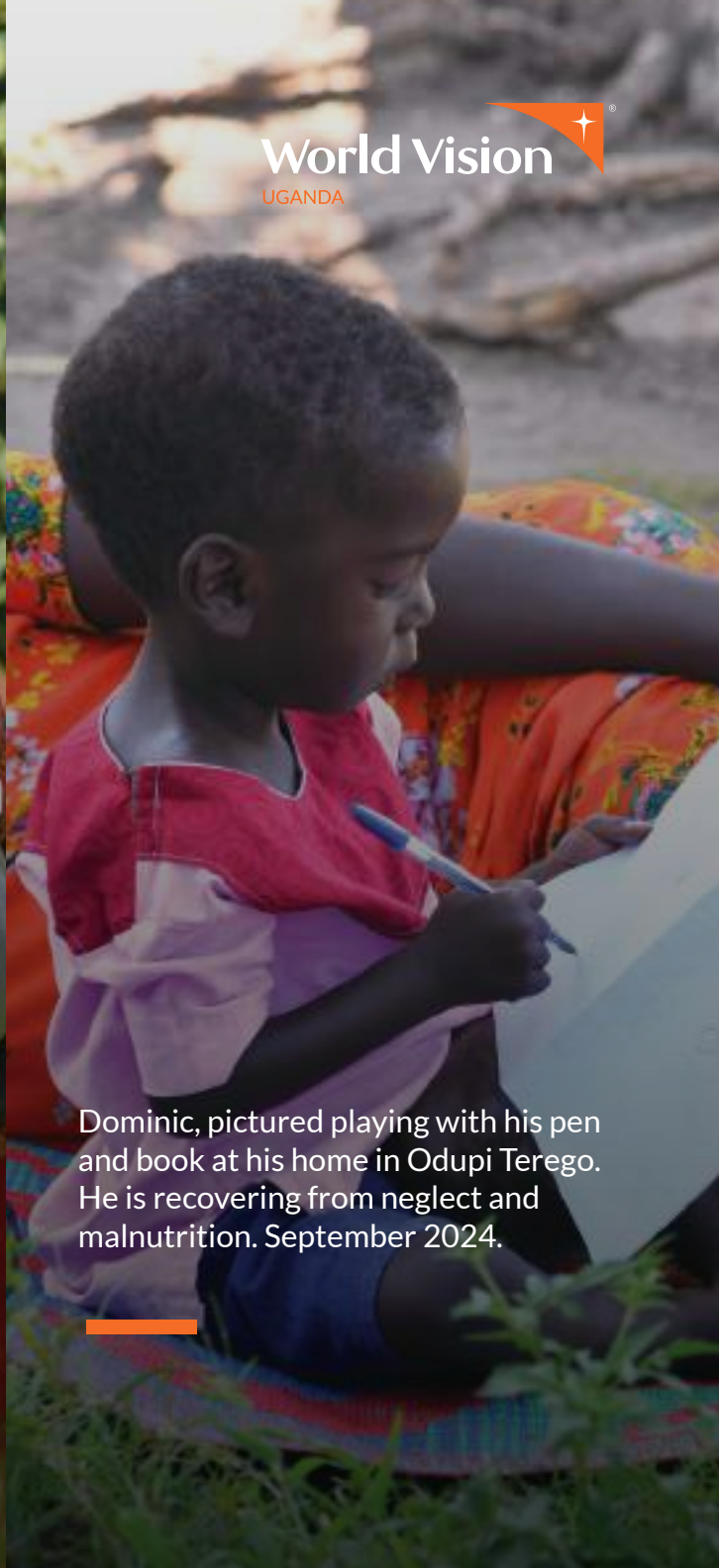
In Odupi, 176 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affected their well-being in the reporting period. However, no assistive devices were issued to children with special needs. WVU equipped 50 child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system. 1618 of Registered Children in the AP report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.



A WVU staff helps Dominic, 2 hold his pen. Dominic is considered vulnerable because he had been 2024. Odupi, Terego.



Francisca Ajokuru pictured picking vegetables to prepare for her son who is healing from malnutrition stemming from neglect. September 2024. Odupi, Terego.



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Dominic, pictured playing with his pen and book at his home in Odupi Terego. He is recovering from neglect and malnutrition. September 2024.

Sowing Seeds of Hope Through Congregational Hope Action Teams.

In Odupi, Community/congregational Hope Action Teams (CHATS) are not only social support structures but also learning points. Community members in Odupi have discovered the importance of CHATS. CHATs, as community-based groups, focus on improving the well-being of families and vulnerable individuals within their communities. CHATs promote positive parenting, child protection, and social welfare. The most crucial role CHATs play is keeping an eye and ear on vulnerable community members. This helps them identify crises like malnutrition, domestic violence, child neglect or abuse early. Because CHATS are composed of people from the same community, CHAT members provide relatable counselling and guidance because the members easily establish trust with vulnerable community members.

Earlier this year, in Lower Ojia, Odupi sub-county, Terego District, the village CHAT group noted that 29-year-old Francisca Ajokuru faced relative difficulty. She had been abandoned by the father of her two-year-old son. She was, therefore, struggling with single motherhood. The weight of her own personal issues and the pressing needs of her child became too much to bear. As a result, her little boy, left without proper care, began to suffer from acute malnutrition. Francisca, feeling defeated, abandoned her son at her parents' home and stopped breastfeeding him. Concerned for the child's well-being, the CHAT members quickly alerted World Vision Uganda (WVU), which immediately intervened. The boy was taken to Yinga Health Centre III, where medical staff carefully assessed his condition. A recovery diet plan was prescribed, which included nutrient-rich foods such as mukene (silver cyprinid), vegetables, millet flour, milk, and rice.

'I am grateful to my CHAT members for stepping in when life was hard. I had given up on my child. Our village CHAT members spoke to me, encouraged me and helped me care for my son. I am hopeful again now. I even now attend to my garden to feed my son. My son can smile and play. I had lost all hope. I have also stopped having bad thoughts. I am also grateful to the WVU staff who took my child to the hospital,' explains Francisca.



OMUGO AP

The Child Protection efforts in Omugo in the FY ending September 2024 were as follows.

WVU CP interventions in Omugo reached 1458 boys and girls who meaningfully participated in actions that support ending violence against children, accounting for 208.3% of the anticipated number of children. The AP has 17 active foster parents and 20 children in foster care. 1395 parents demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues.

The AP is covered by 65 active CHATS focused on promoting positive norms and practices in the communities in the AP and 25 Faith leaders. These CHATs engaged with 1001 children in 2024 FY. The AP recorded 15 Active Child Protection clubs and six (6) functional informal and formal child protection structures.

In Omugo, 180 boys and girls with special needs were able to participate in issues that affected their well-being in the reporting period. However, no assistive devices were issued to children with special needs. WVU equipped 46 child protection actors in schools, police, social services, and churches with knowledge of the child protection report and referral system. 420 of Registered Children in the AP report that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities.

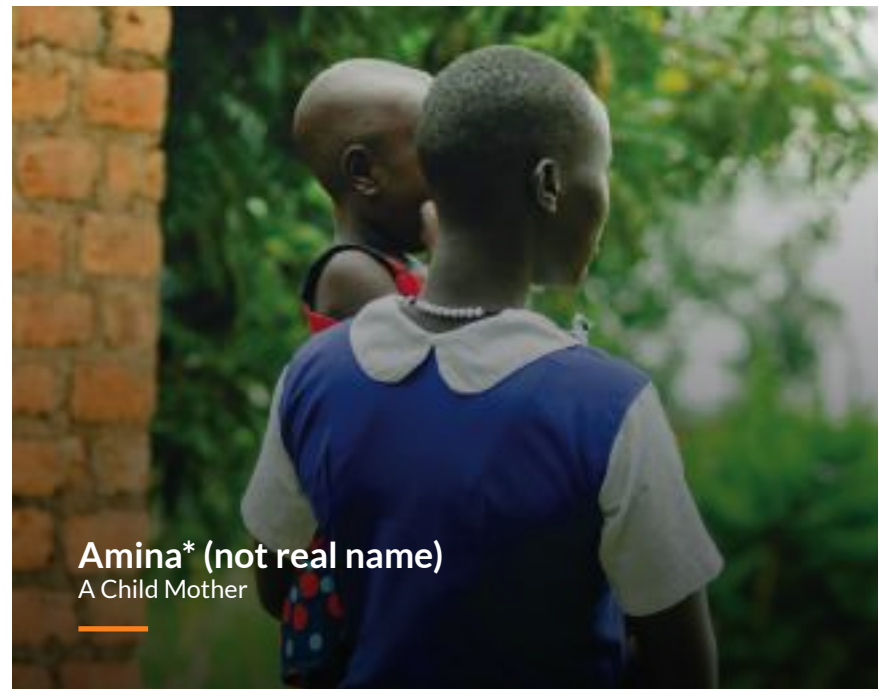
A Second Chance for a Young Mother at Owayi Primary School

In 2022, at just 16 years old, Amina (name changed) from Owayi Parish, Omugo, in Terego District, became pregnant after a brief relationship with a secondary school student, a boy she met at a disco after sneaking out of her parent's home. When her parents discovered the pregnancy, their reaction was harsh. Amina's parents threatened to chase her away from home. They stopped giving her any help.

