



Meeting Point International

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MEETING POINT INTERNATIONAL (MPI)

ACTIVITY REPORT 2019





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1. What is Meeting Point International?

Meeting Point International (MPI) is a non-governmental organization registered with the Uganda NGO board. Active since October 1992, we work primarily in the Nakawa Division of Kampala. Our administrative offices are based in Kitintale. Working here in Uganda we have become a part of the experiences that are lived, like a dear friend to whom one would find solace and belonging with; MPI has grown to be an integral part in the lives of thousands of families. MPI has become known for its unique approach to HIV/AIDS which places a person's value as being of greater importance than any of his/her circumstances. We have found that acceptance of disease has become a key to our success. The knowledge that the virus that causes HIV/AIDS is harmful to more than an individual's physical wellbeing has helped us build an approach that goes far beyond physical support. We strive to end the stigma associated with disclosure by accepting everybody as they are and encouraging open and honest discussions about the disease

Why Meeting Point?

MPI operates as a presence, a companionship, a point of reference that anyone can meet and involve him/herself with. The methodology adopted by MPI is, in fact, qualified by the offering of an effective friendship in which people are not "reduced" to their problems or sickness; they are looked at and embraced for the infinite value and dignity for their humanity. The services and the activities provided are important means for an experience that promotes the awareness of one's own value and thus enhances responsibility in facing reality as a protagonist and contributes to recreate a communitarian sociality.

Why International?

Those visiting the places where MPI is present are struck by the peculiarity of the experience lived there. For this reason, even people of different nationalities have been personally involved as volunteers or supporters of the activities of MPI; this explains the choice of "International" as part of our name.

1.1 Our Vision

Our Vision is to offer a friendship where persons are looked at and embraced for their infinite value and they are not reduced to their sickness or limitations.



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1.2 Our Mission

Meeting Point International, in adherence to the social teachings of the Catholic Church, aims at supporting the most disadvantaged persons and communities of Uganda, with a particular focus on Women and Children, in their struggle for better life and development having as priorities to assist the suffering victims of HIV/AIDS, to promote education at all levels and to commit in poverty alleviation.

This aim is specified into the following objectives;

- Assistance to the suffering victims of HIV/AIDS
- Commitment in poverty alleviation
- Promotion of Education at all levels

1.3 Rose Busingye's Profile



Rose Busingye was born in 1968 in Nsambya, Kampala. From 1971 to 1986, she attended elementary and middle school in Kampala and high school in Sacred Heart Senior Secondary in the north of Uganda in Gulu.

After senior six, a civil war broke out and communication between the Northern Uganda and Kampala was interrupted and she, therefore, stayed there for six months. During that time, she witnessed deadly

effects of the war; men, women, children suffering and wounded with no one to help them. She desired to assist the people and was frustrated and sorrowful at her inability to do so due to her lack of medical training.

In 1988, she decided to go to Nsambya Hospital to the nursing school. She took a course of General Nursing and Midwifery and after completion, she graduated as a nursing officer. Between 1990 and 1991 she got a scholarship of two years in Italy to specialize in infectious diseases in the Regional Hospital of Varese.



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In 1992, in Uganda, she was trained to become a certified health counsellor by TASO, a Ugandan organization that specializes in this field in order to assist patients with HIV/AIDS, orphans, depressed and terminally ill patients. Again, from June to December 1996, she was in Milan-Italy attending a course for the mentally ill.

In 1992 she began volunteer work with patients suffering from HIV/AIDS in Kampala in Nsambya Hospital. In the same year, together with several other concerned friends, she founded Meeting Point Kampala in order to help each person discover the beauty and value of life and to counsel and give medical care to those who were suffering from infectious diseases.

She was elected chairperson of the organization until early 2000. In 2000 she started the collaboration with AVSI up to date.



In 2002, she founded a new organization: Meeting Point International (MPI), which was recognized as a Community Based Organization in the same year and as a Non- Government Organization in 2003, operating in poor areas of Kampala (mostly Naguru, Kireka, and Acholi Quarters) with the aim of offering HIV infected and vulnerable people a simple

environment where each person could find love.

In 2008, she started the Luigi Giussani Primary and Pre-primary school in Kireka (Acholi Quarters) and completed the construction of the building that houses seven grades in 2010. In the same year, she became a co-founder of Luigi Giussani High School and completed its construction along Kamuli Road in Kireka. She is the chairperson of the board of Directors of both schools.

