



Reach a **hand**  
young people for young people

# ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE

# TAKE A SNEAK PEAK INTO OUR 2017

Welcome to our 2017 organizational profile. This is your opportunity to learn about what we do, how we do it, why we do what we do and ways through which we can walk this year's journey together.





We're a youth led and youth centered organization focusing on youth empowerment programs with an emphasis on Livelihoods and Skills Development, Behavior Change Communication (BCC), Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), and HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention through the design of innovative, creative and effective communication strategies and campaigns.

# THE REASON WHY WE'RE IN THIS GAME

## OUR VISION

reminds us everyday that it is the young person we're doing this for. We aim to live in a world where every young person is able to make life choices fully backed by the availability of information.

With this in mind,

## OUR MISSION

is to empower young people in Uganda with complete information, the skills and tools which enable them to live healthy, focused and productive lives.



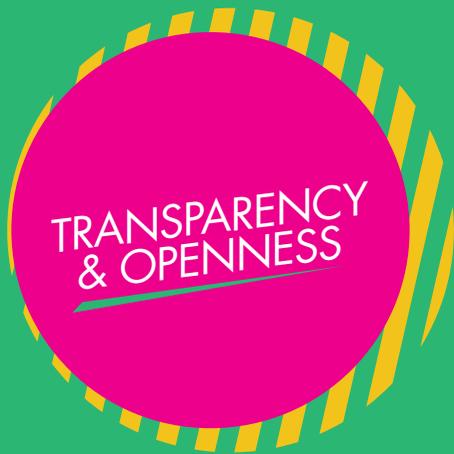
# WHAT WE VALUE MOST



**BELIEF IN YOUNG PEOPLE**

**Belief in young people;** we recognize that young people's concerns can only be well addressed by young people and hence our slogan "Young People for Young People."

**Youth driven;** we work with young people for young people, and bring in the spirit of volunteerism of young people.



**Transparency and openness;** we believe in a culture of honesty and therefore employ an open door policy where all staff and volunteers can freely communicate with each other.



**APPRECIATION FOR DIVERSITY**

**Appreciation for diversity;** we appreciate the difference in the social, cultural and political orientation of our beneficiaries and endlessly work to promote mutual understanding, while recognizing the existent differences. RAHU recognizes the universal nature and cross-cultural appreciation of human beings and their rights.

**Teamwork;** we believe team effort achieves much more than an individual's work and therefore promote team work, utilizing each person's competences to achieve our overall organizational goals and objectives.





Since 2011, the team has morphed into a collaboration of unique minds with diverse abilities that continue to exert a spirited effort to reach more young people. Here are the faces behind the work;

## OUR PEER EDUCATORS

Now in its 4th cohort, our Peer Educators Academy is a full year fellowship program which starts in January with a one month long intensive training of young people to acquire skills on leadership, peer education on behavioral change, teamwork and communication.

Find out more about our movement of peer educators on our website  
[www.reachahand.org/pea](http://www.reachahand.org/pea)



## OUR ADVISORY BOARD



Meet the body that provides us with strategic advice and guidance as we chart forward in our work.

**We are what we are because of those who bless, guide and keep us in line. Our Advisory Board members are the real unsung heroes!**



**THE  
CORE  
TEAM**

Now here is everyone else ensuring that we serve young people in all great ways possible. These are the dynamic and flexible young minds who are at the core of RAHU. Meet the team!

**Sharon Banura Winyi** is our Partnerships and Reputation Manager. Sharon is responsible for making sure our partners are always smiling, well catered for and willing to partner with us on more projects



**SHARON  
BANURA  
WINYI**



**SYLVESTER  
NNYOMBI**

**Sylvester Nnyombi** 's contribution to the Communications Team as a Content Developer, is to craft suitable and satisfactory content for our various online platforms ranging from but not limited to writing blogs, articles to generating social media content.

**Helen Patricia Amutuhaire** contributes as a Content Developer on the Communications team. Helen is in charge of content development ranging from but not limited to writing blogs, articles as well as social media content. She is our linkage to mainstream media houses.



**Athibert Atukunda** who is a Programs Officer, oversees all the activities, planning and implementation of our new livelihoods program, the Katereza Community Alliance and supports the programs and partnerships team as a Programs Officer in implementation of other RAHU projects.

**Ibrahim Nkonge**, the Programs Officer (Communities and Schools), is the guy that will always jump on a quick boda boda, van or taxi to ensure that the bond we have built with schools and communities isn't broken. So when you see RAHU out there, it's because he was there.



