



# Child Restoration Outreach - Uganda



# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2020

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## COUNTRY DIRECTOR'S REPORT

*Paul Nabitiri*

Our dear Partners, both local and international, Receive our sincere greetings from CRO Uganda and thank you for partnering with us to address the plight of street children. Since the out break of COVID-19 in Uganda early last year, things have not remained the same for the street children, our staff, partners and the entire organization.

As you are all aware, street children happen to be among the most marginalized groups in our country and no wonder there are no deliberate government laws and programmes to address their plight. They are victims of rejection who have been socially disarticulated from their families and all government support systems. Who cares whether they are sick, hungry, naked or dead? Society tends to blame them wholly for what they are going through before even giving them audience to understand their circumstances. They need to be listened to; you can be their voice!

### **Challenges**

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected enrolled former street children's nutrition, education, rehabilitation and advocacy interventions while at the same time undermining CRO's efforts to reach out to more children languishing on the streets, whose numbers are on the increase due to lack of meaningful engagement of children at home following closure of educational institutions.

There is urgent need to remodel our programmes / interventions to ensure street children's rights to a decent life, education, security and liberty are not violated. This requires a concerted and collaborative effort bringing on board parents/caretakers, likeminded organizations and government institutions as well as harnessing a multi-disciplinary intervention approach to ensure holistic service delivery to these vulnerable citizens of Uganda.

Unless we rise up to challenge the status quo, these children will continue to be subjected to torture, Inhuman or degrading treatment / punishment, abuse, neglect and discrimination; yet they are entitled to equal protection as other humans.

### **Intervention**

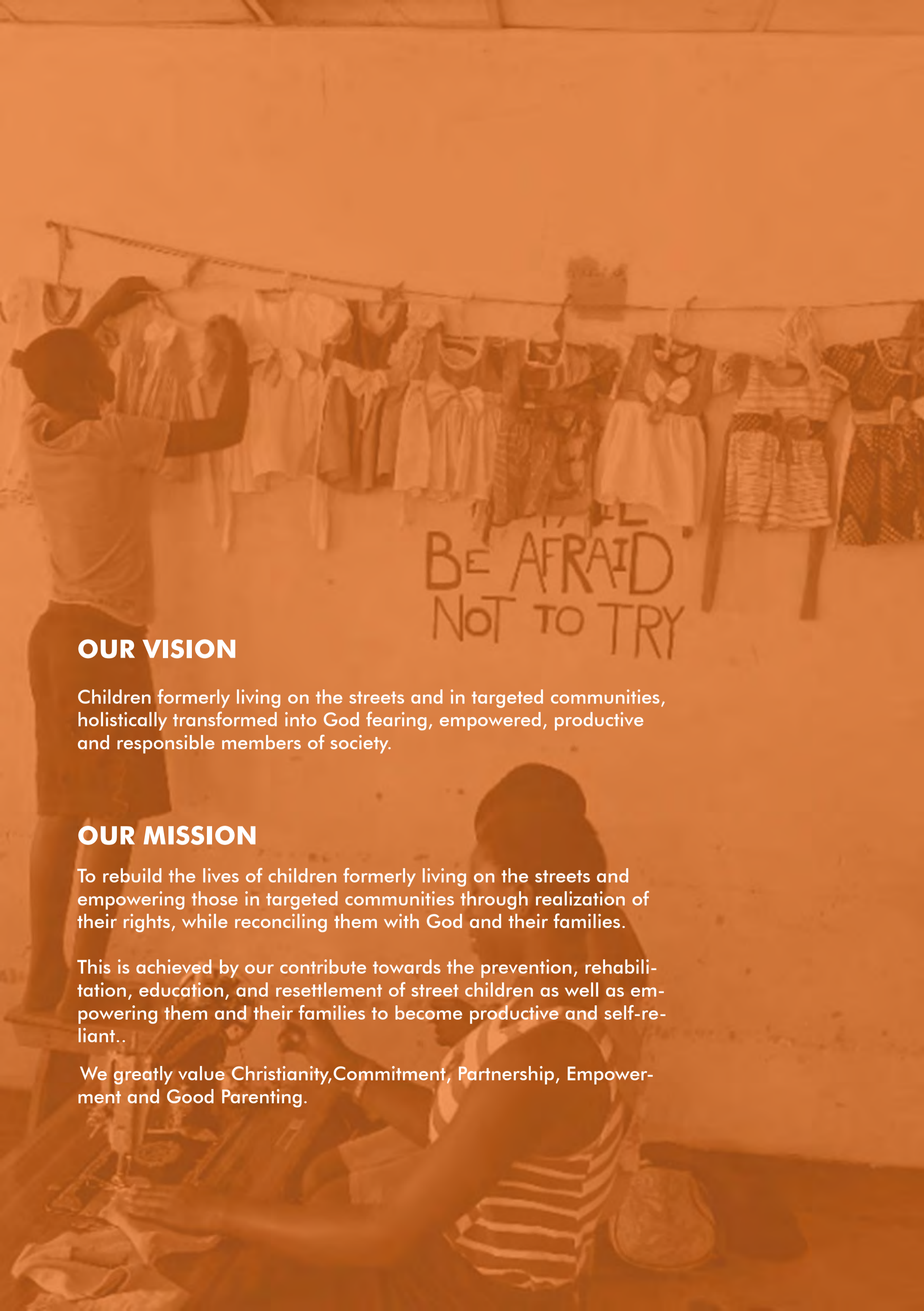
As an organization, we are doing our best to remodel our interventions to ensure that the needs and rights of these vulnerable children are addressed. We plan to offer comprehensive rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration programmes which can then be followed with well structured empowerment strategy so that enrolled children can be holistically empowered to live as responsible and productive citizens.

