



# MENGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT LINK (MYDEL)

## ANNUAL REPORT FOR MENGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT LINK DECEMBER 2014

### PHYSICAL ADDRESS

Mussajjalumbwa Road

Mengo parish

P.O Box 30826

Kampala Uganda

**Tel:** +256-414-270708

**Mob:** +256-782-886093

**E-mail:**[mydelink@gmail.com](mailto:mydelink@gmail.com)

[mydelink@live.com](mailto:mydelink@live.com)

[www.mydelink.org](http://www.mydelink.org)

### **1.1 Message from the Executive Director**

Empowering the young generation is the key for National Development MYDEL has played a big role in supporting the youth and children in Kampala and Wakiso Districts despite all the challenges we faced in 2014, our major challenge in 2015 we shall mainly focus on our four strategic areas that is

#### **Increase advocacy in the community**

The overall objective of this programme is to gather data, use it for advocacy purposes so as to promote and protect the health and rights in general of the vulnerable groups including the children and women. It is a key department for publicity purposes and making MYDEL image

#### **Institutional development**

This is designed for a wider category of individuals and institutions in response to identified needs, more specifically those whose health and rights in general are being abused. Activities carried out include and its partners shine or get protected

#### **Setting up of a strong sustainable development program to support the youth, children and other vulnerable people in Uganda**

Establish an education training center and a home for the neediest children.  
provide social-economical security to the needy households through provision of income generating activities to the poor people.

Involve young people especially the youths in micro finance and revolving fund.

#### **Psychosocial support**

Provide counseling services to HIV/AIDS infected and affected people, survivors of sexual abuse and other forms of GBV.

Offering socio-economic support to HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons, survivors of sexual abuse and other forms of GBV and their caretakers

I would like to convey my gratitude to all partners plus all the well-wishers who have supported and also blessed our activities in 2014 I wish you all the best in 2015 may God bless you all.

**Pascal Lutaya**

## **1.2 Appreciation of partners**

MYDEL would like to extend its gratitude to its partners such as the Ugandan government both central and local government, American Embassy, chellaston Academy UK, Australian Mining Company, Bristol Church in UK, UVP, UPA, AICIEKE, CRANE/VIVA, HRA Foundation, YUSLINK, ILO, Nansana NGO CBO Network, National Council for Children, Youth Action International and individual partners like Liv Gunvor, Camilla, Gem Thomas, Jana Dim Tiarna among others for their support towards the vulnerable children and youth. Therefore we do call upon all the youth, children, church leaders, guardians/parents, law enforcers, members of parliament and the policy makers that it is obligation and responsibility to fight and totally reduce the high rate of child abuse in Uganda.

God bless you.

## **1.3 Introduction and Background**

Mengo Youth Development Link (MYDEL) is a nongovernment organization based in Kampala, the capital city of Uganda. It was founded in 2001 as a slum youth initiative under the patronage of Mr. Pascal Lutaya. Starting as a community based organization (CBO) during the outbreak of cholera and Ebola in many of the slum areas in Kampala, MYDEL initially focused on hygiene and health sensitization of the affected people, supported by local politicians and the community itself. Working in close collaboration with the local population and local leaders, MYDEL became aware of other community challenges, which included a high rate of HIV/AIDS infections, drug abuse, prostitution, child abuse, domestic violence and the marginalization of people with disabilities.

In 2004 MYDEL was officially registered as an NGO and expanded its activities according to the needs assessment carried out in an early state of its operation. Following an early intervention approach, MYDEL decided to focus their programs on the most vulnerable children and youths from the slum community, most of whom being school dropouts and orphans.

MYDEL's mission is the empowerment of this target group through education, sensitization and skills development to contribute to a sustainable poverty reduction among these marginalized communities.

## **1.4 Core Values**

### **Transparency**

MYDEL guarantees a transparent way of operating with a proper accountability system, which implies a responsible management of funding and community resources.

#### **Community participation**

MYDEL believes that a sustainable community empowerment can only be succeeded by community participation and ownership. Therefore the target community is involved in project design and implementation.

#### **Resource orientation**

MYDEL's approach implies a start from the available community resources, regarding our target group as subjects with a wide range of individual potentials and experts of their reality

#### **Social cohesion**

MYDEL is working with a heterogenic target group from different cultural and religious settings. Core value of our work approach are the fundamental human rights, which regard every human being as equal, not regarding their tribe, their religious believes or cultural norms.