In January 2009, she became a co-founder and chairperson of the board of directors of Luigi Giussani Institute of Higher Education (www.lgihe.org). This was to help learners and educators, discover their value and dignity.

To date, she is very active in the activities of the MPI where she spends most of her time accompanying and educating the patients such that they can discover their value.



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Every year Rose has been requested to attend international meetings to speak about her work and her story. She was speaker at various events in 2017 and 2018. These events include; RIO ENCONTROS (Money, Children, Work, Health, everything is serious. And the life?), Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), THE LONDON ENCOUNTER 2017 (“The Adventure of the Unexpected”) in London (United Kingdom), New York Encounter 2018 (“An Impossible Unity”) in New York (USA), and in Florence, Italy at the event “At the Origin of Gratuitousness” where she received the keys to the city as well as an honor in December 2018. During this year (2019), she has also managed to travel to various parts of the country and receives also quite a number of awards

1.4 MPIs location

Uganda is an East African Country whose capital city, Kampala occupies a series of hills at 1,190 meters above sea level. This is where Meeting Point International (MPI) operates within the different towns below.

1. Kitintale

The administrative headquarters of Meeting Point located in Kitintale. The Kitintale office is responsible for the tracking of children under sponsorship, the repayment of



loans, distribution of medicine and allocation of donated funds. The tasks undertaken in Kitintale, especially those regarding educational sponsorship, are of great consequence in ensuring these activities continue. In a newly remodeled facility with office rooms and a courtyard for gatherings clients, visitors and volunteers will always find a Meeting Point International employee with a welcoming smile.

2. Naguru

The Naguru offices of Meeting Point



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International building are located in Katale zone three, Katale drive before the Naguru go down market, Nakawa division. This is where meetings, dances, health education and adult literacy classes are held every Monday and Wednesday.

In Naguru as clients come in and out throughout the day, everyone who comes into the office is a friend and has a story to tell. The women here have formed a tightly knit group, but they are open and inviting. New friends are made every day and no one goes home feeling alone.

3. Kireka

Kireka is constantly evolving. The continuous flow of migrants from northern Uganda, mostly of Acholi descent, has given this area its' nick-name of "The Acholi Quarter." In their songs, the women of MPI affectionately call it "New York City".

The Acholi Quarter's colorful residents have created a tightly knit community, unified in many ways by the bright blue and white structure built by Meeting Point International. Women gather there during the day to make necklaces and dance; while other men and women come for literacy classes.

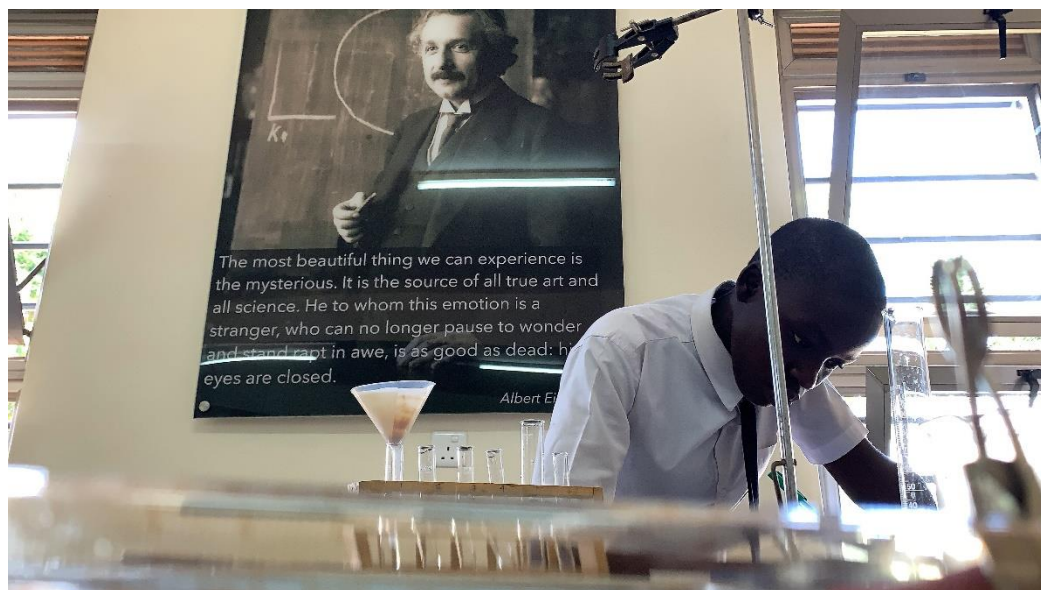
2. Activities implemented during 2019 by the Luigi Schools (LG) schools

