



20 24 ANNUAL REPORT

www.bangaafayo.org

An orange abstract graphic consisting of a thick line that curves and loops, ending in a small oval shape with a vertical slit, resembling a stylized '0' or a knot.

ABOUT US

Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the holistic development of under-privileged and marginalized children, youth, and young women in rural communities of Uganda. Our Cradle-to-Career (C2C) approach of comprehensive services support children and youth at every stage.

Through coordinated strategic programs in education, economic development, leadership, public health and advocacy, girls' empowerment, and sports for development, we strive to mitigate the devastating effects of poverty and HIV, paving the way for sustainable, lifelong success and economic mobility.

OUR MISSION

To bring real and lasting change to children, youth and women living in poverty through holistic multidimensional programs in education, economic development, leadership and public health.



LETTER FROM THE TEAM LEADER

In 2024, Ba Nga Afayo continued advancing our mission to bring real and lasting change to children, youth, and women living in poverty through holistic programs in education, economic development, leadership, and public health. Central to this work is our place-based cradle-to-career approach, ensuring that every child in rural Kayunga receives consistent support at each stage of life.

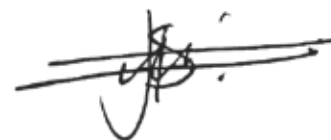
Through this approach, our programs integrate education, early childhood development, skills training, sports, creativity, and wellbeing initiatives, creating an

environment where learners catch up, youth gain employable skills, and children imagine futures beyond their circumstances. Our community center has become a trusted space where children learn, heal, and grow, while families witness real progress and opportunity.

These achievements are only possible because of the generosity and trust of our donors and partners. Your support allows us to invest in long-term change, not just short-term solutions, and ensures that no child's future is determined by where they are born.

As we look to 2025 and beyond, we remain committed to strengthening quality, deepening impact, and scaling what works so that more children benefit from pathways that guide them from cradle to career.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JD', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

JOSEPH DDIBA
TEAM LEADER



WHERE WE WORK

Over 80% of the population where we work are dependent on low level subsistence farming which is mainly for food with no viable source of income and survive on one meal a day.

This has accelerated the vicious cycle of poverty and high illiteracy rates because it is nearly impossible for these families to educate their children making it difficult for the residents to get access to services and opportunities.

KAYUNGA

The villages have very poor and inadequate infrastructure with no proper school in place, limited access to clean water, Electricity, poor sanitation and hygiene standards.



WHY KAYUNGA

Ba Nga Afayo focuses on Kayunga because it is a rural district where children, youth, and families face persistent barriers to education, health, and economic opportunity. Over 80 percent of residents rely on subsistence farming, often surviving on a single meal a day, which perpetuates poverty and limits access to services.

High illiteracy rates, under-resourced schools, and the impacts of HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence create systemic challenges that hinder development. By working in Kayunga, we can implement a place-based cradle-to-career approach, providing consistent, holistic support that addresses interconnected needs and builds lasting opportunities for the community.



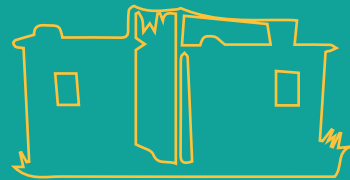
Limited access to
clean, safe drinking
water



Inadequate health
facilities lacking maternal
services



Poor infrastructure
with limited access to
schools



Poor housing conditions
and overcrowded living
spaces



OUR CRADLE- TO-CAREER APPROACH

Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda takes a comprehensive, community-driven approach to transforming the lives of children, youth, and young women. Our Cradle-to-Career approach ensures sustained support at every stage of life through four key pillars: Health, Education, Employment, and Empowerment.



OUR PROGRAMS



EDUCATION

Education is key to breaking the poverty cycle. We seek to increase access to education, improve the quality of teachers and improve child well-being.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Our programs develop children and young people's capacity to engage in positive behaviors to nurture their well-being and know their rights.



CHILD PROTECTION

We believe every child deserves to be protected from violence, neglect, abuse so that to live a full life and have the chance to live to their fullest potential.



GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT

We believe confidence grows as children especially girls develop leadership skills, understand social responsibility and take an active role in their community.



TECHNOLOGY & EMPLOYMENT

We prepare rural youth for careers in STEM, design and multimedia fields. Youth learn to use cutting-edge technologies, gain entrepreneur skills and career-ready skills.



SPORTS FOR CHANGE

We take a holistic approach to developing young people and their skills in bringing about positive change through our multi sports programs.



