

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Child Restoration Outreach - Uganda

Rebuilding the **FUTURE**
of **CHILDREN** living in
STREET situations.



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A Letter from Our Country Director

Dear Friends,

Calvary greetings to you all from CRO - Uganda. I am sincerely thanking each one of you for the working tirelessly and sacrificially to secure the future of children living in street situations in our nation.

During 2021, CRO underwent a lot of reviews and internal reorganizations which constituted our key achievements in addition to the programmatic successes detailed in this report.

We were able to have our operational permit renewed for the next five years; the local boards were

dissolved and replaced with advisory committees; the organizational vision, mission, goal and objectives were reviewed; an intervention model and core programmes were developed; a senior management team was instituted to oversee implementation of organizational policies and programmes; and key policies were reviewed to fit with the new structure.

Also, the organogram was revised to streamline communication and supervision within the organization. I cannot forget the financial and HR management restructuring that saw the accounting and HR coordination function centralized to National office.

The above and many other accomplishments wouldn't have been possible without the cooperation, guidance and support from the Board of directors, Senior management team, all staff, national and international partners. With all these systems and structures in place we are looking forward to functionalizing all the decisions, resolutions and plans developed come 2022. This will of course necessitate a lot of capacity building for our board members, staff, partners and stakeholders to bring everyone on the same page.

All our key donors/funders that made tremendous contributions towards the welfare of children rescued from street situations; we are very grateful. Special appreciation



Paul Nabitiri, Country Director

goes to ELMA Philanthropies, Eriks Development Partners, CROSO, Uta group, Miriam group, Suubi Ly'abaana, Friends of Mto Moyoni as well as Individual local and international donors whose names I have not mentioned in this report. Thank you so much for the sacrifices you made to keep CRO Uganda running.

We do humbly appeal to our former and prospective development partners to consider and reconsider partnership for with CRO in the best interest of children living in street situations. Thank you so much all the local and national Uganda government offices that provided technical support supervision and guidance to CRO to ensure that our interventions comply to the national legal standards.

Lastly, all power, glory and honor go to the Almighty God of Heaven for the gifts of life, wisdom, knowledge and understanding that enabled all of us to play their parts in supporting CRO interventions countrywide. I do encourage all of you to spare time, read this report and give us constructive feedback for better service delivery.

I do wish all of you a wonderful 2022!

Nabitiri Paul,
Country Director - CRO Uganda

A Brief about CRO-Uganda

Child restoration Outreach (CRO) Uganda, is an NGO(Reg. No. INDR66739113) dedicated to addressing the issue of children living on the streets and the consequences for society.

Since 1992, CRO has worked in Mbale expanding to Jinja (1998), Masaka (2002), and Lira (2007) to help children and their families with the country office in Mbale, Kabwangasi Square in Half London.

CRO rescues children from the streets, rehabilitating them, reintegrating them into their families/communities, and empowering them via formal and vocational education to enable them to live transformed, responsible, and productive lives.

Our Goal

To contribute towards holistic child development among children in street situations.

Our Vision

Children formerly in street situations holistically Transformed, Responsible and Fruitful.

Our Mission

To enable Children living in street situations to discover their identity as children of God; reconcile them with their families; and empower them to become responsible and fruitful citizens.

Our Core values are: Christianity, Integrity and Accountability, Professionalism and Team work, Partnership, and Parenting.

Strategic Objectives:

1. To foster stakeholder involvement in the promotion and protection of the rights of children in targeted communities by 2030.
2. Increase access to development and survival services among children in street situations in targeted communities by 2030.
3. To improve the spiritual and psychosocial wellbeing of children in street situations in targeted communities.
4. To enhance the socio-economic status of household of children in street situations in targeted communities by 2030.



A Child's Voice



Masaba with his Grandma

Masaba (17 years) was born and raised in Bubutu town in Far Eastern Uganda but migrated to the slum of Masese III Kikaramoja zone in Jinja District.

Masaba narrates, *“When my parents separated, I was taken to my grandmother who unfortunately had no support at all. And ever since, I have not had a privilege to attend school. This left me with no option but to push to the streets and to search for metal and plastic scrap for survival.”*

“I have stayed in Kikaramoja zone for about a year now but in a slum, life is controlled by survival for the fittest. That’s street life”, he adds.

Masaba was almost becoming so much addicted to street life because he was once taken back home but pushed to the streets again.

