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ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2024



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Corporate Summary

Save Sunshine Shelter Kids is an indigenous NGO registered in the Republic of Uganda. Save Sunshine Shelter Kids is committed to discovering and promoting innovative ways to supplement government programs through education, vocational skills training, women and girls' empowerment, Music, Dance, and Drama (MDD), and outreach programs for vulnerable children, among other initiatives.

Founded in 2005 by a small group of ex-street children, non-street children, and other compassionate individuals, the organization was created in response to the growing number of street children in Kampala. Its primary focus is to rebuild and restore confidence among street and other vulnerable children by extending "wings of love," equipping them with skills and talents, and reuniting them with their families.

Over time, it became evident that even after reintegration, many children returned to the streets due to a lack of sustainable means of survival. Save Sunshine Shelter Kids addresses this issue by equipping these children with lifelong skills and nurturing their natural talents to ensure they can thrive once reintegrated with their families and communities.

At Save Sunshine Shelter Kids, we believe that every child has unique abilities, and street children are no exception. By engaging them in activities such as crafting, farming, sports, music, and other skill-building exercises, we help uncover their hidden potential. Our approach includes one-on-one conversations to better understand each child's interests and aspirations, tailoring support to their needs.

To further support their growth, Save Sunshine Shelter Kids enlists mentors, often former street children who have successfully transformed their lives. These mentors serve as role models, helping the children develop their talents, build confidence, and become responsible, committed members of society. In addition, practical knowledge and skills training empower these children to start small-scale, sustainable businesses, thereby reducing unemployment a major issue in Uganda today.

Our vision, mission and Objectives

Vision:

Communities graced with equality, care, and love, enabling former street kids to testify and actively participate in building the world.

Mission:

To initiate a purposeful meaning in the lives of street kids and orphans by equipping them with realistic approaches wherever they are, showing them love and care, and encouraging them to realize their dreams.

Major Objective:

To administer God's love and mercy to street children.

Objectives

- i.) To educate and train street children in various courses.
- ii.) To promote the withdrawal, rehabilitation, and reintegration of street children.
- iii.) To train, empower, and sensitize women on sustainable practices.
- iv.) To promote the welfare of street, ex-street, and other vulnerable children and youth.
- v.) To administer God's love to street children, women, and the entire community.
- vi.) To collaborate with communities to improve conditions and keep children in their homes.
- vii.) To facilitate the capacity building of community stakeholders working with street children.
- viii.) To empower, sensitize, and promote sanitation and medical assistance in communities.
- ix.) To encourage and advocate for HIV/AIDS awareness to curb stigma within communities.
- x.) To increase awareness and responsiveness to child protection issues at all levels.
- xi.) To pursue any other initiatives that enhance the organization's impact and the welfare of the children and communities it serves.

Thematic areas



1. Street Kid Outreaches.

They are a vital channel for connecting with vulnerable children. Through these engagements, we show them care and concern, building trust and understanding as the first step toward positive transformation.

2. Rehabilitation

The second step involves placement at our shelter, where children stay temporarily for months or years. The rehabilitation shelter provides a loving and safe environment for children to settle into life away from the streets while preparing them for reintegration with their families.

3. Education

Education is the most expensive program as children are placed in various settings, with costs varying by grade and class. Despite the high costs, we prioritize providing quality education, as it is fundamental to breaking the cycle of vulnerability.

4. Library.

Libraries serve as gateways for children to learn, explore, nurture their creativity. They offer a safe space for children to dream, read, and develop into the writers and thinkers they aspire to become.

5. Music at the Shelters.

Why do we equip them with skills? We believe every child is talented and naturally gifted. Our role is to ignite the flame of their potential, allowing their creativity to shine through various arts such as music, dance, and drama.

6. Advocacy Program

Through our outreach efforts, we actively involve communities in raising awareness about the plight of street children in Uganda. This program fosters community participation in addressing the challenges faced by these children.

7. Vocational Skills

We provide vocational training in disciplines like leather crafting, supported by volunteer trainers. These skills empower children to generate income and sustain independent living. Proceeds from their work also contribute to maintaining their livelihoods.

8. Resettlement and Reintegration

Every child deserves the love and support of a family. A significant part of our work involves understanding each child's story and working toward their resettlement and reintegration into their families.

10. HIV/AIDS Counseling and Sensitization

HIV/AIDS is a major contributing factor to children ending up on the streets. We have implemented programs to educate and sensitize children about the risks of the virus, helping to curb its impact on their lives.

11. Building And Restoring Homes

With available funding, we take on the responsibility of building or restoring homes, primarily for widows with children who are in desperate need.

12. Women Programs

Many households are led by women, often supporting 10-15 or more family members, including children and relatives, in dire living conditions. We empower these women through training and resources to improve their livelihoods and stability.

13. Clothing and Sanitary Ware

This initiative provides clothing and sanitary products, such as pads, to girls and women. Distributions occur twice a year to ensure they have the basic necessities to live with dignity.

14. Distant /Far Projects.

This program emerged during the COVID-19 crisis, focusing on resettling women and children who were severely impacted by the pandemic. It continues to support families in recovering from such devastating situations. By addressing their immediate needs and providing ongoing support.

Letter from the founder and CEO Hajara Namuyanja

Steering through 2024 felt like traversing a complex maze, constantly unsure of the final destination. Graciously Sunshine Shelter kids, the Light of Uganda. Trusting this Light, even when the path was unclear, allowed us to move forward with hope and purpose. This truth isn't just for 2024. It's a testament to all seasons of life. One of my most cherished scriptures reminds me of this: Joseph, betrayed, sold into slavery, and burdened by years of hardship, looked his brothers in the eye and declared, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good." These words move me to tears every time because they speak to the profound ways God works through even the hardest circumstances.

There is no explanation but God.

These two words became our anchor this past year. Though faced with crises that threatened to overwhelm us, insufficient funding, programs hindered, floods and the ongoing challenges of tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS among the women we serve. We saw children orphaned too young, mothers taken by illness, and families left in emotional devastation. These realities demand more from us to expand, to protect, to serve. God turned trials into triumphs. At first glance, this should have been a year of setbacks. But God used these difficulties to draw us closer to Him and to each other. The Gospel, and the relationships it nurtures, remains our unshakable foundation. And from this foundation, we built something extraordinary:-

We supported and educated 81 students, ensuring the continued operation of our shelters to provide a safe haven for children. We promoted sanitation initiatives, including cesspool emptying, and empowered women through various programs. Additionally, we organized five impactful medical campaigns and expanded our library, providing more space for the children to learn and grow. We also sheltered women affected by flooding, completed roofing for several elderly women's homes, and successfully resettled 28 children this year. Furthermore, four boys transitioned to independent living, marking another important milestone in our mission.

Each milestone is a testament to God's provision through generous hearts like yours. Every achievement reflects His grace and your partnership in this mission. As we step into 2025, I'm filled with excitement for what lies ahead. God has taken what seemed so broken and used it to build something remarkable. This year, we're determined to deepen our impact through education, rehabilitation, library, vocational training and community programs. We thank you all who have donated towards our programs this year, we wouldn't have done it without you!

I invite you to join us on this journey. Together, let us celebrate God who transforms even our hardest seasons into opportunities for growth, love, and hope. Be part of our **STORY** this year, and let's make an eternal impact, one life at a time. This letter is to **thank you**. To thank you for the ways in which you have allowed God to use what you have to do something, and to do it very well. 2024 was a year like none other. It was a landmark year, a foundation has been laid, and the future feels pregnant with hope and opportunity. God's grace has entered into Save Sunshine Shelter Kids work in Uganda and it

wouldn't be possible without your faithfulness. Thank you. You are helping plant seeds that we are watching grow. **Namuyanja Hajara | Founder & CEO**

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Letter from the Youth Activities Coordinator Peter Kasagga

I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements and successes of 2024. This year was filled with tremendous milestones, great dedication, and outstanding teamwork that made everything possible. It is with deep gratitude and honor that I share this update today. Our milestones can be categorized into two key areas: Expansion and People.

Expansion

Our commitment to growth has yielded remarkable results for Save Sunshine Shelter Kids. In 2024, we successfully expanded our reach within our communities and increased our capacity to serve more street children and families.