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Champions are those who
turn their dreams into reality
through hard work and
determination.
- Joseph Ddiba

RE
CHAMPIONS
DE

CHAMPION
CHAMPION
CHAMPION
CHAMPION

BA NGA AFAYO COMMUNITY CENTER

Ba Nga Afayo Community Center continues to stand as a trusted hub of safety, learning, and opportunity for children and youth in Kayunga District. Over the past year, the Center has strengthened its role as the heart of our cradle-to-career ecosystem supporting learners from early childhood through adolescence with consistent, holistic care.

Serving both in-school and out-of-school children, the Center provides expanded learning support, mentorship, psychosocial care, life-skills development, and creative and recreational spaces where young people can learn, heal, and build a sense of belonging. Through tutoring, counseling, and group mentoring, each child receives individualized support that addresses academic progress, wellbeing, and personal growth.

In close partnership with local schools, parents, village leaders, and community volunteers, the Center bridges critical gaps faced by children and young women who lack access to safe, structured environments beyond the classroom. Programs in education enrichment, digital literacy, vocational skills, nutrition, and community development work together to reduce vulnerability and strengthen pathways into secondary education, livelihoods, and leadership.

16,481
**CHILDREN &
YOUTH**

participated in the
center's activities in 2024

10+
PROGRAMS

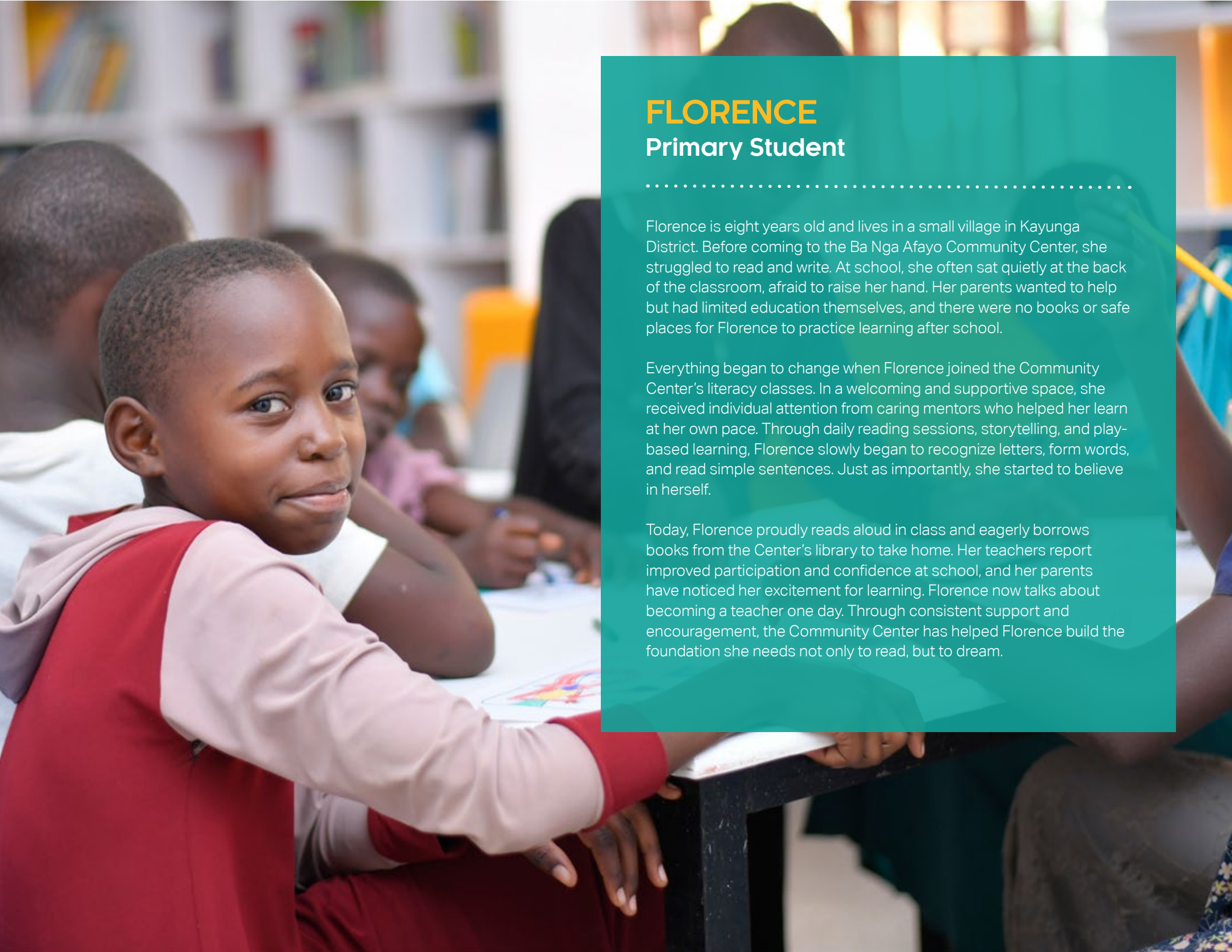
focusing on Health,
Education, Employment,
and Empowerment.



