

# RESCUED, RESTORED, THRIVING

Collective impact of the support from Impact Nations to The Remnant Generation 2020

> The Remnant Generation Kampala, Uganda

30 January 2021

### Message from the Executive Director, Annabelle N. Ssebakijje;

On behalf of the Board of Directors, The Management, Beneficiaries and Staff of The Remnant Generation, I would like to convey our sincere appreciation to Impact Nations for choosing to stand with us and walking the journey of rewriting stories of desperation into stories of hope and inspiration with us.

2020, was a year of great impact despite the unplanned for changes that were brought about by the COVID19 pandemic, but with the different diversities and innovations created, we are happy to report that, with your support, we indeed impacted lives of girls, babies, families and communities.

Together impacted lives in the following areas:-

- 1. Health support
- 2. Mother and child care support
- 3. Food security in communities
- 4. Re-training and re-purposing through the mobile "School of Purpose"



### 1. HEALTH

Comprehensive healthcare is very fundamental in the life of a teenage mother and her baby.

### 2020 Highlights



need of ante-natal support.

Lubaga hospital has always been our partner health centre in providing health services to our teenage mothers. However, our girls faced constant stigma in the hospital occasioned by the older women they shared the queues with. The Remnant Generation signed an MoU with the Hospital to ensure that girls are provided a safe space for the teenage mothers where they receive fast and convenient health lessons, antenatal care and post natal care, and served by a midwife at all times.

This space has also been availed to every teenage pregnant girl who goes to Lubaga hospital in

### Other key achievements under health

### Safe motherhood for the teenage pregnant girls

The department under Maisha in house clinic has managed to coordinate clean and safe antenatal, maternity and postnatal care of all pregnant teen girls with qualified and licensed health facilities in Kampala and Lyantonde. All expectant teen moms managed to have their babies safely either through normal spontaneous vaginal deliveries or though caesarian section deliveries. Unfortunately, we also recorded one stillbirth in Lyantonde.

### **Her Impact story**

Uganda's Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) has consistently been one of the highest in the world with 440 deaths per 100,000 live births, according to UNICEF's latest data, while Infant Mortality Rate is at 43.351 deaths per 1000 live births. For teenage mothers, MMR is even higher given that many teenage mothers do not have access to adequate reproductive health care while pregnant and die while trying to give life. Therefore, there is no guarantee that when a teen momenters the labour ward to bring forth child, she or both of them will come out alive and well.

It is for this reason that we celebrate all lives that we rescue at The Remnant Generation. Here are some of those complicated scenarios that could have results in death had quick health interventions not been applied.



Meet Praise (not real names) a 14-year-old teen pregnant mom who was 36 weeks and staying at the Princess shelter. Praise developed vaginal bleeding, a condition in late pregnancy known as Antepartum Hemorrhage, and on examination by the midwife at the Maisha in-house clinic, there was a low and hard to hear fetal heartbeat. Our midwife rushed her to Lubaga hospital where the scan showed that the placenta was

covering the entire cervix - a deadly condition known as Placenta Previa grade 4. (A woman cannot deliver normally with it)

This called for an emergency C/Section delivery to save the life of our dear teen mom. The gynecologist had anticipated doing a total hysterectomy (removal of the uterus) due to how severe the situation presented, but while in theatre, he realized it could be resolved and thus saved our little girl's uterus.



Fortunately, she gave birth to a live baby boy. The baby weighed 2.52kgs; scored 8/10 at zero minute of life and the uterus remained intact after the operation. The baby was rushed to the Nursery due since he was premature and had respiratory distress. Currently both mother and child have healed; baby is able to breastfeed outside the nasal tubes and both are in a good condition and thriving well.

### 2. MOTHER AND CHILD CARE SUPPORT



Our support to teenage mothers is holistic psycho-social support which is extended to girls in the community and those that are rescued into the shelter.

The Princess shelter is a guaranteed safe space for teenage mother and baby. This is where we ensure that the girl receives all the necessary psycho-social support she needs to thrive. It a safe haven where she and her baby find love, care, comfort, warmth and feel welcome to the new world. We work with a team of volunteers, social workers and

professional counselors that journey together with the girls to receive healing and restoration

after the trauma they might have suffered. Girls get involved in different activities like sports, baby dedications, birthday celebrations and other fun activities. They are taken through sessions of mental well-being to foster mental health, participate in workshops like "Encounter God" to help them learn to forgive those who wronged them, and also go through sessions like "Embrace Grace" which helps the girls find peace and live in harmony in society.

