



ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS (RYLA) 2025 REPORT FOR D9213

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Executive Summary

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2025 for District 9213 was a multi-format leadership development program held under the theme “Passion, Action, and Reaction.” that saw **448 youths in total** transformed. The main event took place from January 10th to 12th at Kaazi Camping Grounds, drawing 240 youth leaders from 60 Rotary Clubs across Uganda. The three-day experience offered a blend of leadership masterclasses, team-building challenges, skilling workshops, and community project design. Participants explored essential topics including self-discovery, emotional intelligence, mental wellness, financial literacy, teamwork, and adaptability in the age of AI.

Standout features of the camp included:

- **Leadership sessions** by experienced facilitators such as Dr. Ritah Sonko, Ethan Musolini, Hellen Kirunda, Molly Nalunga, David Kabiswa, Gava Ibrahim and Katende Nesta.
- **Outdoor team challenges**, including forest navigation and team-building activities.
- **Skill-building workshops** on soap making, paper crafts, used plastic dust bins and sanitary towel production.
- A powerful **address by Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick**, who emphasized digital literacy and effective communication.
- The **project pitch sessions** where teams presented social impact ideas.
- A visit from **Hon. Dr. Balaam Barugahara**, who encouraged youth to actively participate in national development.

On **February 17th, 2025**, the district hosted a dedicated **Interact RYLA** at **Akaama Resort in Kiira**, hosted by the **Rotary Club of Bweyogerere Namboole**. The one-day event that was opened by **DG Anne Nkutu** convened **101 Interactors from six schools** and focused on instilling leadership at an early stage. Youth participated in sessions on goal setting, teamwork, emotional resilience, financial literacy and emerging technologies. Speakers such as Ms. Hellen Kirunda, Gava Ibrahim, David Kabiswa, and Dr. Ritah Sonko engaged the students through interactive discussions and reflection. The day ended with recognition of standout participants, officiated by **PDG Mike Kennedy Sebalu** highlighting the future of Rotary leadership.

Most notably, RYLA 2025 closed with a **historic inclusive event for the hearing impaired** on **April 26th, 2025**, at **Wakiso Secondary School of the Deaf** that convened **107 participants**. Organized by **District RYLA team** in collaboration with the **Rotary Club of Kiwenda** and the **Deaf Sign Alliance**, this groundbreaking event embodied Rotary’s evolving commitment to accessibility and inclusion. Sessions on self-discovery, mental health, and teamwork were translated through sign language interpreters, with facilitation by Counselor Molly Nalunga, David Kabiswa, and Dr. Ritah Sonko. One of the most inspiring moments was the chartering of the **Interact Club of Wakiso Secondary School of the Deaf**, with **Kalokwera Joel** inaugurated as the first club president. His words echoed the spirit of the day: “Believe in yourself and lead with confidence.”

Across all events, RYLA 2025 has proven to be more than just a training, it was a **movement of empowerment, innovation, and inclusion**, redefining leadership across District 9213.



Acknowledgements

We extend our deepest appreciation to **District Governor Anne Nkutu**, and **Past District Governors Mike Kennedy Sebalu and John Ndamira-Magezi**, whose strategic guidance and leadership were instrumental in the success of RYLA 2025. The team that led the Rotary International President's visit led by PDGs Kenneth Mugisha and Francis Xavier Sentamu for believing in us and giving us the opportunity to host the RIP to showcase the people of action that we are. Our heartfelt thanks go to the **Rotary Clubs of Bweyogerere Namboole and Kiwenda**, whose unwavering support made both the Interact and Inclusive RYLA events possible.

We further recognize the invaluable contributions of the youth service team led by Edgar Nsereko, **all facilitators, sign language interpreters, speakers, and organizing teams** who generously gave their time, expertise, resources and passion to shape the next generation of leaders. RYLA 2025 stands as a testament to Rotary's power to unite, uplift, and inspire leaders regardless of background or ability.

1. INTRODUCTION

Empowering the Next Generation: RYLA 2025 D9213

The **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2025** was a **transformational** three-day leadership experience, held at the breathtaking **Kaazi Camping Grounds** from **January 10th to 12th, 2025**. This **dynamic boot camp** brought together **240 young leaders**, sponsored by various **Rotary Clubs**, to cultivate leadership skills, foster teamwork, and ignite a passion for service.

With the support of 10 dedicated team leaders, attendees engaged in high-energy leadership training, hands-on community service, and interactive team challenges, all designed to shape them into the changemakers of tomorrow.