### **1.5 Brief MYDELS History**

Since its inception in 2001 to the end of 2014 MYDEL has registered the following key achievements;

- Held Annual General Meetings.
- Established internal financial controls
- Capacity building of the MYDEL leadership
- Developed partnerships with both National and District Sub county organizations and individuals.
- Established a children's home in Nansana Wakiso district which acts as dropping center for OVC.
- Conducted training, on SRHR, human rights rises
  
- Presently the Organization budget is approximately 232,450,000 million Uganda shillings annually, and a grant mechanism now in place.
- Established Organization offices for the secretariat.
- Established the procurement system.
- Established MYDEL sports academy.
- MYDEL has been able to mobilize PLHIV in most of the divisions of Kampala District and to fight to make sure that PLHIV are represented in all areas of the District.
- MYDEL acts as a mouth piece for WLHIV District wide, has true stories, membership trust, cherishes spirit of volunteerism and prides in carrying activities District wide.
- Production of advocacy materials like brochures, Posters, Newsletters etc.
  - Regarded causes of abuse and gender based violence in conflicts
  - Radio talk shows.
- Information and resource center with OVC specific information.

- Set up Vocational training center for OVCs in the programs like tailoring, computer, hair dressing and art and craft.
- Recruited new competent Financial Management Team.
- Internal and external audits conducted.
- Human resource management improved and recruitment procedures as well as staff appraisal systems are now available.

### **1.6 Target Group**

The direct beneficiaries of MYDEL's activities are the most vulnerable children and youths living in informal settlements. Living in an unprotected environment, struggling with a wide range of challenges, children and youths are in particular at high risk of becoming victims of rape or other physical violence, drug abuse and forced child labor. Moreover, the lack of literacy and sensitization results in an increased risk of HIV infection.

Having a very limited access to formal education, the future prospective of the targeted children and youths remains a challenge to them and the community.

MYDEL's work approach implies the empowerment of the target group at an early stage in order to reduce the risk of them becoming victims of their circumstances, unable to mobilize own resources.

### **1.7 Major Objective**

Our major aim is to achieve a sustainable improvement of marginalized communities in Uganda.

### **1.8 Specific Objectives**

1. Increase of access to public resources and future prospective for the most vulnerable children and youths in the slum area of Mengo-Kisenyi
2. Raised community awareness in terms of health and hygiene matters as well as human rights issues and HIV/AIDS among young.
3. Social and economic capacities of families in the community are strengthen in a long term

### **1.9 Governance and Management Structure**

MYDEL's supreme body is the General Assembly (GA) that constitutes of over 120 members. It is this body that elects the Executive Board constituting of Ten (10) Board members working as volunteers. The Executive Board appoints the Secretariat headed by the Executive Director (ED) who is an ex-official se to the Executive Board. Direction and Management Implementation of the plan of MYDEL is the overall responsibility of the Executive Director based at the headquarters in Kampala. The Executive Director reports to the Chairman of the Board and acts as the executive secretary to the Board for easy implementation of policies. The Program Manager reports to the Director, who is in charge of

programmer operations and supervises Program Officers in charge of M&E, Capacity Building Officer.

The Heads of all MYDEL branches in the different areas of operation also report directly to the ED on administrative issues. When it is a functional issue, they however, report to concerned Program officers.

The Finance Manager reports to the Executive Director and supervises the Accounts assistant. The Advocacy officer shall supervise the IEC Programmed Officer who will be responsible for the Information, Education and Communication department.

All Managers are senior staffs that comprise the management team. The Program Manager under the guidance of the Director ensures implementation and coordination of MYDEL activities, assisted by the management team. Each project sector will be implemented and coordinated by the respective section heads or programmer officers and these will supervise lower staff within their sections.

The management style of MYDEL shall be purposeful, inclusive and value laden, stimulating staff and others to innovate and succeed. The leadership shall always strive to inspire confidence, extract the best in the team in order to inspire creativity that is needed for solving problems and moving the strategic plan forward.