WHY INVEST IN OUR WORK?

The Community Center has strengthened educational participation and retention among vulnerable children, with learners showing improved attendance, academic confidence, and readiness to transition to secondary school. Children demonstrate better psychosocial wellbeing, including increased resilience, self-esteem, and positive peer relationships.

Out-of-school children are re-engaged in learning, while adolescents and young parents gain practical skills that improve employability and income opportunities. Collectively, these outcomes are helping to disrupt cycles of poverty and ensure children in rural Kayunga have clearer pathways from early learning to livelihoods.



FLORENCE

Primary Student

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Florence is eight years old and lives in a small village in Kayunga District. Before coming to the Ba Nga Afayo Community Center, she struggled to read and write. At school, she often sat quietly at the back of the classroom, afraid to raise her hand. Her parents wanted to help but had limited education themselves, and there were no books or safe places for Florence to practice learning after school.

Everything began to change when Florence joined the Community Center's literacy classes. In a welcoming and supportive space, she received individual attention from caring mentors who helped her learn at her own pace. Through daily reading sessions, storytelling, and play-based learning, Florence slowly began to recognize letters, form words, and read simple sentences. Just as importantly, she started to believe in herself.

Today, Florence proudly reads aloud in class and eagerly borrows books from the Center's library to take home. Her teachers report improved participation and confidence at school, and her parents have noticed her excitement for learning. Florence now talks about becoming a teacher one day. Through consistent support and encouragement, the Community Center has helped Florence build the foundation she needs not only to read, but to dream.



SUPPORTING LOCAL TEACHERS

In 2024, Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda strengthened its commitment to quality education by investing in the educators who serve rural communities across Kayunga District. Through our Teachers' Refresher Training program, implemented in partnership with TATCO Uganda and with support from the Global Fund for Children, we hosted a two day professional development workshop at our Community Center.

The training focused on practical, child-centered approaches that help teachers create more engaging, inclusive, and joyful classrooms. A key emphasis was the integration of play-based learning into everyday lessons demonstrating how creativity, movement, and interaction can improve participation, comprehension, and emotional wellbeing, even in classrooms with limited resources and large class sizes. Additional sessions strengthened teachers' skills in lesson planning, scheming, and supporting children's mental health.

Recognizing the growing emotional and psychosocial challenges faced by children, teachers were equipped to identify early signs of stress and trauma and to respond with care and appropriate classroom strategies. Beyond the workshops, Ba Nga Afayo continues to walk alongside educators, reinforcing learning and supporting implementation throughout the school year. By empowering teachers, we are strengthening classrooms, schools, and long-term learning outcomes for children across rural Kayunga.

92

EDUCATORS

participated in our teacher trainings

100%

OF PARTICIPANTS

gained practical play-based techniques



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Teachers demonstrated increased confidence in using play-based, child-centered teaching methods that improve student engagement and learning outcomes. Classrooms became more inclusive and emotionally supportive, with educators better equipped to identify and respond to children's mental health needs. Improved lesson planning and scheming enhanced instructional quality, even in low-resource settings.

As a result, students experienced greater participation, creativity, and emotional wellbeing. By investing in teacher capacity, the program is contributing to stronger schools and improved learning experiences for thousands of children in rural Kayunga District.

LINIAUS

P.1 Teacher, Mugema Primary School.

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When Naturinda Liniaus was deployed to rural Kayunga as a Teach For Uganda Fellow, she quickly discovered the realities many rural teachers face such as large class sizes, limited learning materials, and children carrying heavy emotional burdens into the classroom. Teaching Primary One at Mugema Primary School, she was committed to helping her learners succeed but often felt she needed new tools to truly reach them.