The Committee:

The success of **RYLA2025** was driven by a passionate and committed team that worked tirelessly to ensure a seamless and impactful program. Each member brought their unique strengths and dedication, making the launch and upcoming activities promising.

- **Chair: Maureen Kawombe Tumwebaze (RC Naalya States)** -A visionary leader who steered the team with passion and excellence, ensuring every detail was well-coordinated.
- **Vice-Chair: Edgar Kamoga (RAC Bulindo)** - A dynamic force whose energy and commitment kept the team motivated and on track.
- **Secretary: Stephen Beyanga (RAC Mulago School of Nursing and Midwifery)** - The backbone of the team, ensuring accurate documentation from registration to reporting.
- **Program Director: Noah Ntesibe (RC Gayaza)** - A mastermind in planning, curating impactful sessions to shape future leaders.

- **Publicity: Mark Asimwe (RC Saturday E-Jazz)** - A creative strategist who ensured RYLA's message reached far and wide.
- **Publicity: Brendah Kwiocwiny (RAC Kampala North)** -A dedicated promoter, adding vibrance and engagement to RYLA's outreach.



Event Key Highlights:

- **A Historic Visit by RI President Stephanie Urchick** – A monumental moment as **Rotary International President Stephanie** graced the event, engaging with young leaders, sharing her vision for **Rotary's global impact**, and inspiring participants to embrace service and leadership.
- **The skilling program** that saw many rotaractors learning new skills, these were later transformed into projects that are new innovative ideas to solve community problems .
- **Hon. Balaam Barugahara's Inspiring Address** – The **Minister of State for Gender, Labour, and Social Development (Children and Youth Affairs)** honored the event, delivering a powerful message on **resilience through life's challenges**.
- **The Ultimate Forest Challenge** – A thrilling outdoor adventure that pushed participants to their limits, fostering problem-solving, resilience, and teamwork.
- **Leadership Masterclasses & Panel Discussions** – Thought-provoking sessions featuring **renowned leaders, Rotarians, and industry experts**, offering insights into **leadership, innovation, and social impact**.
- **Community Impact Project** – A hands-on service project initiative where participants collaborated to make a **lasting difference in the local community**.
- **The RYLA Awards** – Recognizing and celebrating all outstanding individuals who demonstrated **exceptional leadership, teamwork, and service**.

RYLA 2025 was more than just an event it was a **life-changing experience**, equipping young leaders with the **skills, confidence, and networks** to drive positive change in their communities and beyond.

2. OBJECTIVES OF RYLA 2025

- **Self-Discovery & Leadership Growth:** Empowering young leaders to explore their



strengths and enhance their leadership skills.

- **Collaboration & Teamwork:** Encouraging participants to work together in diverse groups.
- **Innovation & Adaptability:** Providing training on embracing change, leveraging AI, and financial literacy.
- **Community Impact:** Developing and pitching sustainable social impact projects.

Theme: Passion, Action, and Reaction in Leadership

Passion is the driving force behind purposeful leadership. When young leaders are passionate about a cause or goal, they are more likely to commit to it with dedication and enthusiasm. This theme encourages them to discover and cultivate their passions, leading to more engaged and impactful leadership.

However, **Action** is what transforms dreams into reality. Taking initiative, strategic planning, and perseverance are essential in turning aspirations into tangible outcomes. By focusing on action, young leaders are empowered to move beyond vision and take meaningful steps toward change.

Equally important is **Reaction**; the ability to adapt, respond, and evolve in the face of challenges. Leadership requires resilience and flexibility, ensuring that young leaders can navigate obstacles, incorporate feedback, and adjust their strategies effectively. Reaction also extends to the broader impact of their actions, emphasizing ethical and mindful leadership. Understanding how decisions influence others and the environment fosters a leadership style that is both responsible and transformative.

Through **Passion, Action, and Reaction**, young leaders develop the skills and mindset needed to drive positive change in their communities and beyond.

3. PRE EVENT ACTIVITIES

Planning and Meetings

The organizing team held monthly Zoom meetings to ensure the effective planning and execution of RYLA 2025. These meetings brought together key stakeholders, including committee members, Rotary Club representatives, former RYLA attendees, and various officials who provided guidance and oversight.

Additionally, the team conducted approximately four site visits to assess potential venues before finalizing on Kaazi Camping Grounds.

The selection was based on several factors:

- Proximity - Convenient location for participants and organizers.
- Ease of Transportation - Accessible by road, ensuring smooth logistics.
- Access for the RI President - Consideration was given to the possibility of hosting the RI President, though their attendance was not yet confirmed.

