



31st December, 2022

Happy New Year!

As we anticipate the new year with all its possibilities, let's not forget to pat ourselves on the back for the hard work and intention we put into everything we did this year. And as new year resolutions start flying around, please make sure to be kind and fair to yourself as you set them up.

As the year 2022 comes to an end, we would like to share some of the major highlights of the Tunaweza Foundation with you.

What were we up to this year?

Completion Of The TIE project

Tunaweza Inclusive Education (TIE) project was a one year project on the foundation of making education more inclusive for people living with disabilities. Under this project we undertook mentorship sessions at different tertiary institutions as well as special needs schools. We reached out to over 600 students living with disabilities across Kampala. We had one-on-one engagements with over 200 students living with disabilities in terms of mentoring, inspiring and teaching them life skill- technique as well building their confidence. We held conferences with over 100 policy makers on identifying existing gaps in inclusive education and identified PWD champions to further our mission. These were inclusive of teachers, ministry of Education, commissioners, Inclusive special needs director. [Read more here](#) and [here](#)



Launch Of The PEPFAR Project On Inclusive HIV Services And Counselling In Kawempe Division (July,2022)

With a generous funding from PEPFAR grants we launched a new project in Kawempe Division. The project is called “Enhancing the Persons with Disabilities HIV response perspectives.” The one year project is currently ongoing and will aim at strengthening access to inclusive Health services and information for persons living with disabilities



With support from PEPFAR, Tunaweza has provided free HIV testing to over 300 people living with disabilities. It has also provided medication, counselling, monitoring and care to those found positive. These services include door-to-door testing, counselling and medicine delivery for positive people living with disabilities who have mobility or financial constraints when trying to access health centers. Under the same project, Tunaweza has given out aid devices like wheel chairs, crutches, walking aids to support mobility impaired persons to easily access hospitals. Disability awareness campaigns and trainings have been carried out around hospitals in Kawempe in an effort to make them inclusive in accessibility by advising installing aids like ramps and taking on disability friendly language.



The Welead Project



Tunaweza Foundation embarked on a third year project titled, “WE LEAD Project”. WELEAD project is an inspiring, innovative and far-reaching programme that truly puts young women rightsholders in the driving seat. It Aims to support them to impactful and sustainably advocate for their sexual and reproductive health and rights.

We believe that nothing can be done for these groups without them leading the driving seat and guiding Policy Makers & Other stakeholders through. “Nothing for Us WITHOUT Us” This project is set to be implemented in Busia and Tororo districts.

Interventions that have been in 2022 included mapping to identify district based safe spaces to be utilized by AGYWS in Tororo, a training for 15 AGYW and those with intersecting and compounded vulnerabilities, as champions on grassroots feminist transformation leadership, supporting 2 AGYW led community safe space specifically Drop in Centers of Safe spaces in Tororo, supporting AGYW champions to conduct peer led sessions and referrals, supporting local AGYW structure to hold quarterly outcome monitoring and reflection meetings, conducting mapping and assessments of health facilities on youth and women responsive service delivery, media engagement, conducting capacity building trainings for health care workers/service providers, conducting quarterly facility-based mentorship sessions across intervention health facilities and finally integrated HIV & SRHR competence strengthening for health worker providers (AIDS competence).



Our project officer Aisha Namugga was part of the team at the Global We Lead exchange platform inception which took place in Abuja, Nigeria with the aim of strengthening the Human Rights institution, Community of Action and right holders to work together to protect SRHR.



Tunaweza Held A Menstrual Hygiene Campaign In Busia And Tororo

Tunaweza Foundation in partnership with Pilgrim Centre for Reconciliation carried out a Menstrual Hygiene Campaign in Tororo and Busia Districts. Menstrual hygiene management (MHM) is an essential aspect of hygiene for women and adolescent girls including those with disabilities between menarche and menopause. Despite being an important issue concerning women and girls in the menstruating age group MHM is often overlooked in post-disaster responses. With a generous donation from Could You Cup? We were able to distribute over 1500 menstrual cups to adolescent girls and women with disabilities.



Menstrual cups are better for the environment, girl's bodies, and the most cost efficient option. During the campaign, to eradicate period poverty, everyone needed to be educated and included in the menstrual health conversation. The emphasis lay on period poverty not just a women's issue but everyone's issue. After the campaign and distribution of the menstrual cups in Eastern Uganda, there was a symposium organized in regards to Menstrual Hygiene and it was attended by the several key stakeholders, partners, civil society organizations working towards improving Menstrual Hygiene.



Conducting Disability Access Training In The Hospitality Industry



Tunaweza Foundation was invited to carry out a disability access training at Protea Hotel by Marriott Kampala Skyz. The training was to make the staff more aware of how to handle clients living with disabilities in a more inclusive manner.

Discussions about accessibility to the building were also held to make sure every aspect of the hotel was as inclusive as it could be. Over 25 members of staff were trained on how to better deliver services to customers with Disabilities.

Executive Director As A Panel Speaker At The Inclusive Africa Conference In Nairobi



The 3rd Inclusive Africa Conference organized by InAble Africa took place in Nairobi under the theme, 'Advancing digital accessibility and assistive technology in Africa'. This is a yearly conference that brings together companies, organizations that are tech savvy as well inclusive to PWDs in their approach.

