



# 2021 Annual Report



Kids Club  
Kampala

# Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your kind support over the last year. It's been another year filled with ups and downs.

We were optimistic at the start of the year that everything was returning to normal, so in January we scaled down our food banks. June saw Uganda once again placed in strict lockdown, and so we increased our food relief provision again. By the end of 2021, the team in Uganda had distributed 1.2 million food parcels and provided COVID relief for 25,532 families.

Despite the strict lockdown and uncertainties, the Kids Club Kampala team remained resilient and optimistic. We are proud that throughout this difficult time we responded quickly, appropriately and completely guided by the community. As a result, we have been able to have a significant impact.

Our vital work providing food, educational materials and vital counselling support for vulnerable people during the COVID-19 crisis has strengthened our recognition, reputation and trust within Kampala's slums both during this time and for the future. I hope you enjoy reading our Annual Report 2021. We are indebted to your generosity and trust to continue to deliver high quality, impactful projects for communities we work with. Thank you again.

God bless,

**Linda Horgan**  
Interim CEO



# Highlights of our Year



In 2021, we were there for communities in crisis.

We distributed **1.2 million** food parcels

Provided COVID-19 relief to  
**25,532 families**



**284 children** received free access to education

Celebrated the graduations of **9** sponsored children



Cared for **55** children at our Ewafe Home

Established **10** Girls Support Groups

**863** teenage girls were able to access free  
counselling and period products



**Trained 160** people with a vocational skill, enabling  
them to provide a sustainable income for their families

**Raised over half a million pounds**



# Our COVID-19 Response in 2021

We were optimistic at the beginning of the year that the worst of COVID-19 was over. In January, we scaled back on our community food banks, which were established in 2020 to support vulnerable families who had lost work overnight at the start of lockdown.

By June however, COVID-19 cases were rising again, which resulted in Uganda being back in lockdown.

Kampala's slum communities were again confronted with incredible uncertainty. With work vanishing and food prices rising, families were once more facing malnutrition and starvation.

Having learnt from 2020, we were able to act quickly. Our incredible staff and volunteers knew what the community needed and worked tirelessly to distribute vital food packages to families that needed it.



**Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have provided over 2.7 million food parcels to 58,030 vulnerable families.**

**'I am thrilled for the support given to my people by Kids Club Kampala through the food packages. You have helped eliminate food insecurity for a number of families in this crisis and this has made a positive difference in my community. Thank you for creating a smile on so many faces.'**

**-Dan\*, Local Leader**





'During these hard times, when all our sources of income are cut off, the food packages provided by Kids Club Kampala help us through the days'

- Jane\*

This year we switched from using single-use plastic bags to reusable ones. These are much more durable, which benefits families as well as the environment.



**'The food packages have helped my family survive the bad days of the lockdown. My street vending job was put to a stop by the lockdown. I was struggling even then. My small earnings were not enough to provide enough food for my entire household. We would skip most meals. The food packages have been of great help to us, we can have two meals now, we use the flour for porridge and the plantains and beans for meals. We are so grateful for all the help given to us.'**

- Maria\*



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# Educating

**At the beginning of 2021 we thought that schools in Uganda would reopen and children would be able to return to classroom-based learning.** However, although schools did reopen in March, it was a short 12 weeks before the third wave of COVID-19 forced all schools to once again close their doors. Despite further disruption, our dedicated teachers ensured that all children on our education projects continued to learn.

## 106 children

received free daily education within 3 slum communities through our Encouraging Education Project (88 of them had never attended school and 18 had dropped out).

We welcomed small groups of children back to our education centres in March, but were forced to close due to lockdowns in June. The children had already faced over a year of disruption to their education, so to ensure they could continue to learn, our teachers quickly reverted back to homeschooling.

Each child was visited at least once a week in order to distribute educational materials, provide feedback on their assignments and check on general wellbeing. Our teachers also engaged with parents and provided them with advice on ways to keep their children safe, healthy and on track with their learning.



**'I delivered study materials to children on the Early Education project and the School Sponsorship programme. I aided children with their learning and visited at least 2 children's homes a day.'**

**- Olive\*, Encouraging Education teacher**





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‘When schools were closed due to the pandemic, the teacher and social workers at the centre provided us with home study materials. They went through the booklet with me and showed me different ways I can engage my child during his stay at home. My child is able to recognise most letters and sounds, I am learning from him too!’ - Rose\* & Jenny\*

# School Sponsorship

**After a whole year of disruption, in the spring we finally saw sponsored children returning to school.** The 158 children in primary school, secondary school and tech college were able to return, with the 20 children attending nursery continuing with home learning until the planned reopening of early years education in the summer. Since the June lockdown all sponsored children were supported with study materials so they could continue their learning at home.

