



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER APRIL -JUNE 2023

# YOUTH IN CHRIST AFRICA

Impacting lives through loving, evangelizing, discipling, supporting and serving.

## Greetings from YICA

Greetings from Uganda! We hope that you've had a wonderful last few months and that the LORD has kept you well!

We appreciate each of you for your continued prayers as we work here to serve the LORD. We are deeply blessed by your love and commitment to us.

We have been busy planning, and serving and are excited to share with you some updates from the last few months!

## Announcements

We have encountered some difficulty getting our online donations set up. Once we work out the kinks, we will let you know!

We have 7 children sponsored out of the 36! We have a goal of getting 50% of the 36 children sponsors. If you would love to sponsor a child, please send us an email so we can get you set up!

We would love to partner with you or church in serving the Lord! If you are interested in serving in Uganda, please send us a message! We would love to chat with you!

We have a staff retreat scheduled in August! We will be taking our various departments to Jinja for a weekend getaway!



## YICA Child

### Parent Training

At the start of June we had another Parents' Training for the parents of the children in our program. We were elated to learn that roughly half the parents began saving and financially planning after the previous training on financial management and that parents also reported trying the new farming techniques learned. This training focused on how to grow cash crops- specifically coffee- and ways to invest. Coffee is a major cash crop in Uganda, so we brought in an expert coffee farmer and seller to help explain how to care for their coffee plants to get the best harvest, and therefore, make the most amount of money. One of the parents said, "Learning how to properly care and prune for coffee plants is going to transform my garden. I didn't know why some challenges were coming, but now I can identify the problems." James Magomu also led the parents through investment strategies. They looked at retirement, investment options achievable in village, as well as non- financial investments (ex. family, friends, fun, etc). James explained the importance of investing in one's children. Parents reported that they had never seen their children as an investment before. At the end of the training, one parent stood up and confessed, **"When I learned about family investment, I realized I had never hugged my child. But when I go home right now, I want to start doing it."**

### Gathering Day

Our monthly Gathering Days for the children are still going strong and are being led by our faithful Teaching Facilitator, Carol. We consistently have between 30-32 of the children in attendance and the children have been very engaged in the Bible lessons. One of their favorite stories has been the the story of Moses. So we surprised them over Easter weekend with a movie showing of the Prince of Egypt! They loved seeing the story! We were unable to find a translated version of the story, so our team was busy helping to explain what was happening, but nonetheless, we all had a great time!

Simon, our Home Visit Facilitator, has continued to check in monthly on YICA Children. He visits their families and sees what is going on in their lives. One major issue that is repeatedly brought up from the home visits is that they have no lunch during school, and it makes it harder for them to focus. If you would like to help do a meal plan for a child (roughly \$5 a month), please send us an email and we would love to help organize that assistance.



### Meet Carol

"Hello, my name is Galenda Carol and I come from Buyobo, Sironko District. I am a member of the YICA Child team and I love YICA so much. One reason I love YICA is that I have learned many things here. For example, how to teach children. At first I never knew how to teach children, but now I know. At first I was fearing how to handle the children, but I appreciate YICA for showing me how to teach them, lead them, and pray with them. I feel so happy to now to know those things. Also, YICA always provides us with what we need to serve. They have helped us with transport, team t-shirts, umbrellas, rubber boots, and Bible Study. They encourage us to serve God and to fear Him and to live in a way that pleases him. This is why I love working with YICA."

*Galenda Carol- YICA Child Teaching Facilitator*





## Youth Chat

### Contact Persons

In our Youth Chat program, we have selected members who show potential for leadership and have given them positions called Contact Persons. Their role is to represent YICA in their schools or churches and to help us better reach the youth.

At the start of each month, we meet with them over breakfast to provide a leadership training and let them share their ideas on how to make Youth Chat better. This last training was on Synergy (team work). We learned what team work is, why team work is important and how to use it. We then had them do a team building exercise- the human pretzel! In this exercise, members stand in a circle and randomly grab hands of other members. They then must untangle themselves to make a circle. Though the youth were skeptical it was solvable, they were able to work as a team to untangle themselves and to make a circle!



### Mbale Gatherings

Our monthly gatherings are moving along well. We have had 4 meetings so far. The first one was an introduction to who we are as an organization. The second one was led by our Youth Chat Coordinator, Francis Oluka, who taught us about vision and goals. We had small group discussions afterwards to discuss questions about our personal visions, how to reach them, and what will help us remain focused towards them. For our third gathering, we showed them the movie Jesus Revolution. While our fourth meeting was on a hot topic for the youth- dating! Kelsey Magomu led them through the topic and we opened it up for them to ask questions about dating to a panel of married adults.

One new aspect of the program will be the Hangouts! We will be organizing events in the middle of the month for the youth to participate in. The aim of this is to provide a space for us to all get to know each other, have fun and to adventure a bit!

## Youth Chat Needs

Youth Chat is a program that seeks to reach out to university aged youth in Mbale. As a new program, we have some needs to better help us run the program.

1. Financial. It costs us about \$85 a month to run the program. Any donations towards this would greatly help the program to proceed and grow.
2. Team. We are looking for another married couple who is 30 years old and above to help join our team. If you are interested in joining our team to help reach and disciple the youth, please send us a message and we would love to discuss with you.
3. Prayer. Please pray for wisdom for our team and for growth of the program!



# YICA EVENTS

## Past Events

April

- YICA Child Movie Day!
- Youth Chat Gathering

May

- YICA Child Gathering
- YICA Child Give Away Day
- Youth Chat Gathering

June

- Youth Chat Contact Persons Meeting
- Youth Chat Gathering
- YICA Child Parents' Training
- YICA Child Gathering

## Upcoming Events

July

- Youth Chat Gathering and Hangout
- Youth Chat Contact Persons Meeting
- YICA Child Gathering

August

- Youth Chat Gathering and Hangout
- Youth Chat Contact Persons Meeting
- YICA Child Gathering
- YICA Staff Retreat

September

- Youth Chat Gathering and Hangout
- Youth Chat Contact Persons Meeting
- YICA Child Gathering
- YICA Child Give Away Day

## Youth Chat- Kampala

A group of young, energetic youth recently went on an outreach program to Kiruddu Hospital in Kampala- Uganda. The purpose of this visit was to show love and support to the patients at the hospital. The team brought along various items such as toiletries, New Testament bibles, cups, food supplements and snacks for the patients. We were able to reach out to about 200 patients both in and outpatients.



Upon arrival, the group was warmly welcomed by the hospital staff who escorted them to the different wards. The youth visited several wards where they interacted with the patients and prayed with them.

The joy and excitement on the faces of the patients were evident as they received the gifts and interacted with the youth. The team took time to talk to the patients, listen to their stories, and share words of encouragement with them. They also shared their own experiences and how they have been able to overcome various challenges in their lives.

The outreach program was not only beneficial to the patients but also to the youth themselves. The experience gave them a sense of purpose and fulfillment as they were able to make a positive impact in the lives of others. It also helped them appreciate the gift of good health and the importance of giving back to the community.

Overall, the visit to Kiruddu Hospital was a success. The youth were able to bring a ray of hope and happiness to the patients, and in return, they received a sense of fulfillment and gratitude. The outreach program was a reminder that a simple act of kindness can go a long way in brightening someone's day and bringing a smile to their face.

