

**SUSTAINABLE AND EFFECTIVE EMPOWERMENT OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

**(SEECHILD)**

**SEMI—ANNUAL REPORT 2022**



Registered as a company limited by guarantee is a non-profit making Organization mandated to work with children with Disabilities. It has its head office in Bunamwaya Central, Mutundwe Parish in Wakiso District.

**Mission:** To empower families and children with disabilities through awareness raising, advocacy skills training and research.

**Vision:** Celebrating a skillful and healthy people with disabilities.

**Motto:** Skilling disarms Disability.

The organization runs two skills training Centre namely Bunamwaya Integrated Skills Training Centre (BISTC) and Mpigi Integrated Skills Training Centre (MISTC) and community outreach programs in Wakiso and Mpigi District in Uganda.

This report entails all activities carried out with in a period of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022 and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

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## **Coordinator's overview remarks and report of significant happenings during the period:**

### **Covid-19 Lockdown effects:**

Human life regardless of its state of being has an innate dignity that must be respected and protected at all times. This is why functional or nonfunctional, productive or nonproductive, active or non-active, painful or non-painful, human life must be lived and celebrated. This is the reason why no one apart from the giver of this life is justified to take it away. It's upon this premise that SEECHILD strives to render her service to enable children living with disabilities and their families joyfully live this human life.

Covid-19 stifled every activity in the economy of Uganda like how it was in the entire World. However, when it came to the sector of education, it became very bad. Children spent over two years without going to school. This made many young children to indulge in all sorts of activities that kept them busy but ruined their lives. Many young girls got pregnant at a tender age. Some boys turned into business men forgetting their duty of studying at school. Others joined gangs of stealing for survival especially in urban areas.

For our children living with disabilities it became worse. BISTC kept on following them at their homes. However, there was one case of Kirabo whose mother decided to take her away from home. Kirabo is suffering from mental disorder. By taking her away from home, the mother stopped administering her with the drugs from Butabika. She took her to the church of the so called pastor (man of God). At this place, Kirabo was severely tortured by tying her on ropes day and night and leaving her in the cold of the night. She became very sick, traumatized and caught pneumonia which nearly killed her. We thank God that Kirabo is now back at BISTC and her mother was accepted to join the team so that she learns how to effectively cater for her child. In the meantime Kirabo is doing well and her mother also helps the staff to take care of other children in the centre.



*Kirabo just after being rescued from the pastor.*

*Kirabo now in class attending literacy.*

### **Change of the Administration of BISTC:**

Florence Mukwaya (BISTC's former Administrator) was terminated from the staff of BISTC and holding that position of the Administrator of the BISTC Centre. This decision was taken after a very careful and detailed inquiry from all stake holders namely staff, parents and the management Board. The Coordinator managed to talk to Florence and agreed to leave the Organization. A new Manager has been appointed called Mr. Ssekatawa Robert. Robert has been holding the position of a store manager and was one the first staff since the beginning of SEECHILD. We thank Florence for her service ever since we opened up the Centre.

We have also changed the titles of the management Heads of the Training Centers from Administrators to Centre Managers

BISTC Centre realized a drastic change in terms of children turn up and community support most especially this second term. We have realized an increase of over 50% of new recruitment compared to all other previous terms. Community support in terms of food contribution and donations in kind have increased in the second term by over 100% compared to all other terms.



**BISTC Manager being presented a gift of appreciation from the Organizers of the Awareness day. Peter (Trainee)**

The management has introduced new skills training subjects and staff namely hair plaiting, physical exercises (gymnastics) and speech therapy. These subjects have been carefully chosen to increase marketability of the skills offered and also increase the rate of rehabilitation among our trainees.



**Dammies for children to learn plaiting**



**Some of the activities Awareness day at Lugogo**

### **Visit of the Administrator of Congrava:**

The Administrator of Congrava, Dr. Vincent de Haas together with his wife visited Mpigi cite and he was really impressed by the development. He accepted to give us the last installment which will see us building the infirmary and the walk ways and feeder road to complete the construction project in general.



Mr. Kees (Tusaidiane Trust) Dr. Vincent and his wife chatting with Coordinator SEECHILD at Mpigi.

As we report now SEECHILD is foreseeing that place operational in September 2022, where we hope to open up the centre for skilling activities of children with disabilities.

### Link-up and sharing meeting at Cardinal Leadership Centre Nsambya:

In 19 and 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022 the Coordinator and Mpigi Centre manager attended a meeting of civil societies organized by the NGO Forum and Wilde Ganzen Foundation. The meeting was intended to help Organizations share their experiences and open more possibilities of increasing their funding. Wilde Ganzen also had an intention of generating projects that would possibly be considered for funding in case the Dutch partners agree. We generated some concept paper which is yet to be agreed upon by our Dutch Partner. We are very grateful to Dr. Guus (Mirembe Foundation) for connecting us to new possibilities where we can be funded.



Mrs. Sharon Kiggundu in a green SEECHILD T- Shirt in the workshop meeting.

### Challenges currently faced:

1. Our major challenge is funding. We are experiencing a financial squeeze which has limited us to extend our services to the most vulnerable and effective programs. As we speak now we are operating on some soft loans which the coordinator obtain to enable our programs runs.

