



MENGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT LINK (MYDEL)

COVID 19 REPORTS PHASE 3

JUNE TO OCTOBER 2020

MENGO YOUTH DEVELOPMENT LINK (MYDEL)

Musajjalumbwa Road, P.O. Box 30826 Kampala – Uganda

Tel: +256 414-666736, +256-782-886093

E-mail: mydelink@gmail.com www.mydelink.org



Cover photo children living and working on the streets in the struggle to reduce the spread of Covid 19 Pandemic in the slums of Mengo Kisenyi

“AWARENESS IS KEY POWER TO THIS FIGHT”

Preamble

Inevitably the COVID 19 is on its way to Uganda considering the way events are unfolding in the great lakes region. To date, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan have all reported confirmed cases. It is just a matter of hours or days before the country will be plunged into panic of self quarantine, closing schools, Borders, social events and social isolation.

Lessons learnt from HIV/AIDS Pandemic that ruined the country should be borrowed notably the Multi sectoral approach which defined Uganda as a 'star' in mitigating the impacts of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic. In this case every sector should identify an area where they have comparative advantage over others and start the preparedness and response campaign immediately.

Mengo Youths Development Link (MYDEL) is an authority as far as reaching out to the slum dwellers, street kids and destitute are concerned in Kampala and wakiso districts.

Coincidentally this is the most vulnerable group that is bound to suffer most once the social isolation and self quarantine bell is sounded.

As the schools close, offices close, social events suspended, churches and mosques close, sports events suspended, the street kids, the destitute and the slum dwellers are going to remain at the mercy of the Virus. Hospitals, Intensive care units, private health units are going to be overwhelmed by the significant members of the population and medical personnel will be making decision on who to save and who to die. The fate of the destitute, street kids and slum dwellers is certain and is MYDEL's biggest worry now.

In light of the Above, MYDEL is crying out to the government, Development partners, private companies, parastatals , Local government leaders, Religious institutions, cultural institutions, the police, the army and good Samaritans to join them in the sanitizing and Hand wash with soap campaign, Masks availability and use, social isolation steps, and food relief should there be a lock down to this vulnerable group in the streets and slums of Mengo kisenyi 1, 11 and 111 kawokya 1 and 11, katwe Nkere zone, Bukesa , Kagugube , Bwaise (Kimombasa), Kasubi, Nakulabye, Katanga, Nateete (Kigagga zone)

Introduction of MYDEL

Mengo Youth Development Link (MYDEL) is a Non-Governmental Organization, located in Mengo Parish, Central Division- Kampala District-Uganda and legally registered by the Ministry of Internal Affairs through the NGO Board with registration number S.5914/5142. It is a community led targeting vulnerable Children, Women and Youth in rural and urban areas.

To date MYDEL has reached out to over 15000 beneficiaries with various services ranging from Skills development to out of school youths, Educational support to in-schools, Talent development through MYDEL sports Academy and Music, dance and Drama, Sexual and reproductive Health education , HIV/Aids mitigation, sanitation and Hygiene program through routine slum clean up exercise.

Goal

Reduce the rate of COVID-19 pandemic infection in Uganda

Mission

Limit the COVID-19 spread to the holder

Objective

- To sensitize the slum dwellers, commercial sex workers, street kids and the destitute on the best practices in the event of COVID-19 outbreaks.
- To avail the slum dwellers with hand washing facilities and hand sanitizers
- To provide isolation centers
- To avail food relief and essential supplies to this vulnerable during the panic close down and social isolation time
- Provision of food and other basic necessities to the needy communities
- Reduction of Gender based violence in the slums

MYDEL team together with YIDO our partner reaching out to the street children

MYDEL team together with YIDO our partner reached out to the street children in Kisenyi. In Covid 19 phase 3 MYDEL has mainly targeted the street children, Youth and teenage mothers in Kampala.



MYDEL team in partnership with ABAANA MINISTRIES during food distribution outreach

MYDEL team in partnership with Abaana Ministries supported 87 vulnerable families in Lubaga Division, among the items distributed included 20 kgs of Maize flour, 10kgs of Beans, 4 bars of washing soap, salt and Sugar it is estimated that more than 550 people including the children from the targeted families benefited from this support. Special Appreciation goes to Abaana Ministries for supporting this activity and the task forces for Lubaga Division headed by the DRCC and Mr. Masaba for guiding the team throughout the outreach.



House hold empowerment program with JOINT GOSPEL INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES in partnership MYDEL team

MYDEL team in partnership with Pastor Emma from Joint Gospel International Ministries reached out to the vulnerable young mother who gave birth to three children in Lubaga Division, we supported the family with the basic necessities which includes Sugar, soap, cooking oil, sanitary towels, baby clothes diapers, Banana, Rice, Macron, washing powder, Mosquito Nets and upkeep money special thanks goes to Pastor Emma, the youth leaders led by Masaba and Frank plus AMKA Foundation our partners in Lubaga.



