



Reach the Youth Uganda

Vision: We envision “A world where the youth have an opportunity to maximize their potential and influence decisions that affect their lives”.

Mission: We renew our commitment to partner with the youth and other stakeholders and contribute to the process of enabling them to access opportunities and make right choices for sustainable livelihoods.

Core values: Integrity, Teamwork, Innovativeness, Mutual Respect and Professionalism.

Core Principles: Young people-cantered, youth participation, learning, integrated, gender-sensitive, investing in staff and volunteers, accountability and respect for the environment.



RTY ED and CAO Kasese district handing over tool kits to youth trained by RTY

1.0 Introduction

Reach The Youth- Uganda (RTY) is a Non-Government Organization (NGO) that was founded to contribute to addressing socio-economic needs of adolescents and youths such as; increasing access to reproductive health/HIV and AIDS information and services; increasing employment opportunities, and promoting environment protection and human rights. Programme beneficiaries are children, adolescents, youths, women below 30 years and key populations.

2.0 Goal and Strategic Objectives

2.1 Goal:

To enable youths to live fuller, healthier and a more productive life.

2.2 Strategic objectives:

- To create awareness about adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights (ASRH/RR) and available services among young people 10-24 years.
- To contribute to a reduction in new HIV infections amongst adolescents and youth (15 – 30 years) including most at risk populations.
- To strengthen the socio-economic status of adolescents and youth through skilling and creating youth self or gainful employment opportunities.
- To increase youth contribution to environmental protection.

3.0 RTY On-going Programmes

RTY has implemented a number of projects over the years. The on-going programs currently being implemented by RTY include:

3.1 DREAMS

RTY in partnership with Rakai Health Sciences Program (RHSP) and with funding from Centers for Disease Control and prevention (CDC) is implementing DREAMS initiative in Lwengo district targeting 25,000 adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), aged 14-24 years. The aim of DREAMS project is to reduce new HIV infections among AGYW using a combination of behavioral change, biomedical and structural HIV prevention interventions in the 6 sub-counties of Lwengo district (Kyazanga, Malongo, Kisekka, Kkingo, Ndagwe and Lwengo rural). **DREAMS** stands for '**D**etermined, **R**esilient, **E**mpowered, **A**IDS-free, **M**entored and **S**afe woman'.

DREAMS target subpopulations are in-school, pregnant, married, given birth and engaged in transactional sex. The new targets per segment are as tabulated below:

Segments	Target Yr. 1	Achieved	Unmet	New Target 2018/2019	Total
Given Birth	8,350	5,392	2,958	2,770	5,728
In school	5,069	4,976	93	1,406	1,499
Married	1,718	1,430	288	769	1,057
Pregnant	779	814	-35	447	412
TS	999	1,104	-106	3,664	3,559
Total	16,915	13,716	3,199	9,056	12,255

DREAM_Service layering

Service layering refers to number of enrolled AGYW that have received at least three cores services namely HIV testing services (HTS), Stepping stones (SS) and SES (socio-economic strengthening (Vocational training, crop/animal husbandry and financial literacy). These services are meant to empower the AGYW so as prevent them from acquiring HIV/AIDS.



DREAMS artisan training AGYW in bakery, soap and jerry making, conducting a soap making class of AGYW at Kinoni Safe Space in Kisekka Subcounty.



Artisan instructing a tailoring class – Kiwangala safe space Kisekka Subcounty



DREAM girls in hairdressing class



Girls giving testimony about how DREAMS has changed their lives

3.2 Vocational Training-Mbarara

With support from Tools with a Mission-UK (TWAM) RTY is to support youth with vocational tools. TWAM donated assorted tool kits to be given to out of school and un employed youths aged 14-15-24 years. The youth will undergo training in vocational skills before receiving tools. The initial beneficiaries shall be the youths from the subcounties of Bubaare, Rwanyamahembe, Bukiro and Rubaya. The purpose is to create employment opportunities for out of school youth so that they can realize disposable income to enable them access core services and have meaningful lives.

3.3 School Gardening Project

RTY with funding from CACTES Association-Candaa will initially support 6 primary in Mbarara district to start school gardens. The aim is to teach pupils gardening skills and also raise income from sales and provide pupils with lunch. The pioneer primary schools shall be Kashaka, Rwentanga, Rubaya, Kitengure, Karuyenje and Runengo. A total of 2,772 pupils are targeted to benefit from this project. The above six schools have land and school administration is keenly interested and looking forward to starting school gardening project.