2. **Van for Mpigi Centre:** SEECHILD is now looking for a van to transport day scholars from Mpigi town council and the surrounding area, to and from the Centre.
3. **Coordinator's vehicle:** The coordinator has no means of transport to follow up the activities at both Centers and also doing coordination work of the Organization. He is relying on public means and Bodaboda transport (public motor cycles) which is so risky.
4. **Sustainability of SEECHILD programs:** SEECHILD is currently faced with a big challenge of sustaining her programs. Services rendered implies financial facilitation of staff costs and other administrative costs. Currently, the Organization is looking at Parents contribution which is very insignificant compared to the basic costs incurred. We need a Sustainable income generation to bridge the gap so that fees from the parents are kept affordable and some vulnerable children also are given bursary.
5. **Inflation:** We are experiencing a hyperinflation of costs of basic needs namely food stuffs, fuel etc. Most of the schools in Uganda have closed prematurely the second term because of lack of funds. BISTC's main challenge in this regard has been the cost of fuel which has doubled since the beginning of the year.

### Proposed solutions for the above problems:

1. Proposal for the Farm for SEECHILD has been made and now looking for possible funders.
2. We realize that if we are to extend our services to the neediest, we need to develop a sponsorship program which can enable most of the vulnerable children to access our services. We are currently looking for sponsorship of such programs.
3. We are also looking for possible funders of the van and coordinators vehicle. We really need this support to enable us serve better.
4. We are holding meetings with the parents to find a solution for the inflation. We have realized that fuel contribution from the parents is not enough to cover the full term's budget. These meetings have realized positive solutions.
5. We are also looking at other possible solutions of thinning our Centre financial costs namely rain water harvesting, increasing community support in terms of food donations.

### Recognition of our working Partner's contribution:

If SEECHILD has made any contribution to Ugandan society, it's because of the supportive advice and financial contribution from our working partners, who right from the initiation of SEECHILD have been remarkable. The following partners have rendered tremendous contribution to the existence of SEECHILD: Mirembe Foundation, The sisters of Breda, Wereld Missie Hulp, Tusaidiane Trust & Tusaidiane Uganda limited, Church in Action Holland, the little-lights, Missionaries of Africa and Missionary sisters of our Lady of Africa. SEECHILD has benefited from the financial, management and kind donations support from these partners. We are what we are because of you. We ask you kindly to remain supportive and also introduce us to other partners to continue the good work.

Reported by Fredrick K. Matovu



## Coordinator SEECHILD

### CENTRE MANAGER REPORT FOR BUNAMWAYA INTEGRATED SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE:

#### Introduction:

I am John Robert Ssekatawa the new centre manager of Bunamwaya Integrated Skills Training Centre.

My appointment started on May 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 and was previously serving as the store's manager at this Centre.

Our enrolment this year has increased to 30 trainees. We have new trainees like Owembabazi Precious, Miir Jordan, Kalyoowa Marcus, Asinge Allen, Mwanyi Faridah and Nakiboneka Hawa.

New recruitments were made on the staff Mr. Ronald Kakooza our physical trainer for gymnastics, Ms. Nalugo trainer for hair plaiting.

We have two staff members who are on probation Ms. Alice and Ms. Namwanje Margret. We also have one volunteer.

Revisions were made on our timetable as physical exercises (gymnastics), hair plaiting and shoe making were added onto our timetable.

A program is also in the pipeline to skill the trainers in scarf and bag making by Ms. Namaganda Elizabeth.

#### Below is the list of all trainees in our centre.

No.	NAME	AGE	DISABILITY
1	Mutyaba Edward	20	Mental slowness
2	Nakiwala Annet	26	Cerebral palsy and epilepsy
3	Nambejja Adiona	12	Cerebral palsy and autism
4	Owembabazi Precious	5	Cerebral palsy
5	Mwelekande Mark	3	Cerebral palsy
6	Mwanyi Faridah	14	Mental slowness
7	Sserunkuma Allan	19	Mental slowness
8	Muhindo Kawuthara	13	Mental slowness
9	Namuyiga Grace	17	Mental slowness

10	Kalinabiri Shahzad	15	Cerebral palsy
11	Martin Kizito	15	Down syndrome
12	Musene George	17	Mental slowness
13	Peter Anthony	10	Spina bifida , hydrocephalus and epilepsy
14	Senoga Chrishi	11	Autism and speech
15	Matsiko Louis Arthur	2	Autism and cerebral palsy
16	Sajjabi Vianney	16	Down syndrome
17	Kirabo Sanyu Akiiki	13	Mental slowness
18	Kalyango Douglas	14	Cerebral palsy
19	Kasaawe Phillip	14	Deaf
20	Miir Jordan	9	Autism
21	Miir Ignatius	15	Down syndrome
22	Wasswa .C.Simon	3	Cerebral palsy
23	Namujjuzi Belinda	11	Cerebral palsy
24	Kwebwawera Isabella	8	Cerebral palsy
25	Kukiriza Sarah	24	Mental illness
26	Zziwa Hannington	11	Cerebral palsy and hydrocephalus
27	Kisakye Claudia	18	Mental slowness
28	Kalyoowa Marcus	1	Cerebral Palsy
29	Asinge Akiror Allen	15	Autism
30	Nakiboneka Hawa	18	Mentally retarded

We currently have two trainees who come for physiotherapy only Marcus Kalyoowa and Matsiko Arthur.

We thank God for the return of our trainees Zziwa Hannington and Kirabo.

