



SHARED LOVE UGANDA(SLU) MID-YEAR Report 2021

In Partnership With



■ Our children ■ Our responsibility



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Dear Friends,

Greetings from everyone in Makukuba; our thoughts and prayers are constantly with you.

The first six months in 2021 have been quite busy and challenging at SLU. However, we can't stop saying thank you God for the many achievements and great accomplishments made so far in the first half of 2021. And to all our sponsors and partners, despite Covid -19 in its second wave, which has continued to threaten the survival of everyone, in Uganda and other parts of the world with surging positive cases and deaths reported across various medial, you have indeed stood with us. Thank you so much we appreciate you are the reason we are still strong. But as I noted in the previous reports, at SLU, we chose to focus on the positives and look to the future with great hope that God will see us through and indeed we have faith soon we shall overcome this. And with this report from all the departments of Shared Love Uganda, I hope you find everything interesting.

Best regards.

1. Management and Administration

Our staff has remained constant at 34 members who include administrators, social workers, health workers, teachers and casual laborers.

On matters of staff capacity building, several workshops have been conducted since the start of this year, these include; first aid training, adverse childhood Experiences, parenting, Psycho-social support and child care, child counselling training, fire fight training, trauma care and child protection training



The pictures above show some of the staff trainings which have been conducted in the last 6 months.

The Annual General Meeting

On 10th April we held our very first Annual General Meeting which was a very great success with over 50 representatives who form SLU stakeholders. These include trustees, board members, Committee chairpersons, parents, beneficiaries etc.



The image above shows some of the members who attended the AGM

PARENTS MEETING

We successfully had a number of meetings 6 Staff Meetings and 3 parents meetings at the school where we discussed several issues regarding the best ways we could run the school while observing the SOPs set by the government in the new normal..



2. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Am excited to report that in the last six months we have been able to complete all the construction works of the school main hall building. Again thank you all for the timely support and prayers.

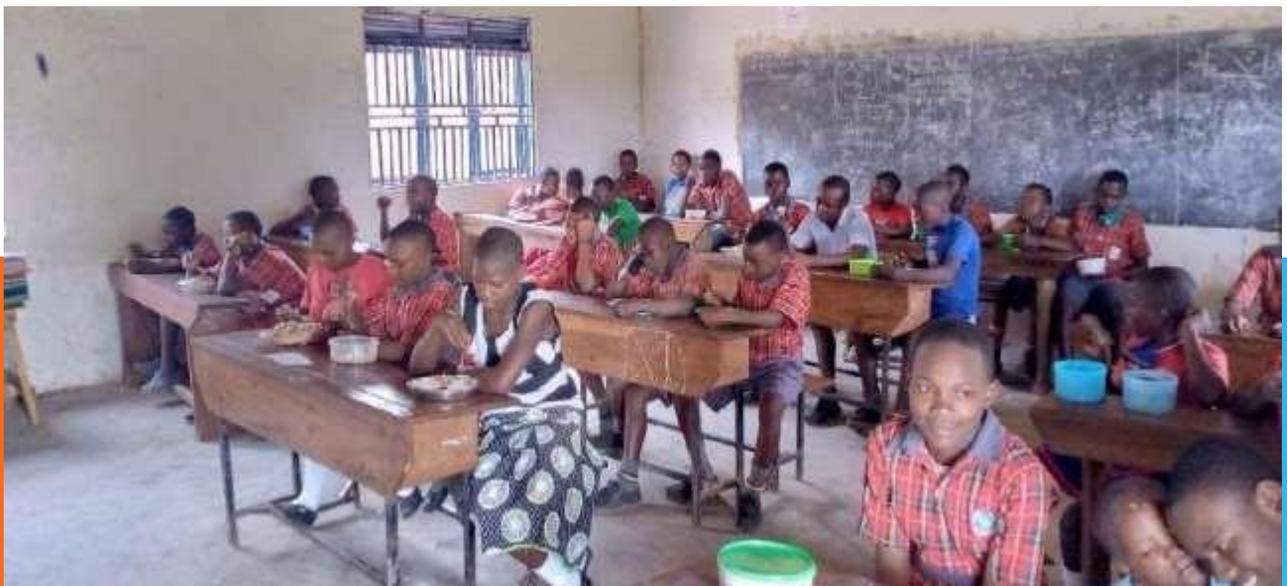




We also purchased more school furniture especially the desks. Repairs have been done on some broken desks. And in order to effectively sustain the program of home to home based academic assistance during the lockdown, a durable 3 in 1 photocopier printer was purchased to speed up the process of preparing tests and exams for the children to keep them in touch with academics.