After another difficult year for our sponsored children, we launched our Christmas Care Package Appeal to spread some joy and happiness over the festive season. Thanks to our child sponsors this was our most successful ever Christmas appeal, with 85 children receiving care packages.



“The journey has been miraculous for me. I am so grateful to my sponsor and the entire Kids Club Kampala team, I would not be where I am today.”

-Polly\*, School Sponsorship Graduate



## Endings & Beginnings

**In 2021, we saw 9 young adults graduate from our School Sponsorship programme.** This is now the second year where the first children who entered this programme are graduating, and represents a significant period for our organisation as we have now seen children who have had their entire education funded by our supporters. We welcomed 8 new children onto this programme in 2021, and we're excited to see how these children grow into young adults with brighter futures, thanks to their sponsors' support.

## Graduation Spotlight:

Despite the disruption caused by COVID-19, in 2021 we were still able to celebrate the graduations of 9 of our sponsored children. **4 graduated with A-Levels in subjects including:** Geography, Economics, Agriculture, Luganda, History, Maths, Art, Entrepreneurship, ICT & CRE. **5 graduated from technical college with vocational skills including:** motor mechanics, carpentry, hairdressing, cookery, joinery.



# Jonah's story

Jonah\* joined the School Sponsorship programme in 2015. After completing his O-Levels, he decided to undertake a motor mechanics internship at a local garage in Katanga. Jonah\* is now 22 years old and is working full time at the same garage. He is able to help support his family and since taking the job his family have been able to move to a bigger home.



In last year's Annual Report we shared with you **Charlie's\*** graduation story. This year we caught up with the family and we now invite you to watch Charlie's\* mother talk about his inspirational journey.



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# Protecting

Since 2020, we have seen a large rise in safeguarding cases. Children in Kampala's slums are more vulnerable to abuse, neglect and exploitation since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. A key focus area for us in 2021 was expanding our programmes which focus on protecting children, to strengthen the safety nets already in place.

# Safeguarding

In 2021 we continued the expansion of our Safeguarding Programme within 10 slum communities. This programme recruits and trains safeguarding volunteers, who provide a pathway for reporting abuse in the slums, and deliver emergency care for children who are at imminent risk.

- Recruited and trained **50** new safeguarding volunteers
- Assessed **143** safeguarding concerns within communities
- Liaised with local leaders and police to handle
- **113** safeguarding cases
- Referred **49** cases to counselling with our social workers



# Eliot's\* Story

Eliot\* was just 3 years old when his father chased him, his mother and two siblings from their home in Katanga slum. The family spent three nights sleeping outside on the streets. Eliot's\* mother had no money to pay for a safe space to stay. She reached out to a Kids Club Kampala volunteer who was able to help her get help from the police and arranged for a car to take them to her sister's house. Eliot\* and his family are now living safely in their new home.



# Wansala\*+Najja's\* Story

Brothers \*Wansala (10) and \*Najja (6) were living on the streets trying to find their parents when a good samaritan found them and took them to the local police. The children were then placed at the Ewafe home in October 2020. As the boys began to settle in, our tracing team started searching for their family. With the help of village elders, we were able to track down the brothers' family. The brothers were reunited with their family in January 2021.



“Thank you so much... We had lost hope.”

- Grandfather of Wansala\* & Najja\*



# Ewafe Project

**This year the demand for our Ewafe Project has continued to rise, with more children than ever needing a safe space to call home.**

- In 2021, we rescued a total of **33** children from abuse or abandonment
- Throughout the year, we successfully reintegrated **19** children
- By the end of the year, there were **55** children staying at the home

In response to the rising demand for our Ewafe Project, this year the home has been undergoing a large expansion. With huge thanks to a generous benefactor we have been able to:

- Build an extra dormitory in order to welcome more children
- Open a therapy room and sickbay to care for the physical and psychological needs of the kids
- Construct brand new staff cottages so a member of Ewafe staff is always available for the children
- Acquire land for growing crops to increase the self sustainability of the Ewafe home
- Build a new kitchen to prepare meals for the additional children
- Purchase a brand new car to support the teams tracing families across the country



## Samson's\* Story

Samson\* is our longest Ewafe resident, with our social workers really struggling to locate his family. For the last 6 years and 11 months, he has stayed with us at the Ewafe home. Samson\* was able to get an education, clothing, love and care whilst staying with us. But finally, Samson\* has been reunited with his family.