That opportunity came when Naturinda participated in Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda's Teachers' Refresher Training. During the workshop, she was introduced to play based learning and practical strategies for supporting children's mental health. For the first time, she saw how play could be more than a break from learning. It could be a powerful teaching tool that builds understanding, confidence, and joy. She also gained skills to recognize signs of emotional distress and create a classroom environment where children feel safe, supported, and ready to learn.

Returning to her classroom, Naturinda transformed her lessons. Learning became active and joyful, filled with laughter, movement, and meaningful engagement. Her students participated more freely, showed improved focus, and expressed themselves with confidence. For Naturinda, the training strengthened her ability to nurture both the minds and wellbeing of her learners and ensure every child had the chance to thrive.



STRENGTHENED TEACHER CONFIDENCE AND RETENTION

Teachers who participated in the training reported increased confidence in their ability to manage classrooms, engage learners, and respond to diverse student needs.

Feeling equipped with practical, adaptable strategies reduced frustration and burnout, particularly in challenging rural teaching environments. As a result, teachers were more motivated and committed to remaining in the profession and continuing to serve their communities.



STRONGER SCHOOL COMMUNITY AND PEER LEARNING

The training fostered collaboration among teachers from different schools, encouraging peer learning and shared problem solving. Teachers exchanged ideas, reflected on common challenges, and built professional support networks that extended beyond the workshop.

IMPROVED CLASSROOM INCLUSION AND EQUITY

The program helped teachers adopt inclusive teaching practices that support learners with different abilities, learning styles, and emotional needs.

By integrating play based approaches and mental health awareness, teachers became more attentive to children who are often overlooked, including those who are shy, struggling, or affected by trauma.

This created classrooms where more children actively participated and felt seen and supported.





MAGICAL CLASSROOMS

Magical Classrooms is Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda's innovative response to the lack of accessible Early Childhood Development services in rural and marginalized communities of Kayunga District. Designed as a home-based and community-based model, the program brings early learning closer to children who are unable to travel long distances to formal centers. Rather than relying on costly infrastructure, Magical Classrooms operate in donated community spaces such as family compounds, churches, and other safe local environments.

Each classroom is led by trained Teen Teachers and caregivers who provide nurturing, play-based learning for preschool-aged children. Learning takes place in small groups, allowing educators to give individual attention while supporting early literacy, communication, social development, and school readiness. By grounding education in familiar spaces and trusted relationships, the program strengthens consistent participation and community ownership.

Magical Classrooms are a foundational part of Ba Nga Afayo's place-based cradle-to-career approach. By investing in early learning and youth leadership, the program lays the groundwork for long-term educational success while demonstrating that quality early childhood education can be community-led, low-cost, and sustainable.



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

In 2024, Magical Classrooms expanded access to early learning in rural Kayunga by establishing 7 home-based learning centers within local communities. 20 youth facilitators and caregivers were trained to deliver safe, play-based, and child-centered learning.

A total of 130 children were enrolled across the centers, with 90% demonstrating improved school readiness, including early literacy, communication, and social skills. Families reported increased confidence in their children's preparedness for primary school, while youth facilitators gained leadership and teaching skills.

Overall, the program strengthened early learning access, community ownership, and foundational pathways for children's long-term educational success.

20
YOUTH
FACILITATORS

and caregivers were
trained

130
CHILDREN

were enrolled across the
centers



RITAH

Pre-School girl

Meet Ritah, a bright four-year-old from a small village in Kayunga District. She lives with her grandmother in a one-room mud house, where daily survival takes priority over early learning. The nearest preschool is several kilometers away, and the cost of transport and school fees made attending impossible. Like many children in her community, Ritah spent her days at home, with few opportunities to play, learn, or interact with other children her age.

Everything changed when a Magical Classroom was established within her village. In a safe, familiar compound led by trained Teen Teachers, Ritah was introduced to letters, numbers, songs, and storytelling through play-based activities. For the first time, learning felt joyful and accessible. Surrounded by caring educators and other children, she began to speak up, participate confidently, and express her imagination freely.

The impact reached beyond the classroom. With bicycles, Teen Teachers were able to travel longer distances, ensuring consistent support and reaching children like Ritah who would otherwise be left behind. Today, Ritah eagerly attends her Magical Classroom sessions and proudly practices what she learns at home. Her grandmother says Ritah now talks about becoming a teacher one day. Through community-led early learning, Ritah is building the foundation for a brighter future.

STRONGER SCHOOL READINESS AND TRANSITION

Children enrolled in Magical Classrooms demonstrate improved readiness for primary school, including better listening skills, early literacy, numeracy, and classroom behavior.