One day while walking on the streets in Jinja, Masaba says *“I bumped into CRO social workers who convinced me to join them and I was enrolled for rehabilitation at CRO Jinja center in May 2019. However, life continued as usual and it was worsened by COVID_19 pandemic and its lockdown effects. I would search for food items, scrap and collect bottles for sale in order to earn some money for survival and also started independent living by renting a small room within Masese slum.”*

Though Masaba has not been enrolled in school, he is grateful for the continued support by the counsellors who encouraged him to go back home, share bible stories concerning family matters and advise him to take hands-on vocational course to acquire some skills.

To add to his joy, Masaba happily tells, *“this year(2021) when an opportunity came by, I was taken back home to my relatives and now i happily live with my grandmother. She was overjoyed to receive me and so were my little sisters.”*

He continues .. *“ I am truly very happy that I have joined my family members and relatives and now I am even looking forward to joining a vocational institution near my home area. I hope to be a great electrician one day and I pray and hope that I will make it. Thank you CRO for loving and supporting children like me. May GOD richly and abundantly bless you. It is for people like you that my hope to be a great electrician in my home area is assured.”*

How You Have Changed Lives



324

Boys and Girls were
Rescued from the street
and **Rehabilitated**.

805

Children received
direct **nutrition**
support(meals)
from CRO centers.





170
were returned
home in safe &
loving environ-
ment.



563
were provide with
medical care for var-
ious illnesses at CRO
clinics.



Education



351
Attended
Primary
education.



73
Attended
Secondary
education.

27
in Tertiary
Institu-
tions.



128
in
Vocational
studies.



... more in action

Agriculture

CRO is expanding its farms in order to improve food production, provide agricultural skills to the children and boost local income. Food crops like maize, beans, & vegetables as well as cash crops like coffee, trees are grown.

We also run a piggery and a zero-grazing dairy farm at Jinja from which the milk enhances the nutrition provided at the center, and a portion of the supplements the project's local income.

We intent to expand our farms to incorporate in poultry and bee keeping.



Community Empowerment through SHGs



Child caregivers are mobilized to form Self Help Groups (SHGs) of 15 to 20 people with a common vision and goal.

Members learn financial literacy, saving, and business. They also share life experiences and encouragement, and are trained on social aspects like child protection, positive parenting.

The women's self-esteem and confidence have grown as a result of rotational leadership during group meetings and we are particularly pleased to notice that the majority of the members that ran for leadership positions are women. This has helped to stabilize families in some ways, as the much of vital information is provided during SHG sessions.





Advocacy

CRO continued to lobby and fight for the protection of children from abuse and neglect. Several conversation meetings were held with municipal, city council, and district leaders to discuss strategies to safeguard children from all sorts of abuse, violence, and exploitation.

CRO Projects also held radio discussion shows and held child rights awareness seminars with local leaders as part of their advocacy efforts. Children in all the projects used radio talk shows to campaign for their own rights.

Children also pushed for their own rights through music, dance, and drama during government-organized celebrations of international and national days, as well as during the projects' Christmas and Easter parties. *Through these activities a large audience was reached with child protection messages, by the young people themselves.*

Strengthening Capacity



The Senior Management Team (SMT) was empowered on various management skills to help them enhance their daily operations and resource mobilization.

With organization restructuring, adapting to new management strategies is a must for Management Team. Members were also trained in team building, and conflict management. The SMT also carried out a planning budget meeting for 2022.



A Staff retreat was held towards the end of the year, comprising of all the staff from the 4 CRO branches. It was held at Mto Moyoni in Jinja City under the theme *“Restoring our identity with our father”*. This provided an opportunity to reflect on God’s love for them, learn from each other and encourage one another in the word of God.

The Stories You Created

Transforming HOPELESSNESS into a GREAT TAILOR



Ayao at her tailor made clothers
success in life., Oliver explains.

Ayao Oliver aged 17 years old hails from Apac district and is the second born in her family. Since her childhood, she dreamt of becoming a successful lady in life but all this faded at the point when her father passed on while she was in primary four (4).