This however is not an easy venture in the face of resource constraints which in turn complicate our ability to maintain sufficient, well empowered and motivated human resource countrywide to support planned interventions.

As I conclude, allow me once again to convey my sincere appreciation to all CRO staff and governance bodies; present and past for all their contributions and commitment to the welfare of street children. God bless you so much.

I therefore call upon all of you to continue supporting us financially, technically and in any other way to enable us realize our vision. *Together we can.*

God bless you.



## **OUR VISION**

Children formerly living on the streets and in targeted communities, holistically transformed into God fearing, empowered, productive and responsible members of society.

## **OUR MISSION**

To rebuild the lives of children formerly living on the streets and empowering those in targeted communities through realization of their rights, while reconciling them with God and their families.

This is achieved by our contribute towards the prevention, rehabilitation, education, and resettlement of street children as well as empowering them and their families to become productive and self-reliant..

We greatly value Christianity, Commitment, Partnership, Empowerment and Good Parenting.



## ABOUT US

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Child Restoration Outreach Uganda, is Non-Government organization dedicated to addressing the problem of children on the streets and its effects on the society.

Since 1992, CRO has been assisting children and their communities in Uganda with project branches in Mbale, Lira, Jinja and Masaka.

For more than 27 years, with the generous support of the donors, over 19,000 children have been supported with rehabilitation and education through the holistic approach where CRO works with various stakeholders to improve the welfare of the children.

We are a registered non-profit in Uganda licensed by the National NGO Bureau under number S.5914/667.

In Uganda, it is estimated that as many as 15,000 children between the ages of 7-17 years, wander the streets of Kampale, Mbale, Masaka, Lira and Jinja. These children therefore, are living without care, parental guidance, shelter, and other basic needs of life. These children have no access to education or skills training and are likely to grow up in poverty and constitute societal nuisance.

CRO's existence is grounded on the transformation of the life of Children Living on the Streets, their families and communities principally through rehabilitation, reintegration and resettlement interventions.

In line with our Christian values, we champion the fundamental rights of Children Living on the Streets and in targeted communities 'as people of God, created to live a life of dignity in society'.