### **SCHOOL FEES PAID TO THE CENTRE AS AT 24<sup>TH</sup> June 25, 2022**

NAME	AMOUNT PAID in Ug. Shs.
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1. WASSWA .C. SIMON	100,000
2. MIIRO JORDAN	110,000
3. MUHINDO KAWUTHARA	110,000
4. KISAKYE CLAUDIA	150,000
5. MIIRO IGNATIUS	50,000 PLUS BALANCE OF 150,000 FROM TERM ONE
6. MUSENE GEORGE	110,000
7. KIZITO MARTIN	120,000
8. SERUNKUMA ALLAN	100,000
9. NAMBEJJA ADIONAH	150,000
10. SAJJABI VIANNEY	100,000
11. NAKIWALA ANNET	250,000
12. SERUNKUMA ALLAN	150,000
13. OWEMBABAZI PRECIOUS	100,000
14. ASINGE AKIROR ALLEN	300,000
15. KALYANGO DOUGLAS	150,000
16. KASAAWE PHILLIP	10,000
17. KALYOWA MARCUS	100,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,200,000</b>

There is only one trainee who has fully paid the fees Asinge Akiror Allen.

#### **TRANSPORT FEES PAYMENT:**

<b>NO</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>AMOUNT PAID in Ug. Shs.</b>
<b>1</b>	JORDAN MIIRO	150,000
<b>2</b>	KIZITO MARTIN	100,000
<b>3</b>	SERUNKUMA ALLAN	50,000
<b>4</b>	NAMBEJJA ADIONAH	300,000
<b>5</b>	OWEMBABAZI PRECIOUS	300,000
<b>6</b>	MUSENE GEORGE	100,000

7	KALINABIRI SHAHZAD	200,000
8	KALYANGO DOUGLAS	100,000
9	PETER ANTHONY	300,000
10	KWABWERA ISABELLA	200,000
11	MWELEKANDE MARK	140,000
12	KISAKYE CLAUDIA	50,000
13	ZZIWA HANNINGTON	100,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,640,000</b>

Peter Anthony, Kizito Martin, Nambejja Adionah, Owembabazi Precious and Musene George paid transport fees fully.

#### Donations in kind from the community:

1. This term we received a donation of 15 chicken from the family of Mr. Peter Njala.
2. Mothercare preparatory school Bunamwaya visited us and on their visit they donated 25kgs of soya flour, 25 kgs of rice, 3 wheelchairs and 4 chairs.
3. Child at Heart Foundation also paid us a visit and they gave the trainees and staff members a package containing sugar, bar of soap, blue band, soda and sachets of powdered milk.
4. We also received a donation of 4.5 kgs of rice from a well-wisher who preferred to remain anonymous.
5. The Missionary Sisters of Our Lady of Africa have been giving us jackfruits which our children like very much.

#### Challenges faced:

1. This term we are facing a drastic increase of fuel prices and commodity prices which have affected so much our budget and our expenditure.
2. Quite a number of parents have failed to pay in full the school fees of their children.

There has been an improvement in the payment of fees and I thank God for that plus our parents for fulfilling their obligations.

We have embarked on a campaign of making our centre known to the community by visiting churches and mosques in our vicinity.

It is part of a broader program.

We have also been hit by a wave of flu which has so much affected our trainee's health and attendance.

Time keeping has also been poor at times and even when it comes to time for meals.

I would like to thank our Coordinator for his tireless efforts of looking for funds, our donors for all their support and the staff for their hard work.

I also thank our suppliers of vegetables for their generous hearts. I also thank our parents for entrusting us with their children and for meeting their obligation to the center by paying fees. I thank the staff for the job well done and would like to see more of it in future.

**Reported by,**

Ssekatawa John Robert,

Centre Manager.

## **MID YEAR REPORT FOR STORES DEPARTMENT BUNAMWAYA INTEGRATED SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE 2022:**

### **Guests received at BISTC and donations in Kind**

The government issued a directive for the opening of schools and educational institutions on 10th January after lockdown since May 2021.

In the first term we received some guests who are friends of Joseph Lubega from Europe and America they brought with them bread, pineapple and water melons.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> June we were visited by pupils of Mothercare preparatory school and they donated to us 25 kilograms of soya flour, 20 kilograms of rice, 3 wheelchairs and 4 chairs



**Donation given by Mothercare care preparatory school and Peter using one of the chqairs in class.**

The Centre was visited by Children at Heart Foundation Inc and the trainees and staff each received a package which included 1 kilogram of sugar, a bar of soap, lato milk, salt, blueband and 1 litre of soda.

### **Report on general health of Children as exhibited by their Feeding:**

I also engage in feeding the trainees and there is an improvement when it comes to cleaning the class after meals most of them participate.

Musene George's appetite has greatly improved last term we used to practically beg him to eat but these days he even asks for more.

Even Zziwa's appetite has improved and he eats well these days.

### **Report of skills of Daily living Specifically Bathing:**

As regards to bathing Senoga, Miiro, Sajjabi, Kalinabiri, Kalyango, Zziwa have improved when it comes to bathing.

Kalyango, Kalinabiri and Zziwa need assistance because of their disability cerebral palsy.

Senoga needs guidance and supervision since he is autistic but he responds well to everything you tell him to do.

I extend my gratitude to the management, our funders, parents and staff for their dedicated and untiring efforts for the development of this Centre.

**Reported by,**

**Ssekatawa John Robert**

**Centre Manager**

## **HEADTRAINER'S MID-ANNUAL REPORT 2022:**

### **INTRODUCTION**

We Opened term one on 10<sup>th</sup> / Jan/2022 and it ended on 13<sup>th</sup> /April /2022 with increasing number of children with both physical and mental disabilities reporting back for skills training.

This report basically narrates the objectives, activities, achievements, challenges, lessons learnt, way for word and conclusion since the beginning of term 1

### **OBJECTIVES**

- To skill children in communication, vocational and daily living skills for happy life.
- To identify the various achievements and benefits from the children with disabilities since the program commenced.
- To find out the existing challenges that affecting the successful progress of the program
- To assess whether there is any visible impact of the project on children with disabilities, their parents and the general community.

