## **Youth Equipped With Financial Literacy And Life Skills**



PLANE Staff After Training

Realizing the pressing need for youths to be equipped with financial literacy and life skills to help them grow into focused and responsible citizens, **Platform for the Needy** decided to organize the **Youth Empowerment Conference**, in which we partnered with **Voice of Tooro 101** and **Bringing Hope to Community Uganda.** Our first destination of this long journey is at the Kyebambe Model Primary School in the beautiful land of Fort Portal Tourism City and Kabarole District, Rwenzori Region.

Organized under the theme "Value Yourself For a Better Generation", the conference was designed in a way to ensure that young people attending are sufficiently equipped with skills of handling daily challenges, financial literacy and management, sexual reproductive health, digital technologies, and social media.



Students Attending the Conference



Gorretti Kajumba, Project Officer, distributing refreshments to students









## Youth are excited about PLANE projects

Waddell Steven, the Executive Director of PLANE, says that the conference targeted young people of around the age of 13 to 25 with the aim of equipping them with knowledge and skills, and strengthening their capacity to identify, understand, and handle challenges faced in the modern age. He reminded them to be focused of their studies or development plans if they are out of school, avoid the aggressive men who will potentially spoil their future, ideally abstain from sex till they complete education and if not, at least have it with protection. "Of recent, during the covid 19 pandemic lockdown, we've experienced a surge in teenage pregnancies and early marriages. These girls have lost their education but if they abstained or had protected sex, they would have not been victims of the vice," Waddell said.



## We're a voice for the voiceless. We empower communities with information. We believe in a conflict-free environment.

"I would think that if you understood what sex education is, you would get down on your knees and worship a condom." Mr. Waddell Steven PLANE Director quoted Jane Fonda

In the meantime, he continued with his explanation: "Never forget that walking away from something unhealthy is brave even if you stumble a little on your way out the door."



"When it comes to abuse, you believe there's no way out. There is always help. There is always a way out."

With our primary mission to protect your hope for a better future, for the potential escape from society's seemingly aloof attitude, PLANE is here to help. **PLANE is here to be YOUR way out.** Contact us with **no hesitation** in times of needs at: <a href="https://www.platformfortheneedy.org">www.platformfortheneedy.org</a>



**Tusiime Bylon**, an auditor and financial advisor and General Manager at Kihondo SACC, advised students to **observe financial management**, **engage in income generating activities at home and budget for the little money** they get from parents either in form of pocket money and earning from a project.



"Lack of money is no obstacle. Lack of an idea is an obstacle."

*Mr. Karatunga John*, a head teacher and head of fathers Union Rwenzori diocese, asked the youth to <u>be principled</u>, <u>focused</u>, <u>and use their freedom</u> to make informed choices wisely to avoid being victims of school dropout, unwanted pregnancy, and early marriages.

"I advise you to be disciplined, obedient to your parents and the community and above all stay focused on your education and avoid bad peer groups that lead you to immorality" He went on.









Mr.Karatunga John, Head teacher chairperson Fathers Union Rwenzori diocese, facilitated the conference.

Speaker after speaker, the youth were excited to have such an energizing and educative conference and even called for more and outreached in the rural areas to end domestic violence, drug abuse, and youth unemployment.

**Peter Kabbinika**, a youth from Kicwamba sub county, Kabarole district, observed the need for more youth training in different communities to enable youth to gain the skills development and financial literacy, as well as entrepreneurship.

"I would like to ask the youth in this conference and those outside there to work hard and read books on finance management and entrepreneurship. This will be an eye opener to starting small businesses with the little funds and resources available," Peter said.





Peter Kibbinaka, who started a small restaurant with little money.

During the conference it was agreed that such youth conferences and training should continue to be held quarterly whenever students are on holidays and PLANE and partners should scale these programs to the rural villages and schools.

"Lack of money is the root cause of all evil. Youth need Financial Literacy Empowerment trainings"



The mind is a powerful force. It can eslave us or empower us. It can plunge us into the depths of misery or take us to the heights of Ecstacy. Learn to use the power wisely.