Familiarity with routines such as sitting in groups, following instructions, and interacting with peers eases the transition into formal schooling.

Teachers report that children who attended Magical Classrooms adapt more quickly once they enter primary school.



IMPROVED EARLY LEARNING EQUITY

Magical Classrooms have reduced inequalities in access to early childhood education by bringing learning directly into underserved communities.

Children who would otherwise miss out due to distance, poverty, or caregiving responsibilities are now reached within their own villages.

This ensures that a child's starting point in education is not determined by geography or household income.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND EMPLOYMENT PATHWAYS

Teen Teachers gain valuable teaching experience, leadership skills, and a sense of purpose through their role in Magical Classrooms. Many youth facilitators report increased confidence, responsibility, and interest in education-related careers. The program creates meaningful pathways for young people to contribute to community development while building employable skills.





AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Learning at Ba Nga Afayo goes far beyond the classroom. In communities where children often lack safe and supportive spaces outside school hours, our Community Center has become a vibrant hub for Out-of-School Learning helping young people discover their abilities, build confidence, and stay engaged throughout the year.

We provide a wide range of programs for primary, lower-secondary, and out-of-school youth during after-school hours, weekends, and holiday breaks. From STEM and digital skills to sports for development, life-skills workshops, creative arts, mentorship circles, mental health support, and reading programs, each activity is designed to spark curiosity and equip young people with practical skills for their future.

In rural Kayunga, many students face barriers such as limited resources at home, long distances to school, and a lack of structured activities in their communities. Our Out-of-School Learning initiatives give them a place where they can learn safely, express themselves, access technology, receive guidance, and build friendships.

1000+

CHILDREN & YOUTH

accessed structured learning spaces beyond school hours.

80%

OF PARTICIPANTS

attended activities regularly



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Ba Nga Afayo's Out-of-School Learning programs supported more than 1,000 children and youth in rural Kayunga with safe, structured learning spaces beyond school hours. Over 80% of participants attended activities regularly, contributing to improved school attendance and sustained engagement in education. Learners demonstrated increased confidence, teamwork, and communication skills through digital literacy, sports, creative arts, and mentorship programs.

Access to mental health support and life-skills training strengthened resilience and leadership among participating youth. Teachers and caregivers reported improved peer relationships and positive behavior among participants. Overall, the program strengthened learning continuity, reduced vulnerability during after-school hours, and supported clear pathways toward education, wellbeing, and future livelihoods.



SAMUEL

Out of school student

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At ten years old, Samuel had already dropped out of school. Long walks to class, limited support at home, and repeated struggles with reading left him discouraged and disengaged. Most days were spent at home or wandering the village, with few opportunities to learn or feel hopeful about returning to school.

Everything began to change when Samuel started visiting the Ba Nga Afayo Community Center. Drawn in by the quiet, welcoming library, he found a safe space where he could explore books at his own pace without fear of failure. With guidance from caring staff, Samuel began attending reading sessions and spending afternoons in the library, slowly rebuilding his literacy skills and confidence.

As his reading improved, Samuel became more curious and engaged. He joined other Out-of-School Learning activities, including creative arts and mentorship circles, where he built friendships and rediscovered his love for learning. The Center also connected him with encouragement and emotional support, helping him believe that education was still possible.

Today, Samuel visits the library regularly and proudly reads stories he once found impossible. His renewed confidence and skills have prepared him to re-enter formal education. Through access to a safe learning environment and supportive guidance, the Community Center helped Samuel reconnect with learning and begin a new chapter toward his future.



TEEN CAREER READINESS

At Ba Nga Afayo, we believe that young people deserve clear pathways from learning to meaningful livelihoods. Our Teen Career Readiness Strategy helps rural youth build the skills, confidence, and exposure they need to succeed in a rapidly changing world especially those who face barriers to employment.

Through hands-on trainings in STEM, digital skills, creative media, entrepreneurship, and life skills, young people gain practical knowledge that aligns with real opportunities in their communities and beyond. Our partnerships with local businesses, community leaders, and vocational practitioners help students strengthen their portfolios, develop professional competencies, and understand what is expected in the workplace.

Throughout 2024, teens also engaged in mentorship sessions, career talks, and on-site learning experiences that connected them with role models and potential employers. These opportunities gave them a clearer picture of the world of work, opened doors to internships and apprenticeships, and empowered them to envision futures shaped by their interests not their limitations.