- To sustain the development of the program in the next coming years
- To make recommendations for improving the effectiveness and relevance of the project

## ACTIVITIES

Below are some activities done since the beginning of the year up to-date.

### Home visits and follow up.

The staff carried out home visits and followed up of some learners with the purpose of finding out their health conditions and how are they progressing in activities of daily living and self- help skills and why they have delayed to come back for skills training.

### Assessment and admissions

The assessment and admission of new children with physical and mental disabilities was done by the technical staff with the aim of identifying the history of the child's disability, age and when it occurred. Name of the parent, location and residence status (renting or permanent residence). Strength and weaknesses of children with disabilities.

The new trainees admitted were Wasswa Simon, Louis Arthur, Musene George, Peter Anthony, Kalyoowa Marcus, Nambejja Adiona, Asinge Akiror Allen, Awebabazi Precious, Ssenonga Chrishi, Muhindo Kauthera, Mwanyi Faridah, Kalinabiri Shahzard and Jordan Miiro

**Skills training for children:** SEECHILD staff is continuously committed and dedicated in providing practical skills, knowledge and health activities to their trainees on a **one to one** based approach of imparting skills to children. This approach has helped the trainers to win the children's confidence with ease and the children are gradually coping up with their learning disorders. Children are encouraged to get involved without living any trainee behind though at different pace according to their specific disability. Each individual is given time to lead others which gives them confidence to express themselves.



Children in literacy class being helped by the trainers.

Sarah with mental disorder also leads the class.



**Ignatius and Martin both living with Down-syndrome practicing their writing skills.**

### **Physiotherapy:**

The children with cerebral palsy like Mark, Wasswa, Isabella, Arthur, Douglas, Fahad and Belinda have been given daily massage. The constant massage and use of assistive devices have helped the children with disability to control their body position and balance, reduced muscle stiffness, improve heartbeat, blood circulation and use other parts of the body which were dormant.



**Isabella and Arthur learning to walk in walking frame after Massage.**





The head trainer massaging Adiona



Arthur in the standing frame chatting with his friend.

Below is Mark in a standing frame and in the sitting chair holding a walking frame.



**Visitation Day:** The Centre has been organizing visitation days for the parents, whereby guardians and parents are invited to discuss the progress and weaknesses of their children. It also involves sharing ideas and experiences among parents and teachers.



Parents sharing experiences on the visitation day:

## ACHIEVEMENTS

The following are some of the achievements.

- Active participation of learners in terms of acquiring literacy skills for example most of the learners have learnt how to write and read numbers, alphabetical letters and also writing their own names for example Mutyaba, Grace, Belinda, Peter, Fahad, Vianney, Phillip, Annet among others.
- Most of the learners have managed to do activities of daily living and self-help skills, and these skills have helped them to reduce over dependency burden on caretakers or parents. For example Martin, Kirabo, Ssenonga, George, Miiro among others.



- Most learners have acquired some vocational skills like tailoring, knitting and weaving, such learners are Mutyaba, Phillip, Annet, Fahad, Grace, Vianney and Belinda. They are now in position to penetrate the wider market.
- Children with cerebral palsy get daily physical exercises and therapy, their physical health has improved for example Wasswa, Mark, Isabella, Peter, Fahad and Douglas can use their hands and legs for writing, feeding and doing craft work.

- Training Workshops for parents of children with disabilities have been organized at the Centre and successfully attended, where by most of the parents have developed positive attitude towards their children and also towards the education of children with disabilities.



The head trainer teaching Arthur's mother how to do it at home. Sharzard's are really very happy for finding a centre which can manage his condition.

- The number of children registered at the Centre has increased to 30. This is because the community has realized that children with disabilities can also learn vocational skills like any other children.
- Equipping of the Centre with various tools for all the departments and these has helped the smooth running of the activities.

## CHALLENGES

**The following are some of the challenges encountered;**

- Some parents are reluctant to pay school fees because they think the program is entirely free of charge. However the biggest percent are those who can't really afford school fees payment as many are single mothers with many other children to look after.
- Absenteeism is rampant among trainees as a result of sickness and poor health conditions and this therefore, retards their learning capability.
- The cost of living is increasing in the country, where by some parents have failed to afford basic needs like food, clothing, medical care and also paying school fees for their children.
- Lack of sponsorship for children with disabilities at the Centre because most the parents cannot afford to pay school fees and other requirements.

## LESSONS LEARNT

- Some of the children with disabilities prefer practical activities than theory.
- Children with disabilities have different abilities and learning needs.
- Most of the children with disabilities especially those with autism have short attention span.

- Some parents want to educate their children with disabilities, but they lack money for paying school fees and also buying some other requirements.
- Women are more concerned about education of children with disabilities than men.
- Ignorance is what leads to negative of the community towards children with disabilities. Therefore, there is a need for more awareness raising and sensitization of the community about the rights of children with disabilities.
- People with disabilities are poor mainly because they are marginalized and never given opportunity to learn practical skills like tailoring, carpentry and craft work.
- Children with disabilities take long to learn the skills that they taught at school and they tend to forget very first when the go back home.

### WAY FORWARD

- I recommend the Administration to extend the advocacy programme to more health centers to create more awareness in the community.
- We need more workshops and outings for the children and teachers.
- We need to buy new television set.
- We need more workshops to be organized at the Centre so that parents and care givers can be counseled and trained how to manage children with disabilities.
- We need to intensify lobbying for sponsorships of each child with disability and also to network with other national organizations and companies in order to solve the problem of financing.

