

Build a sustainable future for the children, the youth and communities we serve!



ANNUAL REPORT 2018



LEADING CHANGE UGANDA (LCU)

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Annual Report is to review the work of Leading Change Uganda (LCU) throughout 2018. Over that year, LCU experienced great success and a few challenges in pursuing its passion to change the world, beginning with three communities in the Wakiso district of Central Uganda. As a result, the women and children of Buwaali, Buso and Bbanga villages have been seeing their lives transformed through empowerment to use the little resources they have to change their lives and their communities at large.



Joyce and Irene the Chairperson of the Wangari Women Group during the celebration of Good Deeds Day in Buwaali village

ABOUT US

LCU is a not-for-profit, nonpartisan, non-governmental organization based in Wakiso district. It was formed in January 2013 by a group of young people who hoped to create the change they wanted to see in the world, particularly for the women and children in their local community. LCU is inspired by the idea that the world should be a better place for everyone, regardless of their sex, age, religion, color and nationality. The organization is registered as a limited company by guarantee without shares; it was incorporated on 7 December 2016 (certificate of registration no. 80020000007536). The mandate of the organization is to create positive change in the lives of women and children. LCU strives to empower them to effectively engage in social and economic development through training, access to education, information and other basic needs to improve their standard and quality of living.

Mission

Our mission is to build and strengthen individuals, families, institutions and community initiatives for poverty eradication, education and development through partnerships at all levels.

Vision

“An informed, educated, empowered and just society.”

Main objectives

1. To contribute towards poverty alleviation in Uganda.
2. To promote access to education and improvement in basic needs while imparting life and entrepreneurial skills.
3. To promote sustainable development while strengthening and empowering our communities.

Thematic Areas of Focus

- Economic Empowerment for Women and Children
- Education
- Climate justice
- Poverty
- Microfinance

Our team

LCU is made up of a dynamic team with a vast knowledge and passion to change the world. The team is made up of individuals from different parts of the world who work hard to see that LCU achieves its objectives. They invest in the organization to see that others live a better life, creating the change would want to see in the world. Our team is passionate about putting a smile on another person's face.

Management and operations:

Lillian Nanteza Bwowe – Uganda

Alexander Bwowe – Uganda

Alex Kiguddu – Uganda

Ivan Begovic – Croatia

Florence Namubiru – Uganda

Gavin Kimuli – Uganda

Micheal Nkalubo – Uganda

CEO and Founder

Programs Coordinator

Project Officer Community Reading Club

Communications Officer

Field Coordinator

Accountant

Youth & Children Coordinator

Board:

Stephanie Brenker – Australia

Winfred Nazziwa – Uganda

Linda Mitchell – Scotland

Emna Chikhaoui – Tunisia

Khammassi Mohamed Ghazi – Tunisia

Carol Awor – Uganda

Winfred Nampijja – Uganda

Chairperson

Board Treasurer

Advisor/Fundraiser

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member

Board Member



OUR PROGRAMS

LCU conducted seven projects in 2018:

1. the Smile of a Child Project;
2. the Education for All Project;
3. the Wangari Women Project; the
4. the Wangari Women Revolving Micro-Finance Scheme;
5. LCU on the Farm;
6. the Community Reading Club; and
7. volunteering.

In short, a number of activities were carried out to improve the lives of the women and children in Buwaali, Buso and Bbanga villages, including fundraising, training, celebrations and sharing the little resources we had. In the year 2018, the organization was able to reach 60 women and 100 children.

1. THE SMILE OF A CHILD PROJECT

This project provided basic needs to 60 women and 100 underprivileged children in the communities of Buwaali, Buso and Banga villages over 2018. The items provided included educational materials, mattresses, food, clothing and other items provided through support from our partners and friends. As part of this project, LCU celebrated with the participating women and children to mark days such as Christmas, Easter, Women's Day and Good Deeds Day where we planned a number of activities.



Lucas with a placard for the Smile of Child Project and Lillian giving out items to the mothers and children

Easter Celebrations

On Good Friday, 30 March 2018, LCU celebrated Easter with the women and children of Buwaali, Banga and Buso villages. The celebrations led to increased bonding and sharing of experiences, through which they were able to learn from one another. During these celebrations, the children and women also showcased their talents for singing, dancing, reciting poems and acting in plays through which they revealed the importance of the LCU's work in their lives.