During these meetings and visits, the team also:

- Evaluated and vetted service providers.
- Negotiated with potential sponsors.
- Eliminated service providers who did not meet the standards or exceeded the budget constraints.

This thorough process ensured the selection of reliable service providers and partners for a successful RYLA 2025.

Mega Launch of RYLA 2024/2025

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) 2025 for District 9213 was officially launched at the Rotary Club of Gayaza on July 21st, 2024, setting the stage for an impactful leadership experience. Despite the chilly weather, keynote speaker Ethan Musolini energized attendees with an engaging session, reinforcing the theme *"Passion, Action, Reaction"*. His message emphasized the power of personal growth, resilience, and purpose-driven leadership. District Rotaract Representative Simeo Ssebukulu highlighted the importance of integrating into RYLA the Rotary and Rotaract values, encouraging participants to stand out through character and proper communication. The Chief Guest, Past District Governor Dr. Mike Kennedy Sebalu, applauded the event's organization and stressed the significance of timely action in leadership. The launch concluded with a strong commitment to mentorship, sponsorships, and a challenge for young leaders to prove their capabilities, setting a dynamic tone for RYLA 2025.



Club Activations

The **RYLA activation campaign** reached over **55 Rotary clubs**, serving as both a **motivational tool** and an **educational initiative** to help Rotarians understand RYLA's purpose and impact. Charter President **Mark Asimwe** emphasized the urgency of youth empowerment in his talk, *"Today is Yesterday's Tomorrow."* The **district-wide engagement**, led by **CP Maureen Kawombe**, **Rotarian Noah Ntensibe**, and **Rotaractor Stephen Beyanga**, fostered commitment to youth leadership, with clubs showing enthusiasm and hospitality. A **RYLA flag**, symbolizing unity and purpose, was displayed at every activation. A key highlight was the **World Interact Day engagement at the Rotary Club of Bweyogerere-Namboole**, where Interactors discussed **self-discovery, goal-setting, and resilience**. The team also stressed **youth protection** and encouraged **community sponsorship** to extend RYLA's impact beyond Rotary circles. With the **RYLA event held from January 10th-12th, 2025**, under the theme **"Passion, Action, Reaction,"** featuring **workshops, mentorship, and team-building**, these activations successfully solidified RYLA as a **transformative movement** for

developing ethical and capable young leaders.



Selection of Team Leaders and Participant Grouping

The organizing committee carefully selected 10 team leaders from a pool of approximately 15 members representing various clubs. These leaders were chosen through referrals and underwent a vetting process, which included submitting their CVs via an online registration form. They played a pivotal role in guiding participants throughout the event. The team also went through training on the Rotary learning centers on RYLA and youth Protection.

Using registration links shared with different clubs, participants were assigned to 10 teams before the event. The team leaders included:

1. Raegan Sserwadda, RAC Kampala Kibuli	6. Linda Atulinda, RAC Kampala City
2. David Atuhairwe, RAC Kampala Sesse Islands	7. Mirembe Joan Florence, RAC Clerk International University
3. Atukunda Barungi, RAC Makerere University	8. Gillian Ashaba Ahebwa, RAC Kampala the Core
4. Mumbere Kitembo Walter, RAC Kampala North	9. Joanna Tendo Nasirumbi, RAC Mukono Central
5. Neriah Caroline Nakiberu, RAC Bweyogerere Namboole	10. Oscar Tumusiime, RAC Kentim University

Grouping participants in such events provides several advantages:

- **Simplifies the registration and coordination process-** Clustering the participants



enables easy registration and coordination of the participants even before the event.

- **Encourages teamwork and collaboration** -Participants build strong connections and learn to work together.
- **Enhances leadership skills** -Each group is led by a team leader, fostering leadership growth.
- **Facilitates smooth coordination** - Organizers can efficiently manage activities and monitor engagement.
- **Promotes diversity and inclusivity** -Groups include participants from different backgrounds, encouraging cultural exchange.

4. RISK ANALYSIS

Ranked Risks and Mitigation Strategies

1. Club Swapping After Program Start

- *Risk:* Some clubs attempted to swap participants after the program had already started, creating challenges as the database, name tags, registration, and next of kin information had already been finalized.
- *Mitigation:* A strict policy was enforced to prevent last-minute changes, and clubs were reminded in advance that participant details could not be altered after registration closure.