### CONCLUSION

According to my assessment, most of the parents have realized the impact of skills training on their children and also attitude of the community towards children with disabilities has greatly changed.

I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to our donors both nationally and internationally for funding the project, community leaders and religious leaders for their financial and spiritual support towards BISTC. Last but not least to all the staff members for the good work done, love and care you have shown towards children with disabilities may the almighty God bless you all.

**Reported by Omoding Julius**

**Head trainer.**

**Bunamwaya integrated skills training Centre**

## MID- YEAR REPORT 2022 FROM LITERACY DEPARTMENT:

### Introduction:

I greet you in the Almighty name.

First and foremost I thank God for his protection and providence, which has enable us reaching this mid- year. We thank our Coordinator for his continuous support and innovative management of the program and also thank our donors both Local and international for their support towards the wellbeing of our center.

This report basically narrates what occurred at Bunamwaya Integrated Skills Training Center Term 1 2022, which started on 10 January 2022 and also half of term two.

We have registered new children and more are yet to report. These new children had a lot of problems : some never knew how to hold a pen but now they have learnt and improved quite a great deal. Among these were George, Peter, Ssenonga Adiona, Shahzard, Simon Wasswa, Matsiko Louis. The situation seemed to be difficult for them more especially George, Ssenoga, and Adiona. They didn't know even how to hold a pencil, they could get tired very first but with time, they have greatly improved. We thank God for that improvement.

During this reporting period we have registered the following achievements:

- Most of our trainees show interest in learning, for example they can read the alphabetical letters count 1 -10.



*Kizito M. leading others to count*



*Belindah also leads the class*

- Many who have been under physiotherapy exercises have made significant improvement: Wasswa whose mother brought carrying on her back can now run within a period six



*Some of our trainee in the literacy class trying to learn how to read and write*

### Challenges faced:

1. Some parents lack knowledge of good parenting.
2. Poverty: Quite a number of parents would love contributing towards their children's fees but due sincerely lack funds. They even fail to pay for their daily meals eating only one meal a day.
3. Over protection some parents over protect their children to the extent of thinking that if they come to school they can get lost.

### WAY FORWARD

1. We need to continue awareness programs to parents emphasizing good parenting skills and income generation.
2. Trainers need Identity cards for easy contact especially when they are on outreach programs.

Last but not least our thanks go to all the staff of BISTC and the Parents of our Children who have supported this program financially and in any other ways. May the Almighty God reward you abundantly.

Yours in Christ



Mrs Sharon Kigundu.

**Literacy Department.**

## **SOCIAL WORK DEPARTMENT (BISTC):**

### **Introduction:**

I greet you all in the name of Almighty and thank Him for his providence and protection since the term commenced on 10 January 2022 after the lockdown of covid-19 pandemic in Uganda and the whole world at large.

This report consists of activities done, achievements, challenges, way forward and conclusion.

### **ACTIVITIES DONE:**

#### **Home visits and follow up.**

At the beginning of the term, some trainees reported back to continue with their studies and others did not report back in time. Some of the BISTC staff had to carry out a follow up on trainees who had not reported back at the Centre. This was done purposely to find out their progress and health status.

*We managed to get back our Kirabo who had been neglected by mother. This caused her health to deteriorate but after the visit, we were able to bring her back to the BISTC and she has started regaining her former health status.*

#### **Awareness programme at Kitebi health Centre**



*Presentations at Kitebi Health Center in the Immunization Department*

This programme started during the covid 19 pandemic and it involves sensitizing people from different communities about disabilities, types, causes, prevention and how to manage a person with a disability. This programme has showed a great impact on the minds of people about disabilities.



**Mental rehabilitation programme**





### ***Our patients waiting for medication at Butabika Hospital***

After carrying out research in the community, we realized that there were many mental cases in the community so BISTC came up with a suggestion of taking people with mental illness to receive drugs from Butabika hospital. We have registered 14 people in this programme and some of them are promising to receive vocational skills from BISTC while at the same time attending to hospital reviews every month. This programme is running smoothly since it started in 2021 .

The following below are its aims:

1. To rehabilitate people with mental disabilities who are greatly marginalized in the society.
2. To reduce stigma, abuse and neglect of people with mental disability.
3. To enhance capacities of people living with Bipolar and other mental disabilities to be skilled.

### **Visitation day**

#### ***Some of the parents during the visitation meeting held in term one 2022***

This activity is done once in a term whereby parents are invited to check on the academic progress of their trainees. More so, they share ideas, experiences and also acquire skills on managing children with disabilities.

### **Annual awareness day**

This event is organized by special children's trust and it is aimed at bringing together children with special needs so as to,

1 To raise awareness and celebrate live of people with disabilities

2 To improve visibility and awareness about available services for children with disabilities.



*Some of the trainees at Lugogo during the Awareness day*



## ACHIEVEMENTS

Awareness programme at Kitebi has promote visibility of the Centre. We have received trainees at the Centre through this programme. More so, people have also acquired skills and knowledge about disabilities.

The Centre acquired a school van which has greatly eased movement of trainees who come from long distance. They are now safe from bodaboda transport which used to expose them to accidents.

The number of children has increased to 30 trainees who turn up on daily basis for skills training..

The mental rehabilitation programme has reduced the stigma our patients experience in the community due to constant visits and interactions we make..

The outreach programme has helped us to improve on our presentation skills through the constant presentation and practice on different topics about disabilities.

