

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL GLOBAL GRANT - FRIENDSFOREVER AFRICA ALUMNI SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS

Background

Under the Rotary Grant GG#1420132 in August 2015, a team of 10 young people, 2 group Leaders from Youth Passionate Organization Uganda and 1 adult from Rotary Club of Kajjansi attended a Friends Forever Life Raft program for a period of 3 weeks.

On return to Uganda, the group embarked on social action projects to benefit the community, create a practical opportunity to utilize the skills learned and increase the number of people touched by the program. The following are the social action projects;

Peace day 2015

In 2001, the member states of United Nations unanimously adopted the first ever annual day of Global cease fire and non-violence on 21st September –Peace day. Globally recognized as the International Day of Peace by the UN, peace day is devoted to “strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.” The FF alumni in partnership with the US Peace-Corps volunteers, Friends Forever, Rotary Club of Kajjansi, AIDS Information Center and support from the slum community of Kasokoso organized and coordinated Peace day 2015, dubbed Music for peace and life 2015. The project was conducted on 27th September which was attributed to the limited time for planning, since the group had just returned from the US.

The purpose of the event was to build a platform from which to further address issues that threaten peace amongst youth in the slum community. The event succeeded in providing a positive and safe platform for youth in the slum. The group blended the skills attained from the training into music, dance and drama to facilitate dialogues with the groups of children, youths and adults.

Thematic areas covered

- Reproductive health/disease prevention
- Leadership and conflict resolution
- Entrepreneurship

Outcomes

- 700 people reached with messages of Peace through dance, music, games and activities
- 450 people engaged in Dialogues about Peace
- 250 people tested for HIV and 11 who tested positive were linked to care for treatment.
- 23 women were screened for cervical cancer.
- 7 women received Family Planning Services



YPO team entertains participants



Shadia Mirembe leads a teamwork



Abraham and the partners conduct a dialogue session



Awareness and understanding Peace locally



Alumni members present

1. Ikiriza Abraham
2. Sekamanya Moses
3. Ssebba Abdul
4. Prince Abraham
5. Mirembe Shadia
6. Kamyuka Yahaya
7. Odyek Maxwell
8. Richard Lubega
9. Sarah Nanyonjo
10. Mulindwa Micheal

School visits project

The group alumni have conducted Music, dance and drama workshops in both primary and secondary schools.

Objectives

- To support children improve self confidence and interpersonal skills
- To promote diversity and inclusion
- To build relationships amongst the children
- To build a positive space where children can have fun and their voices be heard
- Help to nurture the talent and potential of kids in music and dance.

Program activities

- Poetry
- Music and dance
- Presentation/speech
- Teamwork/games
- Drama

Outcomes: Children reported to be likely or very likely to stay in school, overcome shyness, realize and understand the concept of what is fair and what is unfair(conflict resolution) and introduce changes in their inter- personal skills that will become their base for their personality in future using the knowledge gained from the workshops.

Children and the FF Alumni improved their creativity and teamwork.

Broadened knowledge on using music, dance, drama, and poems for social good



Prince Sebbi Abraham during the school visits.

Above (Right): A girl at Rock foundation school leads the fellows to present a song at the school's speech day

4 schools reached

SN	SCHOOL	LOCATION
1	Naalya Secondary school	Naalya, Kampala
2	Rock Foundation	Banda, Kampala
3	Misindye Church of Uganda Pre-school	Mukono
4	Royal Palm Academy	Seeta, Mukono

The school visits were facilitated by Prince Abraham.

GLOW/BRO mini-camp

GLOW means Girls Leading Our World

BRO means Boys Reaching Out

The mini-camp was organized by US Peace-Corps Uganda, at CEDA International offices in Kawempe Kampala. The mini-camp aimed at giving an opportunity to the trainees to gain practical experience working with youth in an out of school setting. 50 youth were reached with sessions on gender equality, professional communication, goal setting, HIV myths and facts and power of values. With invitation, the FF alumni used the skills and knowledge acquired from the FF training to facilitate a session on the power of values. The session aimed at empowering youth with the key life skills that will stimulate their emotional, social growth and personal development so that they can confidently negotiate life options with clear values of empathy, courtesy, integrity, commitment, self confidence, positive attitude, and sacrifice.



Abraham Ikiriza facilitating a session on the power of values

Life Skills 4Peace Program

The group with the support from the Rotary Grant organized and managed a life skills 4Peace program. It was conducted in Kasokoso slum area as a follow up to the Peace day 2015. The goal was to equip youth with skills to improve their livelihoods and create a positive change in the slum. The participants were selected from the community through an application procedure. The local leaders and youth representatives at the local council took an active role in this process and helped in identifying the youth that demonstrated need, they were not necessarily very confident or good communicators but exhibited leadership potentials.

For 3 days the following were the thematic areas covered

- Savings
- Business start ups management
- Team building
- Power of positive attitude
- Leadership
- Conflict resolution



Outcome

- 35 youth graduated through the program(51% Females, 49% Males)
- Over 85% broadened their knowledge and confidence in business management
- 100% inspired and motivated to start savings and engage in more productive activities
- Enhanced the abilities of participants to articulate their priorities , organize and generate collective action to improve their community
- Leadership skills acquired by the both the participants and the YPO council team



Alumni members present

1. Ikiriza Abraham
2. Sekamanya Moses
3. Ssebibi Abdul
4. Prince Abraham
5. Mirembe Shadia
6. Kamyuka Yahaya
7. Odyek Maxwell
8. Richard Lubega
9. Sarah Nanyonjo
10. Mulindwa Michael