2.1 Educational support with the 2019 activities



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As the new academic year begins, the students are greatly excited knowing that besides class room activities, there are other events that take place. In 2019, the students participated in activities such as sports, music, dance, drama, Christmas carols, agricultural activities and many others. As we continue to work with the Luigi schools, we still have the desire to educate a child as a whole, educating their heart thus discovering who they are. This explains the different activities done by the schools to achieve this. We have also realized that activities and games are highly formative, educational, create a continuous awareness and are generating seriousness in our students visible in our schools and home environments. We were informed by Luigi Giussani Pre-primary and primary school (LGPPS) that they consider these activities fully part of the education path of the school because it's an important chance for all the students to express themselves in a way that is not strictly the academic performance, but instead they can show real talents and soft skills which, according to the vision of the school, are equally important as the scholastic skills.



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A photo showing one of the child enjoying some of the sports activities at LGPPS

At Luigi Giussani High School (LGHS), they had quite a number of activities. They were not able to have sports day because the field was under some renovations. However, the students have sports activities after classes in the evening. They play games like football, basketball, chess and netball.



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A photo showing the LGHS students during the chess lessons and completions

The Music, dance and drama (MDD) is a big event that the students really enjoy. One of the students called Luigi Giussani NAM-0252 mentioned that *“the time table for the MDD was put on the notice board three weeks prior to the D-day which hiked up the adrenaline in students because of the excitement. The teachers had to work around their time table to accommodate preparations for the main day of the competitions.”* Not only do the students enjoy but the teachers as well. The theme for the MDD was ‘Who Am I?’ Reaching this question is not something automatic to any person, but it is the only way of helping both the teachers and students to go deep into there our lives to find out what is happening to them. As usual, the MDD competition was very tough amongst the different houses i.e. St. Theresa, St. Agnes, St. Savio and St. Kizito. The houses competed in different activities such as singing, dancing and drama. They sung several folk songs and a set piece which was entitled ‘*what a friend we have in Jesus*’. They danced several traditional dances as well and did drama (Figure 3) all based on the



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theme. Both the teachers and the students had a lot of experiences to tell after it. this is evident when one of the teachers (Mr Kawooya Francis) attached to St Teresa said; *“When it comes to house activities, I always work with a team of about five other teachers but I will talk about my experience. What I wanted to bring out is that I don't always work alone, I distribute responsibilities as I do the monitoring of all the activities. First of all, what has helped me to do my work is the fact that I have a special connection with my students in my house, they love me as much as I do love them. So, this is a great aspect that helps us to work together, I need them as much as they need me too, we are always in close contact with each other. I made them realise that our house is made for something better and bigger, we can't settle for a second or any other place apart from the first position. So, I always tell them we need to always win and for us to do that, we need to put in our best as God also helps us. I also give different students some responsibilities to monitor their fellow students, for me I always put in my best because I know this is not a house for students, it's our house it's for everyone so I always have to do my best since my students need to be glorious. Our house has to be in a winning position always and this is what drives me to work harder with my students. I have a special feeling of belonging to my house so, I feel I have to give it my best. So, whenever it's my house activities, I have to be with my students' every time they need me because whenever they see me, they feel they are not alone. They have an adult who is doing his best so this motivates them to work harder and harder.”*

From this experience, we see that Francis feels he belongs to his house which is a very important thing. This does not apply for Francis only but the students too. We also see that he has to develop a relationship with his students in order for them to work together. Good enough, this relationship doesn't only end here but it also pushes on to class rooms. There are some students that don't express themselves so well in class but they are so free when it comes to such activities, this gives an opportunity for the teachers to get to know these students well. As the saying goes 'no man is an island', we see that the teacher and students had to cooperate between each other in order to bring in good results, in other words team work. Another important thing i have learnt from Francis's experience is that we need someone to journey with us to reach our goal.