Wangari women performing during the Easter celebrations

Good Deeds Day

Good Deeds Day is a global day that unites people from over 93 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet. LCU celebrated Good Deeds Day on 14 April 2018 with 100 participants of whom 52 were women, 2 were men and 46 were children. LCU provided food, clothes, undergarments and shoes to the women and children, and organized sharing and art sessions. The children were also engaged in reading and drawing where they were asked to draw the world they wanted to see.



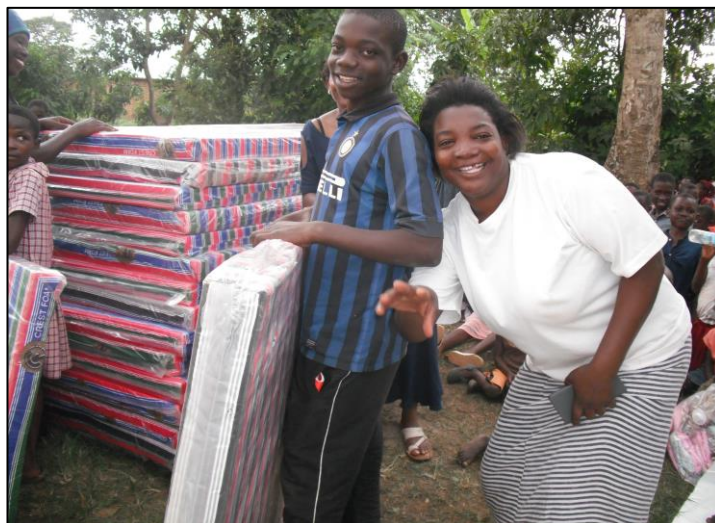
Picture drawn by Namuli Mary as part of the Good Deeds Day celebration



Wangari women and Smile of a Child children during the Good Deeds Day celebration

Donation of mattresses

On 15 June 2018 in Buwaali, the women of the Wangari Women Project evaluated the Smile of a Child Project and pertinent issues were identified that affected their children's performance at school, including poor nutrition both at home and school, poor bedding and sleeping materials. Consequently, to improve the children's performance LCU, through our partners Linda Mitchell and Rosemary from Scotland, responded to this need and donated 27 mattresses to children on 1 September 2018.



Daniel (Senior One) and his mother after receiving their mattress. "I am so happy, tonight I will sleep well, thank you so much Rosemary", says Daniel.

Christmas Celebrations

Christmas is always an exciting time of the year where we celebrate the year that has passed and share many gifts. All our partners and beneficiaries come together to share the beautiful gifts donated by our friends both within Uganda and outside Uganda to the women and children in our community, including clothes (dresses, shorts, etc.), toys, dolls, undergarments and baby clothes. In 2018, the day was celebrated with 100 children and 60 women, the pinnacle of which was a delicious meal prepared by the ladies themselves and the village chef Mr. Kaye Mohammed.

2. THE EDUCATION FOR ALL PROGRAM

The lack of good quality, free education and basic items available to the children of Buwaali, Buso and Banga villages prompted LCU to continue joining hands with friends and partners to support the pupils of these communities with better education, leading to self-empowerment which is key to breaking the cycle of poverty.

This program provides free education to underprivileged children who are members of the Smile of a Child Project and who need an education but whose parents cannot afford it. In 2018, 49 children from the three villages we support were able to obtain school fees for the whole year. This was made possible through our friend, partner and Advisor Linda Mitchell.

Among the 49 children supported, four of them had previously never stepped foot in a school while two of them had been out of school for around two years. The majority of the children supported go to Modern World Nursery and Primary School Bbanga, an LCU partner school, and Hope Nursery and Primary School. In 2018, three children were able to complete their Primary Leaving Examinations and passed in Grade II to secondary level: Mackline Nantembo with 18 Aggregates, Mulungi Rita with 28 Aggregates and Edith Nankajako with 20 Aggregates.

Disqualified Sponsored Children

One challenge faced by LCU in 2018 was the need to disqualify certain children from the Education for All Program. The educational scholarships provided by this program are conditional on the children satisfying and maintaining certain criteria, including: currently living in poverty; living in areas in which LCU operates; attending school; performing well at school; completing exams; and not being married. The children disqualified from the program in 2018 were going through a number of issues affecting their lives which were unfortunately beyond the organization's control.

At the beginning of 2018, Kasoma Brian and Nabukalu Joyce were disqualified from the scholarship program. Joyce got married while Kasoma Brian dropped out of school because of poor performance and age. They were replaced by Tendo Nakiddekana and Nakirya Teddy respectively.

