

2023 Annual Report



Resilient
Women's
ORGANIZATION

NOTE FROM THE Executive Director

Resilient Women's Organization was founded in 2016 with the vision of a society where all girls and women have equal access to services, opportunities and resources to girls.

Seven years later, our women's socioeconomic programs have evolved into more inclusive gender transformative programming, not only focusing on the girl child and women but intentionally creating opportunities for all stakeholders and community players to actively challenge gender norms, promote women's rights and address power inequalities and imbalances that drive Gender Based Violence.

Our innovative team has transformed the way community-led interventions are executed by engaging a Community Support Team from amongst our Rights Holders to ensure that our beneficiaries are part of the planning and implementation processes of the change we wish to achieve.

Today, as I share our 2023 Annual Report, I can proudly say that we are indeed on a resilient journey to gender equity & equality.

All of this growth, innovation and success is made possible through the ongoing support of our generous partners and our dedicated team. We look forward to continuing the journey with you, and are so grateful for your support.

Thank you, thank you so much,

Sincerely yours,

A small, square image containing a handwritten signature in blue ink. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'HLN'.

Hope Lydia Ndagire

Co-founder and ED



GFF & RWO - OUR RESILIENT RESPONSE TO CHILD MARRIAGES & TEENAGE PREGNANCIES.

Still a Resilient Response..

Continued support from the Girls First Fund (GFF) kept our 2023 fruitful with ongoing child marriage and early unions programming interventions in Katabi, Wakiso District.

We stayed on course with the Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) approach in schools, families, health centers and our community safe spaces.

Our Goal stayed the same;

- 1. Strengthening adult-youth partnerships through dialogue to enable youth friendly communities & challenge traditional & harmful norms that hinder young people from making informed choices for themselves.**
- 2. Building the capacity of peers to use the peer educator & mentor parent model where peers provide comprehensive SRHR information to fellow young people and families.**
- 3. Bridging the gap between Rights Bearers and Rights Holders for more transparent and survivor centered service provision through capacity building training and dialogue between these two key stakeholders.**

INPUTS:

- **Strengthening of community and in-school clubs to act as safe spaces for SRHR services & information**
- **Intentional male engagement**
- **Strengthening Stakeholder engagements & partnerships**
- **Family/Parenting sessions**
- **Ki-Kati Fridays to hold conversations with women & girls that question gender norms and roles, etc**
- **Weekly SRHR & GBV educative advocacy messages on local village announcement mediums, at Health Centres, schools , our safe spaces and families**
- **Empowering village women's committees and groups to pass on the right messages of counseling and guidance for other women, and to make referrals to RWO whenever needed.**

OUTPUTS/GOALS:

- **More young people especially adolescent girls and young women seeking youth-friendly SRHR services & can exercise their rights**
- **An improved socio-cultural environment in the community that respects the rights of girls and women and views child marriage and teenage pregnancies as a huge problem & embodies dialogue between young people, parents & local leaders**
- **A reduction in the number of teenage pregnancies and child marriages in the villages of Kitala, Nalugala, Ggerenge in Bulega, Kisubi and Abaita Ababiri due to public awareness of the problem that is child marriage and teenage pregnancies**
- **Stronger partnerships between WROs in the Katabi area**
- **10% Increase in the extent to which policies and laws that support women and girls rights are acted upon by rights bearers.**

2023 OUTCOMES, RESULTS ...the numbers.

Villages	Bulega-Ggerenge, Kitala, Nalugala, Kisubi and Abaita Ababiri = 5 villages
Women	103
Girls	1,181
Boys	903
Families & Family members	180
Schools	5 schools
Health Centres	2
Educators	29 (19 women and 10 men)
Local leaders	32
Cases handled & referrals	25
Community Groups	5
Men	59

MORE OUTCOME/RESULTS;

Partnering with Lift Her Up Foundation, we took Financial Literacy & Small business startups to a whole other level by providing 15 women from 2 women's groups with MicroLoans