During the partial opening of schools we were able to feed all our learners and staff with breakfast, lunch and supper.



Regarding environmental protection

We have trained teachers and parents in making nursery beds for trees and also encouraged children to plant the trees both at school and in their homes.

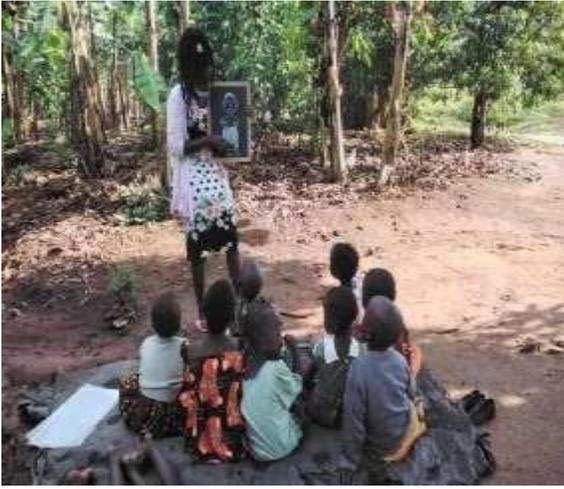
In the pictures are demonstrate on gardens of tree nursery garden and left is a school boy planting a tree at SLU school.



Home Schooling Program as a remedy to keep the children in touch with academics.

From March 2020 to date there has been declining hopes of opening classes for all learners to resume with their studies. Since then, SLU team embarked on a serious plan to ensure that the learners do not lose out

from academics.



with the second lockdown on schools, it became more evident that indeed children are to stay home more longer so SLU team employed the alternative of Home to Home remedial learning where learners have been grouped and met at different center by teachers provide with learning materials, such as tests and exams at least thrice every week.

School Gardening

During the few months the school was open, we involved the staff and children in maintenance of the school garden mostly the Banana plantation through mulching and weeding.



In the pictures are the leaners working with teachers in weeding and mulching the school garden early this year

3. CHILDREN AND YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Luke 2:52. "And Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man."

Our dream is to see every child grow physically, mentally, socially and Spiritually.

COUNSELING AND PURPOSE TALKS In Primary and Secondary Schools

During the temporary time they re-opened the schools, we were able to visit two primary schools and equipped the leaners with skills in critical thinking, making right decisions plus personal safeguard from societal ills like abuse. We also managed to meet over 145 secondary students from 2 schools where we guided them in making better career choices.



In mutual groups (CMGs)

Currently, we have three Children's mutual groups in the community; where they come and learn about their rights and responsibilities. Children are also empowered with skills in starting up small business and how to manage them.



In the picture is Nakato Joan a child ambassador from one of the mutual groups monitored and facilitated by SLU. Using the skills she got during her trainings with SLU, she helps her mother in selling sugarcanes from which they get their daily food.

Child counseling, HIV/AIDS

Sensitization and Awareness.

The sudden declaration of a second lockdown by the president on the night of 18th June 2021, was a big blow to most of the children whose hopes of returning to class appeared shattered. It was a huge shock that left many traumatized with nagging questions regarding what their future would be not that they were to stay longer at home than hoped. This propelled SLU leadership and entire team to strategize on the best way to rehabilitate the demoralized children through counseling and guidance. This exercise which is done at least twice every week by all staff, has helped the child from making wrong decisions as they had anticipated



We have also managed to sensitize children in schools and in mutual groups on the ways how HIV is transmitted, signs and symptoms and way to protect themselves from contracting the virus strengthening abstinence.



Disability inclusion in children.

After carrying out a community survey in Makukuba parish, we obtained that 27 children with special needs have often been hidden in the houses by their relatives and in most cases left out in our programs.



Pictures showing some of the families with special need children

Afterwards, we had talks with parents of children with different disabilities to purposely encourage and advise them on good care of these children. And to disregard fear of stigma and non-Christian stereotypes

Meetings with Parents, Caretakers and Sponsored Children

We conducted two meetings with parents and Caretakers of sponsored Children where we introduced new entrants in the program plus sharing with them the policy. We also held a meeting with the sponsored children where they were encouraged to keep in touch with their sponsors through regular writing of letter.



HOME VISITATIONS TO SPONSORED

The long lockdown has quite denied us regular interaction with our children since they are mostly at home and we meet rarely. The social work team has maintained a routine follow up on the children in their home purposely to see how they are doing and to encourage them.