"I felt completely abandoned," she recalls. "My parents were angry, and I didn't know where to turn. I was out of school for two years and had to find a way to care for my child. I earned 3,000 UGX a day digging gardens just to buy what I needed for the baby. It was a difficult time. The baby's father continued to study normally."

"My colleagues from Peace Road reached out to me last year," Amina explains. "They advised me to return to school, telling me that I was risking my future by staying away from school. They said what had happened had happened. I remember crying so much. These girls also spoke to my parents. They convinced them to allow me to return to school, reminding them I deserved a second chance."

Amina's friend Sarah (name changed) says the values and life skills from Peace Road made them bold enough to approach Amina and her parents. 'Our club teaches us to be resilient, courageous, and speak up for needy people. We wanted Amina to return to school because she deserved a second chance. Speaking to Amina's parents was not easy, but we encouraged each other. We are helping Amina cover the time she missed.' she adds.




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Butaleja
Cluster

PAYA AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Paya AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,700 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 100 active CHATs promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 1,200 children. 2,000 parents in Paya AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. Paya has 56 active CP clubs in schools and six (6) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 2,321 school-going children and children in the communities.

WVU supported two legislative and normative recommendations in Paya. 60 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation in the period.

123 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 159 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. 2,000 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

3,100 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,050 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 60 of these children are children with Special Needs. 850 boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in the same period in Paya AP



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Peter, 13
sits inside one of the classrooms at
Paragang PS for a spiritual Nurture session.
joined school after spending five years
at home due to his special needs

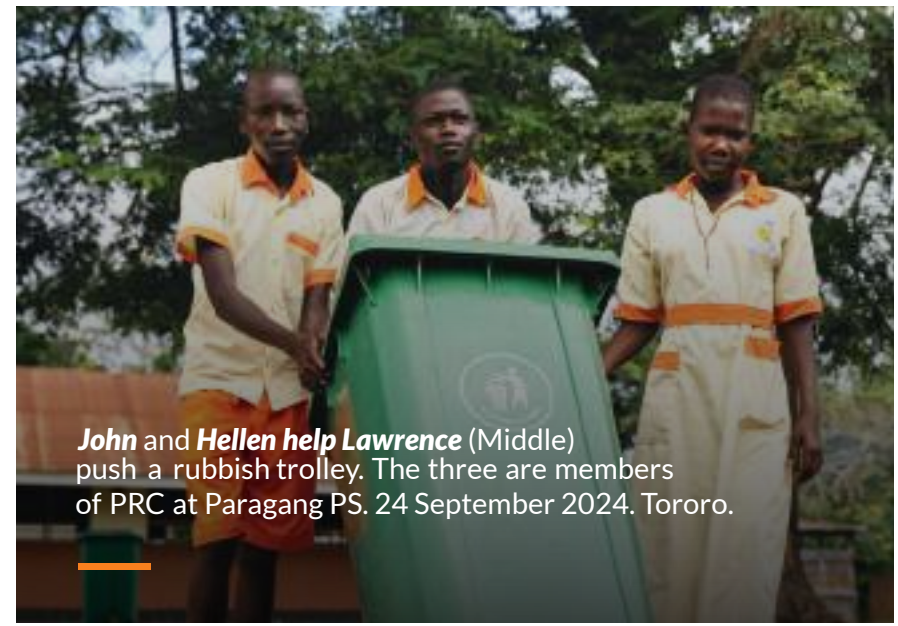
Paragang Primary's Points on Protection and Progress

Paragang Primary School in Sugida Village, Paya Sub-county, is one of the largest primary schools in Tororo. Home to 1241 pupils, the school runs two clubs under the Child Protection Programme: Spiritual Nurture (50 members) and Peace Road Club, which has 100 active members. According to teacher Oketcho Richard, the clubs have played a key role in turning around the discipline issues at the school. 'Our learners behave better than before. They listen to instructions. Generally, we do not have to chase the learners around. Absenteeism has very much reduced too.' he says. "PRC keeps learners engaged after school. Many students who used to struggle with discipline are now leading by example, and there's a noticeable sense of unity and respect among them.' he adds.

Lawrence, 17, a member of Spiritual Nurture, speaks highly of the Club.

'I joined the Spiritual Nurture Club in 2022, where I learned to read the Bible. The Bible lessontaught me how to share, how to care for others, and how to influence them for good. Back then, I used to beat and bully smaller pupils because I was one of the oldest and biggest. Now, I look after the younger kids at school, ensuring they feel safe. I also stopped sneaking out at night to go to disco,' he adds.

'I do not have a father, and I used to disturb my mother, who has five other children, yet she is only a farmer. My conduct has also changed. I want to be a policeman when I grow up, like my big brother, who is a policeman. He pays my school fees.'



John and ***Hellen help Lawrence*** (Middle) push a rubbish trolley. The three are members of PRC at Paragang PS. 24 September 2024. Tororo.

Sewing Dreams: The Story of a Child Marriage Survivor

At 17, Flora's life took an unexpected turn when she conceived in October 2023 while still a Primary Six student at Paya Primary School. As the fifth of seven children, she had always helped her parents in the gardens, where they grew maize, soybean, and cassava. Faith dropped out of school as a result of her pregnancy. Life at home was difficult because of the negative energy in the neighbourhood. Akello was forced into
moving in with her 20-year-old boyfriend, who was unemployed. It seemed like a solution at the time. Still, the reality quickly set in: she was entering a world of child marriage, one that held little promise and even less security. It took the intervention of local leaders and World Vision Uganda to rescue her from an illegal marriage.

'After I gave birth, World Vision Uganda offered me an opportunity to take up practical skills. I signed up for tailoring. We are taught cutting, sewing, design, and business management.'

Flora is one of the many child mothers rescued by WVU from teenage marriage and given second chances at life. With every stitch Flora sews, she dreams of a brighter future for herself and her child. Flora's story is a story of resilience and overcoming the challenges of teenage motherhood to reclaim her life.



Flora* (not real name)
A Child Mother pictured practicing sewing at the Paya WVU Offices in Tororo, 24th September 2024.

BUTUMBA AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Butumba AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,100 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 100 active CHATs and Faith Leaders promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 1,200 children in the reporting period. 3,000 parents in Butumba AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. Community Change Groups reached 2000 parents/caregivers in Budumba.

Butumba AP has 44 active CP clubs in schools and six (6) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 2,200 school-going children and children in the communities.

WVU supported two legislative and normative recommendations in Butumba. 30 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation during the period.

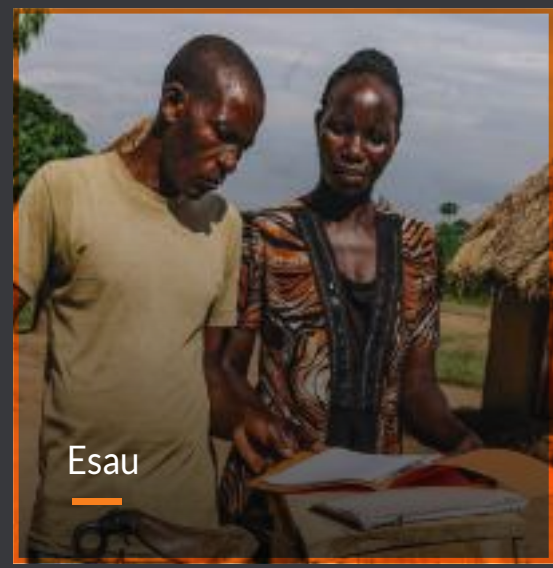
120 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 198 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. 3,000 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

3,150 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,000 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 60 of these children are children with Special Needs. 10 children with special needs received assistive devices in the period.