MYDELS Active Citizens Team Meeting at Mengo Parish Hall

MYDEL's Active Citizens Team held a meeting at Mengo parish Hall at the inauguration of additional 2 new programs in the fields of Health, Education, child protection and improved Household income targeting 700 slum dwellers.

MYDEL team appreciated the new partners in Empowerment of the vulnerable communities during the Post Covid 19 period.



BEERA NESUUBI Program on UBC STAR TV hosted MYDEL Director

Mengo Youth Development Link was cast Live on UBC star TV on Beera Nesuubi program on Thursday 23rd July 2020 from 7.00pm -8.00pm represented by Director Pascal Lutaaya, was replayed on Sunday 26 July 2020 at 10pm. The Director walked the Listeners through the different interventions MYDEL is undertaking to support Youths initiatives for the betterment of their livelihood in the slum dwellings



MYDEL Team Sharing a Meal with the Street Children on IDD Day

On Friday IDDI day MYDEL Team reached out to 15 teenage mothers in Mengo Parish with few food items and also shared IDDI lunch with over 150 street children in Kisenyi Mengo. We would like to appreciate all our partners who were part of this life changing cause in our community.



During the slum outreach MYDEL team updated the data of the Teenage Mother in the slums during the Youth week towards the international Youth Day.

As the International Youth day is coming up MYDEL team dedicated all the week's activities to the Youth. MYDEL family was able to update the data of 124 teenage mothers in Mengo Kisenyi. In addition to that we registered over 100 Youths who were interested in our upcoming program with our partners of KITCHEN STATION which would be aiming at empowering our Youth with skills in Baking, Cooking local foods, Snacks, Branding, Marketing and Customer care. We would to appreciate MYDEL's Active Citizens team and our Internees that were part of these activities.



Planning meeting by MYDEL focusing on Wakiso and Nansana Communities

In this planning meeting by MYDEL focused on Wakiso and Nansana communities, emphasis was put on the following activities: Periodic Community clean up exercise, addressing the plight of teenage mothers, Re-energize the HIV/Aids mitigation campaign, distribution of clothes, alleviating the rampant domestic violence, Food donations to the needy communities, community observance of Covid 19 SoP to limit transmission, skills development to out of school youths.



Rotary fraternity donation of Shoes and cloth donation to the vulnerable communities

Shoes and Clothes donation were received from the Rotary fraternity headed by Rotarian Fred Nabbimba. This is in response to MYDEL appeal to good Samaritans to join the give out campaign during the clean up exercise in Nansana Wakiso District scheduled for 10th of DEC 2020, Feel free to deliver your contributions to MYDEL offices. This community outreach target 600 households from Nansana Municipality



Work Plan discussion between MYDEL and TEENS UGANDA about Covid 19 Emergency Response activities

MYDEL team discussing the Summary of the draft work plan between MYDEL and TEENS Uganda on Covid 19 Emergency Response activities to be implemented in Nansana.

- Dissemination of key messages on prevention of Covid 19.
- Highlighting rights protection against GBV
- Correct and consistent use of condoms to neutralize the prevailing complacency.
- Developing Teenage pregnancy data base through social mapping to inform the skilling campaign.
- Promote Household and community sanitation through routine clean up exercise.
- Continued food and cloth donation practice.
- MYDEL Mcquiton Academy to become a model green school by adopting simple urban farming like backyard farming /Kitchen gardens.
- More emphasis on active and motorized transportation like bicycles and walking to ensure good health and social distancing.



Director MYDEL receiving IEC materials on covid 19 awareness and child abuse from UYDEL

Pascal Lutaaya, Director MYDEL received IEC materials on Covid 19 awareness and Child Abuse from Mr. Mutaawe of Uganda Youth Development Link towards the planned activities to be implemented in Nansana.



Experience sharing session with HISKARE WORLDWIDE ORGANIZATION Executive Members

We believe that sharing is caring. Sharing the experience session with Hiskare Worldwide Organization executive members at AMARE gardens this has built us in many ways as we learn from each other. Director MYDEL shared the best practices, coping mechanisms and general organization development



Extending a hand to one of the MYDEL Active Citizen member that suffered burns

Mr. Mutyaba one of MYDELs Active Citizen member suffered severe burns when his house was burnt down, on behalf of the MYDEL family I do take this opportunity to thank the team from **British council** headed Emily for supporting our brother.



Strategy meeting between UYDEL and MYDEL team up at Kolping Hotel

UYDEL, MYDEL teamed up at Kolping hotel to strategize on mitigating child labor, commercial sex work among the teens and influx of street kids. A research to obtain base information on slum dwellings was agreed on and to commence forthwith.