Trainees like Mutyaba, Kasawe have acquired some vocational skills and they are in position to start up their own projects.

## CHALLENGES

Over protection is still common among parents with disabled children hence deny them a right to education.

Ignorance. Some people are in denial and consider mental illness to be perpetrated by witchcraft so patients are taken to shrines and pastors instead of hospitals.

Poverty. Some parents would love to have their children in school but fail due to poverty.

## WAYFORWARD

Provision of identity cards for staff members.

Recommend the Administration to extend the awareness program to more health centers.

Organize more workshops at the Centre so that parents receive enough training on how to manage children with disabilities.

## CONCLUSION

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Administration and our donors for their continued support towards BISTC community. We pray that the almighty God grant you all the necessary wisdom and strength to run the organization.

Mildred Nantongo.

**Social worker**

## OUTREACH REAPORT and PROJECTS' DEPARTMENT

### Introduction

We welcomed the year 2022 with great hopes and expectations that were hastened by the national relaxation of the Covid-19 restrictions and guidelines which had toughened our field operations in the past two previous years in the effort to curb down the spread of the pandemic. But at the dawn of this year, the world spread of Covid-19 had greatly relaxed and hence this meant vigorous reinstatement of our outreach programs so as to touch lives of the “**seemingly-left-out community members**” because of their disabilities, restore hope to broken hearts and spread love to persons living with disabilities and their caretakers through our messages giving out the truths about different disabilities, their causes, prevention, treatment and management. Without doubt, efforts have been taken and implemented to achieve our goal and results have been manifested already as stated below in this report despite the challenging situation of operation caused by global and national players.

### Body

As the outreach program department, we wish to extend our appreciations to the management of **BISTC/SEECHILD** for the unflinching support towards the departmental activities from the commencement of this year till now. This has facilitated the continued running of the activities even amidst the skyrocketing levels of inflation in the country which has distracted many similar programs from continuing elsewhere despite the importance of the programs in prevailing situation with in our communities.

BISTC has continued running the two outreach programs namely; awareness program at **Kitebi Health Centre** and the mental rehabilitation program to **Butabika Hospital** within our Bunamwaya and nearby communities. The two programs are aimed at changing the precious perception of disabilities that seemed unbearable to many community members so as to copy up with the conditions and get used to the management and mitigation measures to avoid further negative effects and spread. Below is the performance of each program as per this half of the year 2022;

### Awareness program at Kitebi Health Centre

Together with my team, we have worked with relentless efforts to deliver the best to our clients at Kitebi Health Centre every Tuesday during the morning hours through our message intended to spread explain the different types of disabilities, their causes, prevention, treatment and management. With this, many of the community members have changed their perception towards the disabilities that was preciously negative to a positive view and have acted as our ambassadors to enlighten more of their colleagues and even advocate for the rights of the persons living with disabilities within their places of abode. This has curtailed the mismanagement of disabilities and painted a picture of reduced cases of these conditions in the future having equipped the community with preventive measures of disabilities.



### Observations/findings

Below are the observations registered from the commencement of this year 2022 with the awareness program at Kitebi Health Centre;

- i. The BISTC team members have improved their presentation skills given the continued practice, thorough research that involves reading different sources of literature to garner the necessary information about the topics, consultation from specialists, to mention but a few which has enabled us to offer our best to our audiences from an informed point of view.
- ii. The BISTC's relations with the Health Centre workers has greatly improved and cemented with our vital work which the Centre previously lacked. We are always welcomed and granted chance to meet our audience which was opposed by some health workers who doubted our teachings as it was portrayed by their actions during our

presentations earlier. Of late, many of the health workers at Kitebi even find time and attend our presentation which is a sign of approval.

- iii. The program has continued to spread SEECHILD's publicity and visibility to the community. Through this program, many community members have learnt about our training Centre, applied and enrolled for the skilling integration programs of children with disabilities at BISTC.
- iv. Many people travel from distant places from our vicinity to come and attend our presentations at Kitebi Health Centre with the dire need for this kind of information which has revealed the need to extend this service to other places beyond our locality because of its importance to the community.

### Recommendations

We recommend the following to be provided/worked upon for better and continuous improvement of the program because they are needed to aid in the presentations and teachings to the audience/clients;

- i. The program requires a computer set with internet connection for research and data preparations used in the teaching. The computer set and projector are also vital and key pre-requisite items in some topics that are explained using images/pictorials shows.
- ii. Related to the above, we also recommend for the provision of a portable and movable white board which can be used during presentations that require writing/drawing to explain some conditions.
- iii. The teams also need some other sets of uniform to be worn during field work activities so as to be smart and descent before their audience.
- iv. We recommend the provision of literature carrying the information about the organization which may include; contacts, location, services, to mention a few. These may be in form of brochures, business cards, etc.
- v. Lastly, we recommend for the extension of this program to other places having seen the missing gap of the information among people about the disabilities. This will help to equip the community necessary information needed to control the increasing number of disabilities and their management.

## Mental rehabilitation program at Butabika Hospital

Together with the Social worker department, the mental rehabilitation program has been kept in motion and progressive, through the enrollment of new members/patients onto the program and monthly visits to the hospital for medication and checkups which have continued and yielded visible results among the beneficiaries. It has improved living conditions among people with mental disabilities which promotes harmonious living and working. This program basically identifies the patients, reaches out to his/her relatives/family, the social worker and family member concerned arrange the program for transportation of the patient to the hospital, in case a patient is put onto medication. The social worker then follows the patients' progress and response to the medication.