Launch of New Center Program Areas: One of the year's most significant milestones was the successful renting of a field for our street programs and vocational training on a small scale.

This new space has not only expanded our capacity to provide essential services but has also brought life-changing skills to communities that previously had limited access to hands-on training. The launch of this center underscores our unwavering commitment to improving the well-being of the children and families we serve.

People

Beyond the growth of our shelter, 2024 was a year dedicated to investing in people, the street children and the individuals who make our work possible. We created new opportunities by expanding our team with a group of passionate and dedicated individuals who share our mission. This growing team has been the driving force behind our accomplishments, and their unwavering commitment continues to inspire us all.

I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you. Your dedication, financial support, and belief in Save Sunshine Shelter Kids have made these achievements possible.

Together, we have transformed countless lives, and your contributions remain the true catalyst for meaningful change. As we look ahead, I am confident that we will continue to build upon our successes and create an even greater impact in the lives of the children and communities we serve.

With your ongoing support, there are no limits to what we can accomplish. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Your kindness and generosity are deeply appreciated.

Peter Kasagga | Youth Activities Coordinator

Acknowledgement

At Save Sunshine Shelter Kids, we are deeply humbled and honored to acknowledge the unwavering support and commitment of our donors, partner friends, and well-wishers. Your contributions, whether financial, technical, or material, have played a pivotal role in sustaining our programs and improving the lives of vulnerable children, teen mothers, and marginalized communities in Uganda.

Your support has helped us create safe spaces, provide access to education, health, and skills training, and restore dignity to those who had lost hope. We recognize that none of these achievements would be possible without your belief in our mission and your continued investment in our vision for change.

Partnership

We gratefully recognize the strategic partnerships we have built with individuals, organizations, and agencies committed to social impact. Save Sunshine Shelter Kids extends heartfelt appreciation to our partner friends in ***Canada, the USA, and Uganda***, whose collaboration has enabled us to implement programs that are not only impactful but also sustainable.

Thanks to your partnership, we have been able to:

- . Empower street-connected children through education and shelter.
- . Support teen mothers with vocational skills and psychosocial care.
- . Improve hygiene, health, and access to essential services.
- . Comply with NGO regulatory requirements and uphold transparency.
- . Expand advocacy efforts and engage with policy makers for lasting change.

These partnerships have strengthened our foundation and extended our reach across borders, building a network of care, empathy, and shared responsibility.

Gratitude & Thank You

To each donor, sponsor, friend, and supporter of Save Sunshine Shelter Kids, thank you. Your generosity is not only financial it is personal, intentional, and transformative. You have stood with us through challenges and triumphs, and because of you, many lives are being changed for the better every day. We extend our deepest gratitude for the kindness, prayers, resources, and love you continue to share. From a simple donation to long-term collaboration, every effort you make uplifts a child, empowers a mother, and strengthens a community.

We look forward to walking this journey with you, with humility, dedication, and the shared dream of building a brighter future for Uganda's most vulnerable.

Street children outreaches



The Save Sunshine Shelter Kids team conducted outreach three times a week to locate children living on the streets. Through these efforts, we identified a total of 476 children across three slums and the city center over the year. This included 200 children in business buildings, 110 in Makindye, 138 in the city center, and 28 in the Nateete slum.

During these outreaches, we offered counseling to the children and invited them to the hide out centre. Those who came to the centers had the opportunity to undergo rehabilitation programs. They received medical care, enjoyed meals, participated in games and attended counseling sessions. The attendance reports from both day and night outreaches were carried out on a quarterly basis to track the number of street children and understand the causes behind their presence on the streets.

These outreaches not only allowed us to meet the immediate needs of the children but also offered them the chance to interact with others, engage in activities, share their testimonies, and receive mentorship. Former street children, who have successfully reintegrated into society, came along to share their stories of resilience and success, inspiring others to believe in the possibility of change.

In the past 12 months, we have provided 18,347 warm meals to children on the streets, serving them daily throughout the week. During this period, our rescue efforts reached 38 boys, 18 of whom were successfully resettled with their families. We remain vigilant in protecting children at risk of sexual exploitation and trafficking, having recently identified and rescued more girl boys, who are now under our care at the shelters under different ages.

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, the number of street children continues to grow each day. This highlights the urgent need for continued outreach and support for these vulnerable children.

Street visits



We conduct various street visits, but our primary focus remains on the night outreaches, which provided us with a deeper insight into the lives of street children. During these outreaches, we find the children in various corners of the city; often sleeping in boxes or anything they can find to keep warm. The night outreaches allow us to address critical issues such as drug abuse and the violence they often face during the night. Many attackers target them, knowing that no one is around to protect these vulnerable children. Unfortunately, we've had to help many children quickly move away from dangerous situations to ensure their safety. The risks they face at night highlight the urgency of our mission to provide care and protection. Through our night outreaches, we have been able to rescue many young boys who are often coerced into dangerous activities. It is difficult for anyone to imagine that these young boys are being forced to participate in illegal and harmful actions, highlighting the need for our intervention and support.

Psychosocial Care and Support programs

Each child found on the streets had a unique reason for leaving home and seeking refuge on the streets. Many had been traumatized, with some vowing never to return home. Social workers provided a compassionate listening ear, offering support through scheduled counseling sessions held at least twice a week. These sessions allowed the children to share their stories and unload their emotional burdens. Over time, they were empowered to make important decisions to improve their lives.



As their healing journey progressed, some children chose to return to their homes, where they were supported in re-establishing relationships with their families. For those attending formal school or vocational training, regular counseling continued to play a key role in keeping them engaged and motivated. This support not only helped them stay in school but also contributed to improved academic performance.

The social workers also extended their counseling efforts to the parents and guardians of the children, educating them about positive parenting habits and the importance of being strong role models. As a result, many parents began to make positive changes in their behavior, providing better support for their children's education. Some even reduced their drinking habits and became more responsible in caring for their children's well-being. In addition, children attending formal education or vocational training continued to receive regular counseling, which helped them stay in school and made a noticeable difference in their performance.

Rehabilitation Programs



Throughout the year, Save Sunshine Shelter Kids successfully rehabilitated more than twenty five new street boys and 23 new girls at the shelters. During rehabilitation sessions, the street children are encouraged to attend street school classes every Wednesday, where they were introduced to vital life skills. These sessions included basic mathematics, English, reading and writing, science, personal hygiene, HIV/AIDS awareness, and education on the dangers of drug abuse. The children also have opportunities to express themselves through music, dance, and drama, which played an essential role in their healing and development.



These rehabilitation programs help prepare the children to transition into formal schooling or vocational training in case we enroll them in school. Among the sixteen children enrolled this year, thirteen boys successfully qualified to join formal school. While the children are making significant progress, many of the newly rescued ones are still adjusting to their new environment which takes a period of six months or a year. To support this transition, our counselors, Gloria and Joan, have been providing essential support at a camp where the children stayed for the next two weeks and at the shelters.

The number of boys at the shelter has grown considerably, mainly due to failed resettlements, boys completing Senior Six who still need assistance, and those awaiting vocational training. Moreover, some boys who have shown remarkable transformation now need to transition to the main boys' shelter from the hide out center.

For the girls, a major challenge has been their rapid growth, which brings added complexities. Probation officers often recommend resettlement for certain girls, but many of them lack responsible parents or guardians, leaving them highly vulnerable and exposed to more risks. Unfortunately, some girls have ended up as teenage mothers. In response, we've rented a separate room outside the city to create a safe space for some of these girls, protecting them from risky resettlement situations briefly due to the emergency.



Current Challenges, while the shelters are operating, we continue to face significant resource limitations, particularly with food, mattresses, and bedding. The hideout center remains especially challenging, as the number of new boys arriving daily has exceeded our capacity. While it's difficult to turn any child away, we've had to make tough decisions. Recently, four boys were released due to their dangerous behavior, which posed risks to others at the center. Relocating the center may lead to even higher numbers, further straining our resources.

We remain hopeful that fencing the hideout center will help alleviate some of these challenges by reducing conflicts with the surrounding community and minimizing violence among the children and potential community attackers.

Shelters

Our greatest achievement is seeing countless children with a roof over their heads, a dream made possible through the unwavering support of our friends from Canada. Their generosity has enabled us to continue rescuing and safeguarding the lives of many children from the streets of Kampala and other corners of the city.