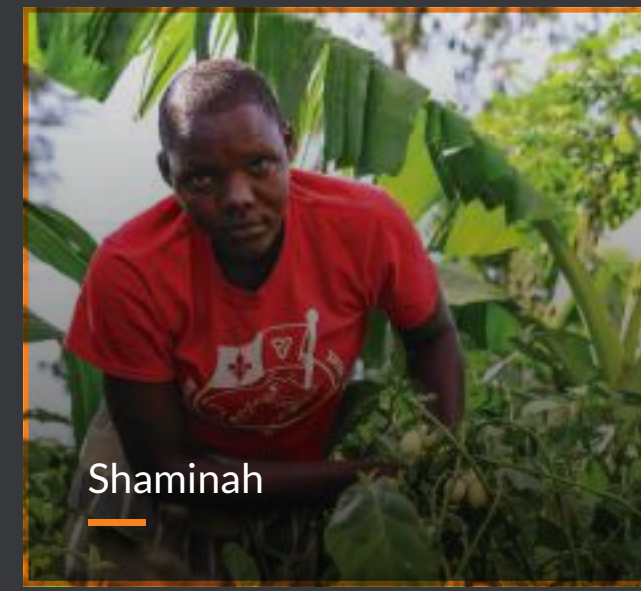
Communities Seeing Change in Butaleja Through Saving

Hihalabusa Buhanga Farmer's Group in Budumba, Butaleja, is a saving group defined by one singular goal: development. The group comprises men and women who contribute weekly and monthly to savings. The group is one of the beneficiaries of the transformation gospel under the Community See Change Model. According to Steven Masindi, a community volunteer with WVU, the participatory model is focused on community engagement and sustainable development. Community See Change prioritizes solutions hinged on long-term sustainability, shared vision and collaboration. 'We collaborate with local leaders and use local channels to access the communities. This ensures that our activities align with the community's goals, aspirations and needs,' he explains.



Esau

Malinga Esau, 53 and his wife, Lovisa Mugaba, are group members. 'My name is Malinga Esau, and I'm 53 years old. I struggled to provide for my wife, Muguba Lovisa, and our seven children for a long time. I was caught up in my own problems, neglecting my responsibilities, which took a toll on all of us. Three of my children even dropped out of school because of my irresponsibility. The group sat me down and talked sense to me about my shortcomings. I apologised to my wife, and she forgave me. I stopped drinking and took my children back to school. Now, all my focus is on my family and children.'



Shaminah

Malwa Yefusa, for his part, says the training under the model taught the community the importance of spirituality and the dangers of child marriage. 'We now encourage our children to go to churches and mosques. We also report anyone who expressed interest in marrying young children. We also stopped beating our children,' he adds. Mudondo Shamim, a member, says the weekly training has enabled them to start kitchen gardens focused on growing vegetables to supplement their home diets. 'We also stopped exchanging our girls for sugar and money.' she adds.

Value, Vices and Vulnerability: How a community finds value in combating vices and caring for vulnerable children.

'My name is Mugwiri Kenneth, and I'm the CHATs focal person for CHATs in Bubale Trading Centre. I have experienced first-hand how the Channels of Hope training has impacted my community. Under our CHAT group, our mission is to reduce domestic violence, promote godly child upbringing, support vulnerable children, combat HIV stigma, address child marriage, and prevent the torture of children. We have made good so far. As CHAT members, we focus on religious books, mainly the Bible and Koran, to raise our children. As a Christian, I agree with Proverbs 22:06. 'Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it." We meet these children in schools, at home and at CDPCs.

I've seen firsthand the negative effects of domestic violence within families. We also strongly condemn child marriage. Over time, we've seen attitudes shift regarding child marriage by emphasizing the Value of education. Men no longer beat their wives as much as they used to. We also have outreaches that are focused on vulnerable children like orphans and children with disabilities. We sensitise our people to the need to educate children with disabilities. We counsel and sensitise parents of such children. We pool resources to offer moral and material support to orphans here. The Channels of Hope Model has empowered us to create a supportive environment in Bubale Trading Centre, where families can thrive, and children grow up safely and in love. Thank you.



Kenneth,
Bubale Trading Centre, Budupa



Nakasongola District

KALONGO AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Kalongo AP, in part, achieved the following:

Community/ Congregational Action Teams in Kalongo promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 254 children. The 30 Faith Leaders in Kalongo AP also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period. 1,004 parents in Kalongo AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. The AP has 30 active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG), which, in their activities relating to positive parenting, reached 1004 parents or caregivers.

Kalongo has ten (10) functional informal and formal CP structures. 30 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the AP's CP Reporting and Referral system operation.

83 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 57 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools.210 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 206 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 30 of these children are children with Special Needs.



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Blaire, Kellen & Linvingston.
Spiritual Nurture Club, Kaleire PS

Spiritual Nurture at Kaleire Primary School: Raising Spiritual Children

At Kaleire Primary School in Kalongo Sub-county, Nakasongola, the Spiritual Nurture Club plays a key role in shaping its members' character and aspirations. The Club provides the pupils with an environment where pupils develop their spiritual lives through activities such as Bible study, praise and worship, and quiet reflection. Beyond faith, members also gain essential life skills and values, including leadership, obedience, discipline, and empathy. The Club has 50 members who meet once a week after class to discuss issues affecting them.

Nankunda Kellen is 14 and wants to be a community worker in Primary Seven. Her participation in Spiritual Nurture has taught her love and responsibility. "The Spiritual Nurture Club has taught me how to care for others," she says. "Before I joined Spiritual Nurture, I only thought about myself at school. I was self-centred. Now, I have a real interest in others. If I find a young pupil crying, I ask them what the problem is. I want to be a community worker, work in World Vision, and help people."

Tayebwa, a 13-year-old pupil in Primary Five, dreams of becoming a lawyer. Through his involvement in Spiritual Nurture, Tayebwa has learned to read and interpret Bible verses and learnt lessons on forgiveness. 'My favourite story in the Bible is the Story of Joseph who forgave his jealous brothers who sold him into slavery.' he says. "The teachings from the Club have helped me understand the importance of honesty. I want to become a lawyer to ensure justice is served," he shares.

Habimana Benon, the school headteacher, prides in the Child Protection interventions of WVU. He says the training of teachers and parents on the dangers of corporal punishment and violence in child labour has reduced the distances of violence against children in schools and homes. 'Dare to Discover and Children's Parliament has helped our learners express themselves better, gain confidence and report child abuse cases,' he says. 'Since 2020, our school population has increased from 182 pupils in 2020 to 543 pupils. This is partly because World Vision has educated our parents to send their children to school and not marry them off. The Clubs have also given hope to our learners to stay in school and

NABISWERA AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Nabiswera AP, in part, achieved the following:

2,004 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. ***50*** active CHATs promoted positive community norms and practices, covering ***1,002*** children. 30 Faith Leaders also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period. ***1,059*** parents in Nabiswera AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. The AP has ***50*** active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG), which, in their activities relating to positive parenting, reached ***1,803*** parents or caregivers.

Nabiswera has 40 active CP clubs in schools and six (6) functional informal and formal CP structures.