8,000+

ADOLESCENTS

across the Community Center and partner schools were reached

70%

OF YOUTH

showed confidence in applying practical knowledge to real-world contexts.



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

Ba Nga Afayo's Teen Career Readiness Strategy reached over 8,000 adolescents across the Community Center and partner schools in rural Kayunga, strengthening employability and career awareness. More than 70% of participating youth demonstrated improved digital literacy, problem-solving skills, and confidence in applying practical knowledge to real-world contexts.

Through mentorship, career talks, and exposure to local professionals, youth gained clearer understanding of workplace expectations and viable career pathways. A growing number of participants secured internships, apprenticeships, or continued vocational training, while others developed portfolios supporting self-employment and entrepreneurship. Overall, the program reduced uncertainty about the future and created realistic pathways from learning to livelihoods for rural youth.



VANESSA

Adolescent girl

Vanessa is 16 years old and lives in a rural village in Kayunga District, where access to technology was once something she only heard about in passing. Before joining Ba Nga Afayo's Teen Career Readiness program, Vanessa had never used a computer. Career options felt distant and limited, and she struggled to imagine a future beyond what she saw around her.

Her perspective changed the first time she entered the Ba Nga Afayo Community Center's computer lab. During an introductory digital skills session, Vanessa learned how a computer could be used not only for typing, but also for creativity, communication, and income generation. Curious and excited, she began visiting the lab regularly, practicing basic computer skills and exploring simple design software with guidance from mentors.

As her confidence grew, Vanessa discovered a passion for visual storytelling. She started creating simple posters, experimenting with colors, fonts, and images, and receiving feedback from peers and facilitators. Mentorship sessions exposed her to careers in creative media and helped her understand how graphic design could become a viable profession.

Today, Vanessa is building a portfolio of her work and is actively pursuing further training in graphic design. What began as a single encounter with technology has become a clear pathway toward a creative career and a future shaped by her own potential.



VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING

Vocational training remains one of the strongest pillars of Ba Nga Afayo Community Center's youth empowerment work. In rural Kayunga District, where many young people leave school early and face limited employment opportunities, practical and hands-on skills provide a critical pathway to financial independence, dignity, and long-term stability.

In 2024, the Fashion Design and Tailoring Program continued to transform the lives of adolescent girls and young women from the most vulnerable backgrounds, including those living with HIV, teenage mothers, survivors of gender-based violence, and young women from low-income households. The program offers a safe, supportive learning environment where participants acquire marketable skills in cutting, sewing, pattern making, garment construction, and creative design. With access to sewing machines, training materials, and personalized mentorship, learners gain the confidence and technical ability to produce quality garments for their communities.

Beyond technical training, the program equips participants with essential business and life skills. Learners receive training in basic entrepreneurship, customer service, pricing, record keeping, and branding, preparing them to operate sustainable micro-enterprises or secure employment in tailoring workshops. Several graduates are now earning income by tailoring from home, working in small businesses, or producing uniforms for local schools.

45

**GIRLS &
YOUNG WOMEN**

gained practical tailoring
and entrepreneurship skills

90%

OF PARTICIPANTS

were teenage mothers
and survivors of gender
based violence



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

In 2024, the Fashion Design and Tailoring Program enrolled 45 adolescent girls and young women in rural Kayunga, 90% of whom were teenage mothers. Participants gained practical tailoring and entrepreneurship skills that enabled them to generate income, start home-based businesses, or secure employment in local workshops.

Over two-thirds of graduates reported increased confidence, financial independence, and greater decision-making power within their households. Teenage mothers and survivors of gender-based violence experienced improved stability and renewed hope as they developed sustainable livelihoods. Overall, the program reduced economic vulnerability, strengthened household incomes, and created viable pathways to long-term economic empowerment for young women facing significant social and economic barriers.



SUSAN

Young mother

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Susan was just 17 years old when she became a mother. Shortly after her son was born, the child's father abandoned them, leaving Susan with no income, no employable skills, and little support. Each day was filled with uncertainty as she struggled to provide basic needs for her child. Returning to school felt impossible, and without skills, employment options were limited.

Susan's life began to change when she joined Ba Nga Afayo Community Center's Fashion Design and Tailoring Program. In a safe and supportive environment, she learned how to cut fabric, operate a sewing machine, and create simple garments. For the first time, Susan felt capable and hopeful. Alongside technical training, she received mentorship and learned basic business skills such as pricing, customer care, and managing small orders.