We operate two shelters:- one for boys and one for girls designed to house and rehabilitate children rescued from the streets of Kampala. Each shelter has the capacity to host up to 21 children, providing them with a safe and comfortable environment. At these shelters, we ensure that all children receive regular meals, from breakfast to supper, to maintain their health and well-being.



Once a child is rescued, they follow a carefully designed one-year rehabilitation program aimed at helping them adapt to their new environment and reacquire appropriate social behaviors. Our shelters are structured to resemble a normal home, fostering a sense of family and stability. This intentional setup prepares the children for eventual reintegration into society and helps them appreciate the importance of family life, making their resettlement process smoother and more meaningful.

We have developed a one-year program for newly rescued children that focuses on helping them adapt to their new environment. This program includes allowing them time to rest and sleep fully or longer than usual due to the poor and unhygienic conditions they faced, which often deprived them of adequate rest. For example, many of these children sleep significantly longer hours compared to others, as their bodies recover from the exhaustion of street life.

We also introduce them to better ways of managing anger something many of them struggle with by teaching practical techniques and coping strategies. Additionally, we work to eliminate the "survival of the fittest" mindset that has driven them to fight and steal to attain basic needs. Through counseling and mentorship, we guide them in unlearning these harmful behaviors, helping them develop healthier social and relationship habits as they prepare for reintegration into society.

We are overjoyed to see a significant number of children transformed and successfully resettled, especially those who fell victim to peer pressure or became lost after taking wrong routes. Among them, we have sheltered seven children who disappeared under such circumstances. By collaborating closely with the police and probation officers, we have worked tirelessly to trace their families and reunite

them as quickly as possible. This swift intervention is critical to preventing them from becoming accustomed to street life, which can be incredibly challenging to break free from.

Hide out center Programs

The Hideout Centers were established during the COVID-19 crisis in 2020 to shelter vulnerable street children as many programs closed. Initially using garages, stores, and abandoned rooms, we rented small spaces to accommodate children based on their needs and progress. Many children rescued today passed through these centers and are now thriving.

We are fortunate to host twelve children at the Hideout Center immediately after rescuing them from the streets. This allows us to monitor, observe, and understand each child's unique story, providing the necessary attention to help us fully grasp why they left home. This year, we've rescued 28 children at the center. We intentionally keep the center small to ensure that those rescued from street programs, or those seeking refuge due to medical conditions, receive the care and attention they need. By maintaining a limited capacity, we ensure that the children appreciate the opportunity to have basic needs met, including a bed, which fosters their desire to change and grow.

Transition Process



The Hideout Centers serve as the initial step in the children's rehabilitation, where we assess their challenges and gather necessary information to guide their transition. As they improve, they move on to the main shelters. However, the growing number of children seeking help creates difficulties in prioritizing placements.

Feeding

Feeding is a crucial component of the care provided at Save Sunshine Shelter Kids. Every day, the children at the center are served nutritious meals, including breakfast and lunch, to ensure they are well-nourished. The meals consist of a variety of food items such as beans, maize, rice, meat, green vegetables, peas, corn soya, and potatoes. These meals not only sustain the children physically but also enable them to fully engage in our programs and activities. Proper nutrition is key to their ability to attend formal school, participate in vocational training, and grow mentally and physically. As a result, the children's health and overall well-being are significantly improved. In total, 369 children benefited from these meals through our open programs. Additionally, other children attending school receive

meals, with Save Sunshine Shelter kids covering their feeding costs to ensure they have the nourishment needed for their education and development.



In addition to providing regular, nutritious meals at the center, we are beyond feeding by actively educating the children about the importance of nutrition and healthy eating habits. Each meal served is not just sustenance; it's an opportunity to instill lifelong values around health and wellness. Through interactive sessions, storytelling, visual aids, and one-on-one guidance from our dedicated staff and volunteers, the children are taught how different types of food contribute to their physical development, energy, concentration, and emotional well-being. We believe that knowledge is just as important as nourishment. By helping the children understand where their food comes from, what makes a balanced diet, and how to make healthy choices even when options are limited, we empower them with practical life skills they can carry with them into the future. These lessons are especially valuable for those returning to life with their families or transitioning into independent living, where making smart dietary choices becomes part of daily survival and success.

Our approach is holistic. We recognize that nutrition directly impacts learning ability, mental health, and self-esteem. As such, our goal is not only to fill their plates but also to nurture their understanding and appreciation of good health. By cultivating healthy habits in a supportive environment, we aim to foster long-term positive behaviors that extend far beyond their time at the shelter. Ultimately, this education forms a critical part of our broader mission, to ensure every child at Save Sunshine Shelter Kids is equipped to thrive physically, mentally, and emotionally in their communities, and to grow into self-reliant, health-conscious individuals who can influence future generations.

Education Programs



Although education remains our most expensive program, we have ensured that all school fees are paid for the children across various classes and school levels. Education is a vital tool for rehabilitating children, as a new school environment has brought numerous advantages and successes. This year, three children completed Senior Six, two finished Senior Four, and two graduated from Primary Seven. It is always rewarding to see our children succeed and get promoted to the next level after three terms of study. Most of our children are enrolled in privately owned schools due to their exceptional performance and shining potential.

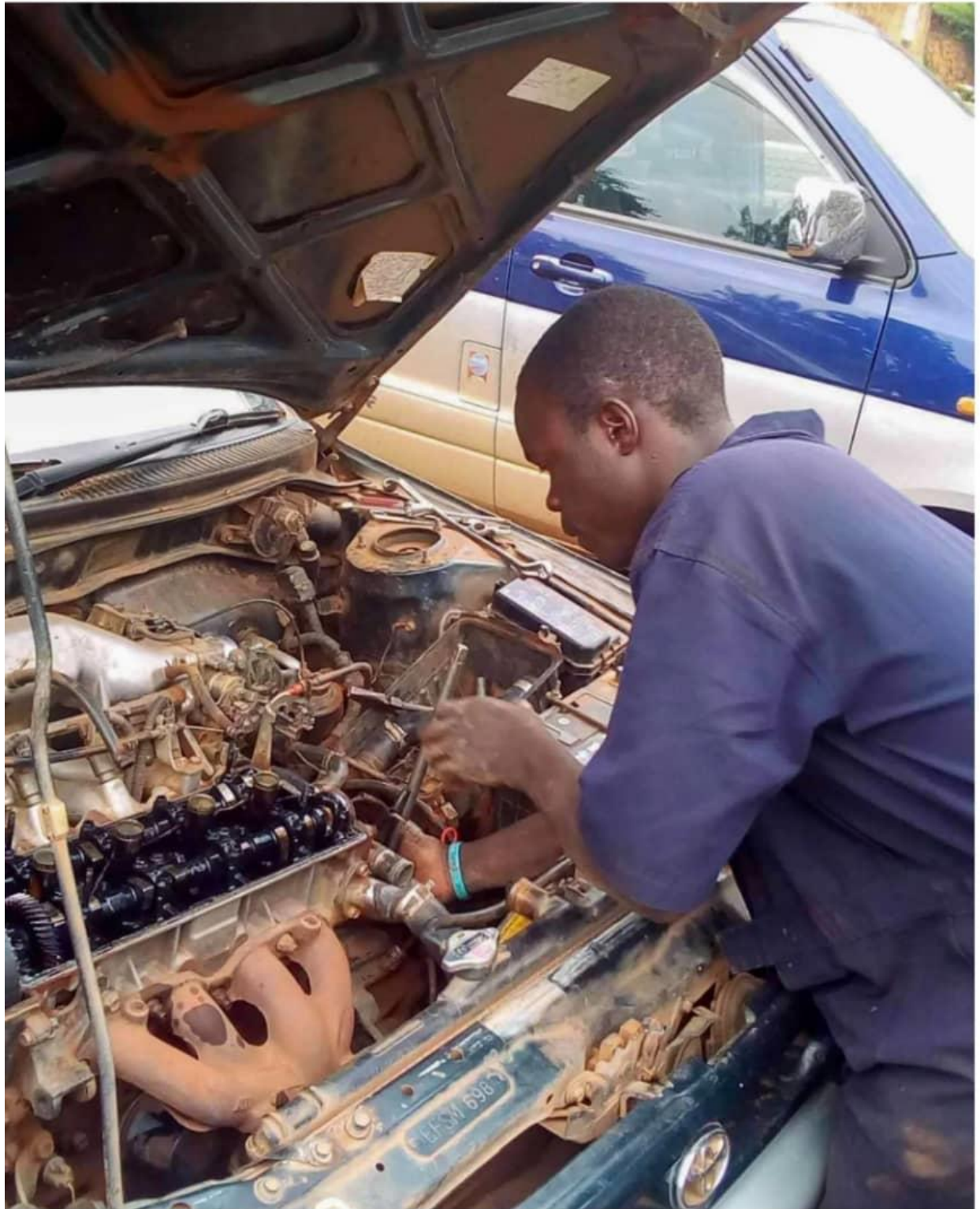
Our children are spread across kindergarten, primary, secondary, and vocational training institutions, with each level playing a crucial role in transforming their lives. In the past, we had 93 children in school, but due to successful resettlements, some relatives have stepped in to assist with their children's needs. However, this support is often short-lived, requiring us to intervene frequently. This year, we managed to support 84 children in various classes, with some also undergoing vocational training. The education budget remains extremely high, as we take in many children for schooling after their rehabilitation and rescue. Beyond paying school fees, we also provide school supplies for both day and boarding students, and these requirements often vary significantly.