*Some of our patients at Butabika Hospital waiting the medication*

### Observation/ findings

As per now, the following are the observations recorded within the program since the beginning of this year 2022;

- i. There has been an increase in the number of people enrolling for the program compared to the previous years. We have registered more patients and enrolled them onto the group that is transported to Butabika Hospital for monthly review and medication.
- ii. There is positive response to the medication among our patients which is observed through comparison of the patient's pre-state to the medication and their current living

state. This has motivated us to do more so as to improve lives of all those who subscribe our service.

- iii. The program has also helped to improve the SEECHILD's visibility within our community and beyond. This has been possible through positive results observed among our patients with their places of abode.
- iv. Through this program, community members have been sensitized about mental disabilities, their causes, prevention, treatment and management. This has helped to erase the misconception about these disabilities that the communities culturally hold.

### Recommendation

We recommend the following suggested points to be put into consideration so to restore more hope among caretakers and people with mental disabilities through our rehabilitation program;

- i. The mental rehabilitation program needs to be extended to even to other areas beyond our vicinity so as to benefits more people given its importance as observed so far from those who currently subscribe to the program.
- ii. We recommend for the lunch provision to the patients on the day they are taken for medication at Butabika Hospital.
- iii. We also recommend more effort to be put on publicity of program through banns prior the monthly hospital visits. These can be broadcasted through churches/mosques and community radios.

### Conclusion

The project's office commends the SEECHILD management for continued support towards the running of these programs despite the challenges involved. We shall therefore offer our best in this noble work of restoring hope, love and care unto those in need of our services.

### Reported by





## MUDDU DENIS

### Projects Manager

## MUSIC, DANCE AND DRAMA DEPARTMENT (BISTC).

### Introduction:

I greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and I hope all is well. The report covers what has transpired in the Music ,Dance and Drama Department: how children have been performing in the various sectors, the challenges I have faced and my way forward.

### MUSIC SECTOR.

I found out that most of the students can mimic some songs and so I have focused on mimes. For example Anna can perform a song, and also Kawthar sings some songs and so this has enabled me to organize them to mime some few songs. The challenge I get in this is that none of them can manage to sing alone without it, being played in the back ground due to the speech problem and failure to learn the lyrics of the whole song. It is only Zziwa who can try to sing out his favorite song, and I have helped him polish it up. Then for Anna and Kawthar, are able to perform with the song playing. And out of these capacities, I have organized them to do some performances.

About the instruments, the students find it hard to learn Western instruments; though some can play something for example Mutyaba plays few songs on a piano. Others can also play the drums. For example Vianney is the best drummer I have so far. He has a certain rhythm he plays on the drum and can be accompanied by Allan who can play the Mpuunyi drum, and luckily, they can synchronized and play them simultaneously.

So I choreographed some dances to accompany the drummers and I hope they can learn this very well.



*Fig. 1. Zziwa playing a drum*

### DANCE SECTOR

Almost all the students love dancing and this has helped me to choreograph some routines for them so that they can dance to some songs. Although they love dancing, most of them are limited by their different disabilities. For example, Peter is so much interested in dancing but his disability doesn't allow him to dance. The same applies to Zziwa, Belinda, Fahad and others. Nevertheless, they have been able to imitate

the dance movements and when they dance, you can realize that they are following a certain choreography. One of my best student in dance is Kasawe. He is capable of dancing like any other normal child and he is a bright student who learns quickly. But the problem is that he doesn't hear. So I face a challenge of teaching him a song to dance to. The good thing is that he has a great sense of feeling and so when a song is playing, he can get to feel the beat of the song through his feet and dances to it solely. The only challenge I face in the dancing sector is that the children are disabled. But all in all, they are able to learn a dance and try to execute it.

## **DRAMA SECTOR**

Now, this is where I find more challenge and I have failed to execute any drama with these students. I try to write for them some few skits to act, but they have failed to cram these skits. So, I resorted to composing for them some poems and luckily Anna can recite this poem and so it has enabled me to resort to poetry. And this has been executed very well.

## **CHALLENGES.**

The biggest challenge I'm facing is that I'm studying a course at the university and so this gives me less time to attend to these students. And in most cases when I come back to continue from where I stopped from, most of the students will have forgotten most of the items and this has caused many trainees to forget and fail to adapt.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, I have got a good time while teaching these children and I'm sure that they have greatly improved in the music, dance and drama compared to last terms. I also take this opportunity to thank all the staff members that I have worked with hand in hand to see that we make BISTC a better place for our trainees and may the good Lord protect us in all our duties .

Thank you.

Prepared by:



MATOVU PETER KRAMER

**Head of MUSIC DEPARTMENT BISTIC**

## TAILORING AND HANDCRAFTS DEPARTMENT

### Introduction

Tailoring and Handcrafts Department present our special greetings and appreciations to the directors and donors for your unceasing efforts towards the smooth running of BISTC and the recommendable work you do for the betterment of the children with disabilities.



**Florence Lwanga in class directing trainees in tailoring class.      Douglas doing clotcheting with his foot**

We wish to report to you that the work you assigned to us is gradually moving on well and we do our best to see that each child transforms and at least master a marketable skill that can be beneficial for self-sustenance and independence in this economic and competitive world.



***Precious during the handcrafts class***



***Trainees during the knitting class***



### **Standing reports about a selected trainees**

Looking back at the point from which we started, there is a visible change among our trainees in different spheres of learning as per the department. These may be under; tailoring, mat-making, knitting, etc. Below are statements about the performance of the selected trainees that have exhibited exceptional mastering of the skills;

#### **Case analysis of some trainees progress:**

##### **Mutyaba Edward**

He is one of our pioneer trainees in the department with a mental retardation. It was so challenging at the beginning when we introduced him to tailoring, mat-making and knitting. But as per now, he has exhibited exceptional performance in all spheres. In the tailoring, he can cut the cloth when helped with the measurements, and joins the pieces to come out with the complete clothe (shirt, dress, short, etc.)

