

# ANNUAL REVIEW

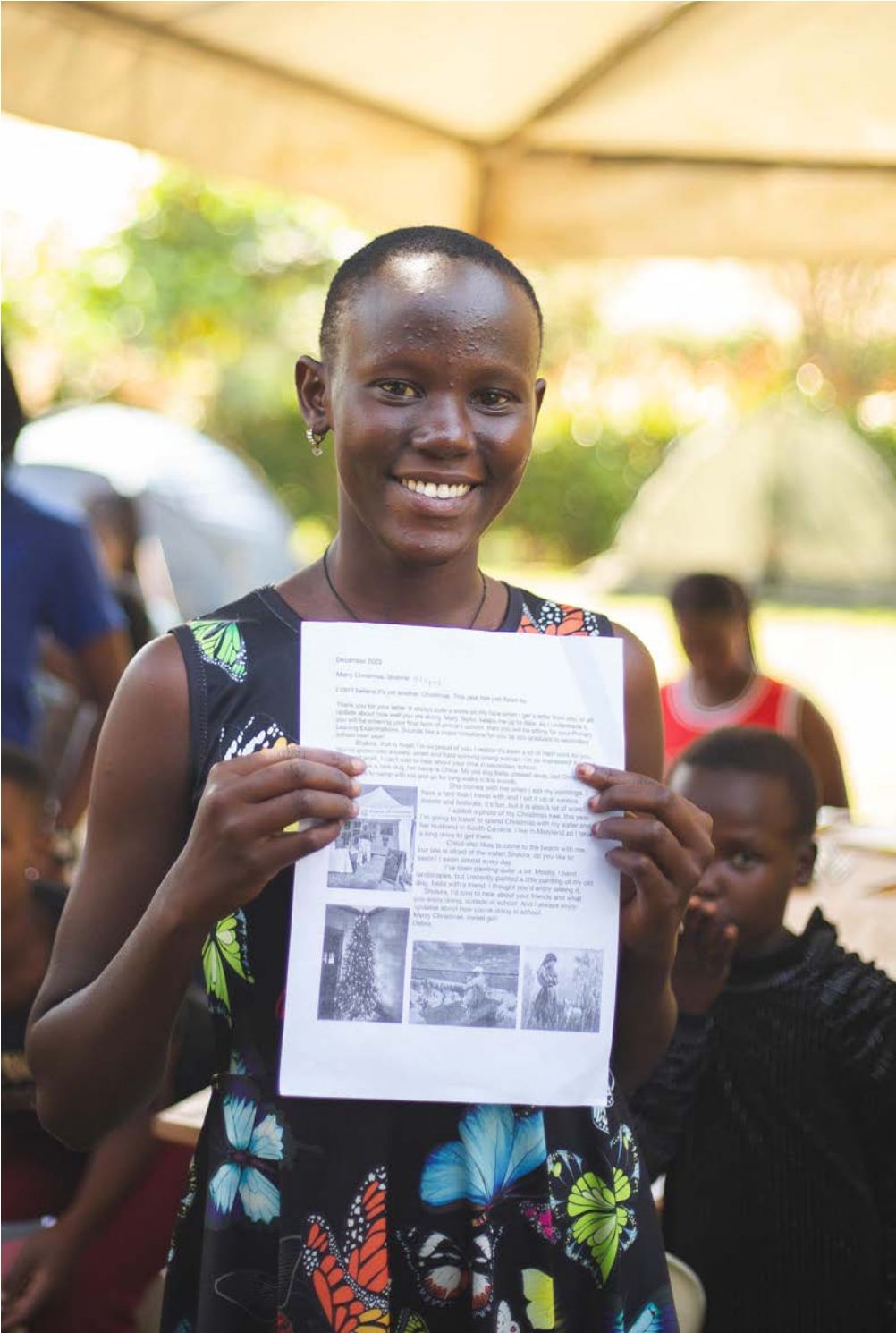
2025



**Kids First Uganda**

*Inspire \* Empower \* Equip*





**What we do:**

We are a Christian organization that aims to empower and benefit women and children to build a strong community. We encourage, uplift, and create an environment where women, children, and youth can, through education, skills development, employment opportunities, and development of talents and freedom of expression, reach their individual potential.

We stand by God’s promise that he has “plans to give you hope and a future” - Jeremiah 29:11

Our non-profit work extends to all people, regardless of their religious beliefs, gender, age, race, or ethnic background.

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# Greetings KFU!