# HOW YOUR SUPPORT HAS IMPACTED LIVES OF STREET-CONNECTED CHILDREN

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Despite the challenges in the year 2020, Child Restoration Outreach continued providing various services for children in street situation and their communities.

The various services were provided at the different centres of CRO and below are some of the Key achievements in 2020.

# 2020 By the Numbers

**623**

Children (405 boys  
218 girls) were  
reached out on the  
streets.



**302**

Children (197 boys,  
105 girls) were res-  
cued and rehabili-  
tated.



**191**

Children were helped  
to return home in  
safe and loving envi-  
ronments.



**678**

(423 male, 255 fe-  
male) children re-  
ceived psychosocial  
support .



**692**

children and youth  
were supported with  
school fees and sta-  
tionery in Primary,  
Secondary and  
Tertiary institutions.



**61**

Youths (22 boys, 39  
girls) were empow-  
ered with hands-on  
skills through voca-  
tional training.



**679**

Children got fed  
on hot nutritious  
meals that great-  
ly improved their  
health..



**2,417**

Medical cases were  
attended to at the  
CRO clinics..



Recreation a key agent in the restoration work.



**395**

Children (256 Boys and 139 Girls) took part in both indoor and outdoor games, Music , Dance and Drama.

Children who actively participated became disciplined, talented, social, confident, motivated. Recreation is also a puller as children are attracted and become regular at the centers.

## COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Over **600** families under the Self Help Groups approach have been supported to successfully run Income Generating Activities.(IGAs)

The IGAs have improved on the incomes of these households and thereby improving on the family's livelihood.

Some of the families are able to support more children in school and meet expenses such as rent, medical, clothing and food.



**An SHG member under CRO Jinja running a poultry project as an income generating activity**

some 2020  
**highlights**



**3** youth (1 girl and 2 boys) graduated with Bachelor of Social work and Social administration, Bachelor of Business administration and Bachelor's degree in Information Technology from different universities.



**COVID 19 Response:** Testing all the street children and staff quarantined at the centre for the purpose of isolation and treatment in case of any positive cases.

**COVID-19 Response:** Provision of shelter and beddings for children living on the streets during a lock-down in Mbale and Inja in partnership with Local Government.



**COVID-19 Response:** Food provision for children in the quarantine centers during Lock-down.



**COVID-19 Response:** Support for children living with HIV/AIDs and other Needy children were provided with food items, soap which kept them from starvation and safe during lock-down.

With the COVID-19 response, **NONE** of the children both in homes and Quarantine centers got infected. The children stayed safe ,healthy and many were transformed.



## ARAFAT'S STORY:

### FROM HOPELESS STREET LIFE TO THE ROAD OF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER

**A**rafat, 14 years became an orphan at a tender age. By 2017, he had to take care of his sibling. With life in their hands, they could not afford a meal, descent accommodation, education and basic health care among others.

Then they were picked by thier parternal aunt, a small market vendor, who also had a large family but decided to do whatever she could to help within her meagre earnings.

Since Arafat ould not afford school, he ended up hitting the street to start collecting and selling metal scraps to supplement the little income of her aunt in order to meet the family needs.

Arafat says; "One day i went about dail job, the CRO social works met me during their routine street visits in Lira. They engaged me, asked me some questions and requested me to go the CRo center, to which i obliged."

At the CRO center, Arafat was enrolled in the rehabilitation class to help him cope up with psychological effect of being a total orphan and the ordeal he underwent during that period.

"I am now very happy because CRO took me back to school and is paying my school fees. This was my wish to go back to school and CRO made me to rejoin school in 2017 from P.3 class. I am so proud of CRO for making me a complete changed chil. The lessons I learnt from the rehabilitation class helped me to cope up so well with community life and to catch up very fast in school. This year 2020, I am in P.6 class. In future I want to become a construction engineer and help people build their homes and good roads. God bless CRO", Arafat relates.