The tracing team were able to locate Samson's\* relatives living in a small, remote village in Western Uganda. The family were so happy to know that Samson\*, now aged 15, was safe and healthy. Samson\* is now living with his relatives in Western Uganda.





# Skilling

**Our skilling projects are vital to breaking the cycle of poverty for families in Kampala. In the wake of COVID-19, our vocational training is needed more than ever to ensure families can recover their incomes and have hope for the future.**

The COVID-19 pandemic meant that many families were left without an income. Most people living in Kampala's slum communities rely on informal labour, such as work on a market stall or street stands. The money they make that day is used to buy the food they eat that evening. When lockdown hit and everyone was told to stay at home, they lost everything overnight.

Our skilling projects train our communities to learn either sewing, knitting, tailoring or carpentry, and key business skills so that learners can go on to start their own businesses or seek more stable employment. Due to this, the demand for our skilling projects has been at an all-time high, and we have been able to skill more people than ever before.

- In 2021, we provided vocational skills training to **160 people**
- **153 people** graduated from our tailoring and knitting course
- **7 young people** graduated from our carpentry course
- **26 sewing machines** were generously donated and shipped to Kampala





**'I knew nothing about tailoring but in the last 4 months, I have been trained. I am proud to say that I can make a number of different fashions and designs of my own. The training has helped a lot in building my confidence. I can now handle customers in the best way possible because I now have what it takes to satisfy their needs. A huge thanks to Kids Club Kampala for an amazing offer.'**

- Clair\*, Tailoring & Knitting graduate

Simon\* was unemployed and facing lots of financial difficulties when he enrolled on our Tailoring course. He hoped that by learning a vocational skill he would be able to earn a sustainable income to support himself. While on the course Simon\* learnt how to make many kinds of clothes, like shirts, trousers, dresses and different types of skirts.

After graduating from the Tailoring course, Simon\* secured a job at a local company contracted to make surgical gowns for government hospitals. On days when they are not busy making the gowns, Simon\* earns an extra income from sewing jackets which he supplies to a friend downtown for sale. Simon\* told us that he's glad to be earning a decent income and living more comfortably than before thanks to the skills he obtained from the project.

- Simon\*, Tailoring Graduate

**'Don't me and my sons look smart? I am so proud of having achieved my longtime dream of being a tailor and a designer at zero cost. I made my dress and my two sons' shirts by myself. I am so grateful to Kids Club Kampala for reaching out to us with skills that help sustain our lives. I can't wait to make money out of this amazing skill.'**

- Julia\*, Tailoring & Knitting graduate



**'I would like to thank Kids Club Kampala for the help it has given me. I had lost hope for my future when I dropped out of school due to lack of money for school fees but Kids Club Kampala came to my rescue and resurrected my hope when I joined the carpentry project. I was trained and I graduated after 2 years. Kids Club Kampala also helped to get me a job where I am able to earn money. Now I can afford some of my basic needs like food, rent and clothing. Thank you so much Kids Club Kampala.'**

- Ryan\*, Carpentry Project graduate

# Fundraising Highlights

Despite 2021 being another difficult year, we have received incredible support from our donors which helped make 2021 our most successful year of fundraising ever. Together we raised an incredible **£576,555**. **Thank you!**

These funds enabled us to adapt quickly in a very unstable environment, and support the kids and families that needed us during another devastating year for our communities.

## Miles In Their Shoes

Miles in Their Shoes was back for a second year. In February, a corporate team of 125 took on the Miles in Their Shoes challenge and raised over **£30,000!** Then, in June, 29 brave trekkers set off on their virtual journey from Birmingham to Kampala and raised **£6,931**. Thank you to all those who took part in the challenge this year. Keep your eyes peeled as we will be running the event in a new and exciting format over the summer.







### Serving Communities in Crisis

We launched our Serving Communities in Crisis emergency appeal in response to the third wave of COVID-19 in Uganda. Another lockdown resulted in school closures, families left without an income, parents struggling to afford food for their kids and cases of neglect and abuse increasing. Kampala was in crisis. You, our wonderful supporters, donated over **£11,032**, giving our communities the safety nets they needed when they were left without incomes.