52 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation in the AP

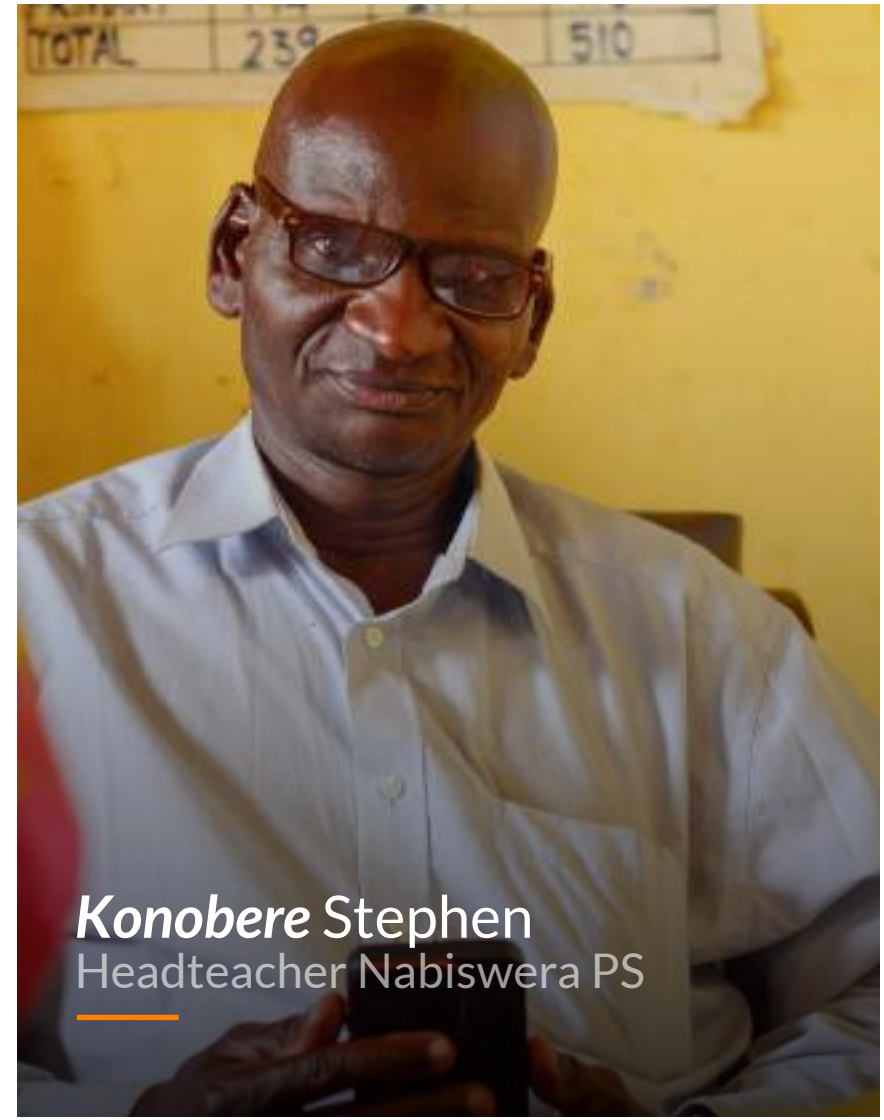
33 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and ***19*** CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. ***1,328*** parents/caregivers were sensitised and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

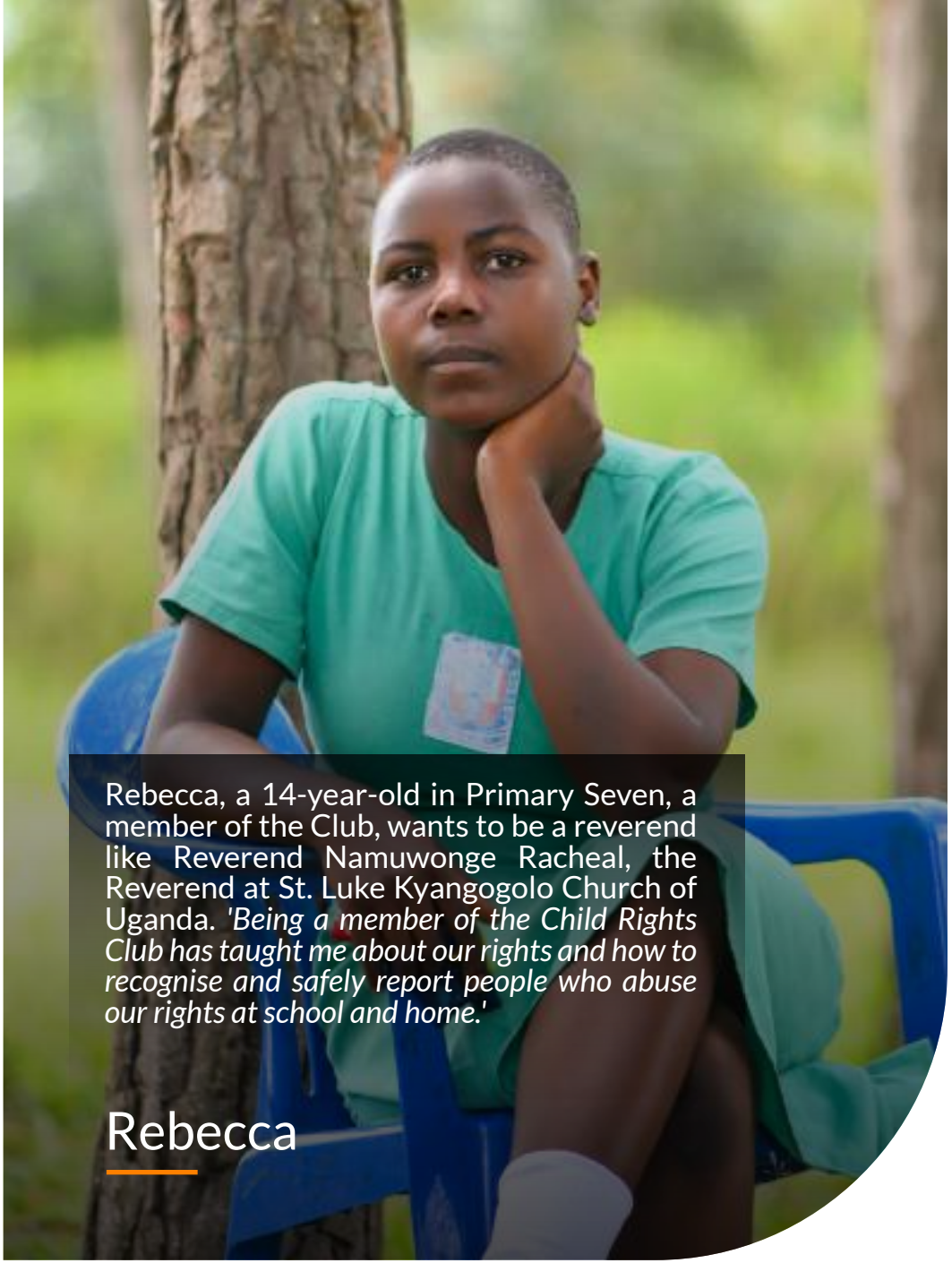
1,513 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children.

Child Rights Club at Nabiswera Church of Uganda Primary School: Empowering the Next Generation

The Child Rights Club at Nabiswera Primary School is a meeting point for confidence, research, knowledge, public speaking, and advocacy. The Club Club is focused on promoting the awareness, protection, and advocacy of children's rights. Through this Club, pupils here have been empowered and educated on their rights and responsibilities as children. Children have been transformed through the Children's Parliament and Dare to Discover sessions.

Headteacher Stephen is proud of the Child Rights Club's impact on the students. "The club has been instrumental in helping our pupils discover their potential," he says. He notes that the Children's Parliament has given students a platform to voice their concerns and propose solutions, while the Dare to Discover initiative encourages critical thinking and self-discovery. "These programs teach children to think, question, and lead outside the box. We've seen improved behaviour, academic performance, and overall confidence among the members."