2. Late Registration

- *Risk:* Some clubs delayed in finalizing their participants, leading to logistical challenges.
- *Mitigation:* The organizing team proactively called all clubs that had registered and urged them to clear their members on time. A firm deadline was enforced, and a late registration link was created to help improve planning and logistics.

3. Logistical Challenges

- *Risk:* Difficulty in coordinating accommodation, meals, and transportation given the distance of the site.
- *Mitigation:* Advance site visits, pre-event planning meetings, and clearly assigned roles for the organizing team streamlined logistics. All service providers were thoroughly vetted.

4. Health and Medical Issues

- *Risk:* Unexpected illnesses or injuries among participants.
- *Mitigation:* Medical personnel were on standby throughout the event, and all participants were briefed on health and safety protocols.

5. Weather Conditions

- *Risk:* Rain or extreme temperatures affecting outdoor activities.
- *Mitigation:* Tents were hired to provide shelter, and all participants were advised to prepare for potentially harsh weather conditions.

6. Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

- *Risk:* Some participants exhibited signs of emotional stress, trauma, or mental health struggles, particularly during sessions involving self-reflection and personal experiences.
- *Mitigation:* The **Toli Wekka team**, specialists in mental health support, were partnered



with and provided on-site emotional support and counseling. Safe spaces were created for participants who needed to decompress or speak confidentially with trained professionals.

5. EVENT OVERVIEW

Recruitment of Participants

Participants were recruited through various **Rotary-sponsored youth programs, including Rotaract and Interact** alongside recommendations from community leaders.

A registration link was created that collected information about the participants including their next of kin , sponsoring clubs,contacts, Diet restrictions to inform the menu, any illnesses too.

Event Financing

The event was financed through contributions from the District 9213 , and sponsoring Clubs that sponsored all the participants. All funds were channeled through the district account both at receipt and expending. Complete accountability was made to the secretariat and treasury and the audited accounts will be presented, along others to the delegates of the 101 District Conference. The sponsoring clubs are listed below:

Rotary Club Name	Participants	Rotary Club Name	Participants	Rotary Club Name	Participants
Kampala-Central	20	Kiboga	4	Upper Kololo	2
Kira	19	Kyambogo-Kampala	4	Kisaasi-Kyanja-Kampala	2
Kiwatule	10	Gulu	4	Bukoto	2
Kampala-Ssese Islands	10	Sonde	4	Nsansa	2
Kampala Day Break	8	Kampala Nalya	4	Nansana Metropolitan	2
Kololo-Kampala	8	Kampala City	4	Kampala Early Bird	2
Kampala	8	Kulambiro	3	Bulindo	2
Kiteezi	8	Nakawa	3	Kireka Movers	2
Kasangati	7	Kampala 7 Hills	3	Kampala-West	2
Kitante	6	Najjeera	3	Lugogo Mango Tree	2
Makindye	6	Naalya States	3	Kyadondo	1
Sunrise-Kampala	6	Kampala Springs	3	Mukono Central	1
Kampala South	5	Ntinda	3	Bugolobi Morningtide	1
Namugongo	5	Kampala Maisha	3	E-Club of Naguru	1
Kampala-East	5	Port-Bell	2	E-Club of Uganda Global	1
Gayaza	5	Kampala	1	Kampala-Mahaba	1



Rotary Club Name	Participants	Rotary Club Name	Participants	Rotary Club Name	Participants
		Metropolitan			
Nansana	5	E-Club of Ntinda	1	Kampala Morning Stars	1
Bweyogerere Namboole	5	Ntinda Metropolitan	1	Mukono-Namilyango	1
Kampala Life Stars	1	Kyanja Metro	1	Matugga	1
Wobulenzi	1	Mbale	1		

Location

The event was held at **Kaazi Camping Grounds, Uganda**, offering an immersive outdoor leadership experience.

6. PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 1: Discovering the Leader Within (January 10, 2025)

Participants arrived at Kaazi and settled into their teams. The morning started with tent mounting and bonding exercises, which encouraged communication and teamwork. Ground rules were established to set expectations for discipline and engagement.

The first session, "**Unveiling the True You: The Power of Self-Discovery**," led by **Ms. Hellen Kirunda**, guided participants through self-reflection activities, helping them identify personal strengths and leadership styles. This session was held at the Kaazi football grounds where the facilitator led the team into group games

After a team-based lunch, **Mr. David Kabiswa** facilitated "**Together We Rise: Mastering the Art of Teamwork**," where participants engaged in problem-solving challenges that emphasized trust and collaboration.