Formal Education.



Our goal is to ensure that all our children receive a proper education to support their transformation and growth. The majority of our children are in primary school, with a portion in secondary school. Girls make up the largest group attending school, while boys form the second largest group. This difference is due to many boys opting for vocational training to acquire practical skills.

Vocational training



The children who did not join formal school were enrolled in vocational training at different affordable centers. Four boys pursued training in welding and motorcycle repair, while two girls trained in cosmetology and tailoring. Save Sunshine Shelter provided the necessary training materials and covered

the tuition fees. We strongly believe in vocational training as it equips street children with practical skills, enabling them to become self-sufficient in the future. We hope to enroll more in the training vocational centers.

Deborah's Library



Our library is nearing completion, and it is heartening to witness the progress and growing impact it is having on the community. Designed to provide children with a sense of hope and a safe environment, the library serves as a crucial preventive measure, keeping children off the streets. Many of these children come from challenging backgrounds where parental oversight is limited due to issues like alcoholism and prostitution. The library offers them a place to learn, grow, and feel supported, addressing a critical gap in their lives.

When we began, a significant number of children who attended the library were unable to read or write. Today, many can engage with children's books and practice their writing skills, while their spoken English steadily improves. Beyond academic growth, the library fosters confidence and enthusiasm for learning. The sight of children eagerly turning pages and attempting to express themselves in English underscores the importance of this initiative. Each day at the library is a step forward in their journey of transformation.



Although progress has been made in improving the library's furniture, four additional desks are still needed to accommodate the growing number of children. There is also a pressing need for more reading materials, such as textbooks, storybooks, and children's Bibles. To address hygiene concerns, we have introduced an initiative where each child is provided with a bag containing essentials like a t-shirt, toothpaste, a toothbrush, a comb, Vaseline, and a pair of trousers or a skirt.

This enables them to shower, change into clean clothes, and wash their worn items while at the library. Such efforts are vital, as many of these children face neglect and lack basic hygiene at home. We consistently have a large number of children, ranging from 40 to 45 each day. With continued support, the library can expand its impact and offer a brighter future for these young learners.

Beyond serving as an educational space, the library has become a safe haven where children not only come to read and learn but also experience dignity, care, and structure in their daily routines. It is here that they begin to feel valued and encouraged, often for the first time. Our goal is to nurture this environment further by integrating mentorship programs, group reading sessions, and quiet reflection areas that inspire both academic and emotional growth. With the right resources and consistent support, this space will continue to grow into a transformative center of hope and healing.

Resettlement and Integration



The primary goal of Save Sunshine Shelter Kids is to reintegrate children with their families, and so far, we have successfully reunited over 10 children with their families. To support these efforts, our team conducts follow-ups every three months to check on the families, provide encouragement, and address any challenges they may be facing and provide assistance where resources are needed as well.

Resettlement efforts continue to be a significant but necessary investment, as many children requiring assistance come from various districts across the country. To maximize the use of our resources, we strategically focus on one district at a time, aiming to resettle at least six or more children in a single trip. This approach helps ensure that our efforts are both efficient and impactful. However, the process is resource-intensive, as it involves thorough pre-visits to the families and communities, as well as logistical planning to ensure a smooth transition for the children. These steps are critical to creating a supportive and welcoming environment for the children as they reintegrate into their homes and communities.

One of the most pressing challenges we face is the cost of transportation. Renting a car for resettlements and pre-visits is expensive, often requiring full-day or even two-day rentals depending on the distance and number of children involved. This reliance on rental vehicles strains our limited resources and impacts the number of resettlements we can achieve. Securing reliable and affordable transportation would not only enhance our ability to carry out these essential resettlements but also

ensure their sustainability in the long term. With better transportation options, we can significantly increase the scope and effectiveness of our resettlement efforts, bringing hope and stability to more children and their families.

Family Tracing



After identifying children on the streets, save sunshine shelter kids aims at reconciling them with their families, so that they can be supported while staying in a home stead. Between years 2022 to 2024 a total of more ten children were reintegrated within their families. Five in Makindye, two in Makerere and three in Semuto and five in Northern Uganda.

Some children that came from in distant areas such as Karamoja, Teso, and Rakai were not resettled because the project did not have enough funds to support them. Those who were resettled received scholastic materials, bedding, and, for some, craft-making supplies to support the vocational training skills they had learned.

Parents and guardians were counseled before the children were returned to their care. We conducted follow-up visits to encourage the children to stay at home. Out of the five children resettled, only two returned to the streets because their home situations had not improved. For those where resettlements have failed to work out to due to stigma and isolation with their families, we have had to welcome them back to the shelters and this is mainly common with the boys.

Home visits



This is a crucial activity that allows us to monitor the progress of resettled children and their families. The team conducts home visits to different families at least three times a month, assessing how well the child is adapting to life at home. During these visits, we encourage sick parents or guardians to seek medical attention, mediate disputes between couples, and counsel families to become more productive members of their communities. These efforts help create a stable environment for the children to thrive. Additionally, home visits provide an opportunity to evaluate the progress of any small businesses started by the families, offering technical support when needed to ensure their success.

By maintaining regular contact, Save Sunshine Shelter Kids builds stronger relationships with the families, fostering trust and collaboration. This connection plays a critical role in keeping the children at home and supporting their long-term well-being.

Independent Living Program



We designed this program specifically for boys transitioning out of the shelter, particularly those who have completed senior six or are in the process of vocational training and are above 18 years of age. This initiative not only creates space within the main shelter but also addresses the need to separate older boys from younger ones due to differences in behavioral dynamics and the adjustment process for newly rescued children.

Older boys, typically over 18, sometimes take advantage of the younger ones by bullying or forcing them to do chores. To prevent such issues, we implemented this transitional shelter system to provide a dedicated space for the older boys. This year, four boys moved into the transitional shelter—one has already secured employment, while the other three are continuing their vocational training. We cover the costs of rent and food, which are often included in the comprehensive vocational training fees paid to the institutions. We are optimistic that a few of these boys will complete their transition successfully by the end of the year.

Discipleship



We are committed to helping street children embrace a life of purpose and dignity as originally intended by God. Every day at the center begins with devotions, where the children are encouraged to start their day with prayer and reflection. These sessions foster a sense of hope and belonging, reminding the children of their value and potential. By creating an environment rooted in faith, the center offers not just physical support but also a foundation for spiritual growth. The children are provided with prayerful guidance and a deeper understanding of the word of God. These teachings equip them with tools to navigate their challenges and foster resilience. Learning scripture and engaging in meaningful discussions help the children develop moral values and principles that will guide them in their everyday lives. Such spiritual grounding often serves as a source of strength as they begin to rebuild their lives.