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A photo showing the LGHS students acting a stage play

LGHS also carries out agricultural activities. Students in the agricultural club carry out Vertical gardening (*Figure 4*). This year the students got involved in growing of the crops along the fence to encourage proper utilisation of the small space available. This involves activities like planting crops, mixing of manure, transplanting, weeding all aimed at encouraging Vertical gardening. The students are helped by Valentina Moltisanti (an agricultural adviser from AVSI) and Mr Mugwere (a teacher at LGHS) not to only pass exams but to also learn practical agricultural skills that can help them in the future given the fact that the Ugandan government has made agriculture a key priority. The students grew vegetables like onions, carrots and spinach. The students during this activity are also taken to different agricultural seminars where they have other activities like playing basketball with other schools through the support of the sky project.



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A photo showing one of the students practicing vertical gardening at LGHS

Another activity that the students greatly anticipate for is the Christmas carols. This activity is usually at the end of the year towards the Christmas season. The students and the teachers involved usually take many months to prepare for it. But these many months of practice usually pay off because the students display angelic voices. This is so evident in One of the students Odong Jonathan coded NAM-0224 who said, *“the Christmas carols create an immense amount of joy mainly because the audience is given chance to sing with the choir. And the best part is dancing at the end of the day with everyone on stage. This short moment of joy makes me forget about earthly worries*



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and problems. The parents of the students singing usually have the best time watching their children sing with great joy and willingly. This is a moment where all you see are smiles on people's faces when you look around because they are amazed by such beauty of music."

The Christmas carols bring a lot of joy and happiness to all. This is well expressed in one of the teachers, choir master, trainer and teacher at LGHS (Mr. Wandera Joseph) who shared with us his experience when he said, *"And the Word was made flesh" – incarnation - is the basis on which Luigi Giussani High School was established. It is living on the fact that God is with us and that gives us the reason to live and have hope for tomorrow. By incarnation, the history of humanity changed in that, God started dwelling and dwells among us; it is with the same belief that I have the zeal and the reason to celebrate through the Christmas carols. I try what I can to share this joy with my friends, the choir members, majority of whom are students. The journey we take together in preparing the carols is "full of hardship" because we always look for the "free" time which is almost impossible to get in any day school; so, we start as early as July but using two hours per week during school days. However, it's very exciting because most of the students really like what they do and are also happy with the progress they make in their music (singing) career as time goes on. Sometimes, I feel overwhelmed by my duties as a teacher and at the same time Deputy Head Teacher. Nonetheless, when I meet the students around the school compound who ask me what new song we are going to learn and whether we are to meet (for the rehearsals) or not, I am encouraged the more to the extent that I feel the load light and work shifts even faster, smoother and more accurate than before. I train the students for my happiness – because I Love music - and I realised that even the students sing the carols for their own happiness, so I am encouraged. When the parents and our other friends come to school for the Christmas carols, I realise they do it for their happiness; which makes me believe even more in one of our roots beliefs that 'we are made for happiness.' Like Christ came to us for His happiness (to save mankind), the happiness spreads to humanity for being redeemed by Christ but also through the sweet songs of the carols. It is very interesting when the parents, teachers and friends including all those from Italy and from within Uganda join the students on the stage, dancing and singing to the happiness of the Christ born in us but yet to be born on Christmas day. It has been one of the most fulfilling experience I have felt in my career as a teacher more so of Luigi Giussani High School."*



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A photo showing the students and their choir master during the Christmas carols at LGHS

At Luigi Giussani Pre-Primary and primary school, they hold their MDD at the end of the year. It takes almost one day, during which all the ten classes (Nursery to Primary 7 classes) perform at least 3 items each, and these can include dancing, singing and drama, both traditional and contemporary. The classes take turn according to a specific schedule, so that there is time for a group of students to rest and prepare the next item while another class is still on stage. The parents of all the students and the friends of the school are invited for this grand event. At the end of the activities, there is a moment of dancing where the parents, teachers, pupils and all other invited guests can dance all together as one big family at the end which brings joy among all the people attending the party.