### **1.10 Analysis of the Strength, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT)**

#### **Strengths:**

- Constitution: MYDEL has a constitution in place, which:
  - Talks about its mandate
  - Defines the organization structure
  - Defines the collaboration and networking arrangements with partners.
- Established governance systems: MYDEL has structure through which members participate in decision making and programmer implementation, that is,
  - Annual general meeting (AGM)
  - Executive Board
  - Secretariat in place with implementers, and
  - Both male and female associate members.
- The existence of an operational finance and administration system
- Collaboration and networking with other NGOs and Government.
- Active programs including psychosocial, Vocational training and Advocacy.
- Human Resource: MYDEL has a qualified and committed staff.
- Registered with the national NGO board.
- Office space and equipment: MYDEL has adequate (though rented) office space and has some funds and equipment like Cameras, TV set, computers, chairs, furniture, etc.

- The name Mengo Youth Development Link is eye-catching and attracts attention.
- Strategically located in the core areas where vulnerability is rampant.

#### **Weaknesses:**

- Inadequate human resource (Counselors, trainers, social workers, M & E officer, advocacy officers)
- Inadequate funding.
- The name MYDEL puts off some possible would be service users.
- The component of research is not adequately supported to be addressed.
- Some members are inactive and MYDEL has not established the cause of inactive participation of MYDEL members and take action over it.
- Volunteers are not well motivated.
- MYDEL has no system for grooming future leaders.
- There is low commitment by members in achieving organizational goal.
- MYDEL has low recruit exercise of more members and no policy in place to retain them.
- MYDEL is not known in the countryside.
- Lack of own office and accommodation for staff.

#### **Opportunities:**

- Availability of international and local volunteer
- Goodwill of the local leadership.
- Partnerships with international and local organizations
- Existing education policy.
- Existence of supportive donors.
- Trained volunteer counselors in the local communities.
- A very active Media.
- Strong and supportive board.
- Computer and tailoring training centers.
- Utilization of role models.
- Existence of other programs that address poverty and other MYDEL core programmer areas e.g. (CDD and NAADS.)

#### **Threats:**

- Increased numbers of orphans and other vulnerable children.
- Donors often phase out after a particular project life span.
- There is donor-fatigue.
- Cultural norms and attitudes towards sexual abuse hinder success.
- Failure to raise our own funds.
- Overwhelmed by the number of clients.
- Less commitment by partners/ poor networking.
- Political interference by some politicians.
- High dropout rate.

## **2.1 Summary of all the activities at MYDEL 2014**

- 1- We bought our one acre land in Kakiki Wakiso District.
- 2- We got the funding from American Embassy under PEPFAR funding
- 3- We also got funding under the ILO supervised by YUSLINK
- 4- We have created new partnerships with other projects
- 5- Our advocacy program have reached out to over 5000 community members
- 6- We have printing 300 magazine of our book the voice of the orphans and other vulnerable children
- 7- We had 63 International volunteers
- 8- We also received the funding from HRA foundation
- 9- We signed to partnership agreement with two other partners
- 10- We where selected among the 20 organizations to host a creative learning centre under the funding from CRANE through the UKAID funding.
- 11- We have produced a variety of advocacy materials on HIV/AIDS and child abuse.
- 12- We celebrated our children's end of the year party and 730 children participated at the party on the 13<sup>TH</sup> December 2014
- 13- We organized the Annual general assembly at Wakaliga and 237 youth attended the annual general meeting on the 20<sup>TH</sup> December 2014
- 14- We organize the the staff party at Spina Beach and 18 staff members and volunteers participated in that part on the 6<sup>TH</sup> December 2014.
- 15- 45 OVCs have accessed education this year at MYDEL Mcquilton Academy.
- 16- We have managed to resettle 5 children to their families back home.
- 17- We have also managed to Re integrate 26 children back to school through our creative learning centre
- 18- We have economically empowered 7 households from the slums of Kampala.
- 19- We have held 6 drama out reaches in the community
- 20- We had 4 boys under 17 years who played for the National under 17 and the best player was shirt 10 who is part of MYDELS soccer Academy
- 21- Under our soccer program we had Gerald who is now playing for Rwanda Nationalunder17 Iligwa in Sweden and Zaga who will be going to Sweden soon.
- 22- More than 160 children have been referred to partner organizations
- 23- We have created new partnership with different organizations in Kampala and Wakiso District.
- 24- The capacity of our staff and volunteers has greatly improved thus leading to great perfection in our work.
- 25- We have a new resource center at MYDELS offices