As her confidence grew, Susan began tailoring clothes for neighbors and repairing garments to earn income. Today, she supports her son through her work and plans to expand her skills into uniform production. More than a livelihood, the program gave Susan dignity, independence, and the belief that her future, and her son's, can be shaped by her own strength and determination.



TRUTH DESIGN ACADEMY

Truth Design Academy continues to grow as a flagship social enterprise of Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda, expanding access to high-quality, future-ready skills for young people from underserved communities across Kayunga and beyond. In 2024, the Academy strengthened its role as a bridge between learning and livelihoods, equipping youth with practical, market-relevant competencies for a rapidly evolving digital economy.

Through hands-on training in graphic design, video production, digital marketing, coding, creative media, and emerging technologies, students developed both technical expertise and professional confidence. Learning remained highly experiential, with participants working on real-world projects, building portfolios, and gaining exposure to industry standards and client-based work. This approach ensured that skills development translated into real economic opportunity.

Beyond technical training, Truth Design Academy deepened its focus on entrepreneurship, employability, and innovation. Young people received mentorship, business skills training, and career guidance to support pathways into employment, freelancing, and self-employment. Partnerships with local organizations, creatives, and businesses strengthened opportunities for internships, collaboration, and income generation.

In 2024, Truth Design Academy stood not only as a training institution, but as a launchpad for youth leadership, creativity, and economic empowerment supporting young people to become creators, innovators, and change-makers shaping Uganda's digital and creative future

100+
**YOUNG
PEOPLE**

have been placed
into employment.

70%
**OF OUR
STUDENTS**

are girls from
underserved
communities



OUR IMPACT IN 2024

In 2024, Truth Design Academy achieved strong and measurable outcomes that highlight the effectiveness of its youth-centered, skills-to-livelihoods approach. Eighty-five percent of graduates were self-employed within one year of completing the program, demonstrating lasting entrepreneurial capacity and financial independence.

Over 50 young people secured formal employment, contributing valuable skills to Uganda's growing tech, design, and multimedia sectors. Importantly, 70 percent of enrolled students were girls from underserved communities, advancing gender equity and expanding access to opportunities in traditionally male-dominated creative and digital fields. Together, these outcomes reflect the Academy's role in building inclusive, sustainable pathways to work and economic empowerment.



FARIDAH

Young woman

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Faridah grew up in a poverty-stricken household in rural Kayunga, raised by an unemployed single mother who struggled to provide for three children. After completing primary school at a free government school, Faridah's education came to an abrupt end. Her family could not afford secondary school fees, and with limited opportunities in her community, her dreams of continuing her education slowly faded. For several years, Farida stayed at home, unsure of what the future held and feeling that her potential was slipping away.

Her life changed when she learned about Truth Design Academy during a Ba Nga Afayo (Show You Care) Initiative Uganda community outreach event. Drawn by the promise of practical skills, Farida enrolled in a free course in graphic design and video production. For the first time, she gained access to computers, creative software, and structured mentorship. The training not only equipped her with technical skills but also restored her confidence and sense of purpose.

Today, Faridah is interning at Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda as a Communications Assistant, contributing to content creation and digital storytelling. She also freelances online, earning income that helps support her mother and two younger siblings. "Thanks to Truth Design Academy and Ba Nga Afayo Initiative Uganda, I can now provide for my family and dream of a better future," Farida proudly shares.



FOOTBALL FOR CHANGE

Football continued to serve as a powerful tool for youth development at Ba Nga Afayo Community Center, providing children and young people in rural Kayunga District with safe, inclusive spaces to play, learn, and grow. In communities where structured recreational opportunities are limited, the Football for Change program kept young people engaged while addressing key barriers that prevent many, especially girls, from staying in school.

During the year, the program integrated Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights education into football activities to respond to challenges such as teenage pregnancy, HIV-related stigma, early marriage, and school dropout. Through interactive drills and guided reflection sessions, trained peer educators delivered age-appropriate messages on HIV and STI prevention, consent, gender equality, mental health, and positive decision making. Learning through play created a relaxed environment where participants could openly discuss sensitive topics and better understand how health choices affect education and future opportunities.

The program prioritized girls' participation, creating safe spaces for confidence building and leadership. Schools and communities reported improved attendance, increased engagement in learning, and stronger commitment to education among participants, particularly girls.

500+
STUDENTS

increased knowledge of sexual and reproductive health

65%
OF YOUTH

reported positive behavioral change



IMPACT AND OUTCOMES

In 2024, the Football for Change program reached over 500 students and out-of-school youth across community and school settings in rural Kayunga. Participants demonstrated increased knowledge of sexual and reproductive health, including abstinence, HIV prevention, consent, and responsible decision making.