Discipleship plays a vital role in the transformation of these children. It goes beyond teaching them about faith; - it helps them internalize the values of kindness, forgiveness, and accountability. Through discipleship sessions, the children learn to cultivate a personal relationship with God, which empowers them to rise above their circumstances. It also instills in them a sense of purpose and a desire to contribute positively to their communities, ensuring that they grow not only as individuals but as agents of change for a brighter future. Save Sunshine Shelter Kids recognizes the critical importance of instilling a Godly belief system in the children we serve. We believe that guiding children to understand and trust in God helps them develop a strong moral compass and a sense of purpose. Teaching them to rely on God through prayer, scripture, and faith-based mentorship equips them to face life's challenges with courage and hope. This foundation not only transforms their behavior but also helps them envision a future filled with promise and possibility.

Having God at the center of our work across all departments is the cornerstone of our mission. Whether it's in the provision of care, counseling, education, or reintegration efforts, we strive to reflect His love and compassion in everything we do. This approach ensures that our decisions and actions are guided by wisdom and grace, fostering an environment where children feel valued, supported, and loved. By prioritizing faith in our operations, we are able to create lasting impact, transforming lives and communities through the power of God's presence in our work. We believe that instilling a Godly belief system in the children we serve is essential to their holistic transformation. Teaching them to trust in God through prayer, scripture, and faith-based mentorship provides them with a foundation of hope, resilience, and purpose. This spiritual guidance helps them overcome the challenges of their past and empowers them to envision a brighter future, rooted in values that will guide them throughout their lives.

Our discipleship efforts aim to nurture not only their faith but also their sense of self-worth, reminding them that they are loved and valued by God. Guided by the theme for 2024, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19), we ensured that God's love is reflected in every aspect of our work. This verse has inspired us to show unconditional love in our care, education, and reintegration programs, creating a safe and nurturing environment for the children. By keeping God at the heart of our mission, we demonstrate to the children and the community that His love is transformative and enduring. It is this divine love that drives our commitment to helping children rebuild their lives, find their purpose, and experience the joy of belonging to a family and community rooted in faith.

Peer to peer club

Save Sunshine Shelter Kids has established a peer-to-peer club, comprised of children who serve as role models for their peers. These exemplary children lead training sessions focused on child rights, life skills, and tackling the negative behaviors commonly observed among street children, such as drug abuse, substance use, fighting, stealing, and other harmful activities. They use their experiences and personal transformations to inspire others to follow a better path.

The club also conducts street outreaches, reaching out to children still on the streets with messages of hope, guidance, and strategies to overcome these destructive behaviors. This initiative has significantly impacted the lives of many, raising awareness about the dangers of such habits and encouraging behavioral change. By promoting positive choices and fostering a supportive environment, the peer-to-peer club is playing a vital role in transforming the lives of street children and helping them build a brighter, more responsible future.

Children's Easter and Christmas parties

Children have Easter and Christmas parties. It is a custom for Save Sunshine Shelter Kids to hold Easter and Christmas parties for the children. Since these occasions are well celebrated in Uganda, it is also a great opportunity for street children to enjoy themselves during these parties.

(a) Christmas Party for Shelter Children



Christmas 2024 was celebrated joyfully, with two parties organized for the street children due to the large number of attendees. Over 200 street children joined the festivities, along with staff who actively participated. Unlike previous years, where children entertained guests, this time the staff sang for the children, creating a special moment for everyone. The occasion was a great success, and children who excelled in behavior change were recognized. We hold a shelter Christmas party for all shelter children and the teen mothers. Unfortunately, we were unable to provide Christmas gifts this year due to limited funds, but we hope to resume this tradition next year.

The Christmas celebrations also served as an opportunity to strengthen the bonds between the children, staff, and the community. It was heartwarming to see the joy and gratitude on the children's faces, despite the challenges they face. The festivities brought a sense of belonging and hope to everyone involved, and it reminded us of the importance of creating moments of happiness and togetherness, especially during the holiday season. We look forward to continuing this tradition and making the next Christmas celebration even more special for the children and families we serve.

(b) First Christmas Party for Street Boys



(C) Second Christmas Celebration



We provided food packages to women, particularly single mothers and the elderly, who attend our programs and needed assistance to support their families. It was a truly uplifting and godly experience to witness the joy on their faces as they received Christmas food packages filled with a variety of essential meals they needed.

Sta wing for women



Despite the challenges and devastation within the communities, including violence, abuse, poverty, illiteracy, and HIV/AIDS, we have continued to implement our programs at the Sta Wing. Our focus remains on counseling women, ensuring they adhere to their ARV medications, and providing essential support such as food items, clothing, bedding, and immediate medical assistance. It is very difficult to assist every woman, especially when a significant number continue to struggle with harmful behaviors, particularly alcoholism and prostitution. These remain two of the most challenging issues within our community.

We have collaborated closely with the community and families through various programs to prevent children from ending up on the streets. This involves implementing firm measures to remind parents of their responsibility to care for their children. While this is not an easy task, we strive to keep the children safe through the Deborah Library program, allowing mothers to engage in safer, small-scale, and healthier income generating activities.

Unfortunately, we have had to limit the involvement of fathers in their children's lives due to the consistent violence it often leads to. As a result, we work directly with mothers to ensure the well-being of their children. While our goal is to see families thrive with fathers actively involved, past experiences have shown that such efforts sometimes worsen situations rather than improve them. One of the significant challenges families face is the fact that many fathers have children with multiple women, which creates conflict between the mothers and ultimately harms the children. This dynamic often leaves children neglected, as resources are insufficient to meet the needs of all involved. For this reason, we work closely with mothers and involve community leaders in matters requiring legal support, such as issuing protection or resettlement letters.

Through collaborative efforts, we develop practical solutions for these challenges. Mothers actively participate in selecting the programs and activities that benefit them the most. This year, we worked with 63 women, including 45 children who regularly attend our library programs.

Medical care and treatment



Plans to expand our women's wing for children are underway. This initiative will focus on supporting street children, women, and the broader community. Every two months, we host doctors from various hospitals who assist with medical check-ups and testing for a range of illnesses. Patients with more complex health issues are referred to Mulago Hospital for further treatment.

The common illnesses that will be treated at the clinic will include; malaria, skin infections, deworming, Immunization and Other minor diseases. A total of One hundred forty five (145) children were treated at save sunshine shelter kids first Aid clinic. (100 street boys and 25 girls). 10 difficult cases were referred

to the government hospitals within the town, we paid for their medical bills for the women that needed urgent treatment.



Our greatest advantage in certain areas is that Antiretroviral drugs or Antiretroviral medications. These are medications used to treat infections caused by retroviruses, primarily HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) and tuberculosis medications are provided free of charge. Our role is to facilitate transportation for women and their children to access these medications. However, many women face significant challenges due to the fear of stigmatization and isolation associated with knowing their HIV/AIDS status. To address this issue, we advocated for a solution by applying for a government program that allows medication to be delivered directly to our center. This enables us to distribute the medication to the women, effectively mitigating the stigma and isolation they face.

HIV/AIDS remains a significant threat in the lives of many, and while we assume awareness of the condition should now be widespread given the high prevalence in Uganda, it is surprising that it continues to be treated as a new phenomenon. This ongoing lack of understanding perpetuates fear, stigma, and isolation, further complicating efforts to address the issue comprehensively. We partner with government hospitals that handle diseases related to HIV/AIDS.

During HIV/AIDS Counseling and Sensitization



Clothing and Sanitary Ware



We understand the critical importance of sanitary pads for girls and women. Many of the girls at the library and women in our programs often face challenges in affording them. To address this need, we ensure that every center is stocked with sanitary pads, recognizing their vital role in promoting hygiene

and dignity. During the FAR Project programs, we distributed 13 boxes of sanitary pads to schools in Kassanda to support girls who shared their struggles and the urgent need for these essential supplies.

Additionally, we utilized 50 boxes of sanitary ware, totaling 900 pads, which benefited both girls and women. This effort provided much-needed protection and security, particularly for school-going girls, ensuring they could attend classes with confidence and dignity. We ensured the distribution of sanitary ware to women during the third week of each program to help them remain well-prepared for any emergency situations.

Through One on One Counseling

One-on-one women counseling provides personalized support to women facing various challenges, including trauma, emotional struggles, and mental health issues. Through these private sessions, we give a safe space to express their thoughts and feelings, helping them gain clarity and work through personal difficulties. The counseling process focuses on empowerment, guiding women towards healing and personal growth. It also includes developing coping strategies, improving self-esteem, and addressing specific needs related to relationships, family dynamics, or health. By offering this individual attention, we aimed at strengthening women's resilience and foster their overall well-being.