### The Ball of Hope

In November we welcomed Kids Club Kampala supporters to our first in-person event in almost 2 years. It was wonderful to be able to catch up and meet the supporters who had been there for our communities living in Kampala's slums. We had a fantastic time at the ball with live music, a silent auction and games. A massive thank you to all those who attended the event and helped us to raise **£15,472!**



We were completely blown away by the support received for our 2021 Big Give campaign, raising an incredible **£26,891** for our Encouraging Education Project. As part of this year's campaign, we hosted our virtual Big Give Bash. This was a joyous celebration of all things Uganda. We had traditional music, dancing and games and transported our supporters to Kampala. Thank you to everyone who supported our Big Give Christmas Challenge!



# Thanks + Acknowledgements



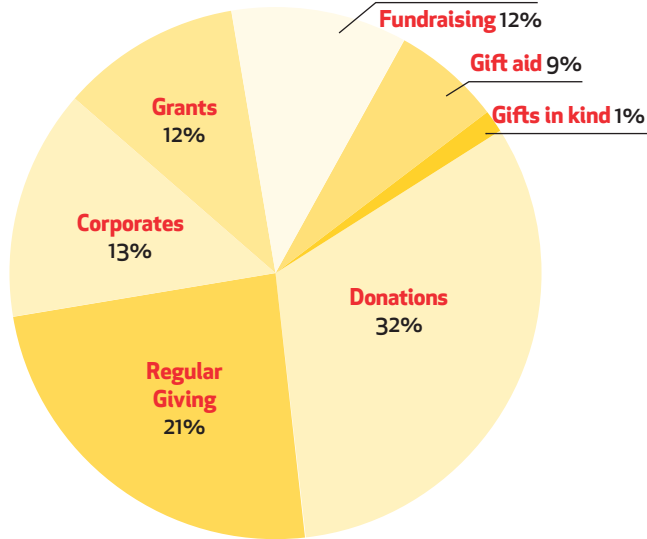
We would like to say a very special thank you to all of you who took the time to support us in 2021. Whether that was by doing a fundraiser, volunteering at an event, travelling 'miles in their shoes' or generally telling your loved ones about our work. It's people like you that provide brighter futures for our communities. Your dedication creates opportunities for vulnerable people that are often left behind.

**Thank you.**

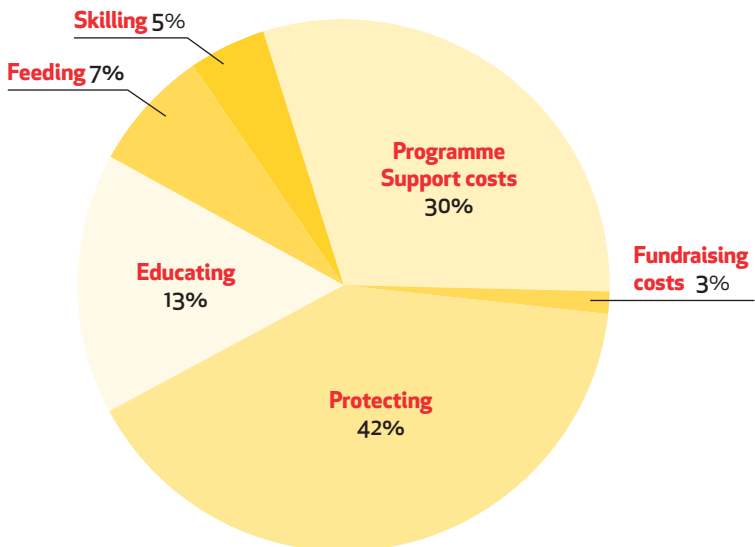


# Financial Review

TOTAL INCOME: £576,555



TOTAL EXPENDITURE: £452,204



# Partner With Us

## Your Details

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Bank Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Post code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Account Holder \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code \_\_\_\_\_

## Your Giving

Set up a new standing order

Change my current standing order

I would like to support the work of Kids Club Kampala by giving a monthly gift of:

£10     £25     £50

Other amount: £ \_\_\_\_\_

My donation will commence on the  
/ / and subsequently  
on the: \_\_\_\_\_ of every month to  
the account of Kids Club Kampala  
HSBC, 67 The Parade, Sutton  
Coldfield, West Midlands, B72 1HD

**Account number: 21791958**

**Sort Code: 40-43-28**

*giftaid it*

I can confirm that I am a UK income or capital gains tax payer and I consent to the charity reclaiming 25p of tax on every £1 that I donate

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date / /

Please post this form to:  
**Kids Club Kampala**  
Hope House  
148 Witton Lodge Road  
Birmingham, B23 5AP

Or email at:  
**info@kidsclubkampala.org**

You can also donate by credit/debit card  
online at:  
**www.kidsclubkampala.org/donate**



**Kids Club  
Kampala**

UK registered charity number:  
1152451