MYDEls trained peer educators PEPFAR program



Children's end of the year party



Children's end of the year party



HIV AIDS Advocacy under PEPFAR



Interpranership Training for Youth ILO



U12 Soccer Tournament under PEPFAR

## **2.2 Activities / Outputs**

### **2.2.1 Strategic plan**

This five year strategic plan is about Mengo Youth Development Link (MYDEL) strategic choices in terms of programmer design and focus to identified activities. It is geared towards guiding Mengo Youth Development Link resource persons to improve the capacity of Mengo Youth Development Link members, communities and other relevant stakeholders to effectively and efficiently care for and support survivors of sexual and other forms of abuse

### **2.2. 2 Focus 1: Increase advocacy in the community**

The overall objective of this programmer is to gather data, use it for advocacy purposes so as to promote and protect the health and rights in general of the vulnerable groups including the children and women. It is a key department for publicity purposes and making MYDEL image and its partners shine or get protected. Parts of its activities include,

- Contribute to reduction of the youth risky behaviors due to physical, social and economic vulnerability
- To develop educative information IEC materials which are essential to the communities
- Formation of the youth and children resource Centre.
- Raising community awareness about child and women's rights, HIV/AIDS and GBV.
- Lobbying and advocating for policy makers to strengthen and create policy frameworks conducive for the protection of women and children's rights.
- To promote advocacy network and collaboration to the benefit of the youth and children
- Strengthen and enhance advocacy in child rights, women, youth and people's with disability (policy intervention).

### **2.2.3 Focus 2: Institutional development**

This is designed for a wider category of individuals and institutions in response to identified needs, more specifically those whose health and rights in general are being abused. Activities carried out include;

- Building capacities of community members about children, women and vulnerable groups' rights, socio-economic issues and their obligations in promoting and protecting their rights.
- Training community members and stakeholders in basic counseling and communication skills so as to manage survivors of sexual abuse and other forms of GBV.

- Train and advise government, universities and other professional bodies about the psychological and human rights issues surrounding vulnerable groups in Uganda.

#### **2.2.4 Focus 3: Setting up of a strong sustainable development program to support the youth, children and other vulnerable people in Uganda**

- Establish an education training center and a home for the neediest children.
- provide social-economical security to the needy households through provision of income generating activities to the poor people.
- Involve young people especially the youths in micro finance and revolving fund.

#### **2.2.5 Focus 4: Psychosocial support**

- Provide counseling services to HIV/AIDS infected and affected people, survivors of sexual abuse and other forms of GBV.
- Offering socio-economic support to HIV/AIDS infected and affected persons, survivors of sexual abuse and other forms of GBV and their caretakers

### **2.3 Drama out reach**

Under the funding from PEPFRA program we have carried out five drama outreach programs in the community under the theme we had the child abuse and child protection HIV/AIDS under the them Knowledge is the best way to prevent HIV/AIDS in these drama outreach we distributed T Shirts brochures bunnners stickers hand outs all with the information as per the theme. We also carried out counseling and testing whereby we tested 673 people and only 47 where HIV/AIDS positive in addition we also used 60 trained peer educators who discover 89 cases of child abuse in the communities of which we managed to handle 48 cases of child abuse in the community..



Children and Youth Performance under Drama Group



## 2.4 Nansana MYDEL Mcquilton Academy

- a) **Education.** 45 OVCs have accessed education this year. The education centre has been registered and awarded a provisional license
- b) **Economic empowerment program** 4 households have accessed economic empowerment and have been able to start small businesses so as to upgrade their financial status. This will help them be able to look after their children even without our assistance
- c) **Nutrition.** Some improvements have been achieved in feeding coz we have slightly changed on the diet and this is due to volunteers that have been helping to buy food for the kids at the centre. But a lot still need to be done since most of the time children depends on posho and beans
- d) **Staffs and volunteers.** Staff members have been working hand in hand to help on effective service delivery. In addition, we have different volunteers and internees from different universities and others from USA, Taiwan, and Germany among others. All those have helped us to participate in and supervise different activities at the centre



Orthodox Church from Egypt at MYDEL      Gifts for Children from Samaritan Purse

- e) **Resettlement/ family re-integration.** Over 30 children have been re united to their families with help of CRANE Network in provision of transport and start up packs and the Nansana Police which has been so influential in family tracing. Resettlement has been with in Wakiso and out side districts say; Mubende, Mityana, Kampala etc.