At the end of 2018, seven children were disqualified from the program, as summarized in the table below.

No	Name of child	Reason	Replacement
1	Namakula Daniella	Her mother left the village and we failed to get in touch with her. All the people who knew her could not contact her. We were told she left with her children to her village in Abim district northern part of Uganda. Therefore, Daniella was unable to sit her end of year exams.	Ssekyango Isima Primary Five 11 years' old Single mother Father died
2	Magidu Abdul	His mother remarried and left the village with him. Therefore, Abdul was unable to sit his 2 nd and 3 rd term exams.	Mastula Ndibama Primary Five 10 years' old Single mother
3	Biribawa Namagere Margaret	She stopped going to school and no explanation was given by her guardian. We tried to follow up but her guardian was not ready to tell us what happened. Margaret no longer stays in the village. Therefore, she did not sit her 3 rd term exams.	Bambu Daphine Primary One 9 years' old Single mother: Kyakimya Regina
4	Emilina Kizza	She left the village with her mother after being hurt by her stepfather. We were unable to reach her mother to help them find a way forward. Kizza did not sit her 3 rd term exams.	Samanya Kizito Primary Six 11 years' old Single mother: Sanyu Florence
5	Muwanguzi Nkukiriza Pretty	She was taken away from the village by her mother's sister after her mother found a new job in Kampala. Therefore, Pretty did not sit her 2 nd and 3 rd term exams.	Nanteza Lillian Baby Class 6 years' old Just enrolled in school Orphan
6	Mulungi Jemimah	She did not do third term exams because she was taken away from the village by her mother's sister after her mother getting a new job to Kampala. Therefore she did not do her 2 nd and 3 rd term exams.	Ssenfuma Hassan Senior One 15 years' old Orphan
7	Gloria Mwesigwa	She was being sponsored by two organisations. Therefore, LCU decided to replace her with a child who was more in need.	Mukalazi Rodgers Primary Five 13 years' old Single mother Father died

According to the above table, one of the biggest issues is mothers leaving the village for various reasons, such as jobs, new marriages or fleeing domestic violence. Such decisions have a great impact on the education of their children. This led to the decision by LCU to only support children who attend LCU partner schools to avoid the program losing money. Therefore, any child who leaves the villages covered by our program shall immediately be replaced with another child on our waiting list.

Children monitoring

We have monitored the scholarship recipients through house visits and parent meetings at which we discuss ways of helping the children improve their performance.

During 2018, the performance of the children steadily improved from first term to third term based on the marks shown on their report cards and the feedback from their teachers.

However, in monitoring the children at their homes, it became clear that some of the children performing poorly at school were affected by high levels of domestic violence, and poor nutrition at both school and home and “a hungry child cannot study well”. During these visits, it was realized that many households in Buwaali, Buso and Bbanga can only afford one meal a day. In addition, at school the children are fed porridge, which leads to poorer concentration in class as porridge alone cannot sustain a child throughout the whole day at school – particularly when the children wake up as early as 6am having slept on poor quality bedding. Therefore, an objective for LCU in 2019 is to fundraise to support children receiving lunch at school – and we call upon readers of this Report to help!



Monthly house visit to the home of Favor Nassolo. She stays with her Aunt Grace and grandmother.

Another challenge we can see is that the children travel long distances to attend school, which makes them tired by the time they arrive. And sometimes, during the rainy season, there is a need to cross rivers and slippery roads and facing that danger every day makes studying a very hard decision for them. However, LCU has trained and encouraged parents to help their children stay in school. This was done through personal development training of both the children and parents, empowering them to see the importance of education.

A separate challenge for students in secondary school is a lack of textbooks which are needed for school. Parents were encouraged to support them with all the necessary textbooks where possible.

Finally, our female scholarship recipients were reported to have been missing school because of menstruation. This problem was wondrously solved by the donation of reusable sanitary pads made by women groups in Scotland and sent by our Advisor Linda Mitchell. Then, the Wangari Women Group, as part of their Tailoring Project, were able to make additional reusable sanitary pads using the materials donated by Linda Mitchell which were given to the girls in our partner schools thus reducing the number of days missed in school (see further on our Tailoring Project below).



