

14th February 2020.

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE BOARD ON PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED DURING THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2019



President Y+, PLANE Director & Kagote Sec Students-SRHR Guidance

Prepared by Sam Mugisha

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PLATFORM for the NEEDY (PLANE)



Every Teen Counts Campaign In Karangura Sub County, Kabarole District

About PLATFORM for the NEEDY

PLATFORM for the NEEDY (PLANE) is a Non-Governmental organization operating in Kabarole, Rwenzori region, advocating and protecting children and women's rights through provision of prevention and multi-disciplinary intervention in investigation, information dissemination, and treatment of child sexual abuse victims in an environment that is child sensitive, supportive and violence free society.

Founded in 2010 by a group of journalists and teachers as a CBO in Kabarole district and registered as NGO with the Uganda National NGO Board under the Registration Act, Cap 113 registration No. 10895, the organization's over roll aim is HIV/AIDS Prevention Awareness Creation, peace building and conflict resolution, good governance, advocacy for the protection of children's rights with emphasis on girl child education, women and youth empowerment, caring and improving lives of vulnerable children and orphans and their maternal guardians.

With its headquarters located in Boma, Fort Portal Municipality Kabarole district, the organization also focuses on lobbying and offering assistance through our programs to the needy orphans aged 2-18 and women living with HIV/AIDS.

Organization's Philosophy/ ideology:

The organization is built on the philosophy of unity in diversity for advocacy on the rights of children and women.

Our Vision:

A just, knowledgeable and violence free society that responds to the rights of the most vulnerable population.

Our Mission:

To promote empowerment programs for better Health, Education and Livelihoods for the disadvantaged populations.

Our Motto: "An Empowered Violence Free Society"

Aims and Objectives:

- To advocate for the protection and promotion of children and women's rights.
- To build capacity that provides the rural communities to access social services like education, health, water and sanitation for improved livelihoods.
- To increase knowledge levels on health and gender related issues in communities.
- To support provision of vocational skills to orphans and school dropouts for their improved wellbeing.
- To support the education of the vulnerable orphans
- To contribute to increased livelihoods among the youth and women population

Our Partners:



"A laugh, to be joyous, must flow from a joyous heart, for without

kindness, there can be no true joy."

PLANE PROGRAMMES:

Health and Sanitation:

- Promote health education and awareness creation among rural communities.
- HIV/AIDS prevention campaigns through Radio Talk shows, radio drama and outreach community dialogues.
- Promotion of Reproductive Health activities in schools and rural communities through information dissemination about family planning, maternal health, early pregnancies, stigma and discrimination using peer education, radio drama skits and outreaches.
- Promotion of water and sanitation hygiene activities in rural communities. **Education**
- Advocating for children's education.
- Orphan and vulnerable children sponsorship program to increase access to education.
- Child monitoring and counseling in schools.
- Advocate, lobby and support for infrastructural Development like construction of classrooms, pit latrines among other structures.
- Support legal services for the vulnerable children.
 - Our focus is predominantly placed on girls in the community due to the fact that they are the most in need.

Rights Advocacy:

- Gender Based Violence (GBV) awareness creation to prevent and reduce on violence against women and girls, leadership empowerment.
- Advocate for the prevention and protection of children's rights like defilement, early marriages, rape and school dropout among others.
- Land rights advocacy campaigns for vulnerable groups like women, elderly and children whose lands are grabbed.
- Radio drama skits and outreaches on the rights of people and support for legal redress.

Livelihood:

- Women and Youth Economic Empowerment (WYEE) programs through training and skill development on income generating projects.
- Supporting women and youth groups with farm equipment to enhance their household income.



Research and Documentation:

- Conducting research about the rights of vulnerable children.
- Documentation and dissemination of research findings through leaders' conferences, meetings, forums and radio programs.

