

Ajibu community programs – a message from the founder Timothy David Wambi

Ajibu Community is a rural community-based charity organization operating in Rural Eastern Uganda, in Mayuge district. Our vision is to be drivers of social-economic development and build sustainable rural communities through Education. We believe that education is the number one catalyst for change and development, hence our commitment to provide education opportunities for rural children, specifically those in early years of learning (ECD) and primary education.

Our work revolves around establishing community schools in areas where there is none, we equip and the school with learning resources for all ages of children from pre-school all the way to primary schools and offer them appropriate support put them on the track to complete their primary education whilst opening more opportunities for them to excel in life. Our programs include:

Early Learning program;

90% of children in rural areas drop out of school before completing their primary school education because they were not prepared well through a pre-primary. In fact, only 1 in 10 children in Uganda attends pre-primary, hence only 1 child in 10 will be able to reach their full potential and excel through education and potentially have a chance at a better future. In many rural areas, there are finger-counted ECD and preschool centers of which almost all are underequipped and under-facilitated hence not necessarily helping children learn and develop better. Many families cannot afford to buy the school supplies for the children at preschool and very often, they decide that children can wait at home until they're 6 or 7 (mature enough) for primary school, where they will get into Universal Primary Education (UPE). The result of this is that children will drop out of school before reaching their full potential, be unemployed and struggle through life, hence getting stuck in. These circumstances are the yardstick on which our Early Learning Program is based focusing providing quality education to children, but also ensuring their safety and well-being. We also provide all the children with a daily cup of nutritious porridge, because we realized that many children come from households which cannot afford to have more than one meal (which is not nutritious) a day, hence our effort to supplement on children's nutrition and well-being with a cup of porridge.

Zero Grades Program

1.9 million children enroll in P1 annually, but only 800,000 children go all the way and sit their primary leaving examinations (PLE), that means that at least 1.1 million children drop out before they complete their primary education. This is partly attributed to learning poverty (the inability of children 10 years or older to read and understand a simple text) which is currently recorded at 90% in Uganda. These facts are mostly evident in rural communities and affect rural-based learners. Through our Zero Grades program, we recognize that literacy is the foundation of education, enabling children to develop essential communication, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities among others. With a mission to empower the generation ahead through the power of words, the zero grades program strives to bridge the literacy gap and unlock the full potential of rural children regardless of their class grades or age. We aim to empower every rural child with the invaluable gift of literacy by cultivating a love for reading through storytelling, basic literacy coaching and writing activities and enhancing the prospects of a brighter future for the rural child. We believe that we are equipping them with the tools they need to succeed academically and in life.

Without support from ConnectED International, our programs would not be able to operate.