

Skills for Pregnant Girls



Buyera, Uganda



Economic Empowerment

Year 1 Budget \$18,400

Project Timeline

\$8,400 TO GO

JAN 24

DEC 26

Overview

Our partner strives to enhance the dignity and self-esteem of young girls in crisis pregnancy situations. Emotional, physical, and social needs are met through temporary accommodation, counselling and care services, along with essential life and vocational skills. In particular, this project will partly fund vocational training programs in cooking, tailoring, computer literacy, agriculture, and crafts for 100 girls annually for three years, empowering them to secure employment or initiate small businesses upon leaving the centre. Funds will also help launch a craft shop, selling products made by the girls. Proceeds will directly benefit the girls, as well as contribute to sustaining the project in the future.

Impact for January - July 2024

67



Safe haven for 67 pregnant teens

Trauma counselling and life skills training improves the girls' self-esteem and confidence, enhancing motivation to acquire vocational skills for a better future. Training offered includes tailoring, arts and crafts, hairdressing, cookery, and gardening. Two girls from the community also received training on a fee-paying basis.

Vocational skills training provided

31 girls have completed business training and have been resettled back into the community, now that they have a means for financial independence and have gained confidence in product marketing. Each girl was given a business start-up kit.

31



30



Follow-up visits were made to girls

Of the 31 girls resettled, 30 young mothers have started their own businesses in the reporting period and are now earning an income from the sale of their products and services. A craft shop has also been opened and products made by all 67 girls are being sold.

Pregnancy, delivery and postnatal support

28 babies (14 baby boys, 14 baby girls) were born in the last six months. Babies received outfits and toys made by their mothers in knitting, tailoring and arts/crafts classes. A local health centre offers free antenatal and immunisation services to the pregnant girls and an obstetrician checks on the girls once a week.

28



- Growing vegetables and other food like cassava and sweet potatoes supplements the diet and helps reduce the food budget.



Emily's Story

At 15, Emily arrived at the centre 6-months pregnant, shy and withdrawn after family tragedy. She struggled to settle, overwhelmed by the vocational training, especially tailoring, since she was only schooled to third grade. Her teacher saw her potential and patiently guided her through the basics until she had caught up. The change in her was remarkable: from hesitant beginner, she blossomed into a confident student ready to start her own business. The promise of a sewing machine has spurred her on! Her joy was palpable when a guest recently bought an item she had made, boosting her confidence even further.



Thank you for making a difference