4. SPIRITUAL DEPARTMENT

SLU is founded on a Christian background; we believe in the divine power that makes the impossible; possible. This belief is what motivates us to treasure regular devotions at school, community and across all platforms where we are given opportunity.



Through the SLU spiritual department, we have been able to maintain regular school devotions; community gospel outreaches especially open air and door to door evangelism and discipleship classes. We have worked alongside community members to construct the church.

With door to door evangelism, over 50 people were reached where 34 gave their lives to Christ.

5. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Despite the stringent measures to curb the rapid spread of Covid-19 in the country as pronounced by the President, as SLU there have not been any major impediment to community development activities. .

To us, it has been a huge blessing in disguise due to the fact that most of the people have been greatly tied home with limited movements and we have been able to meet them conveniently from their gardens, groups and meeting centers to share with them knowledge on improved farming, saving and investment among others. Am excited to report that in this lockdown we have extremely seen a lot of creativity among the people as they hustle to deal with the challenges the lockdown has impacted on them



Provision of Safe and Clean Water

Through the water user Committees in the villages, members of the community were empowered with more skills in how to maintain clean and safe water sources. Shared Love Uganda while working closely with communities, has been able to construct at least one water source in 5 villages of Makukuba Parish.



We also managed to conduct a special parish leader's meeting where 62 participants were sensitized about their rights, roles and responsibilities in the community, and were also trained in to safeguard themselves and their families against Covid-19.



In the picture far above is one bore hall being repaired and on left is one of the trainings which was conducted in the last 6 months.

GOATS PROJECT

It is close to one year since this project was started but we have continued to witness a steady progress with the increasing in their number. At the start we had eight females but after acquiring the Boer (male), indeed we are excited to say that it has performed with the now the number Doubled to 18 at the farm.



In the picture above is the tagging exercise at the goat farm.

We are thankful to God and to you our sponsors; we can see where this project is heading.

In the last few months, we were able to mark all the animals with ear tagging for Easy identification and record Management.

THE HEALTH CENTRE

It will be approximately 1 year early next month since this health facility was opened up for operation. Hey! Am extremely excited to report that every day we are left in great awe of what God can indeed do. Yes! From a humble beginning, we have seen this Centre gradually grow with steady popularity in the area and with outstanding services and physical structures. In the last 6 months alone, this facility has performed as follows:

1. Maternal deliveries have been 22. patients
2. Over 200 children between 5years and below were Immunized against the six killer diseases which wasn't the case.
3. Over 40 mothers attended antenatal clinic.
4. More than 68 out patients reported for general care.



WORKSHOPS

We have conducted three (3) Village Health Team (VHTs) workshops on disease prevention and control. VHTs are volunteers in the community who assist the health workers in the sensitization of community members on different health programs and awareness.

SENSITIZATION

We have also carried out three(3) Community sensitizations on malaria prevention and other health talks was done since malaria is the leading cause of death in Uganda, we also sensitized prevention measures of Covid 19.

CONSTRUCTION

We thank God that we have been able to construct a new block which has a pediatric and the male ward, it has the nuance station, a room where we hope to put the TC scan and the laboratory, glory be to God for the supportive partners.



In the picture above is the new block to accommodate the children's and male wards.

Conclusion AND Prayers

- i. Dear Friends and partners of SLU, please continue with prayer for the work of Makukuba. The children and entire communities in particular; with the ever escalating Covid-19 deaths, the scare is too high for the children. Many questions are raised regarding what next for their education. After the closure of schools for a second time, many of the parents are left jobless and helpless due to restrictions on movements to their work places. People are dying of hunger, people have lost jobs, among other challenges.

- i. Pray to all our staff, children, and board members with the longlockdown no one knows how things will end.

- ii. Pray for Uganda and all people; everyone seems to be confused with the direction we are taking after the second wave of Covid-19 that is turning everything upside down and many deaths reported each day though mostly die of hunger and stress. Many homes have been broken due to domestic violence.

- i. Pray for SLU health center still lacks transport means that's is to say ambulance and a motorcycle to transport severely ill patients and running other activities.

- ii. The Labour ward lacks an incubator for resuscitation, delivery bed and a trolley. Deliveries are conducted with imprecision of available resources.

- iii. The whole facility still lacks a water source which hinders many activities at the health center.

Our thoughts and prayers are also with you thanks for every Support

Moses and Team