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A photo showing the LGPPS students performing a traditional dance during the MDD

In addition, the school (LGPPS) also has another interesting activity that takes place every Wednesday after lunch. The school usually has the '*the special Wednesday assembly*'. It is quite different from the morning assembly that majority of schools have, in fact it is not a moment for official announcements or comments by teachers about the behavior of students, there's another assembly for this on Monday mornings. But rather it's a moment of sharing for everyone in the school. Different classes take turn and in the lapse of 30 minutes, they present to the rest of the students different items. They can be a musical performance (singing or dancing) or a piece of drama. Sometimes, at the end of the drama, the actors engage the spectators in questions concerning the acted story and the meaning carried out, and a small conversation about it takes place. Other times, the assembly can be the stage for individual talent: a student can sing his/her favorite song in front of the rest of the school.



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The Wednesday assembly can also be the chance to present part of the work that a class did during the lesson time: explanation of a topic or a particular project carried out during the year. Thereafter, the school closes at 3pm. It closes early in order to allow the teachers to have their weekly staff meeting, an important moment of reflection about the educational proposal the school is carrying out, challenges they are facing and proposal of new strategies.



A photo showing the pupils performing a dramatic play during the Wednesday assembly

The Olympic day is another favourite of the students, its full of sports activities just like the world Olympic tournament, this one is tailored though for the young learners. The day starts with stretching for all, thereafter, the races set off. Two of them are organised, one for the lower classes and the other for the higher classes. The one for the lower classes is organized inside the school compound where as the one for the upper classes, was a 3 km course within the surrounding slum (some few talented students had the chance to run two laps of it). This marathon was an amazing experience for students and for the whole community which had the chance to see our students engaged in such activity in their own environment. At the end of the races, the tournaments began on the eight playing fields set up in the compound, during which the three Houses (White,



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Green and Red) clashed in different rotational races. The competitions were designed according to the different age groups of students: “*young, medium and big*”. For the little ones some simple games were played (such as Tag-of-war or Sack-race); the medium age students played some more complex games like Prisoner ball and other challenging games involving tennis balls and rackets. For the older ones, Soccer and Hand ball tournaments took place. At mid-morning the tournaments were paused to enable children have breakfast, and resumed again up to lunch time. All the teachers were involved as referees on the various playing fields, supported by some coaches who systematically collaborate with the school, and by some parents. At the end of the tournaments a “special” lunch (rice and beans) was served and then there were the awards. For each class, a boy and a girl were awarded with a medal plus an additional prize (such as t-shirts, sweets or toys). Some Special Mentions for those students who showed a particular commitment, sense of team or resilience during the day was also done. In the end, the final score was communicated: the winning House for 2019 was declared and awarded with the cup. They will hold it up to the next Olympic Day. The day closed with a moment of party with songs and dances.



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Figure 8: A photo showing the LGPPS students during the slum marathon (Olympics)

In conclusion, in our quest to educate a child as a whole, we also desire for them to be happy. These activities mentioned above have proved to be one of the sources of happiness for them, they don't only bring joy but they are an important component in our journey with the students to help them discover themselves out of class. The classroom can become a bit monotonous for some students hence these activities are really refreshing.

2.1 Home Visits

A medical doctor visits the patients in the centres of MPI twice a week. The ones who need special care are referred to Nsambya Hospital Home care, where some personnel of MPI is regularly present to facilitate the hospital services. Sick people are also visited at home; the support is not only medical and material but aims at rebuilding the patient's self-esteem and re-integrating him/her as a full member of the family.



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2.2 Treatment and Medical Care

There are many organizations in Kampala that serve the sick, impoverished, hungry. At Meeting Point International, the focus is not simply on the problem but also on the individual. Each new client is treated with love; MPI focuses on the value and dignity of every individual, ensuring that all needs are cared for while also activating one's ability to feel pride and responsibility. Every new client of MPI spends time chatting with staff and other patients.

2.3 Anti-retroviral Treatment

In the early days of Meeting Point International, ARV drugs were expensive, and in short supply. The registration book was filled with patients who came for help and yet couldn't get it because of the then high cost of the medicines. MPI staff watched in dismay as their attempt to treat infections bore no fruit without antiretroviral treatment. As international donations arose though and scientific advances made ARV medications affordable, MPI clients have begun now to fully experience the wonder of life. Today, MPI supports about 600 patients, 23 of these are on ARV. The men, women, and children who receive medicine are generally referred to organizations around Kampala that provide drugs for free or at reduced costs.