As their mother tried to fend for their survival, she (mother) moved with them to Lira town and started selling cassava (chips) to at least get some money for food and family upkeep. Oliver laments, “*Young as I was, I dropped out of school in P.4 and started supporting my mother with hawking chips in town.*”

“*But one early morning as I was moving on the street with my chips, some two people asked me “why am not in school?” ,as they were buying my chips. After telling them my story, they got so concerned and asked me if I could follow them to their office at CRO Lira. I hesitated thinking that they are kidnappers. Little did I know that it was a turning point to*

At CRO, Oliver was enrolled into the rehabilitation class, subjected to counseling and other educative creative activities that transformed her lonely thinking to a communal and socialist thinking - making many new friends.

Additionally, Oliver was enrolled for the tailoring training provided at CRO. Lira center. “*This training brought my long faded dream back to life. - that I will serve my community through my tailoring work. Gratitude to CRO.*”.



Ayao at her sewing machine

... Stories continued

A Construction Engineer In The Making.

Isaac left his father's home in Otuke District in May 2018 and joined the streets of Lira town. This was after the demise of his mother in 2017. His father married another wife who subjected him to intermittent beatings, torture and falsely accused him before his father. Isaac says, *"my father would get so annoyed with me and one day he said that he would kill me if he heard anything again. This scared me so much that I ran to the streets in Lira town in a bid to save my life."*



On streets, Isaac was shown by other street children how to survive in the town. He too started collecting metal scraps to get some money for sustenance. *"Though we could sell the scrap, still life was hectic especially the cold nights, violence, bad habits and the stigma from the public as street children are regarded as thieves"*, tells Isaac.

In September 2018, Isaac joined CRO. *"At CRO, I have benefited from a lot of things such as health care, food, rehabilitation, education and most importantly, in March 2019 my uncle heard news from the village that I am staying on street in Lira city and he started looking for me on the streets. I always hid myself from him in fear that he would take me back to my father who would beat me mercilessly BUT one day CRO came to my aid and resettled me at my uncle's home who accepted me and I started staying with him up to date."* narrates Isaac

After completing the rehabilitation class, Isaac joined a vocational skills training in Brick Laying and Concrete Practice (BCP).

"I look forward to seeing my dream of becoming a Construction Engineer come true", he says hopefully.

"Gratitude to CRO, and all the supporters for the great opportunity they give to Street Children directing them towards their future dreams. Now I can see that I am a future Engineer which I never thought of reaching that level before. May God bless CRO and expand its operations to cover many children achieve their dreams too", he adds..



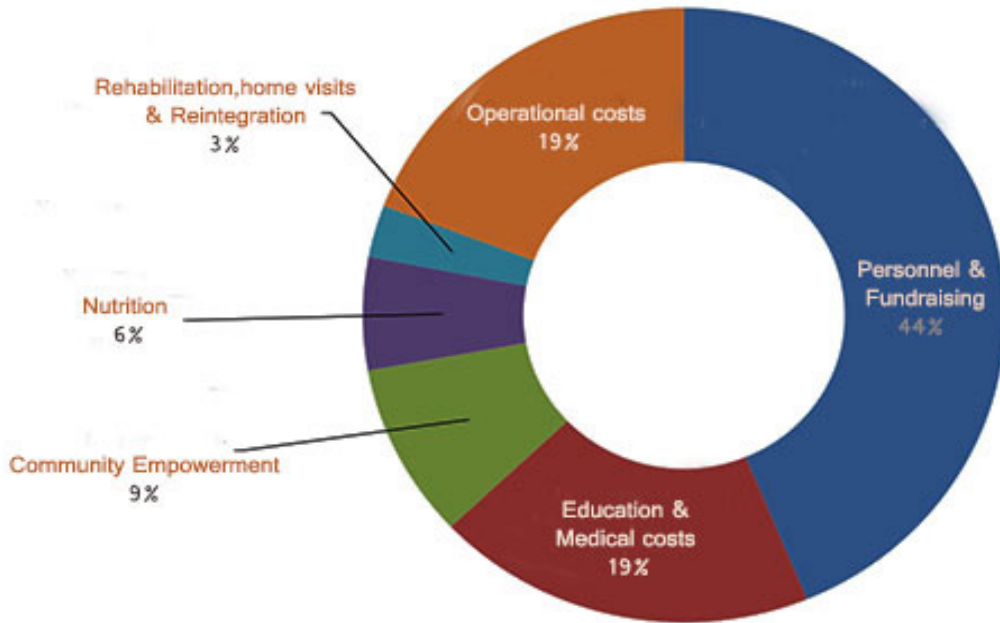
Challenges

Despite registering a number of successes, we have a number of challenges that still limit our impact on our beneficiaries, Some of them are outlined below;