Our monthly house visit to the home of Eria Semawule and his mother Sylvia

Challenges and solutions

The major challenge which the Education for All Program faced in 2018 was poor communication between the mothers/guardians of the children and LCU. The mothers/guardians hardly communicated any changes in either their lives or of their children outside our formal visits. For example, we were only told that the mother of one child, Abdul, had left the village to get married after we requested a copy of his second term report. Common problems such as missing exams, mothers/guardians leaving the village, and children dropping out of school, were only learned during the quarterly monitoring visits to the children and their families.

The majority of the mothers and guardians never went to school so little value is attached to their children's education. As a way of helping these mothers and guardians, LCU started quarterly parents' meetings where every parent is tasked to monitor another child or parent in order to promote easy feedback and communication of what happens in the lives of the beneficiaries. The mothers/guardians are tasked to provide a performance report on their children, highlighting the way forward to better performance and helping LCU's team to continuously monitor and follow up on the children's performance so to provide quality feedback to our sponsors.

A thank you

LCU appreciates its sponsors for the good hearts they have shown by enabling the children to acquire an education. Term One, 2019 starts on the 4th of February 2019.

3. THE COMMUNITY READING CLUB

The Club has about 60 children who are taught how to read, write and count by one of the women from the Wangari Women Group who volunteers to help the children improve their performance at school. LCU began the Club because most of the children in our local communities are very poor at reading and understanding English, and yet it is the official language of Uganda. The children are taught every Saturday by their teacher Harriet Nalwoga, a member part of the Wangari Women Group, and by Micheal Nkalubo and Mackline Nantembo who are two of our older sponsored children.

In 2018, we have seen improvement in class performance of the children who are part of the Club, based on their report cards and the feedback received from their teachers. Another benefit of the Club is that children who have not been going to school have also learned how to read, write and count. In this Club, the children are helped with class work and other activities to help them bond with one another. Through storytelling sessions, the children's listening and concentration skills are enhanced, thus improving their ability to understand, listen and express themselves in English.

Finally, LCU aims to teach Club members practical skills. The children were trained in dental cleaning and maintenance (see further below), and 100 children were given toothpaste and tooth brushes during Christmas celebrations, as well as reading materials and stationery that were donated to the Club.



All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy; children of the Club having fun

Dental cleaning

The Community Reading Club organized training on 8 December 2018 where the children were trained in good health habits, focusing on how to keep their teeth clean. The children were involved in a number of games, song and dance through which they were able to showcase how much they had learned from the training. These activities also helped them to learn how to cooperate and work together, which are necessary skills for changing their communities; together we can make a difference.



Ibrahim teaching his fellow children how to clean their teeth

Success stories

Ever since LCU started the Community Reading Club, many children have been helped; both sponsored and unsponsored. An example of the Club boosting the performance of sponsored children is Mirembe Annet, who can now construct sentences and express herself in English. The parents and teachers of these students have expressed their appreciation, as the children have shown improvement in their studies at school and the way they express themselves, both by writing in English and counting.

The Community Reading Club has also given the opportunity to a number of children who are unable to go to school to learn how to read and write. For example, Shamim Namere, 6 years of age, has never gone to school but she has been given the chance to learn how to write her name, count and read through the Saturday lessons. However, more materials are needed such as exercise books for writing, a chalk board for writing and stationary. There is also a need for a qualified teacher to help the children during their Saturday lessons.



Children during their Saturday classes

Case Study: Harriet's Story

The children and their Community Reading Club teacher, Harriet, meet every Saturday to learn how to read and write English and mathematics. During their time Harriet, they are also taught art and crafts. They draw pictures and colour their world. On Women's Day, Harriet took time off her busy schedule and taught the children how to read, write and draw.

Harriet owns a small shop in Buwaali village and she is part of the Wangari Women Group. She stopped going to school in senior three because she became pregnant. She is a very bright young lady who volunteers her time to help the children learn to read and write. We celebrated her on Women's Day 2018 due to her effort to help the children of Buwaali village.

4. THE WANGARI WOMEN PROJECT

In 2018, the Wangari Women Project equipped women with skills in: personal development (5D Cycle of Self-Discovery), financial literacy training and peace and conflict resolution training. The Project has 28 women from Buwaali village, 12 women from Banga village and 20 women from Buso village.

The Project has created togetherness among these women as they worked together on agricultural projects. One such project in 2018 was pig farming, which is a revolving sharing of piglets among the women in the Wangari Women Group once pigs have successfully given birth. Another project was maize and bean farming, where some of the proceeds were used to provide education materials such as books to the children under the Smile of a child project.