In the afternoon, **Dr. Ritah Sonko** led "**Unlocking Youth Potential: Enhancing Emotional Intelligence & Resilience**," incorporating interactive exercises such as **Puzzle Wars**, which tested participants' ability to stay composed under pressure.

The day concluded with the **Forest Challenge**, where participants navigated physical obstacles that reinforced adaptability and perseverance. The evening **Campfire Night** featured storytelling and fun games for the teams to discuss and get to know each other better.

Day 2: Building Bridges and Adapting to Change (January 11, 2025)

The day began with **morning exercise** led by **Coach Nodman**, promoting physical fitness and mental alertness.



Breakfast was followed by **project planning discussions**, setting the stage for group presentations.

The first session, **"Beyond Dreams: Crafting Clear and Achievable Goals,"** by **Mr. Ethan Musolini**, focused on setting SMART goals. Participants created personal leadership plans, outlining actionable steps towards their aspirations.

In the late morning, **Mr. Katende Nesta Paul** delivered **"Thriving in the Age of AI: Adapting and Excelling in a Changing World,"** exposing participants to emerging technologies and ways to stay relevant in an evolving job market.

After lunch, the **"Money Matters: Simple Steps to Financial Freedom"** session by the **Uganda Institute of Bankers** introduced participants to essential financial literacy concepts such as budgeting and investment planning.

The afternoon was dedicated to **skill training workshops**, including **soap making, paper bag crafting, recycling, and sanitary towel production**, equipping participants with practical entrepreneurial skills.

A key highlight of the day was the visit from **Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick**, who delivered an inspiring address to the young leaders. She emphasized the importance of embracing technology meaningfully and honing effective communication skills to enhance employability.

Urchick highlighted that proficiency in modern technologies, coupled with strong speaking and writing abilities, are critical assets in today's job market. She encouraged the youth to leverage these skills to create opportunities and drive positive change within their communities. She also awarded certificates to the Organising committee thanking them for the good work done.

The day ended with a lively **Talent Show & Dinner**, where teams showcased creative performances and were judged for these performances in regards to how they utilised the stage, team work, and also idea authenticity.

Day 3: Culmination and Celebration (January 12, 2025)

On Day 3 the event was graced by the presence of **Hon. Dr. Balaam Barugahara Ateenyi**, the **State Minister for Youth and Children Affairs**.

In his address, Hon. Dr. Balaam emphasized his commitment to serving Uganda's youth with patriotism and empowerment. He pledged to listen to the concerns of young people, engage with them actively, and support their personal growth to enhance their quality of life. He also highlighted the importance of utilizing available resources and opportunities to drive socio-economic transformation among the youth. Hon. Dr. Balaam's presence and insights added significant value to the event, inspiring participants to take proactive steps toward leadership and community development.



During **"Shaping the Future: Team Presentations & RYLA Outcomes,"** teams presented their takeaways and leadership plans, highlighting key lessons from the camp. This was followed by **"Pitch Perfect,"** where teams showcased their social impact projects to a panel of judges that included DGN Gerald Obai and Vice-Grants Chair Eng Emmy Kwesiga.

The event concluded with an **Award Ceremony & Closing Remarks** by **DG Anne Nkutu**, where all participants and projects were recognized and she also handed over Certificates to all the participants while appreciating the team leaders for the great work in coordinating the event.

In the afternoon, participants departed, carrying forward the lessons and friendships built during RYLA 2025.

7. PARTICIPATION OVERVIEW

A total of **240 participants** attended, representing **60 Rotary Clubs**. Participants were **divided into 10 teams**, each led by a trained team leader.

8. GROUP PROJECTS & PROGRESS UPDATES

Group	Project Title	Description	Progress
Brainiacs	World Without Waste	Recycling and waste management initiative	Awareness campaign launched
Luminaries	Auto-Immune Awareness and Fundraising Campaign	This campaign will look at creating awareness about the presence of the different autoimmune conditions aimed at fighting off the stigmatization, this will aim to build on the Rotary area of focus:	Two schools approached and accepted to partner
Actuators	Mpa Akaccupa	MPA AKACCUPA envisions a cleaner and more sustainable Kampala, where plastic waste is repurposed into valuable infrastructure materials, empowering communities through employment, environmental responsibility, and long-term economic growth.	Two partnerships established



