

RWENZORI SPECIAL NEEDS FOUNDATION



Profile Report 2016



Vision

Children and youngsters with disabilities who live in poverty participate equally and as fully as possible in their families and communities so that their lives have the highest possible quality.

Mission

The Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation contributes to a world that is open for everyone, and in which children and youngsters with disabilities who live in poverty can develop and use their talents. Together with local organisations in Fort Portal-Uganda, we make children stronger and their environment more accessible.

Objectives

To empower children by:

Promoting quality rehabilitation services that improve the functionality of children and youngsters with disabilities;

Ensuring the systematic removal of barriers and biases that children in the programme experience in their communities, and enable their participation and inclusion.

RSNF motto is "Ability from disAbility" and aims to assist mentally and physically handicapped children and youth to learn vocational skills so that they may be able to support themselves economically. RSNF mission is to promote the economic and social integration of young people with disabilities who are not provided with equal opportunities as their peers, neither taken to school. RSNF-Field team goes directly into rural areas to find children and youth with disabilities who are either being withheld from living a full life or have not been given opportunities that the Centre can provide to them.

Organization Overview

RSNF opened in 2010 and has educated a number of youth with disabilities to help them integrate into society and support themselves. Many of our graduates are now able to sustain themselves especially children who are handicapped

Objectives:

Create community awareness on sexually transmitted infections amongst risky groups.

Create a conducive educational atmosphere by fully equipping the vocational centre with all the necessary educational tools and machines.

To help vulnerable children and youth with disabilities/ poor/ orphans attain education by way of getting them sponsorship and scholastic material support.

- To develop, promote and sensitize children nutrition.
- Construct shelters to the poor families, elderly, widows and orphanage homes.
- Provide start-up kits to every student that graduates after one year course

Vocational Education;

The project provides vocational education to children and youth with disabilities, unemployed youth, and school dropouts due to lack of school fees or unwanted pregnancies. Then at every end of the course, we aim to support every graduate with free start-up kit/ tool box, to enable them start up own work. They are taught agriculture skills, tailoring and knitting, hair dressing and making of re-usable sanitary towels.



We take an asset-based approach to development work. We begin by listening to the priorities set by our community-based partners at our village level sites. We then identify and utilize existing assets and capacity to address those priorities.

Raising awareness to the Community:

We partner with leaders, organizations, and stakeholders who are committed to change, action, and social justice. We stress community awareness and participation before launching initiatives, especially in our volunteer and student programs.





Build Capacity: We strengthen the skills, competencies, and abilities of the leaders at our community-based partners and of our student and professional volunteers. We educate and train, facilitating the sharing of best practices across all of our stakeholders to support our partners' priorities.





Change Perspectives: We share our experiences and learnings about the complexities of development with friends, family, and colleagues. We promote cultural exchange and sensitivity, encouraging a reflective approach to navigating cross-cultural issues, confusions, and tensions to youth with disabilities.

Plans for the next phase of the project

We shall continue to support the programs and community engagement activities to bring members on board. We will do this through sensitizing them and making them aware of the entire essence of the project, in order to work hand in hand with them. We intend to acquire families/children and youth with various disabilities through networking with already established support partners, hospitals, Police with the help of Probation Officers.

This will be quietly done to avoid excitement and overwhelming numbers.

We will be grateful and appreciate if we work together in supporting RSNF and we pray that God continues to use us all as we make a difference among the children now and in future. God bless you all.

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