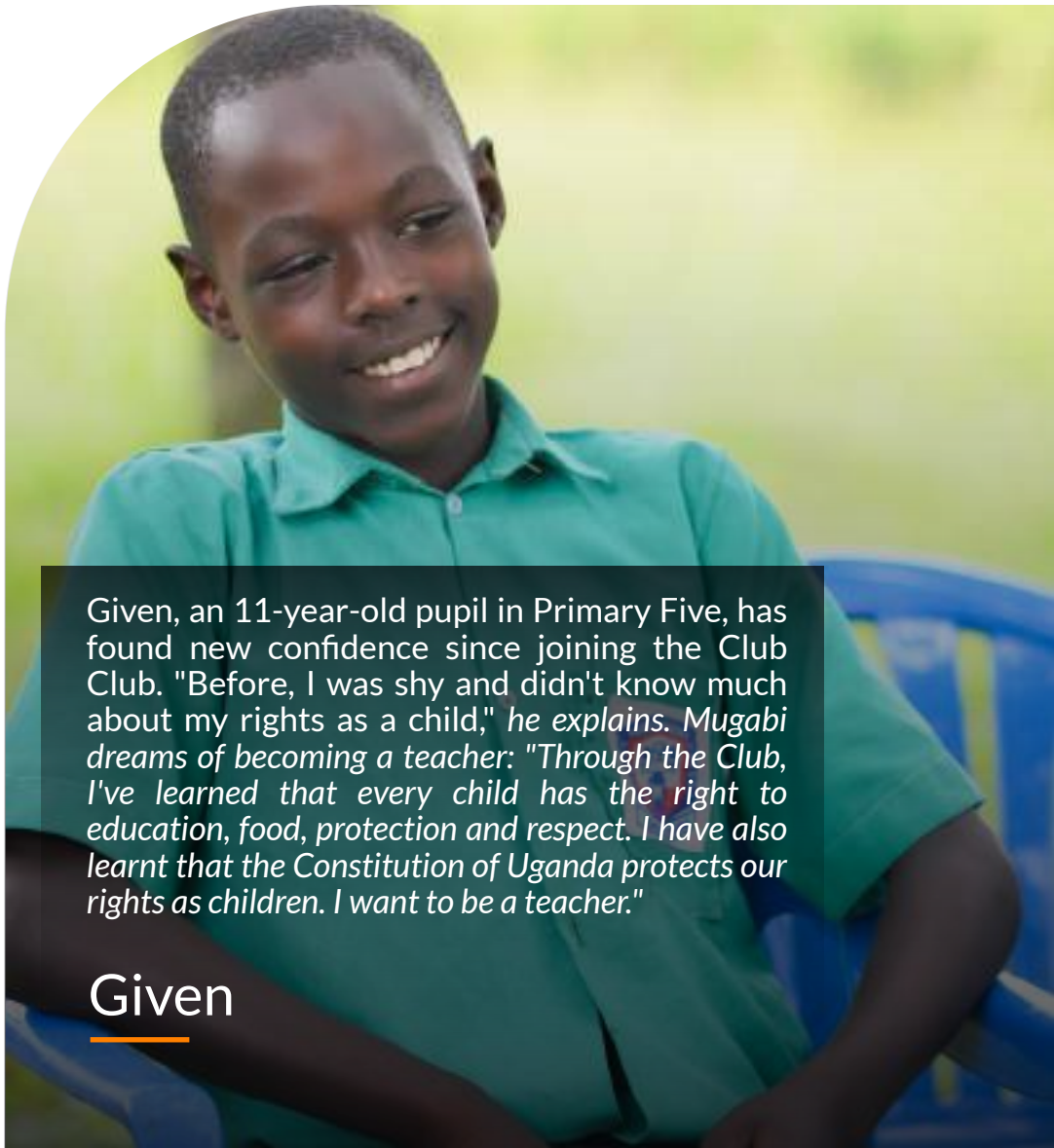




Rebecca, a 14-year-old in Primary Seven, a member of the Club, wants to be a reverend like Reverend Namuwonge Racheal, the Reverend at St. Luke Kyangogolo Church of Uganda. *'Being a member of the Child Rights Club has taught me about our rights and how to recognise and safely report people who abuse our rights at school and home.'*

Rebecca

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Given, an 11-year-old pupil in Primary Five, has found new confidence since joining the Club Club. "Before, I was shy and didn't know much about my rights as a child," *he explains. Mugabi dreams of becoming a teacher: "Through the Club, I've learned that every child has the right to education, food, protection and respect. I have also learnt that the Constitution of Uganda protects our rights as children. I want to be a teacher."*

Given


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Buliisa

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BULIISA AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Buliisa AP, in part, achieved the following:

During this period, 802 children actively participated in spiritual nurture initiatives, a testament to their resilience and determination. These initiatives, led by 50 active CHATs and 20 Faith Leaders, instilled positive norms and practices in the communities, benefiting 1,112 children. Furthermore, 4010 parents in Buliisa AP demonstrated increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues, a clear sign of their commitment to their children's well-being.

Buliisa has 10 active CP clubs in schools and six (10) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 902 school-going children and children in the communities. Buliisa registered 60 children with special needs in the reporting period.

In the reporting period, 500 boys and girls or adolescents in Buliisa completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer). 50 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.

120 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 120 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools. 4,007 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

Caroline Maisha's Journey; From dropping out of School to Dreaming of being a Doctor.

My name is Caroline. I am a 15-year-old Primary Seven pupil at Busingiro Primary School in Biiso, Buliisa, in Western Uganda. My mother separated from my father before I was born. My mother passed away when I was six years old. I was in primary two. As a result of her death, I dropped out of school and stayed home for two years. I was young and didn't understand what was happening. I missed my mother a lot. In 2018, Bosco, a WVU community volunteer found me at home during school. He got concerned. Bosco spoke to my immediate family and explained to them why I needed to go to back school.

Now that I'm in school again, my dream is to become a doctor. I want to help people who are sick and save lives. I'm also a proud member of the Spiritual Nurture Club and the Child Rights Club here. Being part of these clubs has changed me in many ways. The Spiritual Nurture Club has helped me grow in my faith and understand how to be kind to others. It gives me strength and hope, especially when life gets tough. The Child Rights Club has taught me about my rights as a child, and it's shown me that I can stand up for myself and help others when they need support. I enjoy the debates and discussions in the Child Rights Club meetings. There always is something new to learn. We are encouraged to not shy away from reporting anyone who abuses our rights. I am grateful for the opportunity to be in the Child Protection Club.

Being in school gives me hope. I am protecting myself from child abuse and child marriage. I'm full of hope, and I believe that one day, I will become a doctor. Thank you. May God Bless you.


Caroline


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Butambala

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BUTAMBALA /Bundibugyo

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, the Area Programs below, in part, achieved the following: Kasitu AP (Bundibugyo) Budde-Kalamba AP (Butambala) FY 2024 Child Protection Statistics.

CHILD PROTECTION	Kasitu (Bundibugyo)	Budde-Kalamba (Butambala)
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.	825	
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities	35	5
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	51	565
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices	12	40
Parents trained in positive parenting		
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline		
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities		3955
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period		78
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (6 Months or longer)		98
Functional informal and formal CP structures	10	8
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.		80
Number of reported child abuse cases referred to relevant institutions/ structures	62	58
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG)		
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.		96
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities	413	3921
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children	506	2172
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being		105
Girls and boys supported with assistive devices		10

BUDDE-KALAMBA AP

The Guiding Light of Spiritual Nurture Clubs in Butambala

Spiritual Nurture Clubs support children's spiritual and moral development. The clubs aim to instil values like kindness, respect, resilience and purpose. Through Bible study, worship, prayer sessions, and personal reflection, the clubs provide a safe space for students to explore and deepen their faith, learn about positive relationships, and develop leadership skills.

At Mpanga Umea Primary School in Butambala, the club is helping shape pupils into morally upright children. Namatovu Resty, a 14-year-old in Primary Seven, is a club member. She says the club has helped her learn better manners. 'I have learnt to share, greet my elders, not fight with others. Before I joined the club, I used to fight. Each time I brought food to school, I ate it alone. I no longer fight; I greet everyone at school when I come. I also stopped fighting. I enjoy very much listening and learning from the bible stories. My favourite story is the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The story teaches us to listen and not be wasteful.'

According to Joseph Balikuddembe, the Spiritual Nurture Patron at Mpanga Umea, 'The Spiritual Nurture Club has helped us teach our pupils with skills that have enabled them to handle peer pressure, violence and the temptation to participate in bad behaviour at home and at school. Our children have gained self-confidence, and their general behaviour here has changed. We use religious books to guide our learners.'



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Hoima

KIZIRANFUMBI AP AND KYABIGAMBIRE AP FY 2024 CHILD PROTECTION STATISTICS.

Child Protection	Kiziranfumbi	Kyabigambire
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG)	40	20
Parents reached by CCG	2030	2000
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities	1708	1687
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period	30	42
Functional informal and formal CP structures	10	10
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation	75	60
Reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures	60	60
CP cases reported and followed up in schools	64	60
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities	3500	2800
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children.	554	570
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being	30	30

WVU led or supported one national dialogue/lobbying process and meeting with decision-makers in the two APs in the Hoima. WVU also supported one legislative and normative recommendation in Kiziranfumbi AP and Kyabigambire AP.

Additionally, WVU incorporated two abuse prevention and protection activities and service provisions in Local Government plans with specific budget allocations in Hoima.

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KIZIRANFUMBI AP

The Role of Community Change Groups in Child Protection.

In Kiziranfumbi AP, Community Change Groups (CCGs) continue to champion Child protection. These groups comprise community members empowered to address grassroots issues affecting their communities. These groups work on creating sustainable, community-led change focused on not only the protection of children in their communities but also ensuring child protection issues like child abuse, domestic violence, and child neglect are prevented or resolved.