Strategies:

- Community/school dialogues
- Music and Drama groups
- Debate on community issues
- Magnet theatres
- Sports activities
- Radio talk shows
- Peer education
- School visits
- Skills Development

In every community, there is work to be done. In every nation, there are wounds to heal. In every heart, there is the power to do it. M Williamson

- mariposatrust.org



ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED DURING THE YEAR 2019:

1. FAMILY CLINIC PROGRAM.

PLATFORM for the NEEDY (PLANE) PLANE initiated the Family Clinic Radio Project. The talkshows run every Monday from 10:00pm-1:00am on Voice of Tooro radio 101fmin Fort Portal City, Western Uganda. In these talk shows, PLANE hosts different resource persons to create awareness and educate the public on the rights of children, importance of education, land rights, youth and women empowerment programs, HIV/AIDS, family planning, domestic violence mitigation measures, good nutrition, and malaria prevention, among many other health and social issues.



PLANE hosts Engabu Za Tooro and Tooro kingdom culture minister to discuss on how cultural deterioration has affected proper child upbringing.

PLANE hosts the Police Community Liaison Officer Mr.Mugisa Solomon and Grace a counselor to talk on Child Rights Violations.





Charles MwanguhyaMpagi a journalist discussing on how Youth Empowerment Reduces Radicalization and Youth unemployment

Kabarole District Chairperson Mr. Rwabuhinga Richard talking about how Youth & Women Empowerment Reduces Family Conflicts /Domestic Violence





Family Clinic Radio Talkshow on Mitigation of Gender Based Violence and Domestic Violence



Youth hosted to discuss on Youth Unemployment and participation in gov't programs can reduce the problem.

Family Clinic Radio talk-show on Family Planning



In the Financial year 2019, a total of 46 radio programs were conducted, tackling a range of topics with the aim of solving societal problems and building broken families and communities. Some of the topics discussed during our talk-shows include the following:

- Human trafficking and exploitation
- Actions taken by leaders and public
- Food and health inequalities
- National and local actions
- Community Food and Health
- Reducing health inequalities
- Suicide prevention overview
- Suicide and health inequalities
- Working together to prevent suicide
- Childhood sexual abuse
- Domestic abuse and health inequalities
- Harmful traditional practices and health inequalities
- Female genital mutilation (FGM)
- Forced marriage, teenage pregnancy and the effects
- Marriage and choosing partners
- Causes of marriage break ups/ divorce and separation
- Maintaining good marriage relationships
- Gender-based violence and learning disability – health inequalities
- Rape and sexual assault and health inequalities
- Youth and women empowerment can solve family conflicts.

- Youth unemployment and how to control it
- Commercial sexual exploitation
- Drug use and health inequalities
- Drug use local and national action
- Healthy relationships
- Sexual violence and consent
- Family violence and its impact
- Sexual harassment at home and work stations
- Victim blaming
- The media and the Internet
- Role models
- Smoking and health inequalities
- National and local actions on nutrition
- Child rights and violence prevention
- Causes of violence against child
- Types of violence against children
- How to stop child violence
- Violence against children
- Types of child violence and impact
- Causes of child violence
- Child violence statistics in Kabarole
- Adolescent reproductive health
- Factors affecting adolescent reproductive health
- Ways of promoting adolescent reproductive health
- Adolescent reproductive health needs
- Problems associated with Adolescents
- How to handle adolescents' problems

In these radio programs we also discussed on issues affecting employees at work stations for peace and harmony to prevail in our communities:



Waddell Steven (PLANE) recording listeners concerns during the Family



Dr. Reuben Tumuhimbise and Daniel (a nurse) discussing on reproductive health issues focusing on adolescents

Child Rights Advocacy program. A Voice for the voiceless



OUTCOMES:

- The people reporting to our office seeking to access services have increased.
- Many conflicting couples have had their problems solved after talking to them either face to face or on phone interaction.
- During the talk-shows, many listeners call in testifying saying that the programs have helped them rebuild their relationships.
- At least 50 percent of the parents and guardians who listen to these programs have improved on their responsibilities of caring for their children and educating them.
- The organization has received positive feedback from the audience and response done.
- The feedback through phone calls gives us a direction to solve community problems.
- The leaders we host in these talk shows have responded to the community needs.

2. RADIO DRAMA EPISODES.

PLANE started the idea of a drama group called "BAHEMUKA" literary meaning "I'm ashamed!"

The drama is aimed at creating awareness among the people on issues of Domestic Violence, Children and Women Rights Violation, HIV/AIDS, Family Planning, Conflicts and peace building, economic empowerment and service delivery among other issues of public concern that need urgent attention.