On behalf of the Kids First Uganda (KFU) family, I warmly welcome you to our 2025 Annual Review. I thank God for His guidance and extend my sincere gratitude to all our partners, sponsors, staff, volunteers, and community members who walked with us throughout the year. Your continued support has enabled us to serve children, families, and communities with dignity, hope, and practical care.

In 2025, KFU was blessed to strengthen meaningful partnerships with schools that host our sponsored children and those nurturing our soccer scholarship beneficiaries. These collaborations have been vital in ensuring academic progress,

discipline, talent development, and holistic child growth. Through our Inspire Talented Soccer Academy, we continue to witness young boys and girls access education opportunities through football, transforming talent into purpose.

We are also deeply grateful for our partnership with the German organization (Artefact) that consistently sends youth volunteers to serve alongside us. Their commitment, cultural exchange, and hands-on involvement have enriched our programs, strengthened community engagement, and broadened the global family of Kids First Uganda.

Like many growing organizations, 2025 came with its share of challenges—ranging from resource limitations to operational and administrative pressures. However, these challenges refined our systems, strengthened our resilience, and reminded us of the power of unity and faith in our mission.

This year also marked an important leadership transition within our Board in Michigan. We extend heartfelt appreciation to

Mary Taylor President & Founder with her Vice President Judy Yoder for their dedicated services, vision, and leadership over the years. At the same time, we warmly welcome Patty Croom as the new Board leader. We are confident that this transition ushers in renewed energy, fresh perspective, and strengthened governance for KFU.

As we look ahead, we are hopeful and expectant. With new leadership, strengthened partnerships, and a committed team on the ground, we look forward to bearing new fruits and stepping boldly into a promising future for Kids First Uganda—one where every child is given the opportunity to thrive.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we are shaping lives and building hope.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Kizito  
Executive Director  
Kids First Uganda (KFU)

**In 2025, together we have reached  
2,527 precious people!**



# Kids First Uganda 2025 In Numbers

Kids First Uganda holistic approach sees positive impact throughout entire communities. We continually evolving to meet local needs and best serve participants. This year:

## 86 children

Have been able to attend school, thanks to our sponsorship programmes

## 58 Mothers

Have been equipped with expertise in liquid soap making.

## 8 more

Talented young soccer players have secured soccer scholarships for education, bringing the total to 119 and 500 more kids have been trained

## 34 Mothers

Have collectively saved an impressive total of **10,999,000/=** (**\$3,104.59**)

## 43 Youths

46 interns have gained practical expertise in Field ICT and Graphics Designing through our Driscoll ICT & Business Skilling Program

## Over 107 Families

Have benefited from the Papa Pete Vegetable Project, harvesting fresh produce from their homes

# Greetings from Inspire Talented Soccer Academy!



On behalf of Inspire Talented Soccer Academy, I sincerely thank our partners and sponsors for their continued support. Your generosity enabled us to purchase our own soccer pitch—an important milestone that is already strengthening talent development.

In 2025, the pitch has become a key training space for our young athletes, helping them grow in skill, discipline, and confidence. Although renovations are paused, the facility is already nurturing talent and we believe its full completion will yield even

greater results in the future.

We are proud to report that the number of children on scholarship has increased to 109 beneficiaries. With over 500 children enrolled in the academy, these scholarships continue to link education and football, transforming lives and creating opportunity for talented players.

We are deeply grateful to Kids First Uganda Michigan and all our sponsors for their partnership. Together, we are shaping futures and building hope through sport.

With gratitude,  
Alex Junior Kapyo  
Soccer Manager / Coach  
Inspire Talented Soccer Academy

## Tournaments Performance Report - 2025

### Tournament Performance Report – 2025

Tournament Name	Category / Age Group	Performance / Result
Bombo Skills Soccer Camp	Girls U17	Champions
	Boys U17	Champions
	Boys U14	Champions
	Boys U9	Runners-up (Lost in finals)
International Soccer Stars Gala (Mango)	Academy Team	2nd Place (Lost on penalties)
Watoto Wa Soccer Girls Camp	Girls Team	Semi-finalists
Ronaldo Kids Gala (Zirobwe)	Boys U14	Runners-up (Lost on penalties)
	Boys U9	Group stage exit

### Medals & Titles Summary (2025)

- Championship Titles (Gold): 3
- Runners-up / Second Place Finishes: 4
- Semi-final Appearances: 1
- Total Tournaments Participated In: 4
- Age Categories Represented: U9, U14, U17 (Boys & Girls)



