



Education



History

Founded in 2001, Nyaka collaborates with underserved communities to nurture and protect children so they have the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. Each child is granted a holistic support system guided by our community, comprising interconnected programs. Nyaka's comprehensive approach comprises four programs: Education Program, Grandmother Program, Health Program, and the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Program.

Education Program Today

Nyaka oversees operations across three schools: Nyaka Primary School, Kutamba Primary School, and Nyaka Vocational Secondary School (NVSS). Additionally, Nyaka sponsors students in the community as they pursue higher levels of education, including certificates, diplomas, and bachelor's degrees.

Each year, Nyaka provides education to over 800 students from primary school through university, covering all their tuition and scholastic needs. Nyaka emphasises girls' education due to their historically lower enrolment rates and the significant impact educating girls has on poverty reduction within the community.

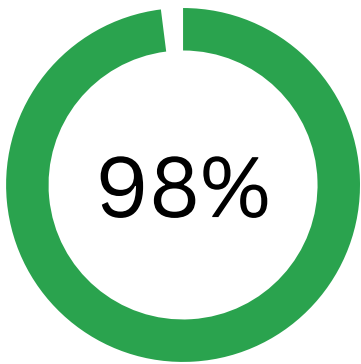
As of 2023, over 61% of the students educated by Nyaka were female.

Nyaka's higher education scholarship program has empowered 270 students to pursue careers as salaried workers, become self-employed, start their businesses, or engage in agribusiness ventures.

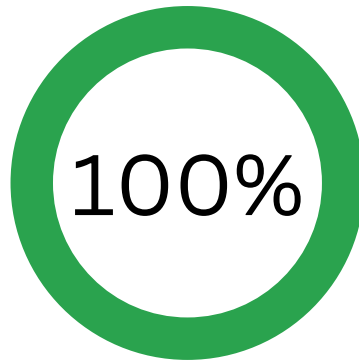




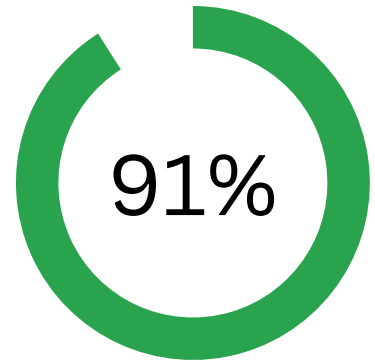
Education Program Impact



Learner retention rate
across Nyaka schools,
compared to 89% for
peer schools



School completion rate
across Nyaka schools,
compared to 90% for
peer schools



Overall wellbeing index
for OVCs (orphans and
vulnerable children)
across Nyaka schools

Nyaka's Community Libraries

Nyaka is dedicated to extending its reach to rural communities and fostering a culture of research, reading, literacy, and access to educational resources. This effort is made possible through the Kutamba and Nyaka Blue Lupin community libraries, which coordinate satellite and mobile libraries, book clubs, and outreach programs. In 2022, over 10,000 students and community members benefited from these invaluable services.

Our mission is to work with communities to protect and nurture children so they can learn, grow and thrive.

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Grandmothers



History

Nyaka collaborates with over 23,000 grandmothers in three districts: Kanungu, Rukungiri, and Rubanda, through 254 self-organized support groups. This Grandmother Program forms an integral part of Nyaka's comprehensive, human rights-based approach to alleviating poverty. Through this outreach, Nyaka extends support to an additional 80,000 orphaned, abandoned, and vulnerable grandchildren under the care of grandmother caregivers, many of whom are not biologically related. Typically relying on subsistence farming and earning less than \$1 USD per day, these grandmothers often care for 5 or 6 children. Nyaka supports these remarkable individuals by providing opportunities to enhance their income and sustain their families.

Training

Within Nyaka's Training-of-Trainers (ToT) framework, grandmother leaders engage in comprehensive training covering various topics, including parenting, grief management, enhanced farming techniques, nursing, leadership, and business development. Subsequently, these leaders disseminate acquired knowledge within their groups. This highly efficient method of knowledge transfer has enabled Nyaka to reach thousands of grandmothers, leading to enhanced food and income security, as well as overall well-being for both the grandmothers themselves and the grandchildren under their care.

Construction

Nyaka has employed community decision-making processes to facilitate the provision of essential infrastructure since 2007. This includes over 676 pit latrines, 542 kitchens, 290 houses, and 26 homes specifically designed for grandmothers and grandchildren under their care.