In attendance were some of the world's renown tech companies like Meta, Google, Microsoft, LinkedIn, Instagram among others. Our executive director was part of the panel for Inclusive Education at the conference where she talked about challenges, opportunities to take advantage of and what can be done to improve inclusive education in the spaces in Africa.

Executive Director, A Key panelist At The National Symposium On HIV&AIDS



Our Executive Director was part of the key panelists at the National HIV & AIDS symposium under the theme; Ending inequalities among adolescents girls, young women & boys.

Among the panelists where the Uganda Youth Commissioner, the US ambassador among others. It was also to celebrate Uganda's progress to end HIV as public health threat by 2023. She addressed the need to have inclusive access to information to people living with disabilities on HIV.



She also emphasized the need to be intentional in programming for services for all keeping in mind that different kinds of people need access to this information. A general approach to information dissemination would only serve as a disservice to the masses of different people.

The National Inclusive Education Symposium

As key partners with the Ministry of Education and Sports under the department of Special Needs, we were privileged to be among the organizers of the 2nd National Inclusive Education Symposium with other partners, the symposium ran under the theme "Inclusive Education: A journey to Sustainable Development". The biggest outcome of the symposium was generating actionable strategies towards improving inclusiveness such as teaching of Sign language in schools for inclusivity. This was suggested by the National Curriculum Development Centre.

The objectives of the symposium were to Increase awareness about the need for inclusive education in the Ugandan education system, Knowledge sharing in implementation of inclusive education with different stakeholders and identify actionable strategies to improve inclusive education.



Attending The 2nd National Health Promotion And Disease Prevention Conference. (November,2022)



The major theme of this conference was the theme “Strengthening Primary Health Care through Sustainable Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Approaches.” It was attended by the Tunaweza Foundation Executive Director, Victo Nalule who says her biggest take out from the conference was on the ministry’s focus of ensuring no one is left behind including persons with disabilities towards access to health services and prevention of diseases.



Charter4Change Uganda Women In Humanitarian Leadership Summit.

Victo Nalule, our executive director attended the summit and shared about decision making for women living disabilities and how to we increase access participation and support for women living with disabilities in spaces of leadership. She encouraged the need for these women to be placed in positions of leadership so it can better their decision making power. This summit was supported by Dan Church Aid Uganda and aimed at strengthening women led organizations in humanitarian action.



Partnership With An Occupational Therapist

Tunaweza Foundation welcomed their partnership with Dr. Michael Bermudez, occupational therapist (OT) and Full Bright U.S. Scholar to US Mission Uganda. Dr. Bermudez is a Professor of OT the University of Scranton and will be providing free therapy to children with disabilities. Occupational therapy is a type of health care that helps to solve the problems that interfere with a person’s ability to do the things that are important to them – everyday things like: self-care - getting dressed, eating, moving around the house, being productive - going to work or school, participating in the community, and leisure activities - sports, gardening, social activities.



This partnership is set to enroll starting January,2023.

Courtesy Calls To UN Women And UN RCNYO



Our Executive Director, Victo Nalule paid a courtesy call to Funmi Balogun Head, Humanitarian Normative & Coordination Action under UN Women in New York. Fruitful discussions on the issues of strengthening and empowerment of Women and girls with disabilities were held.



She also held fruitful discussions with Rosa Malango, the Director Regional Commissions New York Office on how to unleash local knowledge & regional solutions to empower youth and persons with different abilities not only under Tunaweza Foundation but the country at large in terms of economics, climate change, peace and security, food security.

It was a discussion assessing where Tunaweza Foundation stood in terms of promoting inclusiveness on the global scale. One of the highlights of the conversation was to benchmark developing countries that had a firm grip on inclusivity like India and Latin America so that we could learn, partner and work with them.

Courtesy Call To Government Citizen Interaction Centre



Tunaweza foundation paid a courtesy call to Government Citizen Interaction Centre Uganda and had a fruitful discussion with Marcella Karekye regarding existing opportunities in government for People living With Disabilities and discussed matters of mutual interests including future areas of partnerships and Collaborations.

Courtesy Visit To The Kyangwali Refugee Settlement

Our Executive Director, Victo Nalule, Otim Charles, our Program Adviser and Tonny Musisi, the Communications and Administration officer paid a courtesy visit to the Settlement Commandant of Kyangwali Refugee Settlement and held discussions on potential areas of collaboration and partnerships regarding support to Women & Girls Refugees living with disabilities.



Courtesy Visit To The New Country Representative UN WOMEN Uganda

A team from Tunaweza Foundation led by the Executive Director Ms. Victo Nalule, Dr. Kristina Zaccaria Fullbright Scholar and Mr. Tonny Musisi Administrator and Communications officer paid a courtesy visit to the new country representative of UN Women Uganda Ms. Paulina Chiwangu.

The meeting was on strengthening the existing partnership between UN Women and Tunaweza Foundation in the areas of Gender Equality, Peace & Security, Empowerment and Leadership and fighting towards the end of Gender based violence among Women and Girls with disabilities.



Courtesy Visit To CBM- Christian Blind Mission Uganda Country Office



A team from Tunaweza Foundation led by the Executive Director Ms. Victo Nalule, Dr. kristian Zaccaria and Mr. Tonny Musisi paid a courtesy to the country offices of CBM and met with the country Director Ms. Jackie Kwesiga.

The meeting focussed on establishing partnerships and working in mutual areas of collaboration.

Our Partners



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