Kwesiga Florence's daughter was 'violated' by a community member last year. Unsure of what to do, she decided to let the matter go. Fortunately for her, the Community Change Group in Kidoma was interested in her daughter's matter and reported the case to WVU offices in Kiziranfumbi. The CCG offered the mother and child moral and material support to endure the difficult period. The accused person was also reported to Kidoma Police Station. The accused was arrested and remanded to Masindi Prison. 'When my daughter was abused, I was very disappointed and sad. While some members tried to frustrate my efforts for justice, the child abuse reporting and referral system allowed me to find justice for my child and myself. After the man who assaulted my daughter was arrested, I started to see the importance of these Community Change Groups. WVU has taught us how to further protect our children from abusers in our community and how to safely and privately report and follow up serious cases of child abuse.' shares Florence.

As a result of the Community Change Group intervention, Florence and her daughter received medical and free legal support. Florence's daughter is also on course to return to school. Florence's daughter's abuser is currently remanded in a government prison

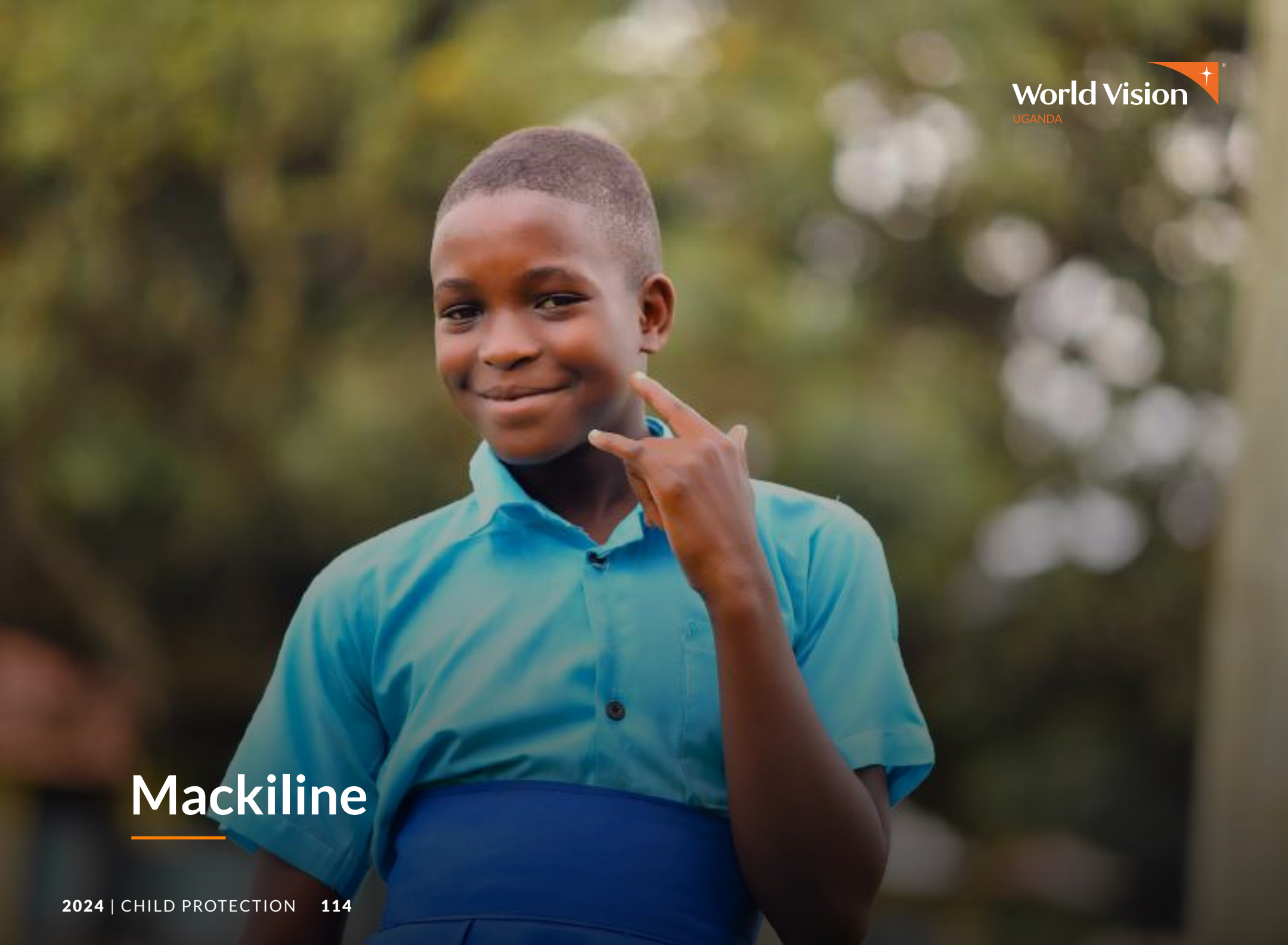
Impact of Community See Change in Rusaka A, Kidoma Parish.

The Community See Change Approach empowers communities to develop and implement positive, sustainable changes in their environments. The model is driven by the belief that communities can identify their needs and challenges and create solutions that address those issues effectively. In Rusaka Village Kidoma Parish, Kiziranfumbi Sub-county, the community uses music, dance, and drama to sensitise parents and children to child protection issues.

According to William, a Community Trainer employing the See Change Model, 'In Rusaka Village, Kidoma Sub-country Kiziranfumbi, the Community Change Group here is focused on sensitising parents and caregivers on child protection through music, dance and drama. Through the See Change training model, our Community Change Group raises awareness about children's rights and mobilises community members to safeguard children from abuse, exploitation, neglect, and violence. Our group encourages members to report and taking action against violations of children's rights.'

'I once was an alcoholic. I was irresponsible and violent. My love for the bottle affected my finances, my family and my children. Many times, when I returned from the bar, I would beat my wife and children. I was sat down by the community leaders who cautioned me about the dangers of alcoholism. I have since abandoned the bottle and am now a leader at my church and community. I no longer beat my wife. My children, wife and grandchildren are all happy. My family is peaceful, too. I am raising my grandchildren in a healthy environment now.' Fred Josephat, Rusaka-A Village Resident and WVU community volunteer.





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KYABIGAMBIRE AP

The impact of the Peace Road Club and Child Rights Club at Kakindo Church of Uganda Primary is impressive. Located in Kakindo, Kyabigambire Sub-country, Hoima district, Kakindo COU is home to 401 pupils. According to PRC club Patron Teacher Kabayaaga Robinah, since its establishment, the club has brought positive changes to teachers and pupils at the school. The school runs an open-door abuse reporting policy that encourages students to report any issues affecting their lives, whether at home or school, without fear of judgment. This policy ensures that students have access to help when they face challenges.' explains Robinah. 'Since we stopped corporal punishment as a form of discipline, we have a conflict resolution mechanism that ensures we safely resolve conflict in school and ensure our learners are disciplined.'

Earlier this year, Teacher Robinah responded to a complaint by a pupil who was struggling with a few troubles at home. Robinah sensitised the child's parent about positive parenting. 'My mother always insisted that I do a lot of domestic work every morning before school. The amount of work made it hard for me to report to school on time. I would also report to school tired. When I reported this challenge to my patron teacher, who came to my home, I spoke to my mother and father about how I was challenged. My mother understood my challenges and now allows me to attend school on time. I do the house work when I am able to. PRC has also helped me understand that my rights come with responsibilities, too. I have to be fair and kind.' Mackline Karuhanga, 12. Primary six.

PRC has also helped Mutono Absalom, a 12-year-old Primary Six pupil, learn self-control. Absalom struggled with anger, which often led to misunderstandings with his peers. 'The Peace Road Club taught me how to express my emotions safely without making the problems bigger. Non-violent conflict resolution has taught me how to control emotions and resolve disputes peacefully. I also learned how to share my little with my friends,' he added.

For teacher Robinah, the impact is clear. "We've seen remarkable improvements in how the students handle disputes and their relationships with others. The club teaches them that peace begins with themselves and spreads to those around them," she says.


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BUSIRIBA-KAHUNGE AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Busiriba-Kahunge AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,500 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 100 active CHATs promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 1,200 children. 40 Faith Leaders also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period.

The Community Change Groups in the AP interacted with 4000 parents in Busiriba-Kahunge AP who now demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. Busiriba-Kahunge AP has 45 active CP clubs in schools and ten (10) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 1,130 school-going children and children in the communities. In the reporting period, 750 boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in Busiriba-Kahunge AP.

