

**Ronnie Dunetz's workshop: Coaching & Empowering young Entrepreneurs; May 2-5, 2015**

*By Esther Kyazike Ginda, KYC CEO*

As a result of the current global economic crisis, more and more youth are looking to be their own bosses. Fortunately, young people are not alone in their entrepreneurial pursuits. All over Uganda, there are agencies and organizations that are dedicated to equipping youth with the knowledge and skills needed to be productive and successful members of communities. In 2012, KYC won an Electronic Information For Libraries (EIFL) award for improving the economic wellbeing of young people.

In May 2015, KYC was privileged to host Ronnie Dunetz, a



***Dunetz workshop participants***

Senior Business and Life Coach, Founder of “Dunetz for Entrepreneurs”, from Israel to facilitate a 4 days youth workshop intended to coach and empower young entrepreneurs. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> time that KYC organized such workshops, 4 of them being done in partnership with other institutions such as Banks and other institutions that work to empower young people.

During the course of the workshop the participants engaged in an array of tools and exercises to bring about the stated goals. Participants were inspired to think “outside the box”

and see potential instead of limitations, develop a vision of where they wish to be, develop a focused plan, learn how to use “business storytelling” to engage, motivate, convince and persuade others, among other topics!

The feedback results of the workshop were heart-warming and fulfilling. Out of the 55 participants that attended the 4 days’ workshop, over 90% cited that they gained professional tools that they will make use of in the future, found the content relevant to them, and cited that their interest in entrepreneurship increased!

KYC plans to continue to engage young people in such empowerment activities to contribute to their development.

*“It is never too late to be what you might have been. (George Eliot)”* ■

**Social Business Acceleration for KYC; Libraries Gone Social**

*by Tim Walsh, KYC ICT Facilitator*

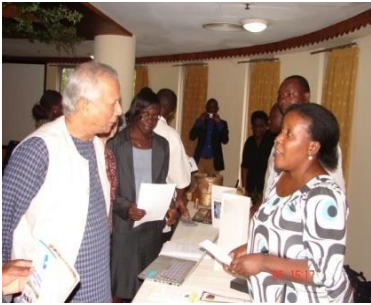
On May 29<sup>th</sup> 2015, KYC won an opportunity to be part of a wider global community of Yunus Social Business (YSB) that seeks to transform the way business is conducted in the 21st century. From more than 10 libraries that competed in this year’s YSB Uganda accelerator program, KYC emerged among the five libraries that were selected as a special interest group among fifteen social businesses which are the first cohort for YSB, in Uganda and in Sub Saharan Africa. Along with; Bwera Information Centre, Kitengesa Community Library, Nambi Ssepuuya Library and Uganda Development Services, the 5 libraries joined 10 other social businesses to go through a 10 week accelerator program designed to provide enterprise support to initiatives within each social enterprise.

KYC is now part of a community of over 100 social businesses worldwide and have received Coaching and mentoring from top international and local experts.



# Kawempe Youth Centre Newsletter

On July 27<sup>th</sup> 2015, KYC was privileged to attend the social business conference that was held in Kampala at Sheraton Hotel-Rwenzori Ball Room where we had presentations from key note speakers among who was Nobel Laureate Professor Yunus Muhammed who is also the founder of Grameen Bank-Bangladesh. We are glad to be directing our work towards meeting community need through ways that are innovative and sustainable. ■



2 private schools and 2 community libraries among which was KYC. The work was intended to equip teacher/school librarians with basic library operations skills and ways in which they can put up creative activities to encourage children to visit the school libraries and to also promote reading in schools. Schools were also encouraged to participate in theme days such as the DEAR day, Book week and World Read Aloud day among others. KYC works with 18 schools under the mobile library service; and we have been involving them to actively participate in these theme days.

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### REVAMPING KAWEMPE C/U SCHOOL LIBRARY

*By Bulyaba Ruth, KYC Library assistant*

### LIBRARY NEWS:

#### KYC TEACHERS' WORKSHOP: 18<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2015

*By Catherine Amia, KYC Library Assistant*

The long awaited teachers' workshop themed "How schools can creatively make space for libraries and Information and communication Technologies" was finally here and everybody was excited to take up the role that was assigned to him or her. I was assigned the task of the workshop receptionist, which I took up gladly. I was able to meet and interact with many new teachers.