Group	Project Title	Description	Progress
Alpha	WASH Project in Nakivale Refugee settlement camp	To improve water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities in schools within refugee camps, fostering a healthier learning environment and enhancing quality of life in alignment with Rotary's 7 Areas of Focus.	Awaiting implementation
Crème D'la Crème	Project Mulumba: Empowering Lives, Building Futures	The project is designed to address critical needs in health, education, environmental sustainability, and child protection for approximately 150 children, including children of single mothers.	Seeking additional funding
Legacy Builders	Tunga UG: Empowering Through Fashion, Skills, and Opportunity	to empower youth to achieve financial independence, establish sustainable livelihoods, and elevate Uganda's fashion scene locally and globally.	Pilot project launched
Synergy	Roots of Life Project	The project seeks to address pressing issues affecting the community, including education, health, and environmental conservation. This will be done every year so that it can generate impact to the community.	Under implementation by these collaborating rotaract clubs; Gayaza ,Namasuba , Bwerenga ,Sonde ,Munyonyo Lake View ,Nsasa, Kabalagala ,Jinja, Njeru, Nsanji , Bulindo
Ubuntu	Twaake 256:Repellant Candle Project Proposal.	The repellent candle project aims to create a high-quality, eco-friendly product that meets the growing demand for natural and effective insect repellents. Our team will conduct extensive research and development to ensure the candle's efficacy, safety and aesthetic appeal.	Being implemented by The Rotaract Club of Nakawa Vocational
Phoenix Squad	Green Livelihood Initiative for	This initiative addresses critical challenges in Uganda, such as improper waste disposal, youth	Seeking technical guidance





Group	Project Title	Description	Progress
	Sustainable Waste Management	unemployment, and environmental degradation, particularly following the closure of the Kiteezi dumping ground.	
Trailblazers	The Youth Trail Project	To skill 250 young people from each district of Wakiso, Bukedia, Gulu and Oyam in liquid soap making, baking, yorghurt making and IT skills and provide Mentorship and teaching IT Skills to them as well in order to empower them for self sufficiency	Implementation ongoing

The above groups went on to present their projects online to experienced rotarians that included teams from the TRF and Grants committee. The projects were later show cases at the House of Friendship at DISCON 100 , a first attempt for RYLA in our district.

9. FINANCING

All finances were from **rotary clubs** that paid for each attendee. Special mention to **Toli Wekka** Foundation for providing on site counselling for free that helped subsidize this cost , **Nirvana** that gave us Water at a discount , **C CARE** that provided medical care at a subsidised price and **TTB** investments that gave us stationery at a discount.

10. MEDICAL SERVICES REPORT

C-Care provided **medical services**, supporting early disease detection, preventive care, and lifestyle at RYLA 2025.

Key Statistics:

- **111 participants** received medical care.
- **38% female, 62% male** beneficiaries.
- **Day 2 recorded the highest number of cases**, particularly for blood sugar tests, HIV counseling, GIT issues, and upper respiratory tract infections.

Medical Services Breakdown:

- **Vitals (BP, Weight):** Provided across all days, peaking on Day 2.
- **Doctor Consultations:** Consistently available throughout the camp.
- **Random Blood Sugar Tests:** Highest on Day 2 (41 tests).
- **Malaria RDTs:** Conducted in low numbers (3 total).
- **HIV Testing & Counseling:** Peak on Day 2 (32 tests).
- **Wound Dressing & Allergic Reactions:** Minimal but noted across days.



- **Deep Tissue Massage:** Most requested on Day 3 (16 cases).
- **Emergency Cases (Graded Below):** Included asthma attacks, severe migraines, GIT issues, sprains, and URTIs.

Grading of Emergency Cases

Emergency Type	Number of Cases	Severity Level (1 - Mild, 5 - Critical)
Acute Asthma Attack	1	★★★★☆ (Severe, required urgent care)
Severe Migraines	16	★★★☆☆ (Moderate, managed with medication)
Upper Respiratory Infections	32	★★☆☆☆ (Mild, treated with supportive care)
Gastrointestinal Issues	16	★★★☆☆ (Moderate, some requiring IV fluids)
Sprains & Soft Tissue Injuries	14	★★☆☆☆ (Mild, managed with rest & bandages)
Epistaxis (Nosebleeds)	2	★★★☆☆ (Moderate, required minor interventions)
I.V. Fluids & Resuscitation	2	★★★★☆ (Severe, required close monitoring)
Hospital Referrals	2	★★★★★ (Critical, recommended ambulance transfer)

11. INTERACT RYLA FOR DISTRICT 9213

Event Summary

On **February 17, 2025**, the **Interact Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)** for **District 9213** took place at **Akaama Resort in Kiira**. Hosted by the **Rotary Club of Bweyogerere Namboole**, the event gathered young leaders from various Interact clubs across the district, totaling **101 participants from 6 schools**.

