

UCUK Newsletter

Spring 2022



Women's Groups: Women's Groups are at the heart of UWCM's work and such is their effectiveness that staff are struggling to keep up with the demand for training new and existing groups.

In the last quarter of 2021 they trained 12 new groups (360 people) in the following topics: parenting skills, group dynamics, all aspects of hygiene, leadership, IGA management, microfinance, children's rights and responsibilities plus couples' training on marriage issues.

One very resourceful group is Nakatsi Women's Group who were acutely aware of the negative impact that the Covid 19 pandemic was having on



children, especially teenagers, and so they decided to take advantage of the long lockdown and train girls in tailoring and dressmaking.

With our funding, UWCM was able to give the group 4 x sewing machines and they hired 2 more and then charged each girl a small amount to be trained for 10 months thus making the project sustainable. The group

have so far trained 15 girls and 6 of them made clothes to sell during the Christmas season which was a huge achievement. We have since donated another 2 x machines which will enable even more girls to be trained.

UWCM staff recently told us: *If there was a time these machines were of value, it was this quarter because when schools opened officially in January, there was need and demand for sanitary pads for young girls, and our groups with the machines have made re-usable pads and distributed to schools just to help the girls.*

Shelter Construction: although, at times, the number of people living in desperate conditions can seem overwhelming, the following 2 extracts from UWCM's recent report show how successful this project is:



It is not in vain that we help needy people with shelter construction like Nabuzale Beatrice. She is now settled in her home and she began a business of selling matooke and greens, and even if the husband does not help her, she is now comfortable! In addition to that and after the lockdown, she started carrying matooke for people to the market from which she earns some money. We thank God that Beatrice is now empowered and independent, and her dignity is restored.*

* Matooke are plantain bananas

We managed to visit the family of Zeuriah for whom we constructed a shelter in 2018, and we were very impressed by the progress she has made in her home. She has improved the house structure and her children are very healthy and have grown up.



Don't forget that you can earn money for UCUK simply by shopping online via www.easyfundraising.org.uk and choosing Uganda Concern UK as your charity. Each time you purchase goods from over 2,000 companies including book-ing.com, Argos, John Lewis a small percentage of the cost will be donated to UCUK. It's free to sign up and if you shop online, it's an easy way to raise funds for us!

For more information & news visit our website www.ugandaconcernuk.org Or search for Uganda Concern UK on Facebook

Prayer & Porridge: We are very excited to announce that UCUK are now funding 2 x Prayer & Porridge projects —one at Lwangoli and one at Sakiya.



Both of these projects are extremely cost-effective with approx. 150 children registered with each. They attend 'club days' each Saturday where they have age-appropriate games & activities; support and counselling; Bible teaching plus a bowl of nutritious porridge for the children.



One of the leaders from Lwangoli church recently thanked UWCM for the good work in their community and noted that the children's confidence has grown and that he has observed that the children's discipline is good and has been maintained, despite schools being closed for 2 years due to Covid.

Our funding also provides scholastic materials (exercise books and pens) for those who would otherwise not be able to attend school and we contribute towards school fees when funds allow.



Both projects are run by volunteers from the local church and overseen by UWCM staff who also carry out regular home visits to monitor the children and their families.

New style 'mini conferences' are a huge success: As a result of pandemic restrictions, it was not possible to hold a residential conference in December 2020 and therefore UWCM suggested holding smaller, non-residential conferences in different communities which would adhere to Covid restrictions but with the additional benefit of more people being involved.



In November and December 2021, UWCM organised 4 x 3 day mini conferences in 4 different communities with 50 young people attending each day ie 200 young people attending in total! Topics covered included: good relationships & hygiene; dreams and goals; self esteem and confidence; stress management; children's rights & responsibilities. This was followed by a 1 day training in each community for 25 parents/guardians ie 100 parent/guardians received training.

These 'mini conferences' are now the model for all future conferences.

PRAYER & PORRIDGE

It costs just approx. £1 per month to support 1 child in either of these projects. See [here](#) for more details of the projects and our [giving page](#) for how to donate.

News from Edith and David Wakumire: David was admitted to hospital in February where his right leg was amputated due to poor circulation as a result of his diabetes. He has since had 2 more operations and Edith and their family spent 2 months caring for him in hospital. We were very happy to learn that David has recently been discharged and they are thankful to everyone for their prayers and support.

Trustees

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If you would like any further information or would like your details to be removed from our mailing list, please contact one of the Trustees.

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