

Sending Seasonal Greetings from Uganda!

2022 has been a very exciting year at LOVED. Since Uganda came out of the COVID Lockdown, we have been able to have full function of our newly built Centre and our work has continued to expand. We would love to share a few of our 2022 highlights below:

Education:

- LOVED has built a special outdoor classroom for our preschool aged children and we have a new play based curriculum to prepare the children for school. We currently have 51 children in the day centre and 35 children who have started at a local primary school this year.

Nutrition:

- One problem when children enter the malnutrition ward in hospital is the ability of parents/carers to access food; this sometimes means that parents/carers don't stay with their children while on the ward. LOVED has supported over 100 carers with meals whilst their children have been in the malnutrition ward. As a result of these daily meals, we have seen many families staying in the hospital until their child is healthy enough for discharge.
- As well as this, 22 of the neediest families have been receiving monthly food packages and 40 children have overcome malnutrition through the support of LOVED this year. LOVED's kitchen has also been refurbished and a new nutritious menu was formed – enabled by the new cooking facilities – for the children in our day centre.

Parents:

- 20 parents are about to graduate our JENGA vocational training programme with skills in hairdressing and tailoring. 30 dads attended our first ever 'Fathers weekend away' and as a consequence we have built closer relationships between LOVED and the fathers, including beginning a new men's savings group.
- 50 parents were invited for one on one parent/child play sessions at LOVED where they had an opportunity to learn how to engage with their children in a positive way.
- We have seen the levels of addiction and domestic violence decrease this year amongst our parents and we think this is a direct result of our close work with them.



Community trainings:

- In our temporary community space, LOVED has hosted multiple trainings such as; first aid, physiotherapy, child protection and special needs development. As well as this, we partnered with the local hospital to provide community TB and HIV testing for adults.
- Recently, we had our first ever Annual Disability Celebration party for 90 community families, which helped to dispel the myths and prejudice surrounding disability in the community and strengthened the network of families to provide support.

In addition to this we have over 300 community members saving each week so that they can sustainably provide for their families.



Exciting Plans for 2023...

Our hopes for 2023 are to fundraise and build a multi –purpose Community hall on our premises so that we can run more frequent trainings to benefit both the LOVED families and the wider community. If you are interested in donating towards this building project or helping us with fundraising please get in touch via email with Bex (LOVED Founder): rhenderson273@hotmail.co.uk.

We are so grateful for the support you already are giving towards the work that we are doing in Uganda. Your support is making a huge impact on the most vulnerable families in our area. We wish you a really special Christmas season and send you lots of love from Uganda!

God bless you, from the LOVED Team