3.4 Socio-economic Empowerment Project

With funding from CACTES Association-Candaa RTY will support 24 out of school youth in Mbarara district to engage in piggerly or goat rearing. The aim is to support the beneficiary youth to start income generating activities (IGA) as an employment alternative. The youth will be trained by agriculture and extension workers, learn from mentors- model farmers on how best to manage the IGAs in a profitable manner.

3.5 ACE-Fort Project in Kyenjojo

RTY is one of the 28 NGOs sub-granted by Baylor Uganda to implement activities aimed at accelerating HIV epidemic control in the region. The project covers 7 districts of Bundibugyo, Kabarole, Kamwenge, Kasese, Kyegegwa, Kyenjojo and Ntoroko. RTY implements the Community-Facility Framework (CFF) in 3 Sub Counties. RTY is targeting to reach 5,464 clients affected by HIV and TB.

3.5 SMART AFRICA – UGANDA (2016-2021)

Strengthening Mental health and Research Training (SMART) Uganda is a five-year scale-up study that is being conducted in 30 primary schools targeting 3,000 pupils 10-13 years and 3,000 care givers to assess level of child disruptive behavioral changes and is being implemented in Uganda, Kenya and Ghana. RTY and Rakai Health Services Program (RHSP) are implementing partner to Washington University in St Louis. The project was launched in Uganda in 2016 by First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports Hon Janet Museveni



The First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Museveni at the launch of SMART Uganda. On her right is Prof. Mary McKay, the PI and Prof Fred Ssewamala-Co PI and Dr Abel Mwebembezi-Co Lead in Uganda.

3.6 SUUBI4CANCER (2018-2020)

The Suubi4Cancer is a two-year exploratory study that seeks to identify confirmed and suspected cancer cases among 3,000 living with HIV/AIDS in Masaka region known to be heavily

affected by HIV/AIDS. The study will explore the short term preliminary outcomes of an existing evidence based economic empowerment (EE) intervention, on access to pediatric cancer diagnosis, care and treatment among youth with suspected cancers. The study will involve 78 adolescents/youth in 39 health centers where Suubi+ Adherence study was conducted among youth already on ART Treatment.

3.7 Kyaterekera Project (2018-2023)

The Kyaterekera Project is an innovative combination study intervention that adds economic empowerment components to traditional HIV risk reduction (HIVRR) sessions to reduce new incidences of sexually transmitted infections among female sex workers and provide alternative means of safe and sustainable income to replace sex work.

The study is implemented in 7 districts of greater Masaka and will involve 990 women engaged in Sex work (SESW). The study is implemented by Washington University in St Louis in partnership with Reach the Youth Uganda and Rakai Health Sciences Program.

3.8 Suubi4 her (2017-2022)

The Suubi4her project is a longitudinal study implemented in 47 Secondary

schools in greater Masaka region targeting 1,260 female students aged 14-17 years. The project aims examine the impact and cost associated with an innovative combination intervention that aims at preventing HIV risk behavior in communities heavily affected by poverty and AIDS. The activities will include supporting girls to start income generating activities (IGA), support youth development bank accounts and implement multiple family group (MFG) intervention.



Hon Dr John C Musingo Ministers of State for Higher Education, MOE and Hon Sarah Kiyingi, Minister of State for Youth at the Launch of Suubi4her project in Masaka July, 2018.



The Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga with Prof Fred Ssewamala, Dr Abel Mwebembezi-ED RTYi, Hon Dr Bukenya, MP Bukuya; and Simba –Director Child Fund at Parliament after a SMART Conference in Uganda



Dr. Abel Mwebembezi, In-Country Principle Investigator of ICHAD with Prof. Fred Ssewamala, at Washing University in St Louis, USA; 2018



RTY Director at Adolescent Health Alliance_NISA-Nigeria Conference in Abuja Nigeria, August 2018 funded by NIH.

3.9 Adolescent Health Project-Kyenjojo

With funding from Her Voice Fund-EANNASO_ Arusha, Tanzania, RTY implemented a project targeting out of school adolescent girls and young women (AGYW). The project aimed at equipping AGYW with accurate, focused and specific targeted information about adolescent sexual reproductive health and reproductive rights (ASRH/RR) as well as to improve policy environment in support of provision, accessibility and utilization of reproductive health services by AGYW.



A health worker conducting carrying out HIV testing in Kyenjojo



Global Fund representatives, at HerVoice Ambassadors and implementing partners conference at Sun Lodge Hotel in Accra, Ghana, 2018: RTY attended the conference.

For more information contact:
Reach The Youth Uganda (RTY)
Plot 1676 Bukoto-Kisasi Road
P.O. Box 24928 ; Kampala- Uganda

Tel: +256-772 428640/+256702789517

Email: reach_ugandayouth@yahoo.com
Website: www.reachugandayouth.org