MOU signing between MYDEL and KITCHEN HOUSE FOUNDATION in skills training

On 26th/08/2020, MYDEL signed an MoU with Kitchen House Foundation in skills training targeting 200 slum dwellers. The training commenced on 1st September 2020 which will empower participants with skills in baking, preparation of local foods, snacks, branding/packaging, marketing and customer care that's essential for sustaining small business. It's projected that this will reduce on the idleness, domestic violence and teenage pregnancies during the covid 19 pandemic.

SOP's are being followed where every trainee received a face mask, social distancing is being recognized and washing stations are available.



Update meeting with the local leaders of Nansana and areas around about the upcoming programs in their areas.

MYDEL team meeting with the local leaders of Nansana West 2, Nansana East, Nabweru and Ganda to update them on the upcoming programs to be implemented in Wakiso and Nansana in particular. The programs include:-

Covid 19 & HIV/ AIDS Prevention information, highlighting rights Protection against Gender Based Violence, Condom distribution, teenage mother's data update, practical skills projects training Urban Farming. Community clean up, Clothes donations and food donations to the needy communities all the activities included in the work plan.



MYDEL in partnership with INTERNATIONAL YOUTHS GOSPEL MINISTRIES and TEENS UGANDA out reach

It was joy and smiles as MYDEL in partnership with International Youths Gospel Ministries and Teens Uganda reached out to 122 households with food relief. The food basket contained Cassava, beans, maize floor and washing soap. This was in line with activities earlier designed for Nansana and wakiso. Furthermore MYDEL family appreciates Liv, Patricia, Rich and Rotarian Wilson for supporting this activity.





Meeting with the former UN special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defender

It was great honor for the MYDEL and Teens Uganda Team to meet the former UN special Rapporteur for Human Rights Defender M/s Margaret Sekagya during strategic planning meeting for Kampala and Wakiso for enhancement of Youths Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) at Human Rights centre Uganda office. This was intended to discuss Human Rights issues during the Covid 19 in Community Civic participation, Rights and duties of CSOs and individuals in their respective capacity as youths HRDs towards ensuring equal justice for all. MYDEL is a significant player in Human Rights defense and will certainly play a big role in ensuring that the project rolls on



Capacity building with the executive members of the INSPIRE TRIPPLETS GHETTO KIDS

MYDEL team in action while building the capacity and sharing the experience session with Inspire Triplets Ghetto Kids Executive members at the home of the Ghetto Kids in Makindye Kalani Zone Kulekaana .Director MYDEL shared the basic knowledge on "How to start, Manage and Sustain an Organization" Plus coping mechanisms and general organization development



MYDEL youth skills training session

MYDEL Youth Skilling session in progress targeting the slums dwellers MYDEL and Kitchen Station UG rolled out the skills training project in Mengo Kisenyi slum, Kampala Central. The project is aimed at empowering the youths and teenage mothers in various skills like baking, preparing local food, snacks, branding, packaging, marketing, and customer care. Beneficiaries will acquire skills to start and sustain their small business currently we have a total number of 200 Youth enrolled to this program.



Meeting with Pastor Bugembe

Catching up with our spiritual brother Pastor Bugembe to brainstorm how to roll out the planned activities for Nansana. MYDEL Team consisted of Director Pascal Lutaaya, Board member Olive Kituyi and the in charge MYDEL Mcquilton Academy Nansana Mr Sonko. Pastor Bugembe of the worship centre prayed for blessings for MYDEL activities



Meeting with the UYDEL (Uganda Youth Development Link) social workers at MYDEL offices

MYDEL team with the UYDEL social workers held a joint meeting how to coordinate in their efforts in alleviating domestic violence, child labor and commercial sex exploitation among children in the slums of Kampala



Capacity building session with the Makerere university intern students

MYDEL Team in a Capacity building session with interns from Makerere University on Organizational management. The session was intended to empower the participants on How to Start, Manage and Sustain an organization. This was a wonderful experience in building the right Mindset of the Team on how organizations are run



MYDEL covid19 awareness campaign launch

MYDEL launched the Covid -19 awareness project where 30 Youth corners were officiated and given full facilitated hand washing stations. The event was commissioned by the RDC Kampala Central and the Mayor Kampala Central Division. The local leaders and the Inspire Ghetto Triplets Kids too graced the event. The campaign was to avail information to prevent the spread of Covid -19 disease in the slum areas of Mengo Parish, Kisenyi 1, 11 and 111. The event was broadcasted on NBS Uncut news, Spark TV Live Wire show, BBS news, BaBa TV News, Star TV and Bukedde TV news and News Vision and Bukedde news Paper. We appreciate Latek Stay Alliance our partners for supporting this campaign and the positive partnership with KCCA.