Teen Mothers

The number of teen mothers is rising at an alarming rate, particularly in the dire or ghetto communities where poverty, lack of education, and limited opportunities often define daily life. These young girls, many of whom are still children themselves, find themselves trapped in a cycle of hardship. The overwhelming pressure of their circumstances leads some to make desperate choices, including turning to prostitution. In these communities, many teen girls face the harsh reality of broken homes, absent fathers, and mothers struggling with their own survival. They are often neglected, abused, or forced into early marriages due to societal pressures. We have had to use force to get some girls out prostitution.

Without access to education, skills training, or safe spaces, these vulnerable girls may seek out relationships or turn to prostitution as a means of survival. These circumstances are further exacerbated by the lack of support systems, making it difficult for them to escape the cycle. The result is not only an increase in teenage pregnancies but also a generation of young women who are often left without the tools to break free from the cycle of poverty, exploitation, and abuse. Addressing this issue requires a multi-faceted approach, including education, healthcare, counseling, and empowering these young girls with skills to help them regain control of their futures. We tried to keep the girls as busy as possible this year with skilling and counseling programs. A smaller number has transformed but unfortunately a bigger number of girls continue to struggle.

Rape and Abuse

Rape and abuse are unfortunately common among teen mothers in Uganda due to a combination of factors rooted in poverty, social vulnerability, and weak legal protection. Many of these young girls come from impoverished backgrounds where they lack access to education, resources, and family support.

In some cases, they may be forced into early marriages or relationships by family members or societal pressures. Additionally, the lack of awareness and access to sexual and reproductive health services increases their vulnerability to sexual violence.

A photo of a recent victim of sexual assault.



In some communities, traditional cultural practices and gender norms perpetuate the idea that girls are inferior and can be exploited. The absence of strong law enforcement and legal consequences for perpetrators further fuels this cycle of abuse.

Teen mothers often face stigma and shame, making it difficult for them to seek help or report abuse, and many end up trapped in unhealthy, abusive relationships. Addressing these issues requires a stronger focus on education, legal reforms, which often require significant effort to achieve, community support systems that frequently falter due to fear of retaliation from rapists, and advocacy for the rights of young girls and women.

We have been actively addressing the issue of rape and abuse among teen mothers by providing both immediate and long-term support, including offering them shelter and removing them from the communities that caused their trauma. We partnered with local authorities, including the police and legal institutions, to ensure that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions. This includes offering assistance to the victims in reporting cases and pursuing justice through the courts. This is often a lengthy and challenging process, requiring us to fight relentlessly and face threats while advocating for justice for the girls. However, we are grateful for the progress achieved so far.

We provided safe places for some teen mothers, offering them shelter and protection in secure environments away from potential abusers. This basically served as a temporary refuge where the girls can heal, receive counseling, and rebuild their lives in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Additionally, the small efforts we have made for teen mothers have helped them regain their dignity. Our continued hope is to establish a safe and supportive shelter for teen mothers, providing them with the care they need throughout their journey and fostering their growth. With sustained efforts, we are confident in our ability to break the cycle of abuse and empower teen mothers to create brighter futures for themselves and their children.

Teen mothers Shelter

We need a spacious shelter that provides both rehabilitation and skilling for teen mothers due to the growing number of vulnerable young girls facing abuse, neglect, and challenging circumstances. Many teen mothers come from disadvantaged backgrounds, and the lack of proper support systems often leads them into dangerous environments, including prostitution or living on the streets.

A spacious, well-equipped shelter would offer a safe and secure space for these young mothers, allowing them to heal physically and emotionally while also receiving the care and support they need.

Our vision for a shelter dedicated to teen mothers.



Additionally, incorporating a vocational training center within the same facility is crucial for the empowerment of teen mothers. Many of these young women lack education and vocational skills, leaving them vulnerable to economic instability and further exploitation. A vocational training center would provide them with valuable skills, such as sewing, tailoring, cosmetology, giving them the tools to create sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their children. By offering both shelter and training in one location, we can ensure that teen mothers have a holistic support system that addresses their immediate safety needs while also equipping them for a brighter, more independent future. We are still working diligently to achieve this goal.

Sew with light

It is a vital program aimed at helping teen mothers acquire sewing skills, enabling them to become self-reliant and independent. By teaching them this skill, we are not only providing a skill that can support them financially but also offering them a chance at rehabilitation, self-esteem, and empowerment. This program plays a crucial role in the lives of many teen girls, who are often in vulnerable situations, by helping them build a future through craftsmanship.



However, we face significant challenges in running this program. With only two sewing machines and a lack of a permanent, spacious facility, it becomes increasingly difficult to meet the needs of the girls we work with. The program often takes place in open fields or makeshift spaces, which are affected by the weather conditions. The rains and the harsh sun limit our ability to conduct training sessions consistently and effectively. Without a dedicated, covered space for the sewing classes, it's hard to maintain regularity, and this hinders the progress and growth of the participants. Having a permanent and spacious training center would enable us to create a stable environment where the teen mothers can learn in comfort, improving their chances of success and independence in the long run.

Beauty from their hands

Our learning program focused primarily on practical braiding for the teen mothers. Due to the lack of a permanent location to store and use all our salon equipment, we concentrated on mannequin practice. This approach allowed the teen mothers to practice braiding and organizing hairlines effectively. To support their learning, we purchased Braiding Mannequin Heads with long hair, Human Hair Mannequin Heads for advanced practice, and Synthetic Hair Mannequin Heads for basic skills. The Human Hair Mannequin resources were primarily used by five teen mothers who were advancing quickly in their skills.



Over the course of the year, we had 16 girls participating in the program. Since many were new to the training, it took longer for all of them to reach the same level of learning experience. As a result, we often had to repeat sessions to ensure that everyone could progress together. This iterative approach helped us accommodate their varying learning paces and ensured the program's effectiveness.

Many of the teen mothers were also in the process of rehabilitation and healing from significant trauma. To support their personal growth, we prioritized providing proper counseling, regular discussions, and consistent engagement. These efforts were crucial in helping them improve their social behaviors and develop essential life skills alongside their training.

Extreme need



Our hope is to address the urgent need for a permanent home for teen mothers, a space that is both spacious and functional, providing shelter and a dedicated learning area. Teen mothers require holistic support in physical, emotional, spiritual, and vocational aspects, and having a permanent facility would make it easier to guide and rehabilitate them effectively. Such a home would prepare them for the challenges of motherhood, a new and often overwhelming experience for many of them. This year, our goal is to secure a permanent home for teen mothers, enabling us to better support and equip them for a brighter future.

The Far project Programs



We spent approximately seven months dealing with challenges to reclaim our land due to fraudulent practices. Unfortunately, we lost a portion of it and were only able to save a 30 by 100 plot. While we are grateful to have salvaged this space, the significant loss resulted from disputes between land ownership systems. One system operates under the traditional king's authority, while the other follows a different structure, both employing questionable and disruptive methods to seize portions of land from rightful owners. This discrepancy between systems has caused many challenges for landholders.

Our hope is to use the remaining space to create a shed, a large wooden structure that can support the smooth operation of our programs for children and women. This facility would provide a functional space for these activities, ensuring they continue to benefit the community.



Advocacy

This year, we actively participated in workshops, awareness programs, meetings, and campaigns, particularly those organized by the Ministry of Gender and KCCA, the state body responsible for youth welfare. These initiatives aim to address the plight of street children, but the challenges remain significant, as each household faces unique problems that cannot be resolved all at once. A major issue with these advocacy efforts is the focus on statistical data, such as the number of children rescued or resettled, while providing little practical support or funding to implement programs that address these challenges. Additionally, we participated in HIV/AIDS awareness campaigns to emphasize the importance of consistent treatment and medication adherence, as well as tuberculosis awareness, which continues to affect many children involved in our library activities.



To further support the community, we organized youth programs to help individuals learn new skills, with our attending physician actively participating in those related to the medical field. Two workshops were also held at the women's wing, where dedicated women doctors focused on raising awareness about diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), fibroids, and fistula. These workshops highlighted the importance of adopting healthier lifestyles and the urgent need to eliminate anti-social behaviors like prostitution, drug abuse, and alcoholism. We are deeply grateful to the doctors from Kibuli who conducted a full-day medical workshop, offering check-ups, testing, and medical recommendations for further treatment, particularly for women with severe health challenges. Their efforts have left a profound and lasting impact on the women under our care.