The support of qualified help and all-embracing companionship is offered through counselling in order not to leave the sick person alone in front of the fear of suffering and death. The groups working with Meeting Point International include Nsambya Hospital, The St Benedict Hospital, and SAS clinic. Unlike many patients on ARV medication who fail to follow their treatment regimens, clients of Meeting Point International are educated and monitored to make sure that they take their medicines properly and continually. As a result, patients achieve and maintain great health without stop.

2.4 Psychosocial Support

Football, yoga, Acro-yoga and aerobics sessions, volleyball, music dance and drama (MDD) and educational trips are the most enjoyable activities of Meeting Point International. Through these simple activities, women and youth have lots of fun and they express themselves without fear of been ridiculed. The attention to every detail of the journey, the delicious food shared among the participants, the amazing landscapes, the atmosphere of solidarity, the joy and the dances are overwhelming. These are factors that lead to the discovery of the beauty of creation, and everyone feels part of this



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beauty. Meeting Point International implements also sports competitions which help our clients to be more alive and energetic. Besides that, being part of the team helps the individual to become more confident in life and it reduces the risk of loneliness by being together with other friends.

Whenever our clients get the chance to kick a ball or sing and dance, they feel free and they forget their problems for a while. By singing and dancing together our women and youth get the strengths to face daily toil. The women in Naguru and Kireka also benefit from the physical exercises sessions that are carried out by the youth of New Hope Dance Project Uganda (NHDP) every week.



A photo showing the women dancing during the weekly meetings at Kireka cultural center



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2.5 Sports activities with Real Madrid Foundation.



This is the third year (2019) where Luigi Giussani High School has been aided by Real Madrid Foundation, in funding their sports program at the school premises, where the 185 students between the ages of 13-17 years have had football training sessions and throughout the whole year. The students have been practicing dribbling, shooting, goalkeeping, throw in, positioning, ball control, passing, attacking and

defending with the sports coaches.

The program has been an opportunity to improve life skills of the students through learning how to play the fair game along with all its rules, accepting defeat after a loss in the football game and being aware of one's limitation in such a way that one can work ways to improve it both individually and collectively in the team.

The students eventually applied their skills when they played a number of games against their teachers as well as themselves. They also played football on the sports day which occurred in March, 2018.

2.6 Adult literacy

adult education classes are additional programs provided by Meeting Point International. MPI clients and volunteers are taught basic literacy (how to read, write and speak English) and numeracy (so that they become able to count, add, subtract and divide any figure). This helps the clients, especially those who are planning to start a business as an income generating activity.

Acquiring new knowledge gives confidence, improves esteem and enables the women to carry on with their daily work with pride and communication has been easy when visitors come to visit in Uganda. English lessons especially help women living in the Naguru and Acholi Quarters, who have often faced problems of language barrier. This reduces translations in offices and hospitals when the women visit. Students in adult



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classes work very hard to make the most out of their education. They are serious about exams and often request tests to make sure they are learning everything they can. It is a remarkable aspect – especially since it is a generally rare thing to see students so excited and enthusiastic about their education! Throughout this year the number of women who attend adult literacy has been increased to approximately 120 members both in Kireka and Naguru.

2.7 Apprenticeship program

this is an activity conducted by MPI together with AVSI Foundation. It is an activity which supports the youths who have completed school but have no work to do and



those that have dropped out of school for different reasons. This enables them to acquire practical skills in the work environment. This activity enables program

the youth to be able to utilize their free time profitably so that they are not idle and end up joining bad gangs in the community. For this, through the social workers of MPI identifies these vulnerable youths from the slums of Kireka and Naguru to enroll them for apprenticeship. This activity began in 2018 to support our youth and at least five youths were enrolled. MPI also

takes the initiative to follow up and monitor the youth under this program to make sure they are performing well.

2.8 Financial literacy

When the score project (from USAID through AVSI Foundation) began in 2012, two of our social workers Teddy Bongomin and Achan Agnes received training on Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA). They received knowledge on group formations, saving, welfare, loans, leadership, and constitution etcetera.

Having formed these groups, from 2017 to 2019, Teddy and Agnes have been training the members of the VSLA groups on financial literacy on various topics like, debt management, saving management, records keeping, and data collection, such that



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members are helped to face the daily challenges with in their groups. Further training has been conducted to the members on “Selection Planning Management (SPM) of Income Generating Activities (IGA)” which has aided members without businesses to identify IGA’s and to those that already have one, to sustain and help in making vital decisions.