The drama group records the skits in local languages (Rutooro & Runyankorre Rukiga) that are played on VOT FM from Monday -Friday 6:00am-6:30am

The listeners are given an opportunity to interact and comment on the drama episode being aired hence promoting listeners' participation and problem solving. A total of 48 drama episodes were aired this year. The topics included but not limited to some those mentioned above.

OUTCOMES:

- Increased listeners engagement
- Testimonies by the victims of the episodes increased.
- Family conflicts reduced due to continued awareness and promoted co-existence.
- The awareness has contributed to reduced cases of Domestic Violence. This is evident by the number of the callers' testimonies.
- The number of clients coming to our office seeking for information and referrals has also included. At least 2-4 people per week come to our office or call requesting for information and referral.
- Good percent of adolescents during the school visits reveal that they have learnt a lot from the drama and can now prevent themselves against HIV/AIDS, unwanted pregnancies and teen marriages.
- The human rights episodes have empowered people to demand their rights and services from their leaders and also seek guidance.
- Improved Leaders' responsiveness when an episode focuses on that particular leader or an institution.

Drama members auditioning in VOT production studios:



Our Bahemuka team pose for a photo in VOT production studio before kicking off with auditions on one of the Saturdays









3. SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS EDUCATION

PLANE started this program of Sexual Reproductive Health Rights Education after realizing that many children in schools were dropping out, falling into early pregnancies and forced into teenage marriages by their parents and relatives.

Under this program our officers visit different selected primary and secondary schools to educate the students as a means of preventing these issues. We focus on career guidance and education about sexual reproductive health. We empower and encourage them to make good decisions for their futures. These meetings are aimed towards both male and female students. We also talk to the teachers on how to handle these adolescents, approaches of talking to them and listening to their challenges.

This year we visited 25 primary schools and 5 secondary schools in Kabarole district. We could not go to the neighboring districts of Bunyangabu, Kyenjojo and Kyegegwa because of the limited funds. It isour hope that once the funds are available these districts are also considered and covered because they have similar problems.



Tom Musinguzi (Ambassador of Young Positives with PLANE) educating about sexual stigma, discrimination and use of protection.

Tom Musinguziand Steven Waddell pose for a photo after the health education at Kagote Seed Secondary



OUTCOMES:

- Improvement of teachers in handling and responding to the students' issues
- Reduced cases of early pregnancies.
- Reduced cases of school dropout in schools visited
- Improvement of students/pupils' responsibilities
- Peer-to Peer Health groups formed
- Improved academic performance
- Teachers have started sexual education sessions every Friday
- Improved relationship between the students, pupils and teachers when it comes to issues of sexual.
- Improved relationship and coordination between PLANE and the partner schools
- Improved identification of issues to discuss on every Friday.
- Sexual Education introduced in the partner schools

CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED IN THE FIELD

- Many students revealed they fear to talk to their teachers and parents on issues of sexual education and reproductive rights
- Most teachers have no time to attend to students' issues especially reproductive health issues. Their focus is on academics.
- Some teachers shy away to talk to students about issues of reproductive health.
- Students revealed parents don't talk to them on issues of sexual reproductive health.
- Career guidance education is required in schools to prepare the students.



Steven Waddell on sexual education and career guidance at Hillside secondary in Fort Portal.

Steven Waddell on sexual education and career guidance at Kagote Seed Secondary.

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Mr. Y Musinguzi Tom, Western Ambassador, encourages students to reveal their HIV status. We encourage testing and disclosure to ensure that each person can be treated. He was born HIV positive and has lived a positive 21-years thus far. There should be no stigma and discrimination for these cases.

Mr. Mark our Project officer health education at Buhinga Primary school in Fort Portal





Dr. Sam (PLANE Volunteer) listening to the concerns of girls at Kamengo Muslim Secondary School, Fort Portal

3. MALARIA PREVENTION AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

In 2018PLANEpartnered with PACE -Uganda to create awareness on Malaria prevention and control in primary schools and communities in the districts of Bunyangabu and Kabarole.