**Ibrahim Waiswa Batambuze** fondly known as Bata, ensures that the communications, both internal and external live up to our standards. He is the Communications and Advocacy Manager.

**Maureen Andinda's** practicality and ability to tease out minute details is the reason we're able to (most of the time) meet our deliverables. She's the Monitoring and Evaluation manager.



**Bakshi Asuman**  
This "Mr. Know it all" has become a moving dictionary for Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights policies, frameworks and its trends. Just wake him up at any moment and ask him anything on SRHR. He'll go on until you stop him in his tracks. He is our Programs Manager.



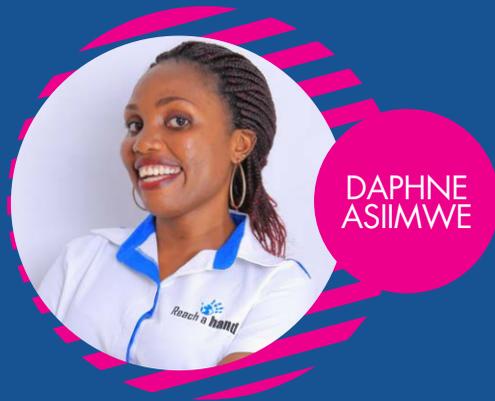
ISSA  
BUKA  
NSUBUGA

**Issa Buka Nsubuga** is the Finance Officer checks into office quietly and runs to his desk in the finance department. He is a critical resource when it comes to drafting budgets and anythings to do with numbers.

**Janet Kukundakwe** as the Finance Officer makes sure that any money that gets in and out of our office is accounted for. She tracks the value-for-money return on all resources entrusted to us.



JANET  
KUKUNDAKWE



DAPHNE  
ASIIMWE

**Daphne Asimwe** is the Finance Manager. She oversees the finance department. Any transactions between us and our partners is unsuccessful unless she has penned her signature on that document. People have powers. Eh.

**Tabitha Akello**  
Tabitha, or just Bitha is our Office Administrator in charge of ensuring our office remains tidy, professional and funky. She's also good at preaching behavior change gospel to young people.



TABITHA  
AKELLO

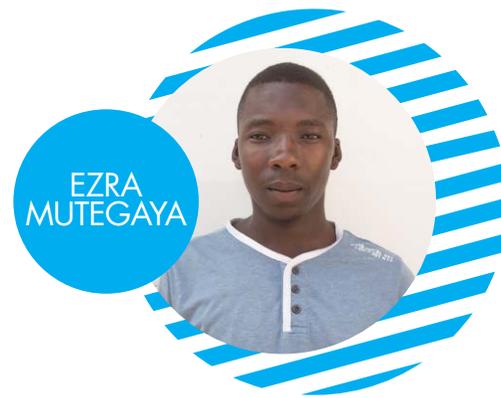


VICTOR  
MUKOSYA

**Victor Mukosya**  
Victor is another loyal Transport Officer on the team ensuring that the staff and peer educators get to their work and field destinations safe and sound.

**Ezra Mutegaya**

Ezra is the Office Assistant ensuring that we have office logistical safety 24/7. He is a jolly fellow, always responsive when needed and a very diligent hard worker.



**Bashir Kabuye** known as Tyler, he's the reason our peer educators are always happy and why they have developed their hands-on skills. He leads the GeNext project ranging from its activities in schools and running it's social media platforms.

**Joyce Babirye** is in charge of Welfare and Hospitality. She makes sure that everyone on the team has a smooth time at office by cooking finger licking, nutritious meals. She is a friend to everyone.



**Morgan Kamoga** is the always trying to maneuver through traffic jam making sure that we get to meetings in time. He is the most loyal driver you will ever meet. Morgan is the Transport Officer.

**Gilbert Beyamba**, our Chief of Staff, the heart of the organization and key in piecing together the RAHU jigsaw. If you need that boardroom deal to get sealed, he is the one you have to call. His straightforward guidance enables us to properly toe the line and put in the work.



**Humphrey Nabimanya**, the Team Leader and Founder is the person behind the RAHU story, built on unwavering passion, a passion that has made it possible for us to grow from a weekend outreach program into a fully fledged organization dedicated to the empowerment of young people.

# OUR AREAS OF INTERVENTION

- Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights
- Behavior Change Communications
- HIV/AIDS Awareness & Prevention
- Youth Livelihood & skills development interventions



# WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO



## THE FACTS



7.3 million Ugandans are 15-24 years of age



4.5 million Ugandan youth are unemployed



32.9% of the country population is aged between 10 - 24 years



25% of adolescents have begun childbearing



19% of women aged 15-19 have given birth, and another 5% were pregnant with their first child Adolescent childbearing is more common in rural than in urban areas (27 versus 19% respectively).