The women in this Project were equipped with skills to make reusable sanitary pads. In 2018, 500 pads were made and 300 were sold by the Wangari Women Group to raise funds to sustain the project. The remaining 200 reusable sanitary pads were donated to the girls of Modern World Banga Nursery and Primary School. This project has seen women taking the lead in their communities by providing them with employment and empowering them to make important decisions in their homes.

Wangari Women Group Meetings

The women from all three villages meet at least once a month to discuss the implementation of the Group's various projects. During these meetings, the women update each other on their projects, raise challenges that they have been facing and share solutions.



Lillian, the Team Leader of LCU, talking to the Wangari Women during one of their monthly meetings

Team Building, Peace and Conflict Management training

LCU organized a Team Building, Peace and Conflict Management training session for the women of the Wangari Women Project, which took place on 8 December 2018, with support from Raices del Mundo, a non-profit organisation led by friend of LCU, Rebecca Roberts, that promotes cultural and environmental awareness in Mexico and Uganda. The training was led by Zaina Ali, a volunteer with LCU and Alex Kiguddu, the Project Coordinator of the Community Reading Club. The focus of the training was to help the women learn how to manage conflicts in groups and be able to work together to achieve desired objectives.



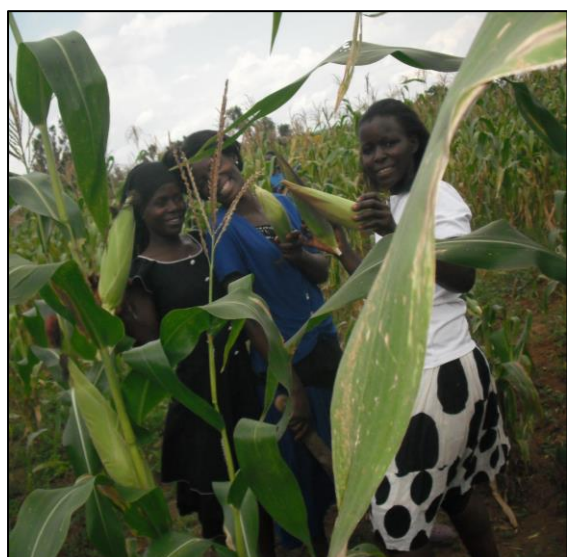
Wangari Women demonstrating how they solve conflicts through the medium of drama

Farming Projects – Maize, Sweet Potato and Beans Projects

LCU hired three acres of land for the women to undertake farming projects as a way of working together and raising funds to support the Wangari Women Project and the Smile of a Child Project. The women of Buwaali and Buso villages used two acres of land; they planted maize for the first season and planted sweet potatoes in the second season. The women of Banga village planted popcorn maize in the first season and beans in the second season.

The farming projects raised a total of 855,500/- for the organization in 2018. The funds raised enabled LCU to support the Wangari Women Project, the Smile of a Child Project and also to support the women directly too.

The pig farm was the last to grow. The Women Group now has about 20 pigs, allocated to different women to raise and share with other members on a rotating basis.



Buwaali Women's Group



Banga Women's Group

Tailoring Project

The Tailoring Project began in 2017 after training was given by Linda Mitchell from Scotland. The women were taught a number of things from making dresses, reusable sanitary pads, and bags to necklaces etc.

After this training LCU continued with the Tailoring Project, and the women have continued to make a number of items including dresses, reusable sanitary pads and tablecloths. Dresses were sold to some of the women in the Group while the rest were sold through the MRS B. Baby Center, a local shop that supports LCU. The reusable sanitary pads were sold to the women and girls in Buwaali village at a very low price of 500/= per pad.

Sanitary pads were also donated to the girls in our partner schools. This is because many girls were missing school when on their periods. Many others had dropped out of school because they were either too shy after having

gotten their periods, or because they had been convinced to sleep with men in exchange for money to buy, among other things, sanitary pads, resulting in child marriages. The Tailoring Project has focused on making reusable sanitary pads for the girls and women of the villages of Buwaali, Buso and Banga as a way of fighting early child marriages and school drop-out rates in these villages.