Resettled Children to their Families supported by CRANE

- f) **Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT services).** More than 160 children have been referred to partner organizations say; Nurture Africa and KIFAD to access HIV/AIDS screening. Only to cases have been confirmed and currently on free treatment



HIV testing and counseling during Performance at Mengo Social Center by MYDEL Drama Crew

#### 2.4.1 Future plans for MYDEL Mcquilton Academy

- a) **Agriculture.** After acquiring land, we are planning to cultivate and produce half of the food we use at the centre as a way of reducing on food costs
- b) **Complete primary.** We are planning to have a primary school immediately when our storied house is finished. And this will help us recruit pupils from out side who are able to pay school fees and the money they pay will help us to sustain the centre and look after our children who are vulnerable.
- c) To strengthen both sports and drama activities so as to discover the talents of young people to be empowered, this is one of the ways of ensuring self-sufficiency. It is on this note, our dear partners that we welcome any kind of

contribution to boost any of these programs, we need some sports equipments and music instruments/costumes etc. your contribution will bring in an immense change to the lives of these young people

- d) **Life after mydel.** We are currently working on ensuring self-sufficiency of the children under our program, we have been targeting primary level and sometimes secondary but we would like to our kids completing university and if possible get employed in different sectors. We are concerned about the future of these young people and we do like to see them enjoying fully their future, all the necessities to make this happen will feature in the plan which is going to be released soon. You will receive a detailed copy

## 2.5 Sports program

MYDEL believes in promoting children and youths who are talented and do not have the excess to get what they don't, for example education, that's the reason why soccer academy was started which put focus on promoting the soccer skills of street children among other vulnerable children. The major aim of the soccer program is to enable the vulnerable children enjoy their right to education, development of their talent and prove to people that even in slum areas there are people gifted with talents which can be displayed and oriented. There for the years this program has been in existence many children and youths have benefited. Vulnerable children who display outstanding soccer skills have got education sponsorship from individual while others have got full scholarships and half bursaries in schools which treasure talents of young people. Boys who are a product of this program have got a chance of attaining education, participating in competitive tournaments.



MYDEL boys U14 after winning the trophy at Old Kampala Primary School



### **2.5.1 Education under the sports program**

In the past two years we have managed to get at least not less than 20 sports related scholarships for the boys every year and girls under our program and our consistence and competence in the sports tournaments we participate in, we have managed to attract attention from the good academic schools in the country. now we are having 3 students from kibuli ss, 4 at kasawo ss, 4 at kakungulu ss, 2 at st marys kitende and 2 at Kawempe Muslim 2 at buddo ss which are the most academically performing schools .and others in different schools respectively.

This year we have managed to register 4 boys in primary 7, senior 4 and 5 in senior 6 we managed to register 6 and 3 joined university and 3 also joined tertiary institutes respectively, however the point to note here is that all these boys have managed their studies on half bursaries and 2 of them on full sports bursary at University and others on half bursaries.

### **2.5.2 Football progress**

The year 2014 has been the most success full year in the history of MYDEL academy. The success is as defined below.

Four players by the names of Frank Tumwesigye, Lusimbula Peter, Opolot Julius, Sanday Steven were called up for the national under 17 team which participated in the Africa cup of nations qualifiers where Uganda was finally knocked out by Zambia at the final stages at nakivubo stadium. in this campaign Frank nick named Zaga for his style of football was tipped by a Swedish football scout who is trying to get him a club in Europe where he can go and continue with his carrier hopefully.

Papa Daniel who was in the regional division last year managed to join Entebbe young soccer club a team in the Uganda premier league where he is performing very well and he has been called up for the national under 20 side come January world cup qualifiers.

Gerald Tumwesigye from MYDEL cubs was called up for national duties in Rwanda under 17 and after his wonderful display he was selected and signed APEL junior academy in Rwanda where he is moving on with his career as professional player now.

The boys from MYDEL soccer academy and the head coach of the team managed to represent Kampala district where they managed to win the chenga challenge on penalties over Arua based side which meant that now Kampala is the defending champions of CHENGA CHALLENGE sponsored by city tires.

MYDEL Under 15 side managed to win the national under 15 title in January after defeating Juventus Namasuba 2-0 thanks to goals from Brian Millo and Mugwanya Daniel. And they are to defend their title again in January next year.

MYDEL girls' team together with the girls education challenge managed to win the crane netball tournament in March after drafting ADONAI foundation on goal average.

MYDEL soccer academy managed to organize a football gala under the fund by PREPFAR a fund under the American govt with a theme LOVE SHOULDN'T KILL, In this gala the project managed to attract 600 youths under their teams respectively all these youths through football they were taught how to protect their lives from HIV aids .

