



RAINBOW HOUSE OF HOPE UGANDA

JUNGLE DRUM

END OF YEAR EDITION

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Impact of the nationwide lockdown due to Covid -19 pandemic caused tremendous and continuous hardships to low income Ugandans specifically the casual workers and teachers that earn and spend on a daily basis.

During this period, Rainbow indeed became House of Hope to Casual workers Like Nakintu a widow and tailor of four children and Okello Martin a private primary teacher and a father of four children. Below we are true stories of Nakintu Maureen and Okello Martin about COVID -19 impacted them economically, socially and psychologically and Rainbow's response.

Evicted from her rental room and seeking refuge at rainbow.

Nakintu Maureen a widow aged 40, a mother of four children story is honest truth about low income household who is struggling to put food on the table. Maureen is a casual tailor working in one of the most congested corridors in the Kampala city center. During outbreak of COVID -19, Maureen was hit hard when the Government imposed the lockdown. Her congested corridor workplace was closed being highly risky place of COVID spread.

Maureen had no option but return to her rental room. Being casual tailor who earns daily and spends daily, the lockdown accelerated the already difficult situation as months passed by.

It was visibly difficult for Maureen to afford the monthly rent as the landlord continued to demand for the monthly rent. Faced with multiple crises and surrounded by her hungry children, Maureen suffered from anxiety. Through the community leader Maureen was recommended to Rainbow for support. Rainbow accommodated Maureen and children, gave her space to stay. For the last 9 months Maureen and her children have been staying at Rainbow. The family was given food support throughout this period. The children have been enrolled in skills training course where they are learning sweater knitting skills and mother is involved in making masking. Through this support Maureen has recovered from anxiety and resumed working since relaxation of the lockdown.



Class Room Teacher Faced With Anxiety As Covid -19 Pandemic Continues

“I am never anxious about returning to school after the holidays. I am now anxious because everything is uncertain” Okello Martin (private primary teacher).

Okello Martin aged 35 a father of four children and private primary teacher says “when COVID-19 started he thought that it could end very soon but this didn’t work out due to increased cases. His head teacher was paying 100 euros monthly and this money was being collected from the parents as school fees. However, as the schools were closed, the head teacher had no other source of income to pay him and as result he was stopped.

Life became so hard for him to meet the family basic needs and as result he became emotionally and psychologically sick. The first two months he became so violent to his family as he resorted to drinking very cheap alcohol due to influence of friends who would buy for him the alcohol.

However all this changed when one day he decided to visit Rainbow who were carrying out some project activities such as urban farming in there school prior to school closure. His encounter with the Rainbow team changed his attitude and perception towards the prevailing situation. Firstly he was given food items and later encouraged to work with them on Mobile Library learning initiative.

This engagement supported him to recover from the emotional and psychological breakdown. The food support from Rainbow continued until when his wife resumed working in the market when the government relaxed the lockdown and started supplementing on basic family needs. The mobile library learning also helped to keep his children busy throughout this period.

PROVISION OF EMOTIONAL SUPPORT TO OUR MEMBERS.

With the support from friends in Germany and Netherlands, Rainbow has been able to reach out many families and children with emotional support and counseling during this period of COVID-19. Families were supported with food supply and the children were involved in mobile library learning.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMME:

We are happy to inform you that our vocational skills training programme is ongoing with 25 trainees training in sweater knitting skills. This programme is funded by the government of Uganda under Skills Development Facility Grant. Initially we had requested the government to support 200 trainees but because of the COVID-19 pandemic they approved 25 trainees. The trainees who are mainly young girls determined to complete the training and acquire the skills they will apply in open market to better their lives.



SHIFTING OF RAINBOW ACTIVITIES TO OUR HOME AND COMMUNITIES IN MAYA

We are grateful to inform you that our dream of settling in our new home in Maya is underway. There are a lot of developments that are ongoing with the support from the association team in Germany. The team here is excited about the shifting and can't wait to settle in the community.

Through the Association in Germany, IBS Germany company has been contracted to help us design up temporarily solutions ideas for the urgent relocations.

CONSTRUCTION OF STANDARD SANITARY FACILITY

With support from friends we have managed to construct standard sanitary facility. This facility will serve all the members who are participating in Rainbow activities at Maya. Initially such a facility has been missing at the center.



STARTING BRASS BAND ACTIVITIES IN MAYA.

It was all merry making when trumpet sound was blown in Maya. The sound attracted many youths around the center. Lillian was among the many youth that togetherd on hearing the sound. Today Lillian is one of the members of the brass band in Maya. Below is her testimony.

I had just come for holidays at our community when I heard that in our community they are training brass band. I was so excited because for so long I have been an admirer of the brass band music. I feel so good when I see the smart girls and boys march playing great music. I consulted my mother about joining the band and she was so positive about it. The following week I registered with Rainbow band. I was very impressed by the reception they gave us the new members. The trainers gave us more time and attention. Right now I play the side drum and I feel so proud about it.

The introduction of rainbow brass band in our community is very fundamental development among the youth who have been previous engaged in unproductive activities such as gambling.

The youth in our community all excited and committed to developing their talent.

I thank Rainbow organization and leaders for bringing this development in our community.

I also thank my mother for supporting and encouraging to join the band. Merry Xmas



CELEBRATING CHRISTMASS CHILDREN AND STAFF PARTY AT MAYA.

This year has been a unique year by its dimensions. This year all roads led to Maya center for Christmas party for children and staff. By 8.00am the center was welcoming many children from and within the communities. The children danced, played and had a lot of fun. We want to thank the association members and our other supporters who made this party possible by financially supporting us.