WVU incorporated three (3) abuse prevention and protection activities and service provisions in Local Government plans with specific budget allocations in Busiriba-Kahunge AP.

50 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation. 327 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 150 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools.

4,003 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,130 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 58 of these children are children with Special Needs. In the AP, 50 girls and boys with special needs received assistive devices.





How Positive Parenting is Helping Children with Special Needs.

‘My name is Katushabe Constance. I live in Nyabwina, Kamwenge. My five-year-old son, Yohana, has cerebral palsy, and his lower body doesn't move as it should. I am a peasant farmer and spend most days in the garden. Before, I'd leave Yohana in bed or on the ground; I was exhausted and unsure of what to do, and he suffered, with bed sores and a weak body showing the signs.

But then, World Vision Uganda stepped in to help my son and I. Their Community Change Group volunteers trained me to care for him, keep him comfortable, prevent bed sores, and understand his special needs. I was trained on positive parenting and how to protect my son from abuse, neglect and malnutrition. I also received counselling. WVU even provided a wheelchair. Now, Yohana isn't just lying around—he's outside, engaged, and while he cannot actively play with the children. I can see how alive and excited he is. I plan to take him to school soon. I just need to find a place that understands his unique needs

With WVU's help, I've found the strength and skills I needed. Now, I can care for, love, and give him the life he deserves. I no longer feel cursed for giving birth to my son.'

KAMWENGE-KABAMBIRO AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Kamwenge-Kabambiro AP, in part, achieved the following:

1,100 children participated in spiritual nurture initiatives during this period. 100 active CHATs promoted positive community norms and practices, covering 1,200 children. 40 Faith Leaders also actively promoted positive norms and practices in the reporting period.

The Community Change Groups in the AP interacted with 4000 parents in Busiriba-Kahunge AP who now demonstrate increased knowledge of positive discipline and other CP-related issues. Kamwenge-Kabambiro AP has 33 active CP clubs in schools covering 1502 school-going children. In the reporting period, 550 boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in the AP

WVU incorporated three (3) abuse prevention and protection activities and service provisions in Local Government plans with specific budget allocations in Kamwenge-Kabambiro AP.

50 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation. 396 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures, and 120 CP cases were reported and followed up in schools.

4,000 registered Children in the AP reported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities. 1,135 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 58 of these children are children with Special Needs. In the AP, 50 girls and boys with special needs received assistive devices.

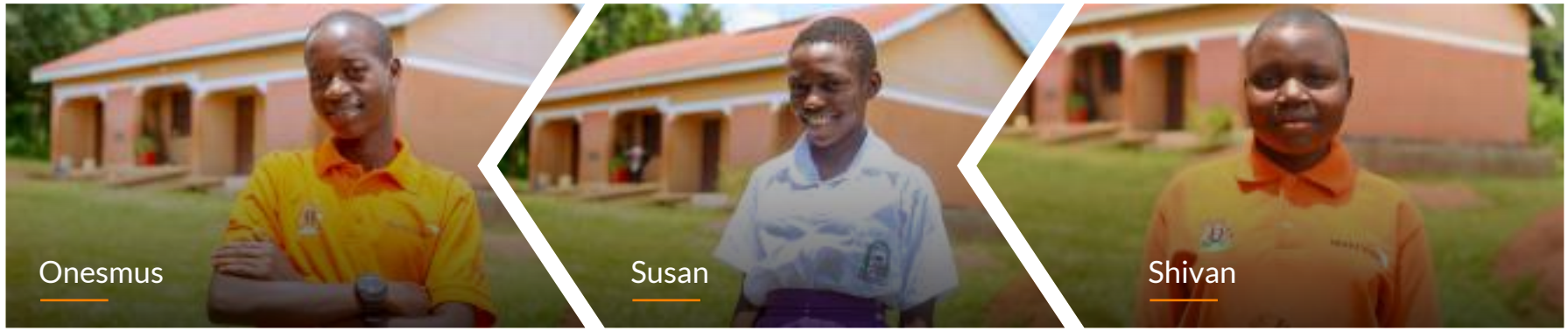

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Kibaale

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, the Area Programs below, in part, achieved the following:

Kasambya AP Kiryanga AP (Kibaale) FY 2024 Child Protection Statistics

CHILD PROTECTION	Kasambya	Kiryanga
Boys and girlsparticipated in spiritual nurture initiatives.	906	1200
Active CHATs promoting positive norms and practices in the communities	50	50
Boys and girls servedby CHATs (Community Hope Action Teams)	1000	1100
Faith Leaders actively promoting positive norms and practices	20	20
Parents trained in positive parenting		
Parents demonstrating increased knowledge in positive discipline	2004	2000
Children who participated in the CP clubs or active child protection structures in schools or communities		
Active CP Children's clubs in schools in the documenting period	48	108
Boys and girls or adolescents who completed a life skills curriculum (6 Months or longer)		
Functional informal and formal CP structures	10	10
CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.	100	100
Number of reported child abuse cases referred to relevant institutions/ structures	60	120
Active and functional Community Change Groups (CCG)		
CP cases reported and followed up in schools.	40	40
Registered Children whoreported that sponsorship provides a life-enriching experience for children, families and communities		601
Boys and girls recorded meaningfully participating in actions that support ending violence against children	2400	2697
Boys and girls with special needs recorded participating in issues that affect their well-being		60

WVU led or supported four national dialogue/lobbying processes and meetings with decision-makers in Kibaale; three were held in Kiryanga AP and one in Kasambya. Additionally, WVU incorporated two abuse prevention and protection activities and service provisions in Local Government plans with specific budget allocations in Kibaale.



KASAMBYA AP

From Teasing to Teamwork: The Transformation at Kasambya Primary

At Kasambya Primary School in Bwamiramira sub-county, Kibaale District, the Peace Road Club is vital in fostering peace-building, self-esteem, problem-solving, and communication among its members. The elected club chairperson, Onesmus, a 15-year-old primary seven pupil at Kasambya, says the club runs initiatives to support both boys and girls, encouraging mutual respect and understanding. PRC meetings at Kasambya also involve educating boys and girls on menstruation, reducing the shame around body changes and empowering girls to stay in school without fear of boys teasing them about menstruation.

The club members have also learned to make reusable sanitary towels and craft necklaces, bangles, earrings, and woven baskets—skills that enhance creativity and foster unity. Susan, 13, a club member, adds: '*PRC has helped me us make affordable sanitary towels. When making them, we also discuss and find solutions to our problems. We are like one big family. Girls no longer suffer from period shame; they also do not have to drop out of school because of menstruation. As girls, we are now more confident about coming to school. Discipline has also improved because our patron teacher, Teacher Kwikiriza Justine, encourages us to be well-behaved. She says that 'discipline is the key to success.''*



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Left - Right

Juliet - Juliet - Elithabeth - Monica.

KIRYANGA AP

Congregational Hope Action Teams (CHATs) work within communities to address social challenges and provide support, especially for families facing difficulty. These teams sensitize communities on positive parenting dispute resolution; they also fight domestic violence, child marriage, and violence against children.

In Kiryanga sub-county, Kibaale, the Congregational Hope Action Teams (CHAT) have become a vital support for families facing hardship. At St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Bugwara, CHAT members Kusiima Monica, Nyamahunge Juliet, and Kwikiriza Elizabeth helped bring peace to Nakabugo Juliet, a distressed mother whose 17-year-old daughter became pregnant while in Primary Seven. After learning of Nakabugo's plans to send her daughter away, CHAT members intervened, encouraging reconciliation and open dialogue. Their efforts led to a decisive outcome: Nakabugo welcomed her daughter back and supported her return to school. Through compassion and guidance, CHAT strengthened this family's bond and inspired the community to embrace hope and understanding in times of difficulty.

'We thank WVU for empowering our people with training and raising awareness on domestic violence against violence and child marriage in our community. Our parenting methods are no longer violent, and our children are much safer now. When my daughter got pregnant. I started looking for a man to marry her off. I didn't know that after giving birth, a child can return to school. My daughter is back in school chasing her nursing dream. The CHAT member reconciled me with my daughter and counselled me to allow her to live with me.' Nakabugo Juliet, Kiryanga. Mother and CHAT member.