However with all these achievements the project has face some challenges in implementing and enriching the academy goals and targets as mentioned below and we have come up with some possible solutions which hope if put in consideration will solve these challenges.

- Lack of enough scholastic materials for the boys when they are going to school.
- solution; start up an income generating project to fund this program
- excessive number of participants on the sports galas
- Solution; state 2 days for the galas in order to enrich all the youths who are concern.
- Lack of enough training facilities for the boys and girls  
Look for sports kit donations and funding to solve this problem
- lack of funding for the pitch for practice and sports demonstrations
- Solution start up income generating projects for generating money to service this activity.
- Lack of refreshments and medication for the boys and girls in case of injuries in trainings and matches.
- Solutionbuy a first aid kit for treatment of these participants and to also look for funding agencies ,friends and well-wishers who can help motivate this project.
- Monitoring these boys at their respective schools is very difficult since they study from different schools and different directions of the country.
- Possible solution; provide enough materials to use for school at the beginning of the term.

## **2.6 Creative Learning Centre**

The program started with a pilot study where 7 marginalized girls got enrolled into the program from October – February 2013. Out of the 7 girls enrolled, 5 managed to get back to school and up to now they are still in school while the two failed as one of the parent failed to raise money and the other girl was a house maid so her boss could not accept to take her back to school.

After the pilot project, 20 marginalized girls were enrolled at the centre for first term 2014 from February- May, with moral support and encouragement from the mentors



together with the efforts of the teachers, 4 girls got re integrated into mainstream schools and 4 went for vocational skills training in tailoring and hair dressing while the rest of the girls were given more 3 months at the centre so that their parents could prepare for their re integration another term.

More girls were recruited for term two on top of those who failed to get back to mainstream, and they were also taken through the student- teacher friendly learning system. They learnt literacy, numeracy and other skills like making bangles and bracelets among others. This time 4 girls got back to school for third term and it being the last term of the year, many parents feared taking back their children to school because they had missed a lot and thought they could not manage to catch up in only one term to get promoted.

Therefore this term we continued with the previous girls plus some new ones, these have been studying and we hope most of them will get back to school next year first term. As a way of empowering the families of the girls economically, we came up with an association bringing parents of the girls together so that their standards of living are uplifted and are able to take back their children to school but most importantly keep them in school until when they complete a certain education cycle.

With this association, parents have been trained how to make paper bags which are used in packing different items like snacks among others as a way of getting money. The parents also managed to combine efforts with parents of Kampala Baptist Church to form an association offering catering services on different occasions. Through this, they got the opportunity of cooking food for over 372 children during the music festival organized by CRANE VIVA. A share of the money got from these activities is saved so that when the term is beginning, there is some money to facilitate the girls' education.

Apart from the income generating activities, parents in the association are also able to save weekly and borrow money to boost their businesses all aimed at re integrating the girls. With this we want the families to have a saving culture regardless of their incomes. Some families had lost hope and we feel they can be encouraged by their fellows in the association to regain that hope and improve their lives.

During the period of 3 months of the girls' stay at the centre, they get equipped with the skill of making candles so that they could use that skill to support their parents who always struggle to make ends meet. Apart from learning, the girls also get a chance of engaging in games and sports like net ball, football, and athletics among others. The girls are also encouraged to be confident and believe in themselves, this is done through giving them a chance to express themselves in debate, quiz, music, dance and drama.



Counseling the Girls at Creative Learning Center

### **2.6.1 Indirect Beneficiaries of this program**

The program is not only for the girls who are at the centre, the nearby schools and community children do also benefit from it through;

- Participating in league activities like music, dance and drama, games and sports, debate and quiz where by children from the communities both boys and girls take part.
- The nearby schools do borrow text books and novels from the centre's library which help them in teaching and the children can also read them. Apart from the schools, individual children can also borrow books provided the mentors know very well where they stay for easy monitoring and returning of those books.
- The teachers from the nearby schools also benefit by getting training for teaching children in a teacher- pupil/ student friendly system of teaching so that children do not drop out of school because of teachers' cruelty.

### **2.7 Computer class**

With the aim of sustainable improvement of living condition of the most vulnerable groups of community implies at the same time to take into condition in their skills environment. MYDEL considered that as long term session, many may achieve a lot. This includes youth and their families.