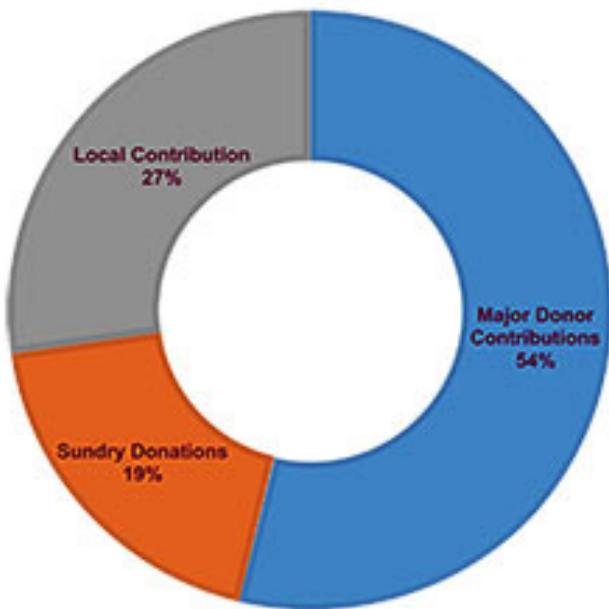
- 1. It is difficult to effectively monitor the children's safety once they are out of the organization's premises because most of them live in poor and slum communities where they are vulnerable to abuse.** Following recommendations by the ministry of gender, labour and social development, CRO shall run residential transit centres in each branch which will provide temporary custody to the children while home tracing is taking place. Comprehensive rehabilitation addressing spiritual, social and psycho-social wellbeing of the children will take place at these centres to prepare them for successful reintegration and education.
- 2. Limited funding Vs increased number of children on the street.** We are deliberately focusing on networking, proposal development and putting up strategies on how to increase local income.



How your donations impacted lives



INCOME INSIGHT



Source of Funding	Amount in Ugx
ELMA	148,350,000
Erikshjalpen	265,000,000
Sundry Donors	155,904,450
Suubi Iya Bana	13,440,000
Local Income	225,233,000
CRO Foundation-Netherlands	16,966,200

Acknowledgement

Board Of Directors

Rev. Simon Peter Emiau - Chairperson
Mr, Osupelum Justin - Secretary
Pastor Sam Mukabi - Member
Mr. Kidulu James - Member
Ms. Ingrid Wilts - Member
Mrs. Naomi Watiti - Member

Mbale Branch

Ms Kyolaba Barbra - Branch Manager
Mr. Weyakala Japheth - Former Manager
Mr. Koba George - Social Work
Ms Jackie Wabule - Social Worker
Mr. Enebu Fabian - Day guard
Mr. Shire Deo - Sports Facility Guard
Titus Sokolo - Farm Guard
Aritaka Denis - Project Officer

Masaka Branch

Mrs Ojur Adah - Branch Manager
Ms. Nasibwa Noelina
Mukasiine Grace
Mr Othieno Steven

Our Partners and Suppoters:

ELMA Philanthropies, Eriks Development Partners, CRO Foundation, CROSO, Uta & friends, Miriam group, Suubi Ly'abaana, Friends of Mto Moyoni as well as Individual local and international donors.

Country Office

Mr. Nabitiri Paul - Country Director
Mr. Ssentamu Moses - M&E Officer
Ms. Nangede Norah Harriet - Finance Manager
Ms. Mutuwa Betty - Accountant
Mr. Yasin Habibi - Security Guard

Jinja Branch

Mr. Noah Namwano - Branch Manager
Mr. Simon Peter Byarugaba - Social Worker
Mrs. Busingye Phoebe - Admin Assistant
Ms. Mukyala Margret - Branch Nurse
Ms. Magoba Jackline - Volunteer Social work
Mr. Lwanga Joel - Volunteer Kitchen
Mwebe David - Volunteer

Lira Branch

Olwa James - Branch Manager
Alobo - Volunteer Nurse
Amai Tonny - Volunteer
Ocen Walter - Volunteer
Ogwang Ivan Solex - Security Guard
Onyanga Patrick - Security Guard
Akello Joan - Volunteer cook





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