We offer parenting classes to these new teenage mothers to embrace motherhood, support children's development and build nurturing and safe homes in their communities. We support mothers through training sessions on child protection, family life and positive parenting. Other forms of support include measures to help curb malnutrition among the babies and access to literacy.

This year, with the support from you our dear partners 88 teenage mothers and 38 babies have been able to access support from the Remnant Generation.

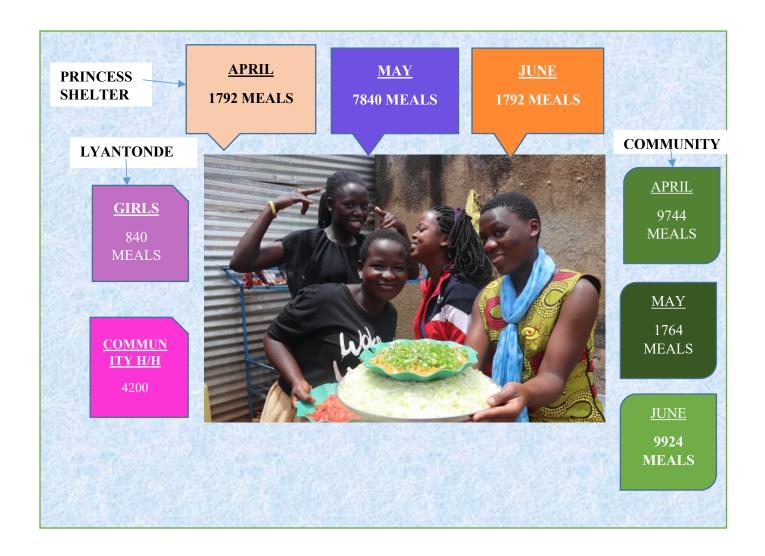
### 3. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

### a) FEEDING

During the COVID19 lockdown, many of the families that we work with in the community in Kampala and Lyantonde expressed that the most pressing need they had then was food. The Remnant Generation together with Impact Nations launched a feeding campaign and together, 37,898 meals were provided in the period between April and October. We want to say THANK YOU IMPACT NATIONS for standing with us on this cause and putting a healthy smile on the lives of many.

Her impact Statement "You surely don't know what you have done for me by calling me to pick this package. Just like all other places, our restaurant is also locked up yet we were not making as many sales before the closure. I have been taking tea for lunch with a snack and that's my meal for the entire day. But with this food, am sure my next two weeks are sorted." Said Ritah one of the alumni for 2019.

Below is a summarized reflection of how many meals were provided to every category of girls in the different months.



## B) Fathers Arise Program: Calling out men to become more involved in the lives of their daughters

Raising fathers and men to become protectors of girls and women is one of the ways through which the rates of sexual abuse in society can be curbed. Society strongly attaches the role of protection on men because they are the strongest gender. In the African settling, a father and boy child have a lot of say of the things that happen in a home. A brother is supposed to protect his sister in the community whereas a father commands respect and security for his family. The absence of a man in a home or in the lives of children is not only felt in their lack of basic



needs but also in their high exposure to abuse. More girls with absent fatherly figures have

suffered abuse more that those whose fathers have been present. This program therefore is intended call out to men to become more involved and responsible in raising children and protecting girls. It's a wake-up call to their God given responsibility and sense.

### C) Lyantonde Focus group discussions against child abuse

In an effort to sensitize people about issues of sexual abuse, teenage pregnancy and issues affecting the lives of girls in the society. TRG social workers sensitized over 269 power influencers (church leaders, police officers, parents, local leaders and district heads) of how they can easily protect, report and identify cases of sexual their communities. They learnt about child protection, sexual harassment and teenage pregnancy among the youth. With this attained knowledge they will easily protect girls against abuse, help them make



better decision, attain justice for the victims and also devise community based approaches to empower families in their communities.

### D) Making and distributing masks

Another great initiative funded by Impact Nations. Wearing a mask is one of the precautions set to eliminate Covid 19. TRG realized this as an opportunity to first of all reach out and also create a source of income for the girls and itself. We therefore, decided to employ some girls to make the masks which were later sold out and some distributed to the communities that we thought needed them a lot. 1000 masks were given to Lyantonde, 200 to Kampala community children who benefitted from the Peer to Peer community engagement programs and all these have greatly contributed to the visibility of TRG.