Microfinance

A key aspect of our initiatives is the Microfinance Program, empowering grandmothers to start small businesses for family sustenance. As of 2023, this project had reached 98% of the 20,503 grandmother households, dispersing over \$380,000 USD in low-interest microfinance loans. This distinctive program has fostered the establishment of over 200 steadfast, local enterprises operated by grandmothers. These ventures encompass various activities, including crop cultivation and sales such as millet, beans, maize, coffee, bananas, vegetables, and sorghum, as well as livestock rearing like chickens, rabbits, pigs, and goats. Additionally, other grandmothers are involved in income-generating activities such as selling second-hand clothing, tailoring, crafting, or managing small retail establishments like grocery shops, tearooms, bakeries, or canteens.

Grandmother Program Impact

\$2.95

Average daily income and earnings, from \$2.67 at baseline

\$462

Earned within 36 months for every \$40 invested into a Nyaka grandmother led household

\$1,139

Annual Household wealth value.

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Nyaka Global



Nyaka Grandmother Shop



Sexual and Gender-Based Violence



History

Nyaka initiated its Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Program in 2015 following incidents of SGBV in the communities it serves. Presently, the SGBV Program operates four Healing Centers in Kanungu, southwestern Uganda, hosted by District Health Centers: Kambuga Hospital (established in November 2015), Kanungu Health Center IV (established in May 2019), as well as Kihihi Health Center IV and Nyamirama Health Center III (both established in December 2019). These Healing Centers offer survivors of sexual and gender-based violence access to vital psychosocial support and medical care. To date, Nyaka's SGBV Program has provided assistance to over 600 girls, boys, and women who have endured sexual assault or experienced various forms of domestic violence.

Justice and Community engagement

Nyaka's SGBV Program is actively enhancing multi-agency collaborations and endeavoring to transform its healing centers into Sexual Assault Referral Centers (SARCs). The SGBV team at Nyaka collaborates closely with the police, judiciary, and local leaders to pursue legal action against perpetrators, resulting in the first successful prosecutions in Kanungu District. Moreover, over 400,000 community members have participated in or benefited from various SGBV program activities, including community sensitization sessions, home visits, group gatherings, school awareness programs, radio broadcasts, and Nyaka's Annual Walk Against SGBV.

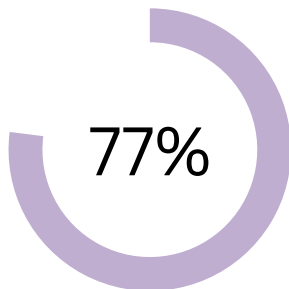




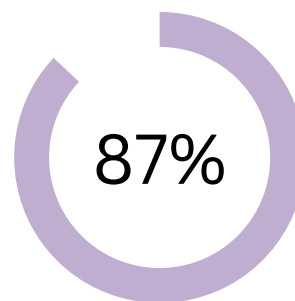
Annual Walk Against SGBV

Nyaka hosted its inaugural Annual Walk against Sexual and Gender-Based Violence in July 2018, aiming to raise awareness and foster community-driven solutions. Since then, the walk has evolved, drawing over 4,000 participants from across Uganda in July 2023. Attendees include students, educators, political and religious figures, civil servants, law enforcement officers, community members, as well as grandmothers and grandfathers. During the event, Nyaka collaborates with prominent Ugandan musicians to deliver performances featuring uplifting messages conducive to behavioral change.

SGBV Program Impact



Community SGBV knowledge index in 2023 increased from 54% in 2022 when the first KAP survey was conducted. This indicates significant progress in raising awareness and understanding of SGBV dynamics within the communities.



Community SGBV attitudes index in 2023 increased from 64% in 2022 when the first KAP survey was conducted. This reflects evolving societal norms and values that reject violence and promote respect, empathy, and gender equality.

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Health + Nutrition



History

Nyaka stems from Twesigye Jackson Kaguri's dedication to supporting the education of children orphaned by HIV/AIDS. Originating in 2003 as a humble two-room schoolhouse in the village of Nyakagezi, Kanungu district, Nyaka recognized the essential need for clean water and nutritious food to facilitate the children's academic success. This realization prompted the expansion of Nyaka's scope to include provisions for holistic care, leading to the establishment of clinics and health education initiatives benefiting the entire community. Presently, Nyaka has established three clinics: the Mummy Drayton School Clinic and NVSS clinic in Kanungu district, and the Kutamba Clinic in Rukungiri district. These facilities offer free or low-cost healthcare services to students, grandmothers, and community members.