**This soccer pitch**  
**supports hundreds in school**  
**AND**  
**promises to benefit thousands more,**  
**greatly impacting talented kids.**



# KFU Michigan Board TRIP TO UGANDA

## Jan- 2025

In January 2025, four Kids First Uganda-Michigan board members—Mary Taylor, Judy Yoder, Rosie, and Patty—visited Kampala on overlapping missions. Key activities included:

- Officially opening the newly purchased soccer pitch for the KFU Inspire Talented Soccer Academy during a large community celebration with players, families, and supporters.
- Attending the inaugural graduation of the Driscoll ICT & Business Skilling Center, celebrating trainees' achievements in vocational skills for economic independence.
- Participating in women's devotion meeting for spiritual encouragement, worship, and fellowship.
- Visiting homes of spon-

sored children to offer personal support and connection. Spending meaningful time with the local KFU team, children, and program participants to build relationships.



*Left to Right: Patty, Mary, Judy and Rossie*

***Upon concluding their trip, they observed 40% more overall development in the organisation compared to their visit in 2023.***

**The growth estimate in particular was based on:**

- More infrastructure,
- More program scale and community impact

## ***Graduation Ceremony – Driscoll ICT & Business Skilling Center***

In 2025, Driscoll ICT & Business Skilling Center successfully held a graduation ceremony for students who completed training in Catering, Computer Graphics, Business Studies, and Computer Science.

A total of over 60 students received their Certificates of Completion, marking an important milestone in their academic and professional journeys.

The ceremony was made even more special by the presence of the KFU Michigan team, who joined in celebrating the achievements of the graduates and actively participated in the awarding of certificates.

Their involvement highlighted the strong partnership and shared commitment to skills development and youth empowerment.



*Graduates share moments with KFU and Michigan Guests*



*Certificate award moments with Milly and Judy congratulating Harriet*





## DEVELOPMENTS

Kids First Uganda is pleased to report progress on the new building at our home ground. As of 2025, construction is around 70% complete, with several rooms already used for storing sports materials and organizational equipment.

The remaining sections—planned for the music program, classrooms, and rental spaces—are paused as we explore ways to complete the project. Once finished, the facility will strengthen our programs and support the long-term sustainability of Kids First Uganda



“I’m excited about our new building, already supporting our work with secure storage. Once completed, it will expand programs and empower more young people with digital skills. I’m grateful to everyone who made this possible.”

*-Hannington Lumu-*

*ICT/IT Trainer/ support*

*Driscoll ICT & Business Skilling Center*

# EDUCATION SUPPORT & YOUTHS EMPOWERMENT

Kids First Uganda's Education Support Program empowers vulnerable children and youth to access quality education. Through our sponsorship program:

*Our Education Sponsorship Program has empowered 86 young minds, with an impressive 98% advancing to higher education institutions, including universities and vocational training centers.*

## Supported students at University



**Esther Kwagala Najjobe**  
*Pursuing a LAW course at  
Uganda Christian University*



**Ronald Magembe**  
*Pursuing a course in  
Networking & Cybersecurity  
at ISBAT University*



**Joseph Mutaaga**  
*Pursuing a Diploma in Medical  
Laboratory Science*



**Vicky Teddy Nandawula**  
*Pursuing a Diploma in  
Clinical Medicine  
at Clark International University*

## Our S.6 leavers 2025

More 4 ready to join University in 2026



**Joseph Iga**



**Billington Kalanja**



**Mary Jovia Nanfuka**



**Joshua Ssegawa**

# Our very first University scholarship

Through

Inspire Talented soccer Academy



John

At Kids First Uganda, every milestone is a story of hope, transformation, and possibility. Our hearts are overflowing with joy as we celebrate a remarkable achievement – our very first University scholarship through the Inspire Soccer Academy.

The proud recipient is John, a gifted midfielder whose journey from poverty to promise embodies everything KFU stands for.

Through our community-driven initiative, John found more than just a game – he found hope, mentorship, discipline, and family. Over the years, he balanced academics and soccer with remarkable determination. With the support of KFU scholarships, he completed both primary and secondary school, even when the dream of universi-

ty felt impossible.

Victoria University in Kampala has awarded John a full scholarship to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work and Social Administration – a three-year journey that will not only transform his life but also ignite hope across our communities.

When asked why he chose Social Work, John's emotional response left us deeply moved:

“

To me, Kids First Uganda has been more than soccer – it's been a home where I've been nurtured, loved, disciplined, and given hope for a better life. After I graduate, I want to give back and help other young people in the slums of Kampala find their way, just like I did.”