Program Review and Speaker Insights

The Interact RYLA 2025 featured an engaging program that equipped young leaders with essential skills in leadership, teamwork, and adaptability. Below is a review of key sessions and what the speakers communicated:

- **Opening Session:** The event began with a welcome address from the organizers, emphasizing the importance of youth leadership and setting the tone for the day's sessions.
- **Address from District Governor: DG Anne Nkutu** encouraged youth to embrace leadership and service, emphasizing the role of young people in driving change within their communities.

- **Session 1 - Unveiling the True You: The Power of Self-Discovery: Ms. Hellen Kirunda** guided participants through a self-reflection journey, helping them identify their strengths and areas for growth. She emphasized that passion is the driving force behind successful leadership.
- **Session 2 - Together We Rise: Mastering the Art of Teamwork: Mr. David Kabiswa** highlighted the importance of teamwork, fostering synergy, and working effectively in diverse groups. Through interactive activities, participants learned to build meaningful connections.
- **Session 3 - Thriving in the Age of AI: Adapting and Excelling in a Changing World: Mr. Katende Nesta Paul** shared insights on the evolving job market, the increasing role of AI, and how youth can stay ahead by embracing technological advancements and adaptability.
- **Session 4 - Unlocking Youth Potential: Enhancing Emotional Intelligence and Resilience through Puzzle Wars: Dr. Ritah Sonko** led an interactive mental health awareness session, where participants engaged in a **mental health test** to assess their emotional well-being. She emphasized the importance of aligning mental wellness with leadership actions and provided coping strategies for stress and resilience.
- **Award Ceremony and Chief Guest's Remarks: MP Michael Nuwagaba and PDG Mike Kennedy Sebalu** celebrated the achievements of participants, recognizing outstanding contributions and encouraging them to apply their learnings in their communities.
- **Closing Session:** A selected participant gave a vote of thanks, emphasizing gratitude and the importance of taking forward the lessons learned at RYLA 2025.

Participating Schools and Representatives

Don Bosco Interact Club

- 21 participants, including Patron Amiciri Betty

Kirinya (COU) SS

- 11 participants, Patron: Bob Aldo Kapule

Romasa College

- 20 participants, Patron: Kalisa Fatumah

SPENA School

- 21 participants, Patron: Atwine Darius

St. John's SS

- 11 participants, Patron: Jacob Makanga

Namugongo Naalya SS

- 19 participants, Patron: Wambazo John

Committee Representatives

- **RCBN Representatives:** Michael Nuwagaba, Ann Musoke, Valerie Bagaala, Lydia Ndagire
- **District Representatives:** Edgar Nsereko, Anyiko Agatha



12. RYLA FOR THE DEAF – BREAKING BARRIERS TO INCLUSION

In a pioneering move toward inclusive leadership, the **Rotary Club of Kiwenda** hosted a special edition of RYLA for the **hearing impaired** on **April 26, 2025**, at **Wakiso Secondary School for the Deaf**, under the theme *"Passion, Action, Reaction."*

This program was uniquely tailored to the needs of deaf youth, with **sign language interpreters** facilitating every session. The event opened with remarks by Club President **Andrew Mugisa** and the RYLA Chair Maureen Kawombe, followed by powerful sessions:

- **Coach Molly Nalunga** led **"Unveiling the True You"**, focusing on self-discovery and recognizing inner strength.
- **Mr. David Kabiswa** facilitated **"Together We Rise"**, a dynamic session on teamwork and collaboration.
- **Dr. Ritah Sonko** of the **Toli Weka Foundation** guided youth through **"Puzzle Wars"**, a creative approach to building emotional intelligence and resilience, addressing the mental health needs of youth.
- **Mr. Robert Sewagudde**, an inclusion expert, shared insights on overcoming adversity as a differently abled person.

The event featured an inspiring **testimony by Denis Sebayiga**, a deaf tour guide, who emphasized perseverance. A historic moment was marked by the **chartering of the Interact Club of Wakiso Secondary School for the Deaf**, with **Kalokwera Joel** installed as its first president.

PDG John Ndamira-Magezi officiated and charter ceremony, applauding the Rotary Club of Kiwenda's role in fostering inclusive leadership. The celebration concluded with a vote of thanks and a renewed commitment to empowering differently abled youth as active leaders, not just beneficiaries.