65% of participants reported positive behavioral change, including improved decision making and commitment to staying in school. Girls reported greater confidence to participate, speak up, and prioritize their education. Schools involved noted improved attendance, reduced absenteeism, and stronger peer support. By integrating sport with life-skills education, the program created safe spaces for leadership, dialogue, and healthier choices.



GETRUDE

Peer Educator

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Getrude was a senior student in a rural Kayunga school when she became a peer educator with Ba Nga Afayo's Football for Change program. Growing up, she watched many classmates leave school due to early relationships, teenage pregnancy, and pressure to marry young. Determined to help her peers make healthier choices, Getrude wanted a way to speak openly about abstinence and staying in school without fear or judgment.

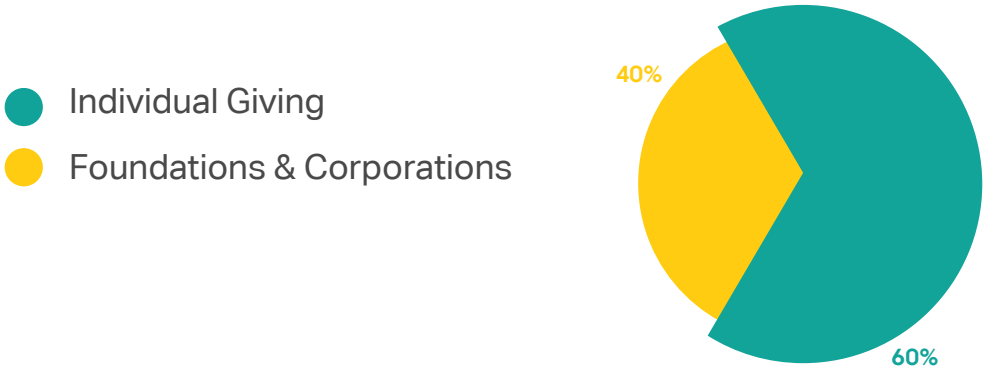
Through her peer educator training, Getrude learned how football could be used as a powerful platform for learning and dialogue. She introduced Football for Change sessions at her school, combining friendly matches with short reflection discussions on self-respect, decision making, and the importance of education. Football created a relaxed and engaging space where students felt comfortable sharing experiences and asking questions.

The sessions quickly gained popularity. Students who rarely attended health talks began participating consistently, and girls felt more confident joining discussions alongside boys. Teachers observed improved attendance and stronger commitment to school among participants. By turning sport into a tool for education, Getrude inspired her peers to choose abstinence, stay focused on their studies, and believe in brighter futures shaped by informed choices.

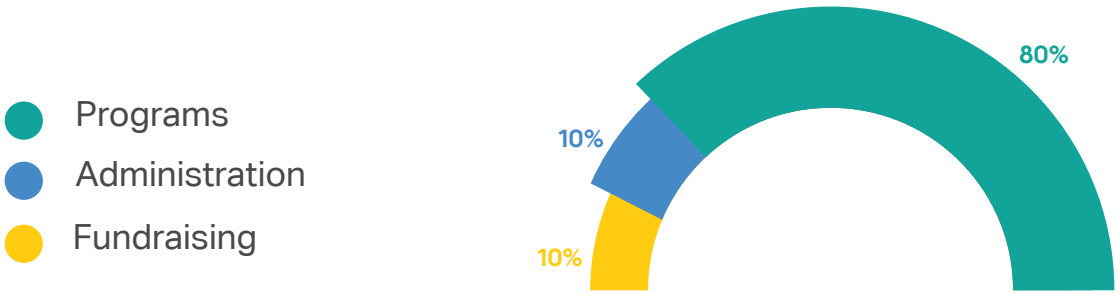
FINANCIAL REPORT

2024 TOTAL REVENUE

589.9M UGX
170,145 USD



INVESTMENT



OUR SPONSORS & PARTNERS





THANK YOU

Please visit our website to keep up with all our activities

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USA

19474 DORIS LN NORTH FORT
MYERS, FL 33917

UGANDA

Kayunga Office:
Nakaziba off Busaana Rd
Nxt to Nakaziba C/U, Kayunga

P.O. Box 5097, Kampala, Uganda
Tel: +256 (0) 755-585111
Email: info@bangaafayo.org