

# PROFILE



# 40 Days Over 40 Smiles Foundation Profile

40 Days over 40 Smiles Foundation, (40-40) is a youth-led non-profit organisation, founded in 2012, to support education (literacy), health and livelihood for vulnerable children in Uganda.

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## Our model

Our intervention and fundraising model relies on local philanthropy, mainly targeting youth. We use events – sports and music – and social media campaigns to raise funds, materials and volunteer hours from Ugandans (individuals and entities).

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## Our story

On 27 February, 2012, Esther Kalenzi decided to use the easiest means available to her in order to realize a long held dream – to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable children.

She opened a facebook page and added her friends, most of them recent graduates from university, and some unemployed. She then asked them to donate anything they were able to; food, clothes, books, toys or money; and join her during the Easter weekend to deliver the items and celebrate with underprivileged chil-



## Vision

To be a charity model that inspires youth and local communities to offer community-centered solutions in support of vulnerable children

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dren.

40 days later, we had raised over UGX 3 million, and heaps of other items. That Easter weekend, we visited 2 orphanages, played with the children, ate, danced and made merry. We created over 40 smiles!

We had started a movement that could not be stopped. The party was over but the orphans still remained. They still needed food, better health and needed to go to school. They needed family. They longed to be loved. We understood the

need to do more.

Esther then assembled a team of volunteers who share her vision and together, they birthed the youth-led movement, 40 days over 40 smiles Foundation.

## Our achievements

Over the last 5 years, our work has resulted in;

- Over USD 100,000 raised in local undraising
- The construction of a dormitory to accommodate 210 children Happy Times Childcare Initiative in Wobulenzi, Luwero district;
- Construction of another dormitory for girls at Elohim Children's Centre in Bombo;
- Construction of a community library with funds won in the National Social

Security Fund (NSSF) Torch Awards where we emerged overall winners;

- Hosting two medical camps for over 1200 slum dwellers in Kikubamutwe, Kibuli;
- Revamp of Bless A Child – Akiba, a home for children undergoing cancer treatment;
- Literacy and career guidance programs for pupils at Merowa Junior School – Kibuli, St. Noah Children's Home – Nansana;
- Engaging close to 20,000 youth in our community-impact initiatives as donors and volunteers

As a result of our social impact work and model, we have received awards at national and international level, from the Commonwealth, NSSF, Tumaini, Social Media Awards, among others



## Angaza Programme

Angaza is a Swahili word that means “Shine”. This is the spirit of our flagship literacy and health program, designed to engage children and local communities in activities that improve health and literacy for vulnerable children.

### Projects

The program is segmented into different projects, to ensure efficiency and enable us effectively meet our vision and mission statement that calls us to be the change we want to see in the world.

### Angaza Schools Project (ASP)

The programme engages children in community schools and childcare homes in experiential activities that improve their literacy, comprehension and expression abilities. The project relies on our ability to create appropriate story content, source for books and creative materials, and mobilize volunteers to provide additional tutorial support to teachers in community and public schools.



## Angaza Community Learning Spaces

The learning spaces are our next major intervention idea. They address two of Uganda’s major education challenges – School dropouts and poor literacy levels. By engaging host communities and community schools, we plan to create safe, well-stocked community spaces with age-appropriate literacy and creative material that can be used by vulnerable children (both in and out of school).

These spaces will serve as community libraries and volunteer spaces to enable us add skills-support for the children in carpentry, tailoring, baking, and other cottage industries.

### Angaza Community Project (ACP)

Alongside the ASP, we facilitate community-led participation in health and sanitation programs, involving children and their caretakers. We facilitate volunteer doctors and subject experts to train local communities on good health, water and sanitation practices to ensure long-term benefits and sustainability as a result of knowledge gains.





## #Kids4kids

This program engages children from middle class schools for the benefit of vulnerable children. One of our core objectives is to promote local philanthropy and encourage children and youth to get actively involved in community initiatives.

*Kids4Kids* engages middle class children in fun constructive activities around literacy and community activations for the benefit of vulnerable children. The target group is the 7 – 13 year olds (i.e. P.1 to P.7.)

## Our team

The Foundation is managed by a team of young professionals, who have full-time jobs and yet manage to volunteer their time and resources towards furthering the vision of the foundation.











## Contacts

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