

Skill Me Up



Kampala, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 1 Budget \$35,500

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

MAR 22

FEB 23

Overview

High quality, professional and holistic vocational training courses in tailoring, fashion and design, and hair and beauty, will provide 40 marginalised youth (20 in each) with practical market-ready skills to begin their own business or obtain meaningful employment. The courses will also teach business and entrepreneurship training in order for businesses to thrive. They are designed to a high standard to give graduates multiple competitive edges. Students are supported through graduation to finding jobs or setting up a business with a small loan - very little capital is needed to start a thriving business either from home or as a mobile business. Each participant contributes a small amount to the program to ensure they have some "skin in the game".

Impact for March - August 2022



20 students were selected for the 2 courses

following in-depth interviews and input from local community representatives. After relocating to another area, it took extra time to establish relationships in the community and to get word out about the courses on offer.

Skill training classes are progressing well

and have been regrouped into two full-time 6-month courses, rather than two part-time streams over 12 months. This time-frame has been well-received by all - less repetition for teachers and more achievable timeframes.



Hairdressing students are gaining confidence

recruiting members of the community as head models each week. Most students have low self-esteem so initial training in marketing and approaching potential customers is an ideal opportunity to put into practice vital skills needed to eventually run their own businesses.

A growing social enterprise in fashion and hair

The fashion section has picked up with the return of tourists wanting custom clothing, reopened schools needing uniforms and wholesale orders from overseas. Extra funds generated support the courses and help to cover building rent. 11 staff and employees are supported by Entrust.



- the new location is strategically placed close to six slum areas
- course promotion was through posters, brochures and loud speaker
- the small fee requirement has strengthened the selection process and ensured commitments from the 3 male/17 female students.



Agnes's Story

Agnes's family fell on hard times after COVID lockdowns greatly reduced her parents' income - mending clothes (her mother) and motorbike transport (her father) - to the point where she had to drop out of school. She was devastated. Agnes heard about the hair and beauty course and jumped at the opportunity. She has been one of the top students, and her love for what she does is so evident, even taking the initiative to find part-time salon work on the weekends to supplement her skills. Agnes' family has been transformed and she feels like she has purpose again.



Thank you for making a difference