Before Covid-19 outbreak in Uganda Omara Oscar Arafat was benefitting from CRO sponsorship program and was enrolled for primary education in P.6 class with good performance. With government restrictions, schools and business were much affected including that of Arafat's caretaker. Her earnings have dwindled yet the basic needs such as food are expensive.

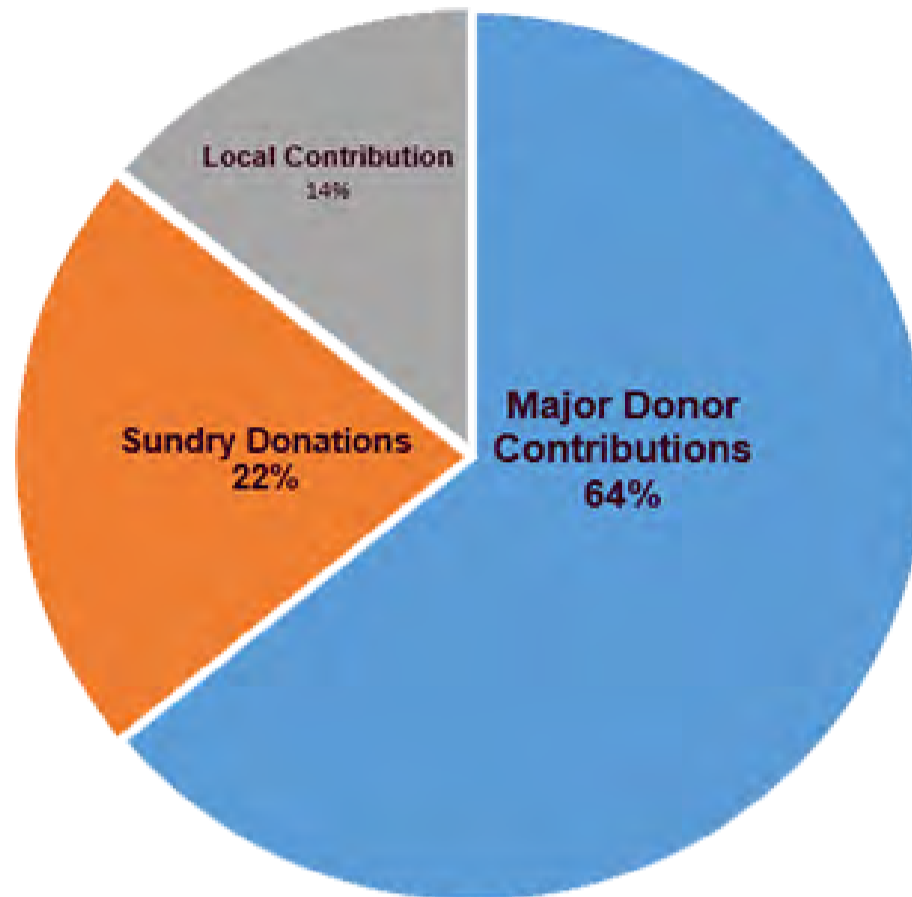
Since Arafat is currently not studying, he spares some-time over the week to do some casual work, at the con-