Impact Statement "My mother told me she could not afford to buy each one of us a mask for we used the one she had in turn. I was worried when the opportunity for training came and they told us that one of the must haves was a mask. I felt like something small was going to make me miss out on this great life learning opportunity. On the first day of the training, mum opted to stay home so I could use her mask. When we got to the class however, I could not believe it when the facilitator distributed a mask to each one of us and only cautioned us to keep them well. Who could dare lose their mask? Not me at least. It even has the logo of The Remnant Generation so it is easy to tell people about the organisation that trains us in the field. Whenever they see the mask, they know that that child is a beneficiary of the skilling project and it is many of us n the community. Thank you for supporters"

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### REPORT FOR THE PEER-PEER (PEER) COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION AND SKILLING PROJECT

The PEER project was rolled out by The Remnant Generation in September 2020 to respond to the need for the youth to be productively engaged after 6 months of schools being shut down as a result of the COVID19 pandemic. The Project aimed at putting the girls from our School of Purpose at the forefront of mobilising, organising and facilitating learning for fellow girls and identified groups of boys & parents within the local community.

Our goal was to equip and empower girls to catalyse social and economic renewal in their immediate communities during this COVID-19 crisis.

We planned to work with 150 girls and 40 boys, between the ages of 10 and 18, organised into 10 clusters within their immediate communities for a period of 12 weeks – from September to November 2020.

### 1.0 Project Activities and Mode of execution:

Through this project we implemented a mobile School of Purpose to provide basic life skills and vocational skills training, alternative business training for girls and their parents (especially mothers) and conduct talks/discussions aimed at creating awareness and learning on issues of child protection, sexual abuse, counselling services and responsible living. Our social workers were also tasked to identify and respond to any cases of sexual abuse and vulnerable teen moms needing some form of support in the communities.

**Staffing:** The PEER project was implemented under guidance and mentorship of The Remnant Generation staff who worked directly with the children, community leaders and with the parents. The team dedicated to this project comprised of the Community Empowerment Programme Social Workers, Counsellors, School of Purpose staff, Spiritual Nurturing volunteers and the Health team. Their tasks mainly involved the development of content, facilitation of key sessions and they also provided support and guidance on content delivery to the Alumni. In addition to this, the team obtained the relevant approvals and spearheaded all engagements with parents and community leaders.

**Target Group:** The Remnant Generation works mainly with girls – many of whom are survivors of sexual abuse. However, under this initiative, boys were also involved in learning, sensitisation sessions, counselling and skilling activities. While the children were taught together to dialogue on issues affecting both genders, there were some sessions where they were separated to allow for free participation and because some topics were specific to that gender and not for the other.

**Skills:** The <u>Vocational skills</u> that were identified were easy to learn, would address the immediate needs and can also be developed into income generating projects. As such we

zeroed down to making re-usable sanitary towels, liquid soap and large exercise books (A4 size) as the key training components. Later, we also added shoes and handbags, as well as sweater making to the skills set.

<u>Life Skills and values</u>: Self Esteem, Personal Hygiene, Relationships and Sexual Purity, Honesty, Growth and Development, Communication Skills

<u>Awareness and sensitisation:</u> Rights and responsibilities of children, Sexual Abuse & teen pregnancy, Access to child Friendly Justice,

**Location:** The Remnant Generation staff worked with a selection of Community leaders to identify training places/venues in the community We used family homes with big compound spaces, churches, and school spaces that were not in use then.



A School of Purpose Alumni teaches girls to make reusable sanitary pads

At every confirmed meeting place, our team ensured that all COVID19 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were observed - taking temperatures for all participants, hand washing/sanitising, wearing of facial masks and social distancing.

**Timing:** Every session will run for two hours.

**Parents' Sessions:** Parents were taken through sessions on positive parenting, alternative business training.

### 2.0 Project Highlights

The PEER Community skilling Project was rolled out in 10 zones; 9 in Busega and 1 in in Kosovo.