Only 5% of Health centres in Uganda provide Youth Friendly Sexual Reproductive Health Services.



63% of young people were not happy with the services they received at a health center.



Teen girls have limited access to contraception. Only 14% of teenage girls aged 15 - 19 years use a contraceptive method.

Against this background, our work and efforts are timely to make a contribution to ensuring that every young person in Uganda can access the accurate information to aid and direct them in taking that crucial life decision regarding their life skills and development, behavior change communication and sexual reproductive health and rights.

# WHERE WE WORK

As of 2016 we have initiatives in the areas of Kampala, Wakiso, Mpigi, Mbarara, Jinja, Mayuge, Lira, Kabale, Abim, Amudat, Moroto, Kaabong, Kotido, Nakapiripit, Napak, Iganga and Mukono, Luwero, Nakaseke, Butaleja,





## OUR PROJECTS



### THE YOUNG ACHIEVERS AWARDS

The Young Achievers Award serves as a platform that annually showcases and rewards excellence as well as innovation of young people between the ages of 18 and 35 years in leadership and general enterprise.

The Awards are established to encourage individual initiative, competitiveness, and inspiration to young leaders and entrepreneurs in Uganda who are exemplary to others in taking the lead as agents of positive change in their communities and societies.



### KARAMOJA CONNECT

This is our youth empowerment innovation relying on ICT and mentorship to give space to young people in Karamoja to learn about SRH processes and services in their communities and become youth advocates. The program will be implemented by Reach A Hand, Uganda (RAHU), funded by UNFPA Uganda, and endorsed by Ministry of Education and Sports. It will comprise of three main components: youth empowerment, advocacy, and monitoring of SRH related issues in Karamoja.



### KATEREZA COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

This is our youth driven community empowerment program with projects that focuses on livelihood, health, education and micro grants based in the Mbarara village of Katereza. Some of the activities done under the alliance include, annual marathons, solar distribution, environmental friendly energy stoves, women micro grants, among others.



### U-DECIDE

U-Decide; This is a two year innovative intervention in Mbarara by Reach A Hand Uganda and Reproductive Health Uganda in partnership with Rutgers to ensure continued empowerment of young people with Sexual Reproductive Health information through a peer to peer led approach focusing on skilling young people as peer educators through an innovative training approach; The Peer Educators' Academy, conducting integrated SRHR information and services through outreach to communities targeting young people.



## BETTER LIFE FOR GIRLS

Better Life for Girls; Implemented directly in the seven districts of Karamoja, this project aims to prevent teenage pregnancy and under-age marriage and to empower adolescent girls by adopting top notch advocacy channels for example community dialogues, social media advocacy campaigns and science cafes.



## PEER EDUCATORS' ACADEMY

Peer Educators' Academy; This is an eight month program organized essentially to equip (a threshold of 50) young people with information and skills on Sexual Reproductive Health (SRHR) and Rights as well as acquiring the necessary life skills to make informed life choices. After the intensive training carried out in January, the peer educators are posted to different schools, communities and attached to various organizations where they are mentored for the remaining seven months. During this time, they as SRHR advocates and Behavioral Change agents partake in mentoring their peers within the schools and communities on how to live better lives based on the information they receive.



## GET YOUR MIX OUT (GYMO)

Get Your Mix Out (GYMO); Get Your Mix Out is a behavioral change campaign targeting young people between the ages of 15 to 24. Under the tagline, "My body, my life, my choice!", the aim of the campaign, is to foster a supportive environment for young people to empower them with knowledge and skills to understand their sexuality. This campaign uses edutainment to creatively share messages to help young people easily comprehend the SRHR message in an effort to change behavior.



## SAUTIplus

SAUTIplus; Through varied online platforms, the SautiPlus campaign is a unique approach that has been designed by Reach A Hand, Uganda to embrace the growing and innovative technologies in social media, radio and TV, mobile phones, print and digital media to address sexual reproductive health and rights issues that affect young people in and out of school ranging from HIV/AIDS, relationships, life skills, teenage pregnancy, child marriages and sexuality among others.



## GET UP SPEAK OUT

Get Up Speak Out; The Get Up Speak Out is a 5 year (2016–2020) strategic partnership between the Netherlands MoFA and the GUSO consortium (dance4life, Rutgers, Simavi, Stop Aid Now, Choice and IPPF). GUSO is building on Access Skills and Knowledge (ASK) achievements and lessons learned Implemented by the SRHR alliance. The GUSO project is implemented in Jinja and Mayuge districts.