Nutrition + Clean Water Projects

Nyaka ensures access to clean water for students and the surrounding community through gravity-fed water systems, effectively removing physical impurities that pose health risks to vulnerable individuals. Nyaka schools serve over 300,000 nutritious meals to students each year. A significant portion of the food originates from Nyaka's Desire Farm, which oversees the Nyaka Tree Project. In addition to supporting students, Nyaka endeavours to conserve land and cultivate eucalyptus trees for timber production.





Nyaka's Dental Clinic

In April 2022, Nyaka's clinics expanded their services to include dental consultations, screenings, and treatments. Operated by a dental surgeon, the clinic operates for five days every month. Students, grandmothers, and community members benefit from free treatment. The dentist also educates patients and community members on proper dental hygiene practices. Since the inception of this program, over 1876 dental consultations have been conducted, with more than 300 patients receiving treatment.

Health Program Impact

8,059

Clinic consultations were conducted in 2023 from 8762 in 2022

2,596

Girls from 13 schools (Nyaka schools inclusive) received **free reusable sanitary pads in 2023**

842

Women benefitted from family planning services in 2023, from 787 in 2022

6,146

Community members were reached during the health outreaches in 2023.

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An Overview



About Nyaka

Nyaka AIDS Orphans Project (Nyaka) was founded in 2001 in rural Nyakagyazi, Kambuga-Kanungu District and has since expanded to Rukungiri and Rubanda districts in southwestern Uganda. Nyaka's mission is to work with communities to protect and nurture children so they can learn, grow, and thrive. Its vision is a world where all vulnerable and underserved children have the knowledge, resources and opportunities they need to grow and prosper. Nyaka surrounds each child with a comprehensive support model, comprised of interrelated programs developed and led by our community. Nyaka's holistic approach consists of four key programs: the Education Program, the Grandmother Program, the Health Program, and the Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) Program.

Education Program

Nyaka runs three schools including Nyaka Primary School, Kutamba Primary School and Nyaka Vocational Secondary School (NVSS). Annually, Nyaka educates more than 700 students from primary to University, providing tuition and all the scholastic materials required for their studies. Nyaka prioritizes girls because they are less likely to be sent to school and because studies have shown that educating girls has the most significant impact on poverty within the community.

Grandmother Program

Nyaka works with more than 23,000 grandmothers through 254 self-organized support groups, as part of Nyaka's holistic human rights-based approach to combating poverty. This model enables Nyaka to support an additional 92,000 orphaned, abandoned, and vulnerable children who live with grandmother caregivers. Typically, grandmothers rely on subsistence farming and earn less than \$1 USD a day while caring for 5 or 6 children. Nyaka supports these unsung heroes by providing them with opportunities to increase their income and support their families.





Health Program

As the Education Program progressed, it became evident that students attending Nyaka schools required access to clean water and nutritious food, while the community could benefit from healthcare clinics. Presently, Nyaka oversees three clinics: the Mummy Drayton Clinic and NVSS clinic both in Kanungu District, and the Kutamba Clinic in Rukungiri District. All Nyaka school students and their guardians receive complimentary medical care. Nyaka actively engages in community health education through clinics and sessions focused on essential topics such as hygiene, nutrition, maternal health, and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Nyaka also ensures access to clean water by installing two gravity-fed water pumps serving its schools and the surrounding community. To safeguard children's health, Nyaka provides two hot meals daily to all primary school students and three hot meals to secondary school students. The Desire Farm operated by Nyaka supplements the school feeding program by supplying various foods and vegetables.

SGBV Program

The SGBV Program operates four Healing Centers in Kanungu, located in southwestern Uganda. These centers offer survivors of SGBV access to vital services such as psychosocial support, medical care, and legal assistance. To date, Nyaka's SGBV Program has provided support to over 600 girls, boys, and women who have experienced sexual assault. The team collaborates with law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, and local leaders to ensure perpetrators are prosecuted, leading to the first successful prosecutions in Kanungu District. Additionally, more than 400,000 community members have participated in or benefited from various SGBV program activities. These include community sensitization, home visits, school awareness programs, radio broadcasts, and Nyaka's Annual Walk Against SGBV.

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