2.8 Financial literacy

When the score project (from USAID through AVSI Foundation) began in 2012, two of our social workers Teddy Bongomin and Achan Agnes received training on Village Saving and Loan Associations (VSLA). They received knowledge on group formations, saving, welfare, loans, leadership, and constitution etcetera. Having formed these groups, from 2017 to 2019, Teddy and Agnes have been training the members of the VSLA groups on financial literacy on various topics like, debt management, saving management, records keeping, and data collection, such that members are helped to face the daily challenges with in their groups. Further training has been conducted to the members on “Selection Planning Management (SPM) of Income Generating Activities (IGA)” which has aided members without businesses to identify IGA’s and to those that already have one, to sustain and help in making vital decisions.

2.9 Crafts production



The women have been producing necklace for a long period of time. This was initially to find an alternative to crushing rocks in the quarry which was already toilsome for them some of whom were already weak from HIV/AIDS. In these recent years, the women have begun to evolve and not only concentrate on necklaces. They have begun to also make other crafts such as Giraffes, Elephants, bags, table cloths, bed covers and many others which are made from



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African material. In this way, by making these products, the women are increasing the ways of earning money. AVSI through the Distance Support program and Support International play a very big role in supporting the women by finding the market for the products that the women make. This support has culminated into the families sustaining themselves through the products they produce. Luigi Giussani High School was built through this kind of support. That is finding the market for the products that the women make. Last year, three of our women were involved in cow horn training and production with Kimala Production, a company that collaborates with us.

2.10 Child protection (Welcoming House)

A house was built for the children who have lost both of their parents and don't have relatives who care for them. The welcoming house tries to reproduce the context of a family and a normal condition for life through a stable presence of adults who have become for the children, the effective and educative point of reference. Occasionally the welcoming house offers emergency assistance to the malnourished children. More than 85 children have passed through the Welcoming House and currently 60 children are living there. Some are brought by concerned adults or police, while others are found alone in the streets of Kampala. The staff at the Welcoming House become a family for these children, teaching them self-respect and treating them with all the kindness a parent should. The Welcoming House is a safe haven for these little ones, we continue, with the support of the police, to trace the relatives of this children; if available, a family can offer the best form of care for a child. When placement back in their home fails, some of the children are cared for by families in the community. Amidst all their potential suffering, and lack of means, it Amidst all their potential suffering, and lack of



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means, it's often the women of MPI who volunteer to take responsibility to raise one of these orphans. The openness with which they receive other children who are not even related to them is always a lesson and a sign for us that humanity is indeed powerful!





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3 Renovation of the Welcoming House.

Meeting point international always ensures that the children of the Welcoming House live in a beautiful and conducive environment where they can grow up happy and healthy.

Meeting Point International Renovated Welcoming House thanks to the help received from AVSI and Support International. Renovation works of toilet, bathrooms, tables, kitchens, etc. has been ongoing throughout the year and the house structure has been repaired and improved both internally and externally. New structures have been set up, for example, the shed where children can now play and study.

4. Our partners

Work to support local vulnerable communities is teamwork which involves stakeholders, from both local government and the private sector. For example; Ministries of gender, Labor and Social Welfare the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education are in close collaboration with Meeting Point International to improve livelihood in the community. MPI works hand in hand with private stakeholders, institutions and individuals who provide social services.

This network of collaborators is a key factor to ensure that vulnerable families and their children have access to services available from private and government sectors.



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|  <p>WFP World Food Programme</p> | <p>ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL NSAMBYA</p>  |  | <p>int-nt.org</p>  <p>Pellegrinaggio a piedi Macerata Loreto</p> |
|  <p>Support International e.V.</p> |  <p>SUPPORT INTERNATIONAL E.V.</p> | <p>LUIGI GIUSSANI PRE PRIMARY AND PRIMARY SCHOOL</p>  <p>With our hands but with His strength</p> |  <p>LUIGI GIUSSANI INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION</p> |
|  <p>LOVE AND SERVE GO HEAL AND TEACH</p> | <p>ASSTECA</p>  <p>CONSULTATIVE BROKER</p> | <p>LUIGI GIUSSANI HIGH SCHOOL</p>  <p>With our hands but with His strength</p> | <p>insieme si può ...</p>  <p>In Africa</p> |



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