



# Community Libraries Association Of Uganda

## ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITY LIBRARIES:

### THE SEED SCIENCE PROJECT AT KAWEMPE YOUTH CENTRE.

Kawempe Youth Centre (KYC) Uganda, a community library in Kampala, and it is also where COLAU is hosted, collaborated with SeedScience Italy to implement the SeedScience project.

Since 2019, KYC has been implementing an online SeedScience project which aims to contribute to improving the science subject in both the primary and secondary schools. This year, 12 teachers from 10 primary and secondary schools in Kawempe were trained to carry out hands-on activities with their students using locally available materials.

Following the training, all the teachers will establish science clubs in their schools to positively impact their students and communities.



CITY REVIVAL SECONDARY SCHOOL  
BISHOP TR. B.S. MICHEL  
STUDENTS PARTICIPATING  
KIMBOGA TONYA  
NAYINDU OTSAR  
HENRY

FAIRWAY SCHOOL  
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Above: Children performing a science experiment using bottle tops and a trashcan. Below: Children pose for a group photo with their teachers

### **SENIORS DAY AT NYARUSHANJE COMMUNITY LIBRARY.**

Every last Monday of the month, PeerLink Initiative Uganda (PELI-U) works through the Nyarushanje Community Library and Empowerment Center to organize a Seniors' Day. The day creates an opportunity for connection, wellness and active aging. The May, 2026 session brought together senior participants for a day filled with physical fitness exercises, social interaction, health learning, and reflection.

The day featured a dental care health session, where participants learned the importance of proper oral hygiene through demonstrations and an educational film on correct tooth-brushing practices. For some seniors, this marked a memorable first experience using a toothbrush.

Participants also engaged in individual reading and reflection sessions, creating opportunities for mental stimulation and shared learning. Breakaway activities including haircuts, massage, manicure and pedicure, skipping rope, and dance sessions encouraged relaxation, movement, and joyful interaction.

Participants were excited to meet and interact with fellow seniors, actively engaged in the different activities, and appreciated learning practical health habits, with some using a toothbrush for the first time.



Above: Photos showing personal reading activities that took place during the Seniors day at Nyarushanje Community Library.



Seniors pose for a photo during the Seniors' day at Nyarushanje Community Library.

### **EFFORTS BY NAMBI SSEPPUUYA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE TO KEEP THE GIRL CHILD IN SCHOOL.**

The Resource Centre is located in Igombe village in Buwenge Sub-County, Jinja District. Its mission is, "To fight illiteracy, ignorance, poverty and disease through education, training and provision of reading and research materials."

According to the saying attributed to Confucius, a Chinese philosopher, "Give a man a fish and you will feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you will feed him for a lifetime". Based on this Confucius saying and on the Resource Centre Mission which among other things is to fight ignorance, Nambi Sseppuuya Community Resource Centre organized a training to empower participants with knowledge and skills to be able to make reusable sanitary pad and contribute to the effort to keep girls in school.

These efforts started way back in 2018 during the 8th March International Women's Day Centre. Back then, the resource centre organized a one day workshop where school girls from the age of 12 years together with their Senior Women Teachers in Buwenge Sub-County schools were invited to address the issue of helping the girl child stay in school and study during her menstruation period. The Resource Centre got a donation of 60 sets of re-usable sanitary pads from a company called Afro Pads in Masaka District. These were distributed to the girls who attended the workshop. But due to high demand, 60 sets were a drop in the ocean!

Recently the Resource Centre, in partnership with LOVE BINTI, an NGO based in Kampala carried out a free training workshop for girls, mothers and grandmothers from Buwenge to give them knowledge and skills on how to make their own re-usable pads. 250 participants turned up for this training. The training was aimed at sharing ideas on how to promote menstrual dignity amongst girls all over the world. Furthermore, the workshop facilitated access to pads to ensure menstrual hygiene, educating girls about menstruation and what they can expect from it, while dispelling stigma, taboos, myths and negative perceptions around menstruation. A total of 1,383 people have so far been trained in Jinja from 2018 to date and more girls have been kept in school.



Menstrual pads training Workshop at Nambi Sseppuya Community Resource Centre.



The 2 photos above show participants practically making their own re-usable sanitary towels.



Participants pose for a group photo outside the community resource centre.

### **ACTIVITIES AT KITENGESA COMMUNITY LIBRARY:**

Kitengesa Community Library is more than a library with reading space, it is a skills and recreation centre  
Below are some pictorial moments of holidaymakers at the library.





Above: From top to bottom, library users at Kitengesa Community Library posing with their bottles of liquid soap. In the middle, literacy champions making snacks and at the bottom, students from a nearby school using the library for personal reading.

## **READING ACTIVITIES AT NYUNGU STREAMS COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE:**

Nyungu Streams Community Resource Centre, located in Sheema district in Western Uganda is open to all age groups. During the recently concluded school holiday, young learners frequented the library for personal reading, to do their homework and to engage in other library activities.



## **ACTIVITIES AT THE SECRETARIAT:**

### **PARTNERSHIP WITH READ TO DREAM**

COLAU has partnered with Read to Dream to set 2 libraries in under-resourced schools, namely Noble Care and Kibedi Matugga Primary Schools. COLAU was responsible for training 20 teachers in the basics of library management and book processing, (10 from each school attended the training). COLAU also participated in helping the schools process the books using a color-coding system. Read to Dream sponsored the training and also purchased books, shelves, tables and chairs for the schools.







Above: Teachers during the training and at the bottom, teachers pose for a photo with Caroline, the Founder of Read to Dream, the National Coordinator of COLAU, the COLAU Board Treasurer and other co-founders of Read to Dream.

### **NEW MEMBER HIGHLIGHT**

COLAU was joined by a new member, Qweshunga Book Bar, a community library with wine and coffee. It also has a podcast room and different quiet and fun spaces for their users. COLAU supported them in setting up the library by processing the books. This included; stamping, sticking book cards and pockets, classifying the books and entering them into an Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) called Librarika and it contains a list of all the books they have in the library.

This is the link to the OPAC we customised for them:

<https://qweshungabookbarp.librarika.com/search/catalogs/page:1>