13 . SUCCESSES OF THE RYLA D9213 PROGRAM

- **Massive Youth Engagement** :Successfully trained 448 youth leaders, equipping them with leadership, teamwork, resilience, and innovation skills.
- **Historic Inclusion Milestone** : Held the first-ever RYLA for the Deaf in the district with 107 hearing-impaired participants, and launched the Interact Club at Wakiso Secondary School of the Deaf, promoting accessible leadership for all.
- **Engagement with Rotary International Leadership**: RYLA D9213 made history as the first RYLA in the district to host the Rotary International President (RIP), Stephanie Urchick, who actively participated in the program and inspired the youth with messages on integrity, innovation, and responsible use of technology.





- **Extensive Club Mobilization:** Engaged over 55 Rotary clubs through activations and outreach. A unified branding campaign, including a traveling RYLA flag, created a sense of ownership and district-wide visibility.
- **Robust Leadership Curriculum:** Delivered high-impact sessions including AI adaptation, financial literacy, mental health, self-discovery, outdoor challenges, and hands-on skilling workshops, with project pitch competitions and awards.
- **Strong Project Outcomes:** 10 youth-led team projects were pitched to The Rotary Foundation (TRF) and showcased at the DISCON 100 House of Friendship, with ongoing efforts for mentorship and funding.
- **Interact RYLA Success:** Hosted 101 Interactors from six schools in a dedicated Interact RYLA focused on goal-setting, teamwork, resilience, and mental health, facilitated by expert speakers.
- **Comprehensive Youth Protection Measures:** Mandatory training on youth protection policies by the team ensured participant safety. Registration captured detailed health and emergency information for smooth coordination.
- **Outstanding Media and Publicity Coverage:** RYLA was featured in: 12 stories in "The Wave", the Rotary District 9213 Magazine. Sunday Monitor newspaper on January 27th, 2025, and The prestigious Rotary International Magazine, June 2025 edition, which highlighted the participation of RIP Stephanie Urchick . All RYLA activities were widely shared in all Whatsapp groups in the district keeping all rotarians aware of the program. The social media platforms of the district were constantly updated of the program and all the activities. Online platforms through photo albums and launch videos on the district's ClubRunner portal, further increasing visibility and outreach.
- **Multi-stakeholder Collaboration:** Program success was driven by synergy among Rotaractors, Rotary clubs, District leadership, facilitators, volunteers, interpreters, and youth mentors, ensuring shared ownership and excellence in execution.
- **Prestigious Recognitions :** RYLA District Chair, Charter President Maureen Kawombe, was honored with: The Champion for Youth Development Award by the Women in Rotary Event 2025 and The Most Outstanding District Official 2024/2025, awarded by District Governor Anne Nkutu at the 100th District Conference in Jinja

14 CHALLENGES FACED

1. Clearance of Registered Members





- Difficulty in ensuring that all registered club members met the required clearance for participation, delaying final confirmation lists.

2. Club Swapping of Participants Post-Registration

- Some clubs continued to swap participants after registration, complicating the organization of groups and logistics.
- This was managed by enforcing a firm deadline for changes and ensuring clubs were held accountable.

3. Delayed Registration from Clubs

- Some clubs failed to meet the registration deadline, making it difficult to compile participant data efficiently.
- Organizers extended limited grace periods but emphasized the importance of early registration for smoother coordination.
- Due to delayed payments we had to close registration before some clubs would submit payments and participants.

15. RECOMMENDATIONS & WAY FORWARD

- **Follow-up Support:** Provide mentorship and continued funding for group projects.
- **Increased Sponsorship:** Encourage more clubs to sponsor participants.
- **Expanded Training:** Incorporate digital skills and entrepreneurship in future RYLA events.
- **Collaboration Opportunities:** Strengthen rotary-rotaract partnerships for a larger impact.

16. CONCLUSION

RYLA 2025 in District 9213 was more than just a youth leadership program; it was a district-wide movement of empowerment, inclusion, and impact. With 448 youth trained, cutting-edge sessions delivered, and unprecedented participation from Rotary International President Stephanie Urchick, this edition will be remembered as a milestone in the district's journey toward youth-led change.

Equally remarkable was the program's visibility and recognition. From high-profile features in national and international media to the celebration of RYLA leadership especially the accolades earned by District Chair Maureen Kawombe, RYLA 2025 symbolized what is possible when Rotary invests in youth with clarity, compassion, and courage.

As the ripples of RYLA extend through new projects, Interact clubs, different-abled and empowered leaders, we affirm that the spirit of Passion, Action, and Reaction has not only been ignited but it is now leading the path into the future of Rotary.