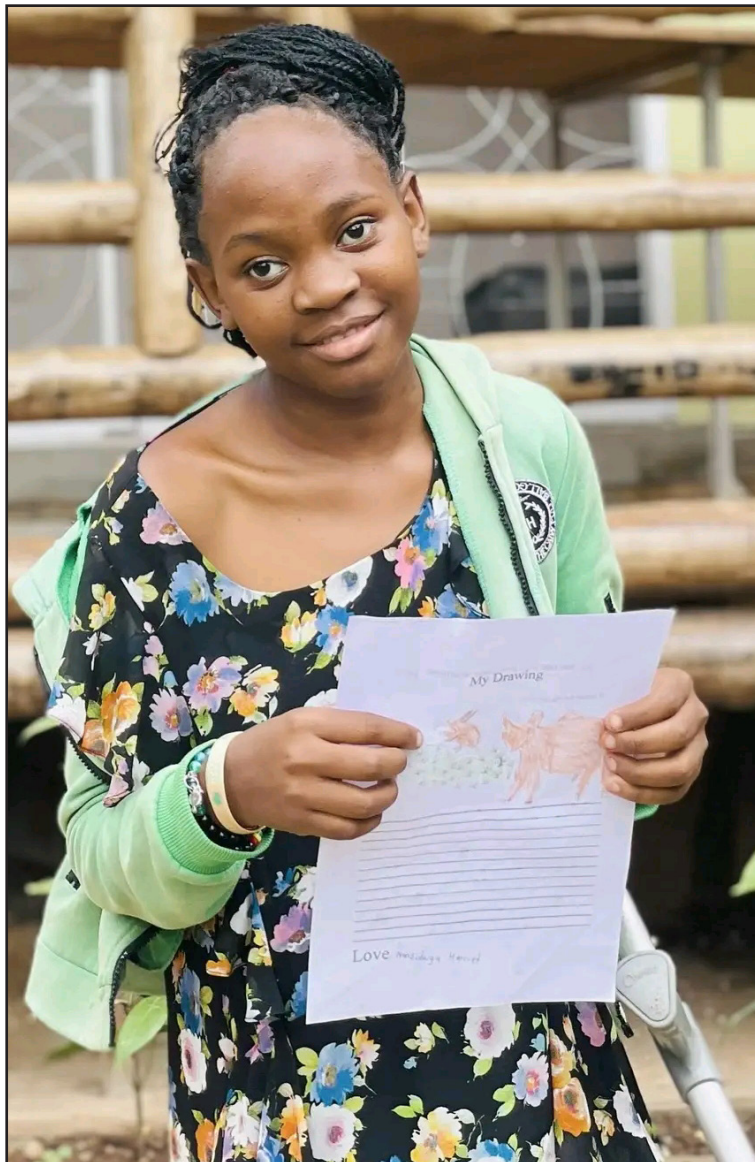
John's story is a powerful reminder of what sports

can do when combined with mentorship and opportunity. Through the Kids First Soccer Initiative, we are not just building athletes – we are raising leaders, change-makers, and ambassadors of hope for Uganda's youngest generation.

To our sponsors, partners, and friends – this milestone is yours too. Together, we are proving that with the right support, talent from the streets can rise to shine in classrooms, on fields, and in life.

*With John's addition, the number of our supported University students will reach **10** if all goes well in 2026*

# Youths Vocational Training



*Edith refines the braids she styled earlier for her client*

For many years, Kids First Uganda has empowered numerous youths through vocational Training, equipping them with practical skills for sustainable livelihoods. By 2025, we have reached well over 410 youths either by directly training them at our home grounds or by supporting them through partner institutions with the necessary resources.

Harriet is one of the young women we identified for support and plan to enroll in a two year vocational course in specialized crafts making. With the right support, we believe she will graduate as a skilled and empowered young woman, ready to make a meaningful contribution to her community.

Visit our Facebook page to learn more about Harriet's life story and the impact of our vocational programs.

***Our vocational programs have empowered over 410 youths with employable skills.***

“ I know I was not born with much, but I still want to become someone who can make things with my hands and support myself. I want to feel proud and not feel like a burden.”

# Women's Ministry

Our women's ministry has been active throughout the year, with women meeting every Thursday at our premises. These meetings have provided opportunities for encouragement, skill-building (such as craft-making and liquid

soap-making), and mutual support. Despite the rising cost of living, we have seen our women manage to conduct business and make savings, an encouraging indicator that life will get better.