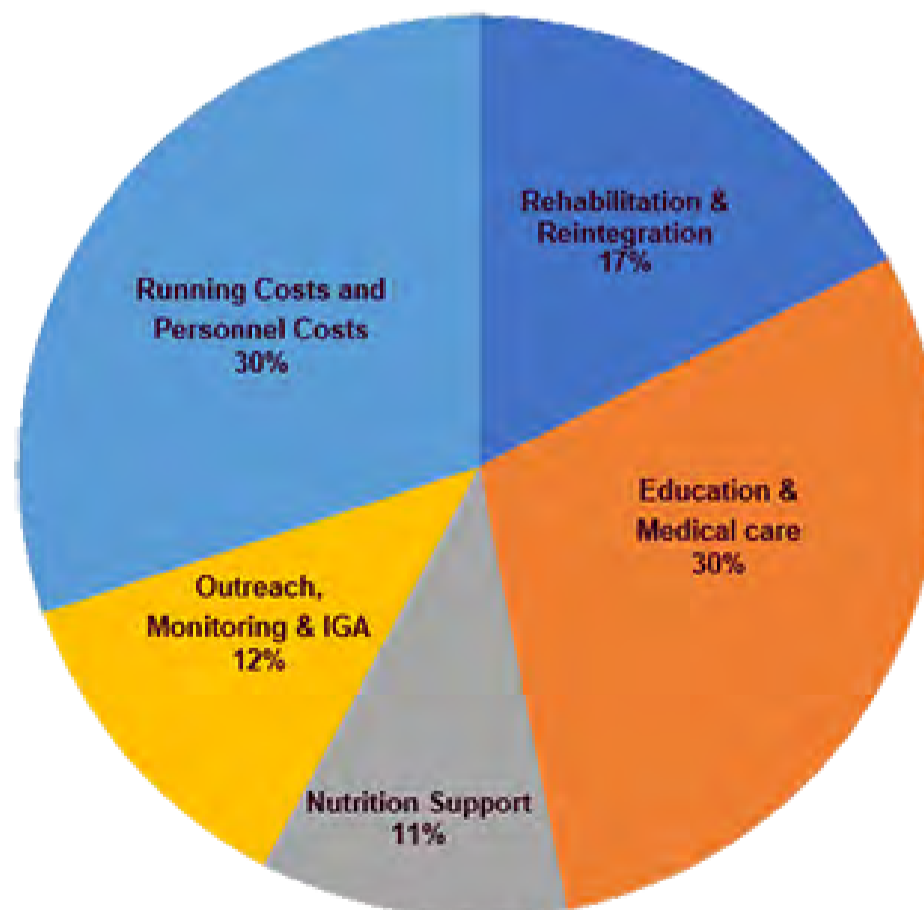
struction sites in order to get money to supplement the little income that the aunt. He acknowledges that as he casually works, he also picks skills in construction since this is his dream field of work.

However, he also attends to psychosocial support sessions at the CRO center to help him and the family cope up with the current COVID-19 effects and other daily life challenges. Arafat confidently looks forward to time time when school opens so that he can further his dream.

# Financials 2020



## Revenues



## Expenses

# together we can do more

The impact we are making in the lives of vulnerable street connected children and families in Uganda is only possible because of your generous support. We would love to be able to continue our vital work of transforming lives over the next 10 years, and beyond.

If you'd like to join us in bringing more hope and love to children in Uganda, you can support us further by becoming a regular giver, or encouraging a friend to do so – simply fill in the following form and return to us.  
Thank you.

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[@CROUganda](https://twitter.com/CROUganda)



[youtube.com/ChildRestorationOutreach](https://youtube.com/ChildRestorationOutreach)

FUNDRAISING CARD

Support to make a change in the lives of children living on the streets.

# CHILD RESTORATION OUTREACH-UGANDA

## Who we are

CRO is a charitable organization empowering children on the street to become self-reliant. As part of the journey CRO utilizes funds from generous givers to provide street children with water, food, temporary shelter, basic medical care, reintegration to their families, restoration to formal and informal education, and vocational employable skills.

## What we do

Rescue → Rehabilitate → Reintegrate → Empower → Evaluate → Exit

For More information contact us on,

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We shall appreciate your kind support toward rescuing and empowering child living on the street to become responsible persons in the community



We can't meet our goal without the help of people like you. Your support of \$100 USD can help to educate and also be used to provide basic needs to a child who was formerly stranded on the street. By partnering with you, we shall be able to empower children to become self-reliant and also to restore hope.

### Pledge

Name.....

Address.....

City.....

Email.....

I commit to give \$.....over the next year.

Weekly Monthly quarterly

Other.....

We want to thank you for your support!!