Florence, our Field Coordinator, selling reusable sanitary pads made by the women to the Wangari Women Group members during one of their monthly meetings

The women are working hard to support and contribute to the development of girls and children in this part of the country. One challenge faced by the Wangari Women Group in 2018 is a lack of space from which to work, as they currently work in someone's compound. Further, although the women were able to receive a donation of sewing materials from Linda Mitchell, more material is still needed, and the women need continuous training. Finally, the ladies had two sewing machines which were bought using funds donated by Linda Mitchell in 2017. However, unfortunately they were needed to be sold but we were able to buy one sewing machine for 500,000/- which is now being used by the women. Ideally, we would like 10 sewing machines for the Tailoring Project.

5. LCU ON THE FARM PROJECT

As part of this project, LCU provides learning opportunities to the children and women of Buwaali, Banga and Buso villages on animal rearing. The project has provided LCU with the opportunity to create a model animal farm where the participants come to learn and share experiences. The participants have learned animal rearing skills, including how to care for animals on a small piece of land, how to feed them and how to use animal waste as fertilisers.

By the end of 2018, LCU had seven animals after LCU's goat gave birth to twins. The animals acquired are: 1 cow, 1 pig, 4 goats (2 kids and 2 adult goats) and 1 sheep. The animals are taken care of by the Field Coordinator, Florence Namubiru, who was chosen by the organization. She provided the land on which LCU conducts the farm, and in turn LCU fully supports her with finance, food and medication for the animals.



Daniel and Micheal looking after the cows and goats on behalf of LCU

6. THE WANGARI WOMEN REVOLVING MICRO-FINANCE SCHEME

The scheme targets rural women in the villages of Buwaali, Buso and Banga in Wakiso district who are educationally, socially and economically disadvantaged and part of the local Wangari Women Groups. The scheme empowers the women individually by granting them small loans to start small, individual business projects, to take their children to school, and provide nutrition among others. The scheme is supported through savings made by the members and through collective income-generating projects undertaken by the women such as farming and tailoring. The profits from these projects are made to support the expansion of the scheme so that it continues to support the Wangari Women, thus improving their welfare and that of their families.

Micro-Finance Scheme Meetings

On 15 June 2018, the LCU team met with the women of the Wangari Women Project in Buwaali. During this meeting, we discussed how to improve the quality of the women's lives, how to benefit from the loan program and the issues directly preventing them from fulfilling their potential. However, the women have embraced the loan program, which started in 2018, and many of them have benefited. This year, the program released a total of 35 loans to its members, which have enabled them to take on a number of projects. Many of the women have used the loans to pursue farming projects because it is the major employment activity in their communities.

Case Study: Florence Namubiru and Christine Nandego

Florence Namubiru has been able to build a house for her family through the scheme while Christine Nandego was able to buy windows for her house and other ladies have been able to do farming in all the seasons because they could easily prepare their land. There has been improvement in feeding of their families.



Nakamya Gorret received a loan and was able to burn her bricks, which were later sold.



Florence received a loan to build a house: before and after building commenced.

Entrepreneurship and Financial Management Skills Training

The women of the Wangari Women Revolving Micro-Finance Scheme were taught entrepreneurship and financial management skills on 13 January 2018, by the Wangari Loan Coordinator, Kimuli Gavin, who took them through the basics of financial management, focusing on how to manage loans so that they can benefit from them. He explained the importance of the program and the rules to follow.



Gavin the Loan Programs Coordinator



Lillian the Team Leader of LCU

Financial Literacy Training

A financial literacy training session for the Wangari Women was carried out on 8 December 2018 with support from the Raices del Mundo organization led by Rebecca Roberts. The training was conducted by Lillian Nanteza, the leader of LCU. The focus of the training was savings and loan management. During the training, the women shared their experiences on how they have saved and managed their loans and discussed solutions to their challenges. At the end of the training, it was agreed that, beginning in 2019, each member of the Wangari Women Project would aim to save at least UGX 5,000/= per month with the goal of saving UGX 60,000/= by the end of the year.



Financial literacy training conducted by Lillian, LCU Team Leader

7. THE VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

The Volunteering Program provides Ugandan and international youths the opportunity to contribute to different communities. Through this program, LCU has recruited six international volunteers who have worked remotely with LCU over the years. They have provided advisory roles and fundraising for the organization, among other things.

In 2018, LCU worked with six Ugandan volunteers to implement the activities in the work plan. Through this program, the organization has been able to extend its reach by sharing skills and resources with individual and organizational partners, women, and children.