The saving group demonstrated significant growth in **2025**, with total savings rising to **UGX 10,999,000 (USD 2,895)** from **UGX 6,500,000 (USD 1,710)** in 2024. This represents an increase of **UGX 4,499,000 (USD 1,185)** approximately a **69%** growth reflecting improved financial discipline, commitment, and economic empowerment among the members.



*Some of the women members during their Thursday meeting sharing their savings*

## Women Members: Savings Group

***The Group saved  
UGX 10.1 million  
(\$3,080)  
in its second year***

### Objectives of Our Women Members Saving Group:

The primary aim of establishing this saving group is to contribute to the organization's overall mission and stability through the following:

- **Financial Empowerment:** Providing a platform for women to save money, access loans, and manage finances, thereby leading to economic independence.
- **Entrepreneurial Opportunities:** Enabling women to access capital to start or expand their businesses

## Empowered to Succeed: Ronald's Inspiring Achievement

Magembe Ronald is one of the bright beneficiaries of KFU Sponsorship Program and a powerful example of what opportunity can unlock.

He is currently pursuing Cybersecurity at ISBAT University, where his talent and dedication continue to shine..



*Ronald proudly receives his prize as the finals winner.*

Recently, Ronald represented his University in the Cyberstars Competition, a high-level cybersecurity challenge involving over ten universities. The competition trains ethical hackers to identify and fix system vulnerabilities before they can be exploited by cybercriminals.

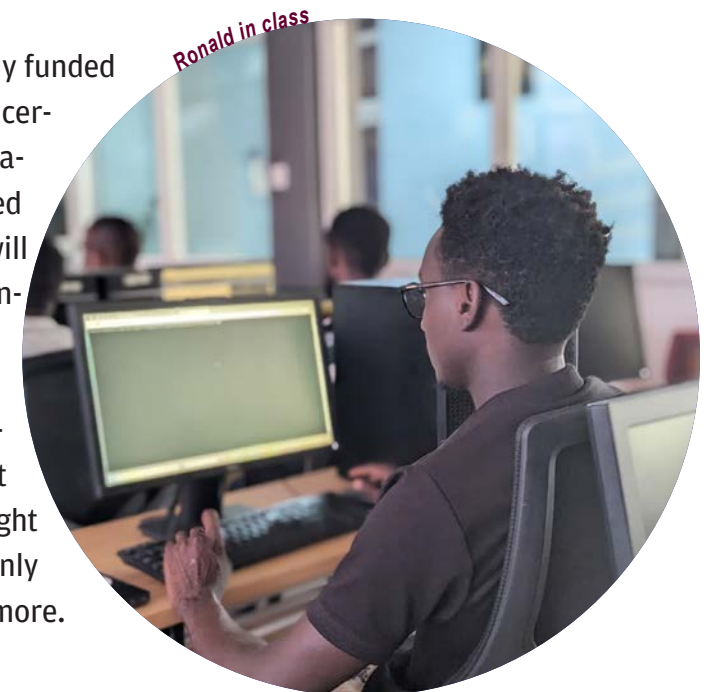
Through outstanding skill and determination, Ronald emerged as the overall winner, rising above all other competitors.

His achievement earned him fully funded CompTIA Security+ training and certification, as well as Wi-Fi installation and four months of unlimited internet access-resources that will greatly strengthen his professional journey.

Ronald's success is a clear testament to the life-changing impact of Kids First Uganda. With the right support, young people are not only dreaming bigger-but achieving more.

***“Education has been my key to unlocking opportunities. Thank you, Kids First Uganda, for believing in me”***

– Ronald Magembe



# The Papa Pete Vegetable Project



*“The Papa Pete Vegetable Project is steadily growing, providing fresh and nutritious vegetables to the urban communities we serve. Its high quality and consistent supply have earned it strong trust and preference among customers in the area ”*

– Mogan Kakooza–  
Vegetable Technician

## Harvest and Financial Performance

The project has successfully yielded three harvests to date, generating the following revenues:

First Harvest: UGX 1,011,500 (\$284)  
Second Harvest: UGX 1,019,000 (\$286)  
Third Harvest: UGX 1,111,000 ( \$312)  
**Total Revenue: UGX 3,141,500 (\$883)**

These earnings have significantly helped to buy more seedlings and manure which have been distributed to more families in need of practicing the urban farming activity

## Community Impact

The project has also been instrumental in educating and empowering our members. Around 80 members have learned practical skills in urban farming through the project. These skills enable them to grow vegetables at home, reducing household expenditures on food.

