

A background photograph showing a man on the left and a child on the right. The man is looking towards the child, and they appear to be engaged in a collaborative activity, possibly a craft project. The image is partially obscured by a dark green rounded rectangle containing text.

Supporting Local Community Based Organisations

Activity Report (2015-2020)

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Introduction

Knowledge for Change does not only run its own projects but also supports a number of local, independent Community Based Organisations (CBOs) with similar organisation objectives to our own. Many of these CBOs are relatively small but are highly experienced in their respective fields and run extremely beneficial projects supporting the health and educational needs of local communities. The areas of focus of these CBOs are varied and include women and children's empowerment, mental health services, family planning, HIV screening and counselling, caring for children with physical and mental disabilities and rehousing orphaned children within wider families and communities. K4C provides support in various forms including providing direct finance, staff capacity building, joint research opportunities, use of our office facilities and human resources.

Identification of Partners



K4C is always open to exploring new partnerships and recognises the great work being done by other organisations in the local areas and sectors within which we operate. We are committed to only supporting organisations which share the same core objectives and principles on ethics and sustainability. We focus our support on based on the nature of activities being undertaken, the effectiveness of interventions, the transparency and integrity of the

partner organisation and their ability to achieve value for money. We will only partner with an organisation which demonstrates a real desire and commitment to the partnership and where expectations of each party are clear from the outset. K4C has several Memorandums of Understanding in place to govern partnership activities, expectations, responsibilities and decision making.

If you are interested in establishing a partnership with Knowledge for Change, please contact us by email (info@knowledge4change.org), Facebook ([@K4CUganda](https://www.facebook.com/K4CUganda)), Twitter ([@K4C_Uganda](https://twitter.com/K4C_Uganda)) or Instagram ([@Knowledge4Change](https://www.instagram.com/Knowledge4Change)).

Main Partners Supported to Date

Kyanninga Children's Development Centre (KCDC)



KCDC was established to provide much needed high quality, specialised and affordable assessment, treatment, education and support to children with disabilities, and their families and carers, to enable them to lead more independent lives. They provide occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech language therapy assessment and rehabilitation to children aged 0-16, in order to help them to meet their developmental goals. They work to ensure the children achieve their optimum potential, that maximal function is achieved and the effect of

disability minimised, so that they may overcome many of the barriers that they and their families face. KCDC also provides training, education and support to families, carers and communities in the care of children and young adults with special needs.

KCDC also serves as a focal point for information, advocacy and networking for families and communities in the area, providing relevant information to empower the community to make informed decisions about their health. In addition, we lobby and advocate for fair policies and laws that affect the daily life of the disabled community through research, networking and strategic alliance building.

The partnership between K4C and KCDC began in 2015. KCDC provides excellent student placement opportunities for K4C's physiotherapy and occupational therapy students. K4C has provided KCDC with nearly £2500 in support funding and our professional volunteers are available to support their activities whenever they are required.



Youth and Women's Empowerment Foundation



The Youth and Women Empowerment (Yawe) Foundation started as a CBO in 2000 and aims to improve the welfare of orphans and vulnerable children, especially those living with HIV/AIDS, in Kabarole district, Uganda. Yawe operates a youth friendly health centre in Kabarole district which offers a wide range of services including, HIV testing and counselling, psychological consultation, immunization, family planning services and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

Yawe has established a strong network of young people living with HIV/AIDs in Kabarole and the neighbouring districts with the aim of empowering them to overcome stigma, improving treatment adherence and supporting positive living.

K4C has partnered with Yawe since 2015 and has supported their activities with over £4,000 of direct funding. A number of K4C students have also provided support during community health outreaches and in running family planning and HIV testing and counselling services. More recently, K4C has begun to support Yawe in running joint research initiatives.

Agency for Community Development and Welfare



The Agency for Community Development and Welfare (ACODEWE) was founded as a CBO in 2006 and aims to address the social-economic rights of marginalized groups living in Kabarole District, Uganda. Their objectives are to address the needs and rights of marginalized groups, to enhance social and economic empowerment of the community, to strengthen the capacity and provide relevant information and training to stakeholders and to increase community participation in community and grass-root-based initiatives.

K4C has partnered with ACODEWE since 2015 and has supported their activities with over £3,000 of direct funding, along with various computing equipment and IT training for their staff. A number of K4C students have been placed at ACODEWE to support their community-based work, in particular their initiatives aimed at supporting the families of children with physical and mental disabilities.

Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation



Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation (RSNF) was founded in 2010 and is committed to promoting the rights of children (age 4-18) with disabilities, helping them and their families to access resources and opportunities to enable them to achieve their full potential. RSNF directly assists approximately 1500 children each year through their Community Based Rehabilitation approach, which emphasizes the use of locally available resources, active involvement of parents and family members and rehabilitation with the home environment. They also provide equipment and learning aids for children with

special learning needs and have a multisensory room within their facility which provides essential therapy and rehabilitation.

K4C has partnered with RSNF since 2017 and has since supported them with nearly £1,000 of direct funding. K4C has also placed a number of Social Work students at the centre to assist in providing advice and support for their disabled clientele.

CoRSU Rehabilitation Hospital



CoRSU was established as a private non-profit NGO in 2006, with the main aim of expanding and improving the medical rehabilitation services for children and people with disability in Uganda. Their services include providing orthopaedic, plastic and reconstructive surgeries and comprehensive rehabilitation. Treatments for patients below 17 years of age are provided free of charge or are subsidised. CoRSU has also successfully developed private practice through the CoRSU Phoenix Ward where

they provide fast-track services (orthopaedic and reconstructive surgeries but also therapies) with very positive results.

Knowledge for Change has supported CoRSU with over £2,500 in direct funding and has also placed several physiotherapy students at the facility to support their rehabilitation services.

Katalemwa Cheshire Home



Katalemwa Cheshire Home (KCH) was founded in Uganda in 1971, with the original aim of providing a family home environment to people who were incurably sick or with physical disabilities. KCH has evolved somewhat since then, and now offers medical and community-based rehabilitation services, fabrication and production of assistive devices, child empowerment and educational support, livelihood and

psychosocial support along with carrying out advocacy and lobbying for the rights of children with disabilities. By 2022, they aim to have increased access to quality holistic rehabilitation services for 25,000 children and young people with disabilities through the use of innovative approaches and collaboration with partner organisations. They also aim for 5,000 households to have improved livelihoods and be able to sustainably meet the development and growth needs of children and young people with disabilities in their care.

K4C has partnered with KCH since 2018, supporting the maintenance of its medical devices and subsequently hosting a British Commonwealth funded fellowship for one of their orthopaedic technicians to travel to the UK to undertake a 3-month training programme. A number of K4C prosthetics and orthotics students have spent time at KCH to support their orthopaedic technology department.



Summary

K4C plans to continue to support our existing partners in whatever way we can, building on the successes achieved so far. It is recognised that the most effective and sustainable of partnerships are those that are mutually beneficial with both organisations supporting one another in achieving their objectives. We will also continue to seek new partnerships and collaborations from 2020 onwards, both in Uganda and elsewhere.





Knowledge for Change

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