## GENEXT

Genext; The GeNext Uganda: “My Life, My Future!” project is based upon and implemented in the overall framework of the global World Contraception Day (WCD) campaign. It presents one dynamic option on how to “localize” and “contextualize” the vision of WCD into the local Ugandan context in Wakiso and Kampala. In Uganda, in collaboration with DSW Uganda, Reach A Hand Uganda carries out activities ranging from school outreaches and edutainment events, peer learning sessions and online campaigns on Facebook and Twitter.



## YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY

Young People Today; This is a campaign aimed at addressing youth issues that are in line with the goals that drive Reach A Hand Uganda in the quest to help young people make informed choices in life, and is set out to advocate for the issues that are impacting young people in Uganda and to hold policy makers and leaders accountable for the decisions that directly affect the youth. More importantly is to empower the youth to take responsibility for receiving knowledge and demanding for the access to sexual and reproductive health rights information and services as well as empowering their peers with the same.



## RAHU SRHR YOUTH FUND

RAHU SRHR Youth Fund; Through a model that leverages the strengths and networks of Community Based Organizations working with young people in Uganda, RAHU empowers these organizations by building their capacities in organizational and staff structural development and to ably address the SRHR challenges of young people within their respective districts. Due to our invaluable partnerships, we provide a seed grant to the select CBOs to support them in reaching a wider network of young people experiencing SRHR challenges.

# HIGHLIGHTS FOR KEY EVENTS & ACTIVITIES YOU SHOULDN'T MISS OUT!



The Annual Youth Health Camp;  
This is a one week long residential health camp targeting school going children between the ages of 10 to 24. Some of the issues addressed at the camp include menstrual hygiene, body changes, puberty, gender roles, life skills development among others. The camp is also an inspirational hub where young people get to hear from icons and be informed on how they can make informed choices in their lives.



The Inter Generational Dialogue; This is a multi demographic conversation that brings together key stakeholders in the field of youth Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights issues to a round table to openly and expansively discuss the challenges that inhibit young people from accessing the knowledge that is fundamental to informing the choices they make in life; economic, social and cultural choices.

"I Know" campaign; After a while of focusing on 12-24 year olds, RAHU realised that the out-of-school youth, that is 25-35 year olds, are being affected by reproductive health challenges and HIV largely due to inadequate information. Through the iKnow campaign, we bridge that gap by carrying out sensitization activities within communities and partnering with health service providers to bring SRHR services such as HIV Testing and Counselling closer to them.



The Musical Project; The musical project seeks to inspire young people through music and songs laced with SRHR information. The songs and performances under this project are carried out by RAHU Cultural icons in an effort to inspire and motivate the young people through familiar avenues like music.



Share101; This is a high level project by Reach a Hand Uganda which focuses on bringing together specific stakeholders in the Sexual and Reproductive Health sector to sharpen each other through sharing experiences, best practices and recommendations.

Girls' Festival; Aimed at increasing empowerment awareness for young girls in Uganda through a variety of workshops, exhibitions, girl empowerment speakers and exercises with various development partners the girls' festival will focus on themes to elevate the status of young women in Uganda to support them realize their SRH rights and obligations to enable them better demand for quality health care services and information.



## WHO HELPS US MAKE A DIFFERENCE

- Our Peer Educators
- Schools
- Donors (Rutgers, Cordaid, Segal Family Foundation, Government bodies (Ministry of Health (MoH), Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES), Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD)
- District Local Government
- UN Agencies (United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Education, Science and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- The Private sector (Standard Chartered Bank, Pepsi, Talent Africa, Events Warehouse, NBS TV, Unilever Uganda, Potential Energy, Smart Toto, Haloha Brand Architects)
- Academia (Victoria University, International Health Sciences University, Makerere University)
- Civil Society (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung (DSW), Reproductive Health Uganda, Straight Talk Foundation, Uganda Network of Young People Living With HIV & AIDS (UNYPA), Communication for Development Foundation Uganda (CDFU), Uganda Health Marketing Group (UHMG), Ugandan water Project, GSD Africa, Global Livingston Institute (GLI )
- Implementing partners ( Child Awake Initiative Africa (CHAIN), Real Agency for Community Development (RACD), Care and Empowerment of the Vulnerable in Africa (CAEVA), +256 Youth Platform, Kyuka Youth Outreach)
- Coalitions (SRHR Alliance, African Youth and Adolescents Network (AfriYAN), Right Here Right Now, Coalition to Stop Maternal Mortality Due to Unsafe Abortion)



## Reach a hand

young people for young people

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