

Vocational Training for Pregnant Teens

UGA-WAK-VTT-P02



Buyera, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 2 Budget \$18,800

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JAN 21

DEC 23

Overview

Our partners work to promote the dignity and self-esteem of young girls in Uganda facing crisis pregnancy by addressing their emotional, physical and social needs. This is achieved by providing temporary accommodation, counselling and care services and equipping them with life and vocational skills. This project is part-funding vocational training in cooking, tailoring, hairdressing, child-care, computer literacy, agriculture and crafts for 100 girls per year for 3 years. These skills help them secure jobs or start small businesses after leaving the centre to break the cycle of poverty and empower them as new mothers. Year 3 budget \$18,800, begins 1 January 2023.

Impact for January - June 22

110

Safe haven for 110 pregnant teens this year

including 73 new admissions and 37 continuing residents from last year who are being cared for in the new centre. COVID-19 lockdowns have led to higher rates of teen pregnancy and the need to accommodate more girls.



Training girls in vocational skills

110 pregnant and parenting teens received vocational skills training in the new multi-purpose teaching block and also received counselling, maternal and baby healthcare and immunization services. 36 girls were awarded certificates in vocational training and now have skills to earn an income.

110



23

23 girls were reconciled with their families

after counselling: 2 are now employed, 13 are at home breastfeeding and using their cooking and agriculture skills to feed their babies, and 8 have resumed education (formal or vocational) with child-care support from their families.



Pregnancy, delivery and postnatal support was

provided to 32 girls who gave birth (16 baby boys, 16 baby girls). Mothers and babies were supported with clothing and mother start-up kits together with counselling and support.

32



- Steep commodity price rises and inflationary pressures have increased costs significantly, which makes growing grains and vegetables on site even more essential to reduce costs: cassava, maize, sweet potatoes and greens provide extra nutrition.
- Two girls from the wider community enrolled in the vocational skills training program.



Mariam's Story

I became pregnant at 17 through negative peer influence. My mother brought me to the counselling and care centre where I learnt many skills such as tailoring, cookery, agriculture, hairdressing and knitting. I was the most outstanding student in my class and was awarded with a business start-up kit, including a sewing machine, hair-dressing set, and cooking utensils. I am ready to start a business using my start-up kit so I can gain extra income to support my baby boy Daniel. I also want to pass on the skills to my family so they can continue my business when I go back to school in the future.

100% GETS THERE

Thank you for making a difference