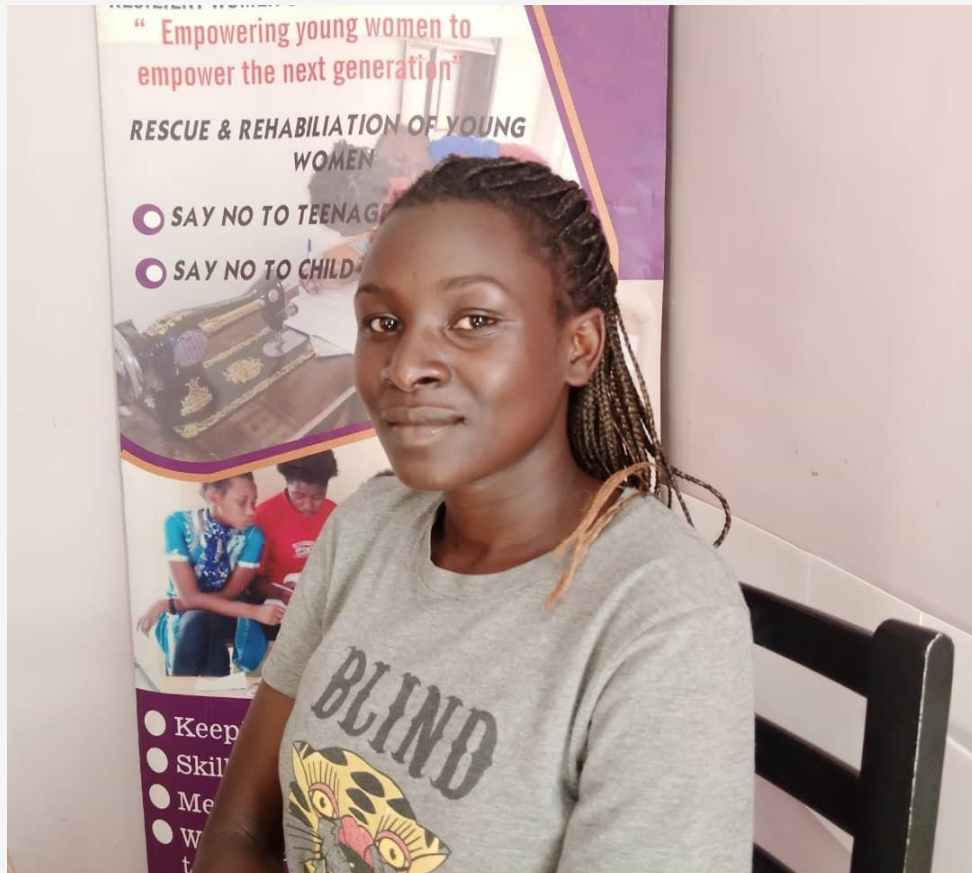
48 SRHR sessions held at Kitala and Nalugala Health Centers

We grew our partner base when we got engaged by Coalition for Action on 1325 on Preventing & Responding Violent Extremism in Wakiso District through a gender lense.. a recommendation from Wakiso District CDCO made this happen.

Law Refugee Project also came on board to support our second chance education efforts in wakiso.

55 young women gained hands on vocational skills and got employed in hairdressing and fashion & desig; with 30 self employed and 25 employed at salons and tailoring workshops.

CHANGE & SECOND CHANCES FOR RACHEL



15 year old Rachel was scheduled for a house maid's life in Kitala, Katabi, all the way from Rukungiri! Talk about broken and lost dreams.

But fate had better plans as the home she was placed into was owned by RWO's very own mentor parent, male ally and local leader - what are the odds.

Mr. Kayizzi knew better upon noticing that an underage girl was sent by herself to work-something RWO advocates against...he immediately contacted the office, the police and the girl's parents for a way forward. Working together with local leaders and Rachel's sister in Katabi, RWO agreed to enroll the young woman into our Kitala Community club , Ki-Kati engagements for life skills and hairdressing training.

With the sisterhood and safety at RWO, Rachel developed new found dreams of becoming a hairdresser and owning her own small salon, She is part of the hairdressing class, lives with her sister and knows her rights and can make informed decisions while being a growing young woman.

OH, VOLUNTEERS ... WE REALLY COULDN'T DO WITHOUT THEM!

Right from February up until October 2023, we were fortunate to have 5 on-site Volunteers from Europe and the USA join our small team.

Looking back, the role of International volunteers remains pivotal to our steadfast growth as they continue to pricelessly give of themselves to RWO.

From remotely editing our website, Grant writing & Donor mapping, organizing and training our beneficiaries in Financial Literacy & Entrepreneurship, Field Data Collection & project Impact evaluations, Music, Dance & Drama engagements, Organizational Administration support & Financial Management to helping us market our organization on social media and touring Uganda over the weekends with us... the contribution of volunteers to our journey is immeasurable. Even when they leave the country, they remain the unseen team members and indeed, a magical addition to the Resilient Team.



2023 PICTORIAL SNEAK PEEK



A BIT OF 2023 IN PICTURES



2023 IN PICTURES...





WE COULDN'T DO THIS WITHOUT OUR PARTNERS, FRIENDS & DONORS

We are so grateful for Girls First Fund's continued support, carrying Community Based Organizations like us, not only through funding projects but also going the extra mile to mentor, build capacity and open up spaces for networking and partnerships.



Partners like Ayni Cooperazione, Girls Not Brides, Girls Not Brides Uganda, Aces World International, Social bnb, our individual sponsors for all the girls on the Back-to-school program, Katabi CSO Network, Katabi Town Council and Wakiso District have all continued to join us on this resilient journey towards more equal families, communities and spaces for girls and women.