Under this program we have managed to train 55 young people in the computer class and this program mainly target the school drop outs between the ages of 13 to 30 years old in order for them to aquire basic skills in the computer training skills under this new are or technology.



MYDEL's Graduated Student in Tailoring and Computer Skills

## 2.8 Tailoring Class

Aiming on sustainable improvement of living condition of the most vulnerable groups of community implies at the same time to take into condition in their skills environment. MYDEL considered that as long term session, many may achieve a lot. This includes youth and their families.

In this year 2014 we managed to improve on tailoring skills, paper bead making skills and many others. This made many valunalable groups feel happy because per now they have an idea of making clothes, nickels and bags.

This was like a gift to kisenyi community including the children and their parents. Out of the research we made is that many criminals cases are reduced because of the projects that were introduces, this mean that many youths how could be joining the criminals are busy learning the skills. MYDEL cares about and encourage the youth to participate in any services or skills given to them.



Women and Youth in Tailoring Class

### 2.8.1 The problem we faced

The machines were not enough to attain students; this is because students were many so that they could study in sections, morning and evening.

We are also lacking market for our product and this let us down because we could use it to buy enough machines.

We also don't have enough tools to use like thread tap measure and other tool. That's why we decided for the students to bring their own tools.

## **2.9 Resource Centre**

Mengo Youth Development Link (MYDEL) as a non-government organization have been funded by PEPFAR to create a resource centre by practicing different activities for example allowing youth to assess condoms for protection, youth also assess more information from different text book and internet, games; that is rude and chess plus television and even they are assessed to counseling .

At the resource centre we managed to create a small library that helps the youth to get more information for example information about Jesus life and other history of different people and children's life with the same experience. We do give out books to different youth for reading and to show that they have used our services. He or she has to sign in the book before taking it that is writing their names, services offered, time in and time out they don't have identity cards.

We also have a television that can concentrate people's mind mostly when they are stressed; this is shown in the evening to avoid inconvenience during the day because in the evening it contains every one whether old or young. For the day the use games like loudly and chess, this makes some of the children to pass their time because the holiday time instead of going to rubble steal they just make themselves busy on gaming. This has reduced day stealing in Kisenyi.

Lastly we also help them in their healthy standards by storing condoms at the office so we just give it out all the time to prevent HIV/AIDs. This has saved very many people due to this process because we even teach them how to use it plus encouraging them about its advantage. Eventually it turns to a normal routine for them to use.





MYDEL Social Center activities

### 2.9.1 The following are positive impacts

The resource centre has helped the youth to feel free in expressing themselves to other community members after receiving counseling and guidance from the centre, for example youth living with AID/HIV.

This makes the community members and the use to be up to date all the time because they watch the television every evening and other sings.

This resource centre has promoted relationship among the staff members of the resource centre and the client for example good communication and socialization with in them.

So far this year we managed to attain different age groups of people include young and old, according to age

### 2.9.2 The Table showing the total number of youth and children who actively uses the Resource centre in 2014

Male		Female	
Age	Total	Age	Total
0-5	122	0-5	99
5-17	370	5-17	345
18+	207	18+	295

### 2.9.3 The following are the challenges that are faced.

Noise making to other neighbors that is they came in complaining about it and we didn't have absolution for it because the place is too small.

There is challenge of abusing us by the dunked ones because there are used to us due to solving their family problem. This makes us so easy and socializing with them.

Another challenge of stealing the office properties due to the place being visited by different people with different aim, some came to read, playing games, watching television others steering but we handle it by checking everyone who is leaving the place.

### **2.10 A team of volunteers during a community visit *Volunteers and MYDEL staff during a community cleaning exercise.***

MYDEL has for years been working with volunteers both from within the country and outside countries like European countries, these have complemented the work of the MYDEL staff as they engage in the different activities of the organization. We have been able to maintain a healthy relationship with the volunteers which has enabled us to get more and more every year, more we award certificates of appreciation to them as a way of appreciating and acknowledging their contribution to the vulnerable communities.



Volunteers doing work at the Nansana centre

### **Implementation of programs according to the new set up policies.**

Since MYDEL have a lot of policies which includes the volunteers policy, staff Development Policy, monitoring and evaluation policy, Computer policy, Tailoring policy, Anti-Corruption policy, HIV/AIDS Policy, resource centre policy, child protection policy, Financial policy, Human resource policy, 2014 MYDEL team have managed to internalize all the policies with the staff and this has helped to strengthen our development program.