Case Study: Hakah Ayesiza

During his annual leave, Hakah Ayesiza decided to volunteer his time with LCU as part of its Community Reading Club. He donated exercise books and balls to the children. He also spent time with the children, doing a number of activities with them such as mentoring, football and other games, enhancing the spirit of the children.



Hakah having fun with the children of the Community Reading Club

GivingWay Platform

LCU has registered with the GivingWay Platform to connect with volunteers, donors and other supporters across the globe. On this platform, LCU can receive donations, connect with online volunteers and recruit new volunteers. If you are interested you can check out LCU on this link <https://www.givingway.com/organisation/leading-change-uganda> for volunteering opportunities and <https://www.givingway.com/donate/leading-change-uganda> for donations.

Online Volunteers

LCU has worked with online volunteers who do a lot of work from their respective countries, such as reviewing documents, updating the website and social media platforms, creating videos to showcase our work, and connecting the organization to likeminded individuals and organizations. They have supported the organization in the administrative work by drafting documents and have enhanced the visibility of the work LCU is doing. Online meetings have been organized via Whatsapp, email and Facebook.

Any individuals interested in joining our team, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

8. FUNDRAISING DRIVES

Bras for Sale

As a way of raising funds to support LCU activities, Carol Hedley – a friend and partner from Scotland – and her friends collected about 200 bras which were sent to LCU to sell and raise funds. The bras were received and will be sold in 2019 through MRS B. Baby Center, a shop which supports LCU by donating baby items which they would otherwise dispose of, and through LCU's other partners.

Wangari Loan Program

Through this program, LCU has been able to raise funds through the small interest charged on the loans made out to the participating Wangari Women. This interest has helped with the management of the scheme, catering for costs such as bank charges, and supporting the Field Coordinator and the Loan Programs Coordinator.

Wangari Project

LCU has raised funds for some of its activities through the tailoring and farming projects undertaken by the women, as explained earlier in this Report. The women groups of Banga and Buwaali villages planted maize and beans on three acres of land for two seasons and proceeds were shared. The tailoring project by the women of Buwaali raised funds through the sale of dresses and reusable sanitary pads to the girls and women of nearby villages.

Raices del Mundo

This is an organization led by Rebecca Roberts from the USA. The organization is based in Mexico. Rebecca, through her organization, managed to fundraise for the Community Reading Club project and Wangari Women Project.

Linda Mitchell

Linda fundraised for Smile of the Child Project's 'Education for All' program and secured 47 sponsors for 47 children. She held a number of workshops to groups of ladies and church members about the work of LCU. LCU has received both in kind contributions and funds as a result of her great fundraising drives. Linda taught ladies in different groups in Scotland how to make dresses and reusable sanitary pads, which were later donated to the children of the Smile of a Child Project and the Wangari Women Group.

We are grateful to all our fundraising partners for their contributions in 2018, which have helped LCU carry out all the programs listed in this Report. We look forward to working together in 2019.

9. SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

- ✓ LCU Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/LeadingChangeUganda/>
- ✓ Twitter https://twitter.com/LCU_Uganda
- ✓ Instagram @leading_change_uganda
- ✓ Websites www.leadingchangeuganda.com and <https://leadingchangeuganda.wixsite.com/home>
- ✓ GivingWay: <https://www.givingway.com/organisation/leading-change-uganda>
- ✓ Global Giving: <https://www.globalgiving.org/donate/37997/leading-change/uganda>

LCU is looking for a volunteer to manage its social media platforms. To create an impact in our local communities, we need to be able to showcase our work to the world.

10. IDEAS FOR 2019

- ❖ The Wangari Women Loan program has been renamed to "Wangari Women Revolving Micro-Finance Scheme" to cater for the Savings Program, which is intended to start with 50 members, though LCU's ultimate target is 100 members.
- ❖ Peer-to-Peer Mentorship as a way of the women empowering one another.
- ❖ Increase the number of pigs in the Piggery part of the LCU On the Farm Project.
- ❖ Election of new leaders for the Wangari Women Group.
- ❖ Finalising profiles of the children of the Smile of a Child Project.
- ❖ Profiling the women of the Wangari Women Project.

11. CONCLUSION

Let's work together to be the change we want to see in world. Special thanks go to all the amazing individuals and organizations who have committed their time, amazing ideas, money and in-kind donations to see that Leading Change Uganda achieves its objectives. The journey has not been a smooth one; the organization and the women faced a number of challenges but have also learned a number of lessons which will make 2019 a better year. It is our right and obligation to work hard and change the world in the best way we can.