By fostering these farming practices, we aim to improve food security and promote sustainable living in the community.

# Partnership Spotlight:

with Artefact's Cooperation

## Empowering Women and Girls

Gender-based violence remains a serious challenge in the urban slum communities where Kids First Uganda operates. Many women and girls live in fear due to domestic violence, sexual assault, and widespread insecurity, especially at night.

Through our partnership with a German organization, Kids First Uganda has been able to respond meaningfully to this challenge. After the valuable contribution of Ole Wensberg, the same partner organization continued its support by sending Theo Weng Richard in mid-2025. Theo, a martial arts specialist, joined our team to empower women and girls through self-defense training.

The initiative was warmly welcomed across our communities, highlighting its urgent relevance. By the end of 2025, approximately 550 girls were trained through school-based self-defense sessions. Our goal is to expand this program to reach more schools and community groups in the coming year.

This initiative has grown beyond training—it represents a movement of confidence, dignity, and empowerment, made possible through strong international partnerships.



*Theo in training with the girls*

***“By the end of 2025, we had reached and trained about 550 girls in schools, equipping them with practical self-defense skills and confidence,”***

*-Theo Weng Richard, Self-Defense Trainer-*



*Mothers in a Self-Defence session Training with Theo at KFU grounds*

## VOLUNTEERING WITH THE WOMEN

A group of mothers from the community meets every Sunday evening for ongoing self-defense training.

We believe that when women feel safe and confident, they strengthen not only themselves but also their families and communities.



***“Since these self-defense sessions started, I feel more confident and less afraid. I have learned how to protect myself and my children,”***

Robinah Basirika  
-Mother Participant-

# “Discovering My Purpose and Building a Positive Future” Children’s Camp

Over 130 participants, including children and parents, with 87 sponsored children directly taking part in the core camp activities

Kids First Uganda organized a two-day camp for its sponsored children under the theme “Discovering My Purpose and Building a Positive Future.” Building on the previous camp that focused on self-esteem, this camp aimed to help children discover their purpose, build confidence, and develop a positive vision for their future.

The camp brought together over 130 participants, including children and parents, with 87 sponsored children directly taking part in the core camp activities. Over the two days, participants engaged in letter writing to sponsors, motivational talks, counseling and guidance sessions, sports and team-work activities, faith-based discussions, and an inspirational movie night.

These activities were designed to support emotional well-being, encourage self-expression, strengthen values, and inspire hope among the children.

## Children’s Voices from the Camp



“I learned that I have a purpose and that I can become something good in life. The games and movie night made learning fun and meaningful,”

– Shamidah Nakimuli –



“This camp helped me believe in myself again. Writing to my sponsor and listening to the talks made me feel hopeful about my future,”

– Owen Kizza –

Highlights from the two-day children's camp featuring letter writing, Food Basket, counseling, sports, teamwork, and inspirational learning moments.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

- 1. Patricia & Angellah share a moment
- 2. Officer Engages in community Policing with Kids
- 3. Praise and worship moments

- 4. Dr. Paul shares Health Tips with Kids
- 5. Martilda with Girls in Counseling session
- 6. lunchtime moments

- 7. Counselor Richard connect with the boys
- 8. Board game competitions (Ludo/Dice)
- 9. Rodine and Prince enjoy lunch Together

## PLAN

*Here are the action points for the next Year.*

- Resource mobilization for the soccer field development
- More vocational training for women
- More sponsors for Kids
- Identifying potential partners for skilling programs for our youths and students.

## CONCLUSION

This Annual report highlights the significant progress made by Kids First Uganda in various initiatives and partnerships.

The dedication and support from our members, partners, and sponsors have been instrumental in achieving these milestones. We look forward to continued growth and success in our mission to empower and uplift our community.

## Thank you

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Nothing would be possible without the individuals, volunteers, trusts, foundations, corporations and Schools who supported us throughout 2025. Without your help, 2527 lives would be worse off.

We are eternally grateful to you for your generosity, and for entrusting us to make your money make the biggest difference possible.



**Please you can support us:**

**Donating is easy**

You can make a one-off gift or support us regularly. just vist [www.kidsfirstuganda.org](http://www.kidsfirstuganda.org) to find out more.

These funds will support a disadvantaged child to go to school, and train their caregiver to be financially independent in the future



## Kids First Uganda

*Inspire \* Empower \* Equip*

### **KFU**

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