Workshops, seminars, and meetings organized by various organizations and ministries in Uganda played crucial role in advancing the well-being of street children, women, and communities. These events brought together experts, local leaders, and stakeholders to address critical issues, share knowledge, and develop strategies to improve the lives of vulnerable populations. These workshops often promote a collaborative approach to problem-solving, allowing various sectors to unite in addressing the complex challenges faced by street children and women in Uganda.

Seminars, on the other hand, allowed us to have in-depth discussions and dissemination of research, highlighting emerging issues, best practices, and policy recommendations. These events provided a platform for networking and knowledge exchange, facilitating partnerships between government ministries, and community groups. Seminars on topics like child rights, gender-based violence, and

substance abuse prevention play a key role in raising awareness, advocating for change, and mobilizing resources to tackle these critical issues.

Meetings, particularly those organized by government agencies, are essential for coordinating efforts and ensuring that policies and interventions are aligned. These gatherings allow for the review of progress on ongoing projects, the identification of gaps, and the development of new strategies for reaching and supporting vulnerable populations. Collaborative meetings also serve as an avenue for funding discussions and policy advocacy, ensuring that the needs of street children, women, and marginalized communities are prioritized at the national level.

Overall, workshops, seminars, and meetings are vital for strengthening the collective response to the challenges faced by street children, women, and communities in Uganda. They foster knowledge-sharing, enhance capacity-building, and promote collaboration across sectors, ultimately improving the effectiveness and impact of interventions.

Restoring Homes

This year, we successfully roofed three homes for elderly individuals and a disabled woman by providing 24 iron sheets and covering the labor costs. While the houses had already been constructed, they lacked roofing, leaving the residents vulnerable to rain and its associated health risks. These efforts ensured that the elderly beneficiaries, who were living with their families, now have safe and secure homes to protect their health and well-being. This act of interventions aimed at creating lasting positive change.

Community outreaches

We conducted quarterly community outreach programs in the slums and surrounding communities where we operate. These outreaches aim to raise awareness about the plight of street children, emphasizing the community's role in supporting them. Topics such as children's rights, parental responsibilities, and the dangers of drug abuse are covered during these sessions. As a result, many participants gain valuable knowledge, adopt more positive attitudes toward street children, and take steps to actively support their well-being. These initiatives have strengthened community involvement in addressing issues affecting vulnerable children.

In addition to creating awareness, these outreach programs provide an opportunity for community members to connect with Save Sunshine Shelter Kids on a deeper level. They open doors for volunteerism, and resource mobilization, further amplifying the impact of the organization's efforts. By fostering collaboration, the outreach activities not only improve the lives of street children but also build a stronger, more compassionate community that prioritizes the welfare of its most vulnerable members.

Networking and Collaboration Activities

In 2024, we collaborated with various grass root organizations including the HI/AIDS Medical Centres, Uganda Police, and other groups working with street children, labor, and gender-related issues. This

collaboration aimed to share expertise, and information while mobilizing joint actions to address the challenges faced by street children. Through these associations, the organization has been able to expand its reach and improve the impact of its programs, fostering a unified effort toward creating positive change.



Furthermore, these collaborations have provided Save Sunshine Shelter Kids with access to specialized resources, such as healthcare, legal support, and eye medical clinics, that are crucial for the well-being and development of street children. By working together with other organizations and legal bodies.

We can advocate for policy changes and raise awareness about the systemic issues affecting vulnerable children. This collective approach not only enhances the organization's capacity to help but also contributes to building a more supportive and inclusive environment for children in Uganda.

Participation in National function

Save Sunshine Shelter Kids actively participates in national celebrations, using these platforms to highlight the plight of street children. In collaboration with district authorities, the children from the shelter performed songs, dramas, and poems during notable events such as:

- (I) Day of the African Child (June 16th)

This day serves as a reminder of the importance of promoting children's rights and ensuring access to quality education for all. At Save Sunshine Shelter Kids, this day is a powerful platform to highlight the challenges street children face and advocate for their right to education, protection, and opportunity. By participating in events and performances, the children at our shelter connect with the community, inspiring change and promoting awareness about their needs and aspirations.

(II) World AIDS Day (December 1st)

World AIDS Day is dedicated to raising awareness about HIV/AIDS and honoring those who have lost their lives to the disease. It also serves to combat stigma and discrimination against those living with HIV/AIDS. For Save Sunshine Shelter Kids, this day is an opportunity to educate children and communities about the dangers of risky behaviors often associated with street life, such as drug use and unprotected interactions. Through dramas, songs, and informative sessions, the children spread messages of prevention, care, and hope, emphasizing the importance of safe practices and compassion.

(III) World Street Children's Day (April 12th)

World Street Children's Day is a day to recognize and support the millions of children worldwide who live and work on the streets. It sheds light on the hardships they face, such as lack of shelter, education, and protection, while advocating for their inclusion in society. Save Sunshine Shelter Kids uses this day to amplify the voices of street children, allowing them to share their stories and talents through performances. These activities not only foster understanding but also encourage the community and policymakers to take action toward creating a safer, more supportive environment for vulnerable children.

(IV) International Women's Day (March 8th)

International Women's Day, celebrated on March 8th, is a global day to recognize the achievements of women and girls, while also calling attention to the ongoing struggles for gender equality. It is a day to reflect on the social, economic, and political contributions of women throughout history and to address challenges like gender-based violence, discrimination, and unequal access to opportunities. The day fosters a global conversation about the need for gender equality, empowerment, and women's rights. It encourages the creation of supportive environments where women and girls can thrive, making it a vital occasion for promoting policies and actions that ensure women's voices are heard and their rights upheld.

Staff Development

A dedicated team of six volunteers has been assisting at the Save Sunshine Shelter Kids office and shelters, providing invaluable support to our operations. Additionally, two community volunteers have significantly contributed to our efforts, extending their assistance to various initiatives.

These volunteers participated in specialized training sessions to enhance their skills and improve service delivery. The training included topics such as Database Management, Communication for Community-Based Education, and Psychosocial Care and Support. These opportunities have equipped the team with the knowledge and tools necessary to serve the children and communities more effectively, ensuring that our programs have a lasting impact.

Future plans

Save sunshine shelter kids hopes to embark on the following activities:-

Short/Immediate Plans for Save Sunshine Shelter Kids

(I) Constructing a Wooden Shed/House on Our 30x100 Land

One of our immediate goals is to build a wooden shelter on the 30x100 land we currently own. This will provide a proper and secure space to run our programs, ensuring that our activities are not hindered by external factors. The shelter will also help protect the land from being misused or stolen by individuals with ill intentions. Having a designated space will offer a stable environment for the children and allow us to provide consistent care and support.

(II) Acquiring Two Motorcycles for Shelter Use

To improve our transportation capabilities, we plan to acquire two motorcycles for shelter-related tasks. This will help reduce transportation expenses, especially in emergency situations when quick access to healthcare or other services is needed. With motorcycles, we can easily navigate through difficult terrains and respond to urgent cases such as transporting children to hospitals or assisting volunteers. This will ensure that we can continue to meet the needs of the children in a timely and efficient manner.

(III) Renting a Spacious Facility for Teen Mothers' Shelter and Vocational Training

We aim to rent a larger, more secure space to establish a dedicated shelter for teen mothers. Many young mothers face abuse, exploitation, and threats, and providing them with a safe space is crucial. In addition to offering shelter, the facility will also serve as a vocational training center where these young women can learn valuable skills that will help them become self-sufficient and regain control of their lives. This initiative aims to empower teen mothers and protect them from further harm.

(IV) Establishing and Renting a Drop-in Center for Street Children

We are looking to rent a suitable place for a drop-in center for street children. This center will serve as a safe haven where children can access food, shelter, and basic services. The drop-in center will also serve as a hub for outreach programs, making it easier for us to engage with street children and provide rehabilitation and discipline support. This initiative is aimed at reaching a larger number of children and ensuring that those in need can receive assistance and care.

(V) Re-establishing the Goat Rearing (She rears) Project for Women's Sustainability

This initiative will empower women by providing them with the means to sustain themselves through goat rearing, which will help improve their livelihoods. By re-establishing this project, we aim to create a sustainable income source for women, enhancing their independence and ability to support their families.