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Kiboga

KIMU AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Kimu AP, in part, achieved the following:

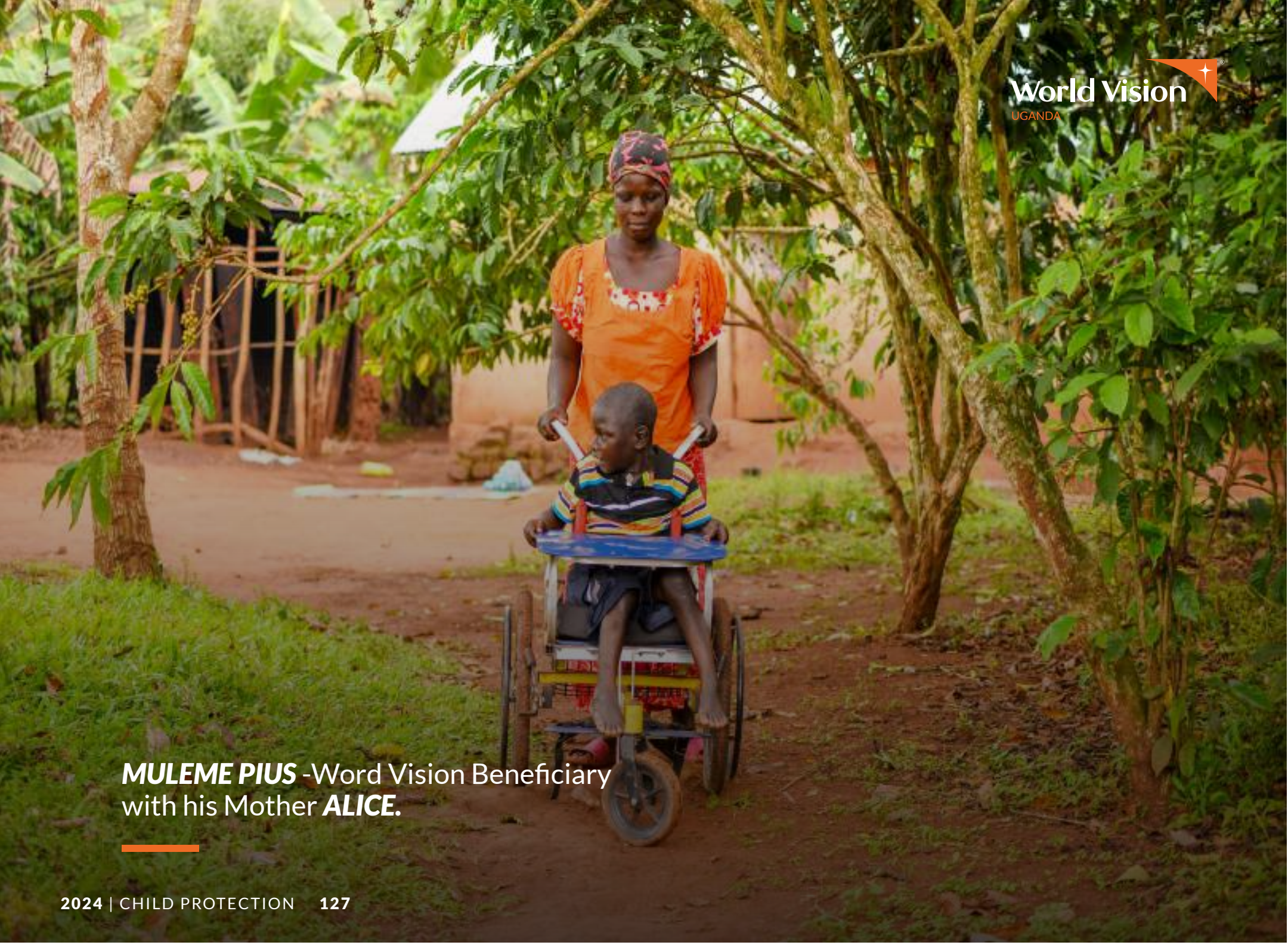
The 20 Community Change Groups (CCG) in Kimu AP reached and sensitized 2011 parents in the reporting period. Kimu AP recorded (12) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 1029 school-going children and children in the communities. 80 boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in the reporting period in Kimu AP.

WVU led or supported one national dialogue/lobbying process and meetings with decision-makers Kimu AP. WVU also supported one legislative and normative recommendation in Kimu. 51 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.

30 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures. 104 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

1,019 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 57 of these children are children with Special Needs. Five (5) boys and girls were supported with assistive devices in the Kimu AP.

Kimu AP achieved 101.3% of what the AP set out to accomplish in the reporting period.



MULEME PIUS -Word Vision Beneficiary with his Mother ***ALICE.***

The 'Differently-Abled' Pius.

In most rural communities, children with special needs are isolated and discriminated against. Such children, because of their unique needs, find themselves suffering from neglect and even abuse. According to UNICEF: 'Children with disabilities are even more at risk of mental, physical and sexual abuse because of discrimination, isolation and lack of access to services.'

Mutabazi Zious, a WVU community volunteer, notes that WVU incorporates training on managing children with special needs. We, as community volunteers, receive training on how to identify and report signs of abuse or neglect among children with disabilities. WVU educates families on supportive care practices and child rights, encouraging positive, inclusive parenting techniques. Children with special needs are also assessed and given assistive devices like wheelchairs to assist them with movement.' he shares.

Lives with his mother, Nalwadda Alice, 30, who has four other children. According to Pius' mother, Pius fell ill three months after his birth. He lost significant weight as a result of his illness. Pius struggles with mobility and learning difficulties. 'When my son fell sick. I visited churches, hospitals and even traditional herbalists. I lost all my money in shrines where herbalists claimed that my son had been bewitched. I grew frustrated with Pius because of his unique needs. Pius requires constant attention. He also cannot move without help. I used to carry him to the garden, but he became too heavy. So I started locking him up in the house.'

Alice received positive parenting training focused on handling Pius as a special needs child. She also received psychosocial support to help her cope with the pressure of raising special needs children. Pius also received an assessment and was issued an assistive device: a wheelchair to facilitate his movement.

'The wheelchair that Pius received from WVU has really helped us. Pius no longer has to crawl on the ground, exposing himself to germs and dirtying his clothes. I also no longer have to lock Pius up when going to the garden. I was sensitized by WVU that locking Pius up alone was inhumane, and I now don't leave him uncared for. I wheel him with me to the garden or Church. I treat Pius with understanding because his needs are unique.' shares Alice

NTWETWE AP

In the reporting period ending September 30 2024, Ntwetwe AP, in part, achieved the following:

The 20 Community Change Groups (CCG) in Ntwetwe AP reached and sensitized 2004 parents in the reporting period. Ntwetwe AP recorded (12) functional informal and formal CP structures covering 1,000 school-going children and children in the communities. 81 boys and girls or adolescents completed a life skills curriculum (6 months or longer) in the reporting period in Ntwetwe AP.

WVU led or supported one national dialogue/lobbying process and meetings with decision-makers Ntwetwe AP. WVU also supported one legislative and normative recommendation in Ntwetwe. 52 CP actors (including social workers, schools, police, Church, etc.) were trained on the CP Reporting and Referral system operation.

33 reported child abuse cases were referred to relevant institutions/ structures. 100 parents/caregivers were sensitized and educated on laws regarding specific child protection issues in the reporting period in the AP.

1,019 boys and girls were recorded meaningfully participating in actions that supported the end of violence against children. 55 of these children are children with Special Needs. In the reporting period, five (5) boys and girls were supported with assistive devices in the AP.

Ntwetwe AP achieved 100.3% of what the AP set out to accomplish in the reporting period.

How Peace Road Club is helping Caroline work towards her dream of being a Doctor

'My name is Caroline. I am 13 years old and a Primary Seven student at St. Charles Lwanga Primary School in Natyole, Kyankwanzi. Here at St Lwanga, we have an active Peace Road Club. We meet once a week. We have open discussions where we share our challenges and find ways to solve them together. We also sing, read, dance, recite poems and advise each other. We are also taught how to express ourselves politely, listen actively, and peacefully coexist with others. The club has helped me make friends. The best part of the Peace Road Club is that teachers stopped beating up like cows. We are allowed to talk about the problems we are facing. I have also, through the club, found my purpose. I want to be a doctor in future and help people like Dr Kikabi Edward of Ntwetwe Health Centre II. I know I have to work hard and believe in myself. My self-esteem has also improved since I joined the club.

The club also teaches us to be agents of peace and our rights. We now know that we can report people, including those close to us, when they abuse our rights. We are grateful for all the lessons the Club has given us.





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World Vision UGANDA

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