### **3.2 The over role challenges faced by MYDEL**

- The area of coverage and needs of Organization are too big compared to the resource base.
- Some of the project contact persons are not regularly available in their divisions and parishes which make coordination of human rights advocates (HRA) activities difficult.
- Lack of legal desk at MYDEL has hauled the speed at which victims of health and human rights violation access justice.
- Survivors of abuse expect a lot of financial support from the organization which may be at times outside MYDEL capacity to handle.
- Some politicians in the community interfere with cases reported to local authorities to gain political support in the forthcoming elections.
- Some cases are mismanaged at police leading to frustration by the client reporting the case.
- The organization is lacking start up kits for the learners who have been graduating under our vocational training program since it was started in 2009. We would love to see that our graduates are given computers and sewing machines to begin with and they pay for them in installments until when they complete the payments.
- In the same year we experienced a challenge of water shortages which is a general problem in the area of Nansana, which has affected our plans since we had to incur costs of buying water expensively.
- Regular hiking of prices for commodities (inflation) also affected us greatly; prices for food among other commodities used in the daily lives were increasing day after day which made us operate in budgetary deficits not as planned.
- In year 2013, Uganda experienced an influx of asylum seekers from Democratic Republic of Congo due to the political insurgency in that country. Many of these asylum seekers resorted to living in the slum areas of Kampala given the low cost of living in those areas and many of them came to our offices seeking for help like educating their children, providing them with shelter and medical assistance. Unfortunately we could not help much due to limited resources though we made some referrals.
- We had a challenge of learners in both the computer and tailoring training centres deliberately refusing to pay the required fees for the month, this greatly affected us because it is the money they pay that is used to pay electricity bills plus servicing the machines and buying software needed for the computers.
- Dependency on well-wishers given the fact that we do not have permanent funders to fund the different activities of the organization and this was made worse with some well-wishers stopping the support due to financial problems on their side.

### **3.4 Mengo Youth development Link donors**

- Chellestone Academy UK
- American Embassy
- Viva- Children at Risk Action Network in partnership with UKAID
- HRA Foundation
- Kampala Capital City Authority

- UN Habitat
- Youth Action International
- International Labour Organization
- Austrian Mining Company
- International Labour Organization
- YUSLINK
- Work AID

### **3.5 MYDELS Future plans**

- PLHIV understands the dynamics of HIV/AIDS and has a big role to play in the National Response.
- Recognized by the Government as organization for all Children and Youth.
- The organization is the mouth piece for youth, children and women in the country.
- Membership have true stories/experiences and lessons learnt.
- The Organization contributes very largely to education on HIV matters.
- Membership has a spirit of volunteerism that is unmatched at the national level and a strong identity.
- The Organization intervention plans are informed by research, baseline surveys and past experiences and followed up by thorough monitoring and documentation.
- The Organization prides itself in practical and result oriented strategic approaches empowering members and scaling up impact.

### **How to get involved?**

Your partnership enables us the continuous improvement of our work and, therefore, has a sustainable impact on the lives of the vulnerable communities of Kampala's informal settlements. Are you still thinking about how to get involved? MYDEL offers a variety of ways. Just choose which one is most preferable for you:

#### **Volunteer**

MYDELS work has constantly been enriched by our volunteers within the past years. If you are interested in supporting us with your own commitment, ideas and skills, feel warmly welcome to contact us any time.

#### **Sponsorship**

Have you always thought of donating for a good cause, but you were never sure about where exactly the money goes to? MYDELS sponsorship program provides the opportunity to have a one-to-one relationship with one of the children. Your support can empower a child through ensuring the access to school education and therefore a great enlargement of sustainable future prospective. If you think, this could be the suitable way for you to support us, don't hesitate to contact us.



## **Donation**

Beneath the opportunity of individual sponsorship, financial support is essential for carrying out the variety of our projects. Therefore, MYDEL is grateful of any financial contribution, which ensures the future of our activities.

## **Our contacts**

Head office

PO Box 30826 Kampala Uganda

office 414 270806

Mob 256 782 886093

Email: [mydelink@gmail.com](mailto:mydelink@gmail.com)

[info@mydel.org](mailto:info@mydel.org)

[mydelink@live.com](mailto:mydelink@live.com)

Website [www.mydelink.org](http://www.mydelink.org)