The campaign dubbed: "Community Campaign for Social Mobilization (CCSM)" follows a survey indicating high cases of malaria as a result of poor utilization of the distributed mosquito nets in the rural areas of Kabarole and Bunyangabu districts. PACE contracted our drama to conduct outreach in communities and primary schools in these districts. It was aimed at creating awareness within the communities on malaria prevention and control. 52 schools and 61 communities were reached and sensitized on malaria prevention and control.



Drama performance on Malaria prevention. Play depicting malaria mistaken for witches in Kasenda rural sub county Kabarole

PACE stopped funding this campaign, but PLANE remained in schools sensitizing the children and the entire population in the Rwenzori region using the radio talk-shows. Most people still lack knowledge about mosquito net utilization and as a result cases of malaria have remained high in many parts of the country. 14 people die daily due to malaria.

Using the Family Clinic Radio Program on Voice of Tooro every Monday, 4 talks are conducted on proper usage of mosquito nets, prevention and control of mosquito at home, check up for malaria before treatment or self medication and impact of malaria on social and economic development.

With little funds to cater for drama members, The financial year of 2019 only allowed for20 primary schools to be reached and sensitized on malaria prevention and control. It was aimed to remind the pupils on the dangers of not sleeping under the mosquito nets. We could not reach out to further communities because of limited funds.

Some of the schools reached include Bukuuku Primary school, Nyansozi, Bwabya, Kaboyo, Nyansozi, Kaboyo primary, Kazingo SDA, and Kitumba Red, among others.

The pictures below show various different campaigns that were held in different schools and trading centres. Community members, children in particular, revealed that they lack education and awareness about malaria prevention and control.







OUTCOME:

- Kabarole district through the office of District Health Officer Dr. Mugahi Richard awarded PLANE a certificate of Excellent performance in the fight against Malaria
- Increased knowledge on mosquito net utilization.
- Reduced cases of malaria.
- A good number of people have embraced the campaign of sleeping under the treated mosquito net.
- Somme children in schools memorize out campaigns by singing.
- A good number of people can now go to health facilities to access services.

4. ORPHANS EDUCATION SPONSORSHIP:

Under this program of orphan education sponsorship, many vulnerable children approach our office requesting for assistance and be included on the program.

A total of 183 children from both primary and secondary level have put in their applications for the financial assistance. However, due to the lack of funding out of this number, PLANE was only able to sponsor 50 children. Five children are in S.4, seven others in S.1, three in S.5 and the rest are in primary school, bringing the total of children supported under this program to 50.

They are supported with scholastic materials, like exercise books, pens, pencils and soap and tuition/fees and other personal requirements.100 more children are only supported with scholastic materials like books, pens, pencils, soap and uniform.

OUTCOMES:

- Stress reduction on the guardians.
- A strategy to the kids' bright future.
- Reduced on school drop out
- Improved relationship, coordination between PLANE, children and their guardians.



Happy widow after receiving scholastic materials for her child



Akugizibwe Wilson the Project Officer of Orphans Education programs speaking to the orphans and guardians in Kabahango



PLANE Officials distributing scholastic materials to orphans



Distribution of scholastic materials at Lyembaire C.O.U. Steven Waddell handing over materials to the girl.



Madam Grace Kasabiiti PLANE Chairperson poses with children after receiving their scholastic materials at Lyembaire Church of Uganda



Children receive scholastic materials in Futi Butangwa, Fort Portal.

5. YOUNG MOTHERS EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

Under this program of the Young Mothers Empowerment Program (YMEP), PLANE mobilizes the teenage mothers in groups and equips them with knowledge and skills on income generating projects, savings and credit skills, nutrition of their children and reproductive health issues like family planning and manageable families.

During this financial year, a number of activities were conducted among the teenage mothers in Karangura sub county, Kabarole District where cases of teenage pregnancy, forced marriages and school dropouts are high.

PLANE conducted four trainingsessions on savings and credit, good home sanitation, nutrition of children and engagement in income generating activities to enhance their home income.

Two groups of the Young Mothers were formed, registered with the sub county to benefit from the government Youth Livelihood Program (YLP). The sub county Community Development Officer (CDO) has already submitted their files with photos attached to the District Community Development Officer (DCDO) for screening before they are sent to the ministry.