It was noted that of all the mobile library schools, only one school namely, Exodus community school, had a creative way in which they stored and managed their book collection. To support the school, KYC donated a book cupboard to them. ■

#### KCCA SCHOOL LIBRARIANS WORKSHOP:

*By Amia Catherine, KYC library assistant*

In August, KCCA organised a school librarians workshop which was attended by approximately 3/4 of public schools,



*Before*

Previously, the Kawempe Church of Uganda school library in Kilokole, Kawempe served as a store and a library at the same time. Some new books were in boxes without stamps; pieces of old furniture, jerry cans and boxes among others laid idly on the floor, in fact, one had to jump over them in order to access book shelves. And the library was out of bounds to the children because of fear that they might lose and misplace the books. This library was revamped by KYC team through her partnership with KCCA. And now the library looks like a LIBRARY.

The shelves are now clearly marked to enable both teachers and children easily access the books. The school is interested in becoming a mobile library partner. KYC has continued to receive requests from schools to help them set school libraries and train their teachers on how to manage book stock.



*After*



# Kawempe Youth Centre Newsletter

*"If just one book can change a life...imagine what a whole library can do..."*

## **LIBRARY NEWS: Academic story**

*by Nakachwa Florence*

After completing my Advanced level of Education, I started volunteering at KYC as a library attendant. I was anxious to join university; unfortunately I was unable to, due to inadequate funds. Fortunately, KAMPABITS, one of KYC's partners recruited students for their certificate courses in Information Technology for the 2015-2016 intake. Only 80 slots were available and I was one of the students who successfully passed the interviews out of 150 students. Students are required to pay a fee of 400,000 shs for the whole program. Subjects taught include ICT for Youth Employability, Computer Repair and Maintenance, Entrepreneurship, Life skills, Web Development and Graphics Design. All these subjects are very practical meeting the current employment standards.

Despite the fact that I do not have parents to pay my fees, I am fortunate that KYC will support me with the tuition payments, and the allowance I get from volunteering at the centre meets my other needs including transport to and from school. *Am now on my way to becoming a computer Guru*■.



but a few) to the youth and the community in general.

## **How I got to KYC**

Internship being mandatory at the college of computing and information Sciences of Makerere University, every student has to do it as a requirement for partial fulfilment for the degree. We were advised to apply for field attachment places anywhere in East Africa by the college internship coordinator. but later the internship coordinator announced to us that no one should take a place outside Uganda since this year the university was not going to supervise anyone outside the country due to some reasons. A friend from Texas USA had also sent my CV to her friend who is both a professor in one university in the same country and a president of Uganda Community Libraries Association (UgCLA). UgCLA coordinator gave me a list of libraries it works/partners with in and around Kampala, fortunately I did choose the best which was KYC!

I did have a great time at KYC- The eight weeks I spent at KYC during my internship left a great positive impact in my profession. I was able to apply the theoretical skills that I had long accumulated from school to practice: Document classification, cataloging, and other daily library routine, training teachers on ICTs and setting up school libraries in communities among other activities.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the CEO (Ms. Esther Kyazike) for hosting me, and her entire staff especially to Ms. Catherine Amia the librarian and my field supervisor, Mr. Timothy Walsh the information Technologist, and everybody who contributes to KYC's existence.

It is also my appeal to well-wishers out there to extend a hand and support KYC in any way in order to enable the existing and future projects to continue smoothly.

To those looking forward to conducting their internship, look no further-KYC is the place to be!! Thank you.

## **MY internship/field attachment experience at KYC**

*By Ajambo Esther*

I am a student at Makerere University, pursuing library and information science program, currently concluding my field attachment at Kawempe Youth Centre library. A 'unique' youth centre in Kampala and in Uganda as a whole in my view it is unique because of the diverse services it offers (Educational through mobile and stationery library, Economical, Health and Recreational activities to mention

**Edition 21, May – August 2015** This Newsletter aims at informing you about the activities of Kawempe Youth Centre (KYC): its Library facility, the educational and recreational program. It is distributed 3 times a year.

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