Future plans for Save Sunshine Shelter Kids

Save Sunshine Shelter Kids has outlined several key initiatives to enhance the support we provide to street children and women, ensuring long-term impact:

(I) Construct a Permanent Home for Street Children

Our goal is to build a permanent, safe, and supportive home where street children can reside, receive education, and access counseling services to ensure they reintegrate successfully into society.

(II) Construct a Drop-in Center

We aim to establish a well-equipped drop-in center that provides immediate refuge, care, and support for street children, giving them a safe space to rest, eat, and receive counseling before being placed in more permanent shelters.

(III) Purchase a Building for Sunshine Rehabilitation Center

To better serve the children we rehabilitate, we plan to purchase a centrally located building for the Sunshine Rehabilitation Center. This facility will be easily accessible to street children, offering them the opportunity to participate in life-changing programs focused on education, skills training, and emotional support.

(IV) Completion of the Piggery Farm

As part of our sustainable development goals, we plan to complete our piggery farm, which will serve as both an income-generating project and a way to engage the community in skills training. This initiative will empower local families and help fund ongoing programs for the children and women in our care.

(V) Purchasing a Van

To improve transportation for emergency cases, outreach programs, and moving children between different centers, we plan to purchase a van. This will greatly reduce transportation costs and ensure we can provide timely support to children and families in need.

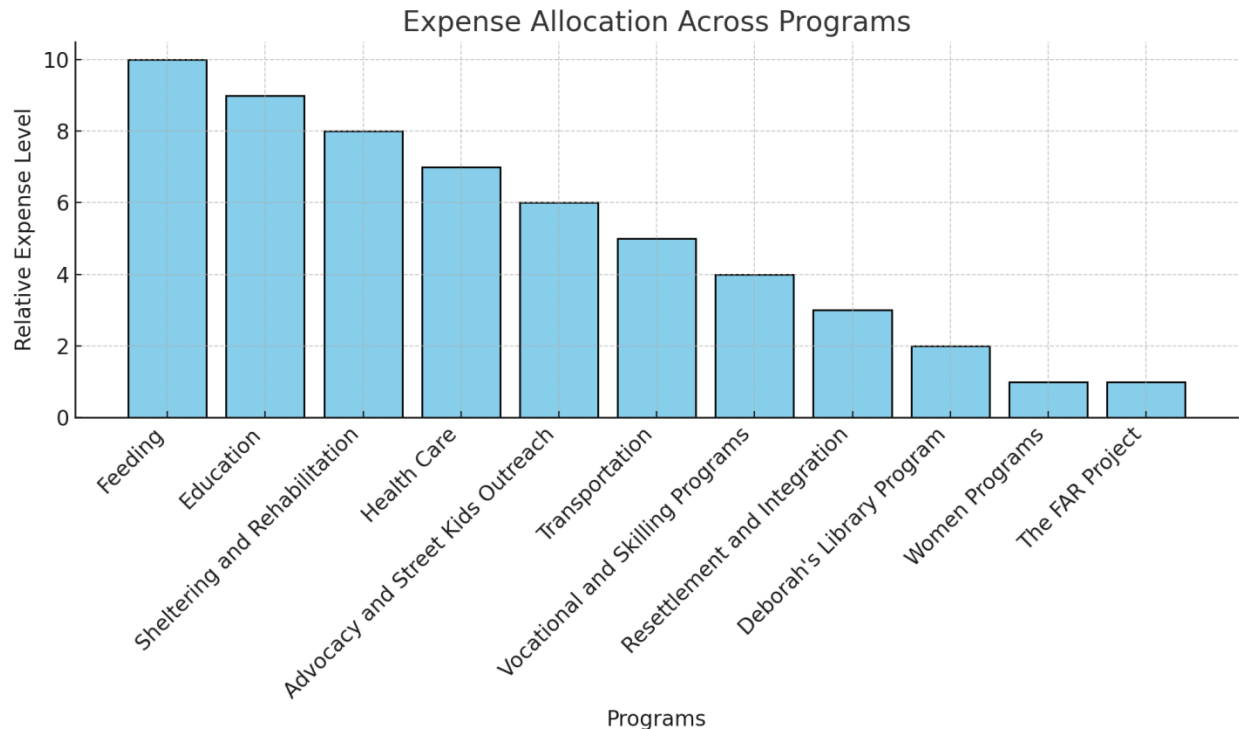
We understand that achieving all our goals at once or within our desired timeframe is not possible, but we are deeply grateful for every step we take and the progress we make. Our hope is to focus on achieving our short-term goals first, as these will help guide us toward addressing the greater needs ahead. Our biggest challenge remains the limited sponsorship for our programs, which hampers our ability to fully implement and expand our initiatives. Despite these challenges, we remain hopeful and committed to making a meaningful impact.

Finances

Finances are managed with utmost care, ensuring that every coin and donation is utilized effectively to successfully implement programs and achieve their objectives. Funds are allocated based on the urgency and needs of each program. Feeding, education, and renting make up the largest portion of our budget, as they are essential for the organization's operations and the well-being of the children. Education requires the biggest share due to the large number of children enrolled at various levels, including kindergarten, primary, secondary, and vocational training.

We continue to make the most of the available funds, despite the challenges of limited resources and a shortage of sponsors. However, we are deeply grateful to our sponsors from Canada, who have consistently stood by us and provided tremendous support to the best of their ability.

Our greatest financial challenge is that none of our children have personal sponsors for their education. Furthermore, several of our programs remain without dedicated sponsorship, which adds to the difficulty of sustaining them effectively.



A bar graph illustrating the relative expense allocation across various programs, with feeding taking the largest share and others follow in order of priority.

Key Highlights:

- . **Feeding, Education, and Sheltering and Rehabilitation** receive the highest allocation, with Feeding ranked at the top. This reflects the organization's strong focus on basic needs and stability for the children.

- . **Health Care, Outreach, and Transportation** follow, indicating the importance placed on well-being and access.

- . **Vocational and Skilling Programs** and **Resettlement and Integration** are in the mid-range, showing growing investment in long-term empowerment and reintegration.

- . Programs like **Deborah's Library Program, Women Programs, and The Far Project** receive comparatively lower funding, possibly due to their newer or more targeted nature.

This expense distribution highlights the practical approach taken by Save Sunshine Shelter Kids in addressing the most urgent and foundational needs of the children first, ensuring they are well-fed, safe, and educated, before scaling into specialized and long-term development programs. By allocating resources in this manner, the organization not only provides immediate relief but also builds a sustainable path for growth, empowerment, and reintegration into society. The data underscores a clear commitment to holistic care, balancing short-term needs with strategic, long-term impact.

Vote Of Thanks

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our cherished donors who have selflessly contributed to the street children cause. Your unwavering support has made it possible to rehabilitate and educate former street children, giving them the opportunity to build a brighter future. Without your generosity and compassion, these children would still be struggling in hopeless circumstances. Your partnership has been a beacon of light in their lives, and we are profoundly grateful for your commitment to this mission.

The theme verse for the past year, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19), beautifully encapsulates the essence of your support. It reminds us that the love we extend to these children is a reflection of the boundless love God has shown us. Your kindness and generosity are living examples of this truth, and through your contributions, these children have experienced God's love in tangible ways. Thank you for being a vital part of this work and for standing with us as we transform lives together, one child at a time.

We also extend our deepest gratitude to our dear friends in Canada, whose steadfast support has been instrumental in bringing many of our projects to life. Your funding has enabled us to rescue, rehabilitate, and provide opportunities for countless street children to rediscover hope and purpose. Beyond financial contributions, the awareness you have created on behalf of Save Sunshine Shelter Kids has inspired others to join the cause, amplifying the impact of our shared mission. Your dedication to this work has been a source of strength and encouragement, and we are truly blessed to have you as partners in this journey.

Through your support and God's guiding hand, we continue to witness lives transformed and communities strengthened. Together, we embody the spirit of our theme verse, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19), by showing these children that they are not forgotten, but deeply cherished and loved. Thank you for standing alongside us, for believing in the potential of every child, and for being part of this incredible story of redemption and hope.



**SaveSunshine
Shelter Kids**

A Home away from the streets