With mat-making and knitting, he is also doing well compared to others and exhibits great passion when doing everything.

##### **Kasawe Phillip**



Phillip is deaf but a very intelligent young man who masters what we teach him at a slightly high speed compared to his colleagues. For he does well in tailoring but he is just disturbed by measuring correctly but joins the pieces perfectly well. For he has mastered well the skill of mat-making and knitting. In fact he helps out his colleagues during classes.



*Phillip Kasawe during tailoring class*



*Some of the clothes made by Phillip*

### **Sserunkuuma Allan**

Allan is epileptic and mentally retarded. For he is a good listening and devoted trainee who offers his all attention to the class but he is a slow learner who takes time to master anything. It my pleasure to state that he is changing and has started to learn something. For he tries in the tailoring class to join the cut clothe when directed, he is fairly well in knitting and mat-making. Allan loves hair plaiting and promises to be good with time.

### **Nakiwala Anna**

She has mild cerebral palsy and mental illness but on medication from **Butabika Hospital**. Anna has shown some improvement in the tailoring activities. She can join a cut cloth when guided. She now enjoys doing tailoring which not the case was before.

She does knitting very well and in fact helps out her colleagues during classes. She also loves hair plaiting and exhibits much love for the activity we only pray that she masters that skill also.

### **Namuyiga Grace**

Grace is affected by mental retardation, she is a good learner and likes studying of late compared to how she started. She pays attention during classes and shows interest in the various activities.

In the tailoring, when helped, she can cut and join a cloth to make shirts, skirts, and dresses. Grace does well in mat-making and knitting with great passion. She has also picked interest in hair plaiting because she loves the activity.

### **Namujuzi Belinda**

She is a young girl with mild cerebral palsy condition. Belinda loves learning, shows much interest in tailoring which she does well. She has also mastered mat-making and knitting. All her knitted pieces can be sold because they are properly made.

She also does the hair plaiting very well and we have hope that by the end of this year, she will be ready for graduation and fit for field posting to start commercial working.

### **Falidah**

She is a child with mental retardation who joined BISTC at the beginning of the second term. She shows interest in all the activities in the department and does everything with great enthusiasm.

She does so well in hair plaiting and in fact is the best in the class, we hope that by the end of next term, she will be able to hair plait a person and upgrade from the dolls. In mat-making and tailoring, Falidah has showed great performance. We hope that by the end of this year, she will have mastered everything with her course content.

### **Kalinabiri Fahad**

He is a young boy with cerebral palsy but very eager to learn whatever comes his way, for he pays attention during classes and asks wherever he finds any difficulty.

He has mastered knitting and tries to do tailoring when helped because he pays attention and follows instructions when directed.

### **Challenges**

As the department, we have the following challenges when training children at BISTC. They are as follow;

- I. We are challenged by inadequate requirements used in the department as a result of failure by the parents/caretakers to provide such things to the trainees. These include; threads, clothes, etc. this usually makes the training hard for both trainers and trainees.
- II. We request the administration set up the permanent tailoring room where we can leave the machines and materials even after use because we currently have to transfer the machine to the new building before and after use (classes) which exercise risks the machines.

### **Way forward**

We hope to develop more means of reaching out to parents in order to encourage them to be supportive to their children by providing requirements which will boost our performance and training.

### **Conclusion**

We wish to extend our appreciations to the Administration for the support to our department despite the current economic challenges. We therefore pledge to continue doing our best to train our children.

### **Reported by**

**Mrs.Lwanga Florence**

**Head of Vocational skills Department.**

### **Mpigi Intergrated Skills Training Centre:**

#### **Construction Project:**

Most of the construction work is being finalized. We are now sure that by the end of August all construction work will be finalized. Great appreciation go to our donors the Congrava ( Sisters of Breda) and the implementation team led by Mr. Kees ( Tusaidiane Trust). The cite looks gorgeous. We are remaining with the construction of infirmary and walk ways which we have also started.



**Over view of the premises from down.**



**Construction team led by Kees.**



**Girls dormitory**



**Dinning Hall.**



**Boys Dormitory**



**Administration Block and library**





**Classes**



**Kitchen**

### **Preparation for Starting:**

In the meantime, the management team of Mpigi Integrated Skills training Centre is embarking on the work of making this place operational. The work include among others: advertising the Centre in the community and other places in Uganda on radio and media platforms, stocking necessary tools and materials to start with, looking for competent staff and recruiting them, taking them through induction for them to do the training, registering trainees for the program. All this work has been facilitated by Congrava and we are really very grateful.

### **Challenge faced:**

Our biggest problem is inflation which has made us run into overruns and making most of our budgets not fully realizable hence putting us in a compromised situation of whether to start the program this year? However, we are still hopeful that come September 2022, we shall be in position to set our starting dates.

### **Concluding Remarks:**

We thank God that SEECHILD as an Organization is continuously registering impressive record in the service of vulnerable children specifically those living with disabilities. All this has been possible because of our supportive and encouraging working partners namely: Mirembe Foundation, Congrava (Sisters of Breda), Wereld Missie Hulp, Tusaidiane Trust and Uganda Limited to mention but a few. We are also very grateful to our staff who generously give themselves to the service of the children.