PLANE Officials after sensitizing the girl child on the value of education and avoiding teenage marriages



Stephen Muhumuza the Programs Officer sensitizing the young mothers on Savings and Credit in Karangura sub county

PLANE officials & teen mothers pose for a photo after training in reproductive health issues and nutrition of their children

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Reuben hands over weaving materials to women group in Kasenda sub county

Teenage Mothers and PLANE staff pose for a photo after empowerment training

OUTCOME:

- The Teenage Mothers have improved on their saving culture.
- Increased empowerment of members in income generating activities
- Increased mobilization of the members to identify problems facing them and find solutions.
- Members are equipped with knowledge and skills
- Increased nutrition among the children
- Increased uptake of Family Planning contraceptives
- Improved savings
- Members are used as ambassadors to sensitize the young girls in primary and secondary schools to concentrate on education and delay marriage

6. CHARITABLE PROJECT

PLANE as a charity organization has been conducting charitable fundraisings to raise funds to help vulnerable people with complex illnesses. In the year 2018 we organized a campaign dubbed "Save the Abandoned Children, Get Shelter". This campaign ran on Voice of Tooro, places of worship and schools. Bells of clothes, money and food among other items were collected and delivered to those in need. A good house but not permanent was constructed for the children and the husband who had abandoned the wife and children return home. They were counseled and peace restored.

In the year 2019 PLANE launched a campaign to raise funds worth shs250m to save the life of Brian Tumwebaze who was battling with a heart disease and is currently surviving after being fitted with a pace maker. Brian had an operation in Dubai and returned in August 2018. On reaching Uganda he could not get the necessary treatment and management of the pace maker programming. There was a possibility for Brian to receive treatment in Nairobi, but was still short on the funds necessary to do so. He approached PLANE and together we embarked on serious campaign on radio to raise funds. A good amount of money(30m) was raised to help Brian fly to Nairobi for treatment.

When Brian first approached us, his heart capacity was at a low 20%. He now stands at 60% and he has increased his weight to 70kg from 40kg. This is a great achievement to PLANE though the campaign still goes on social media platform. As his treatment still needs to continue, we are aiming to raise a further shs220m for his treatment.

Separately - PLANE in partnership with Kabarole district launched a campaign to raise funds through the Family Clinic radio talk-show to buy goodies for Toroo baby's home. The campaign was embraced by our listeners.

Kabarole district chairperson and PLANE staff donate to Tooro Babies Home



OUTCOME:

- Increased number of patients with complex illnesses seeking our charitable campaigns
- People's hope has been restored
- Improved treatment
- Improved care for vulnerable persons
- People/communities have learnt to solve their problems by contributing during the fundraising campaigns
- Improved on mobilization skills.



Fundraising for Brian at Kahungabunyonyi Primary



PLANE Director & Balinda Gertrude District Councilor Busoro at Kyebambe Model Primary fundraising for Brian Tumwebaze



<u>OTHER EVENTS</u>:

7. PARTICIPATION ON WORLD AIDS DAY:

- \Rightarrow PLANE has been participating in all the district events.
- ⇒ We participated in the commemoration of the International AIDS Day for the district held at Kicwamba sub county headquarters, Burahya County, Kabarole district.
 - In addition to attending, PLANE was part of the organization, contributed and our drama group performed. BAHEMUKA drama presented a skit on *"Men Involvement Can Reduce HIV /AIDS infection and stigma"*.
- \Rightarrow PLANE also contributed and participated in organizing the International Labour Day that was held in Kiko town council.

RESPONSE:

- \Rightarrow A good number of people were happy and commended our presentation that tackled issues affecting them.
- \Rightarrow Many people requested the organization to take the drama group in the rural communities to sensitize the people because they are most effected and least informed.

ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THE YEAR:

- \Rightarrow We have continued to enhance partnerships with national, local and global NGOs.
- \Rightarrow Maintained the good working relationship with the Kabarole district, Bunyangabu district local governments and Fort Portal city.
- \Rightarrow Provided scholastic materials and tuition to our children and we are glad one of our children /beneficiaries will be S.4.
- \Rightarrow Created awareness on malaria prevention in few schools.
- \Rightarrow We registered with URSB and got the certificate.
- \Rightarrow External audit carried out for two financial years (2018&2019)
- \Rightarrow Radio talks on Family Clinic and radio drama were conducted as scheduled.
- \Rightarrow Website domain was changed from <u>www.platformneedy.org</u> to <u>www.platformfortheneedy.org</u>
- \Rightarrow Website was maintained and social media platforms updated.
- \Rightarrow The Facebook page was also changed from the group to page to match with the organization name
- \Rightarrow Purchased a laptop for the office
- \Rightarrow Conducted a fundraising to collect money for the treatment of Brian Tumwebaze, though we are still aiming to raise more towards this cause.

CHALLENGES:

- \Rightarrow High expectations from the beneficiaries as many people want their children to study for free.
- \Rightarrow Limited funding to reach the targeted audience in rural communities.
- \Rightarrow PLANE has not got any reliable partner to fund its program activities.
- ⇒ We have failed to attract a sponsor for the Family Clinic radio program and BAHEMUKA radio drama. It's always threatened by management and sell the airtime to other clients. This inconsistency affects our performance and the audience.
- \Rightarrow Many people with complex illnesses are flooding our office seeking support.
- \Rightarrow The organization lacks funding to implement the planned program activities effectively.
- \Rightarrow Many people are demanding our services but we are unable to reach them due to lack of transport. We need a van to transport the actors for outreaches.

ORGANIZATION PLANNED ACTIVITIES:

- \Rightarrow We plan to reach out more primary and secondary schools amidst financial constraints.
- \Rightarrow PLANE plans to intensify social marketing strategies with international SEO companies to attract more partners and increase traffic.
- \Rightarrow Improve on the local resource mobilization to raise funds. Local fundraisings for the complex illnesses.
- \Rightarrow Intensify on community dialogues and drama performance in rural communities.
- \Rightarrow Continue with proposal writing and lobbying for funding.
- \Rightarrow Want to start video production on the socioeconomic challenges or issues of the communities.
- \Rightarrow We want to advertise and attract onsite and online volunteers to help us market and promote the organization brand.
- \Rightarrow PLANE will conduct more sensitization trainings on the rights of children and women using drama and community dialogues.
- \Rightarrow Intensify on visits in primary and secondary schools in the districts and carry out drama outreach program on the importance of education, dangers of unwanted pregnancies, school dropout and reproductive health.
- \Rightarrow Purchase a vehicle to enable transportation of our drama group and a motorcycle for our staff to monitor program activities.
- \Rightarrow Continue supporting a manageable number of school-going children with scholastic materials and fees.
- ⇒ Continue carrying out motivational conferences on job creation, economic empowerment, creativity and mindset tuning, especially to our youth and school dropouts using the approach of motivational speakers, mentors and resourceful and successful persons.

APPRECIATION & APPEAL

- \Rightarrow Appreciation to all the board members, Board of Trustees and staff for the wonderful work done voluntarily amidst financial challenges. We pray we shall get funding.
- \Rightarrow We appreciate the work done by Dr.Fr. Pascal Kabura Adyeeri, a board member, for his inspirational messages for our social media platforms. He has also been good in guiding us on how to conduct our radio talk-shows and drama productions.
- \Rightarrow Thanks to Madam Grace Karungi Mugasa who also guides us on what projects to do, how to go about them and also lobbying for us.
- \Rightarrow Karungi Grace has been supporting us during the fundraisings we conduct to collect for the patients experiencing complex illnesses.
- \Rightarrow We appreciate the district of Kabarole, Bunyangabu and Fort Portal municipality for accepting to work with us.
- \Rightarrow We thank all for the moral and spiritual support.
- \Rightarrow We appeal for guidance, connections to friends and partners in similar programs, recommendations when needs arise, joint monitoring of our activities and owning this organization for sustainability.
- \Rightarrow Together We Can Transform Communities.

May the Almighty God Bless you.

"For God and My Country."



Prepared by: Mugisha Sam (Monitoring&Evaluation Manager) Reviewed by: Mr. Ainganiza Steven Waddell (Executive Director) Edited by: Diandra Rodrigues (Volunteer Intern)