

CHIDFEA REPORT ON TAILORING GRANT RECEIVED FROM MIREMBE FOUNDATION 2022

Child Development and Family Empowerment Action (CHIDFEA) is a small Community Based Organization that was formed in 2012 with the aim of giving small loans to single mothers and mothers of children with special needs to help them carry out businesses on a small scale. The idea was to empower these mothers to be able to look after their families. The women who are beneficiaries to this project operate from Ggaba, along the shores of Lake Victoria in Kampala City, Makindye Division.

The Community Based Organization has existed for nine years and the number of members has grown from the initial 10 women that started the organization to currently 45 active women. With the outbreak of the COVID 19 pandemic, the women businesses were badly affected and they ended up using up all their business capital to survive the total lockdown, all their businesses collapsed. Tusaidiane Uganda intervened on behalf of the women and applied for a relief fund from Mirembe foundation. Mirembe accepted and funded the women group to reinstate their businesses. The women received the money and restarted their businesses afresh.

However, during the pandemic which was accompanied with frequent lock downs that led to the collapse of their businesses, these women learnt that if they had skills, they would use them to earn a living while locked at their homes, unlike businesses which were not possible to be run while in doors. In addition, if someone is skilled, the skill can never collapse unless someone dies. We realised that if these women are skilled, they can always stand up using their skills in case of any downfall.

Furthermore, their children remained redundant because schools were closed. The young girls grew into women while young boys into men. On top of that, since businesses were just rejuvenating, some women would find it difficult to take back some of their children to school.

Basically, it was because of those reasons above that CHIDFEA requested Mirembe Foundation to help and buy machines for them in order to start up a tailoring project so that these women and their adolescents get a skill in tailoring and other crafts from which they can generate capital to create a financial reserve for sustaining themselves and the CBO at large in case of a new dilemma. The tailoring project will also be an income generating project for Chidfea to help them create sustainability for their women group and be able to exist tomorrow with minimal external dependency.

Fortunately Mirembe Foundation agreed to help CHIDFEA to start up a tailoring project to benefit the women, their adolescents and CHIDFEA as a women group.

In late March 2022, through Tusaidiane Uganda, CHIDFEA received a donation worth 22,800,000/= (twenty two million eight hundred thousand Shillings) from Mirembe foundation for the project.

On 26th March 2022 we started with the purchasing of the different sewing machines and all other things we requested like chairs, table, scissors, stationery, and the materials to be used.

We succeeded in purchasing our items; however, due to the price fluctuations in the country wide, most of the prices of the items had dramatically gone high. This did not stop us from buying our items though we had to cut down the numbers of some items.

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Lydia and Betty offloading some parts of the machines



The technician is servicing the machines

The technician is showing Lydia and Betty how to fix the machines



Betty and Lydia being helped to fix the sewing machines

The technician is fixing the sewing machines after servicing them

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Lydia and Betty with other things bought which included plastic chairs, stationery, rolls of stiff sponge, scissors, thread, etc.

The ladies reported on 11th April 2022 to start their lessons. They were very happy to have been given this opportunity to be skilled together with their children. This was one of their long cherished desires. However, the biggest challenge now is the materials for training because the prices have gone so much higher than estimated but slowly by slowly we shall get there.



The ladies arranging the place in order to begin

Betty is giving out stationery to the ladies

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the ladies are waiting for the trainer to take them through

One young girl very happy to start

the ladies are waiting for the trainer to take



The trainer (a man) amidst the ladies showing them how to fix some things on the machines

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The ladies are helping each other to learn how to operate the machines using their feet



The young lady is showing others how they can fix the top of their machines.

Lastly but not least, on behalf of CHIDFEA women group and on our own behalf, we wish to thank Mirembé Foundation once again for the continuous support towards the ladies.

Compiled and reported by Lydia and Betty