- 202 children reached
- 5 vocational skills were taught.
  - 187 trained in liquid soap making
  - o **155** in Book making
  - o **120 girls** trained in making reusable pads
  - 18 girls and 3 boys trained in craft shoes making
  - o **18 girls and 3 boys** trained in craft bag making



Girls making re-usable pads during the training

- 6 **Lifeskills** topics discussed during this project where intended to change behaviour. The team encouraged the teenagers to use plays, games, group discussions, songs and dance to share the message, and build new sets of values. Some of the topics covered included;
  - Self esteem
  - Personal hygiene
  - Growth and development
  - Sexual purity
  - Sexual abuse
  - o HIV & AIDS

This intervention has provided children in the community who were at risk of getting pregnant and school going children who are sitting at home idle, a chance to engage with others by participating in activities which are educative yet interesting with their peers.

**The Boys:** "I am going to be more respectful towards girls and protect my sisters" said Flavian (14) from Kigwanya Zone.



classes with a male mentor Richard from Strong Minds

In order to catalyse mindset and behavioural change, **a total of 47 boys** were engaged by a male mentor on issues of discipline, growth and development, sexual abuse and peer pressure. They talked about living peaceably with each other, and with the female gender, respecting and protecting girls, and they were also encouraged to fight for the rights of the teen mothers

Boys during their male involvement

### **Local Leaders and Parent Engagement:**

On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, we held a local leaders' and parents' engagement session that was attended by **8 local** leaders and **23 parents** to give feedback on the project and how helpful it has been to their children, as well as give feedback on what should be done better next time. This was then followed by an ALTERNATIV business training aimed at teaching principles and operations of all kinds of businesses but mainly the small-scale businesses which most of them run. They were also taken through an integrated entrepreneurship skills package for preparedness and response during the pandemic, and by the end of the training, some parents had committed to making smaller groups and starting up businesses.



Parents and local leaders during their feedback session with Annabelle at the TRG offices.

**Feedback:** Most of the local leaders appreciated TRG and the field team for the work done to help the youth in these communities.

"Many of the young people in my zone have changed their behaviour. For example, some of those who used to collect scrap in the village are now running a liquid soap making business." Edith Sentongo-Chairperson Kibumbiro A

"Children do not loiter around the village anymore. These activities have made them busy during this season and their guardians feel safe knowing that their children are engaged in activities that are beneficial." Tumwesigye Jane – Nabakyala Kigwanya Zone.

"I have received a lot of positive feedback from the parents in my community testifying about the change in their children's attitude and behaviour." Chairperson Ssendegeya Samuel, Kitaka Zone, who also encouraged parents to buy start up material for their children now that they've acquired the skills.

"I am glad that I was called upon and given an opportunity to learn how to make liquid soap since it is very rare to find such opportunities." Namugenyi Hawa – Parent in Central C

It is because of such testimonies that there was an improvement in community engagement and ownership of the programme, which also led to very successful graduation ceremonies that were duly sanctioned, organised and attended by most local leaders in the 10 zones.

#### 3.0 Graduation:

The project was crowned with 3 graduation ceremonies clustering the 10 zones into three groups so that we are able to still fit within the numbers that the Government of Uganda has



accepted as the rightful number for large groups during this pandemic.

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at King Fahad School which was attended by 58 children and 22 adults, catering for graduands in Kitaka, Kigwanya Central B and C

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2020 at Christ for all Power Centre which was attended by 34 children and 22 adults in Nabisassiro and Sendawula Zone

Friday 11th December 2020 at Muslim Girls School which was attended by 71

children and 43 adults of Kibumbilo A, B, Kabaale, and Central A. It was during this graduation that local leaders,

- 1. Committed to carrying on the activities of the project next year in their different zones;
- 2. Promised to support the girls who are interested in starting up businesses with start-up;
- 3. The Nabisasiro Zone LC 1 Chairperson gave two girls (over the age of 18) work training at his bricket making project.

### Challenges

One of the greatest challenges we have encountered this year is the outbreak of the Corona Virus pandemic and the many changes and impositions that came with it. A lot of our programs were affected but we are thankful to God that it also created us opportunities to innovatively reach out to bigger numbers and create more impact.

#### Conclusion

Its has been four years of a great partnership with you our dear funders. We have achieved many milestones together and many of the things we see are because you trusted us to do God's work with you. We look forward to more opportunities to grow and impact more lives together. Together we are changing stories of desperation into stories of hope and inspiration.

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