MYDEL COVID 19 community Campaign in BUKEDE News paper



Display of the COVID19 awareness posters

MYDEL team monitoring Covid 19 Youth Corners plus displaying MYDEL posters and stickers with information on reducing the spread of Covid 19 community Campaign in Kisenyi 1 and Kisenyi 11 parish in Kampala Central Division this program is being funded by Latek Stay Alliance Uganda in partnership with KCCA.



Some of the skills training students from the first group to be trained putting in practice what they learnt

The skilling program was one of the Post Covid 19 Lock down project which was developed by MYDEL after discovering that many local business in our communities have closed down and the community members had no option for survival, it's against this background that MYDEL team came up with the skilling project which is aimed at empowering the youths and teenage mothers in various skills like baking, preparing local food, snacks, branding, packaging, marketing, and customer care. Beneficiaries will acquire skills to start and sustain their small business currently we have a total number of 200 Youth enrolled to this program.

After the acquiring the skills the beneficiary to this skilling project formed groups as one way to start up small businesses in baking, preparing local food, Snakes, Daddies, Pan Cakes, Sambusa, Bagiya and Cakes at the local level we call upon partners who can come on board to support MYDEL Community SACCO in order to give loans to these groups since many of them through the training have acquired the skills in branding, packaging, marketing, customer care and Book keeping for self sustainability.



Challenges faced by MYDEL team while implementing the Covid 19 phase 3 activities

During the Covid 19 Phase 3 MYDEL faced the following challenges during the implementation Phase:

1. Increased numbers of beneficiaries.
2. Being a political season our Covid19 awareness posters were being covered by the politicians posters in some places our posters were totally invisible.
3. Political interventions by other politicians who wanted to use this program for their political Platform.
4. Domestic Violence was witnessed in many areas of our operation.
5. We faced lot restrictions due to Covid19 and this affected most our programs especially in Nansana.
6. Due to increased infections of Covid19 other diseases have been put in the shadow yet many are dying of these same diseases.
7. A lot of intervention was strongly needed among the street children who were left on the streets.
8. Lack of Positive parenting in the communities.
9. Less funding yet the beneficiaries are many.
10. Child abuse in the slums is the order of the day.
11. More starvation in the slums during the MYDEL Covid 19 phase 3 period
12. Increased use of drugs and substance abuse among the youth and the young people
13. Increased teenage mothers in the slums of Kampala and Wakiso Districts

Solutions to the challenges while implementing MYDEL Covid 19 Phase 3 activities

1. Looking for more partners and well-wishers to support MYDEL's programs
2. MYDEL team tried to reach out the politicians and Educated them about the plight of the need community currently is food not politics.
3. Sensitization of the community members plus counseling and guidance of families
4. MYDEL team together with the KCCA and CRANE Network emphases on Rescue, Resettlement and Family Integration of the street children.
5. Training of the Communities about Positive Parenting by MYDEL Active Citizen team
6. Sensitization of the community members plus counseling and guidance of families
7. MYDEL team tried to give Hope to the needy communities especially during the Covid 19 Situation
8. MYDEL team tried to counseling and guidance the drug users and also to provide them with the basic necessities for life
9. MYDEL Active Citizen team have started reaching out to the teenage mothers in order to provide them with counseling and guidance plus other necessities of Life like food and Sanitary pads.
10. MYDEL team is also trying to reach out to the elderly and People with Disabilities in the Slums MYDEL's way forward to change the lives of community during this Covid 19 Phase 3 periods.

MYDEL team believes that impacting the Teenage Mothers, Street children, Drug Addicts and Slum Dwellers with the Hands on Vocational Skills is the way to go among the targeted population at Risk.

Future Plans

- Would like to have more skills training among our community as it's very easy to have job creators than job seekers. With this many of our people will improve their livelihood in the process.
- Would like to empower our trainees with startup capital once they are done with training as most of them have an issue of lack of capital to push on their dream of starting a business.
- More outreach about Covid19 information to create more awareness to so as to achieve our goal of reducing the rate of COVID 19 pandemic infection in Uganda.
- We have a target to empower the SACCO so that it can start giving loans at a low interest rate as to empower the small businesses in our community.
- Empower our people with knowledge about modern urban farming to solve the issue of food insecurity in our community since with this kind of farming can be done the smallest space available.
- Increased awareness about non motorized means of transport i.e. use of bicycles, walking as one of the ways to improve on our health.

Appreciation

Appreciation to the partners MYDEL team appreciates all partners for their support and these includes KCCA, Star FM and TV, Bukede T V, B B S TV, New Vision, BaBa TV, Spark TV, Star TV, Local Leaders, Youth Leaders , Women Leaders, British Council, Ghetto Triplex Kids, Pastor Wilson Bugembe, Uganda Youth Development Link (MYDEL), Nansana Civil Society Organization CRANE Network members, Latek Stay Alliance, Liv, DRCC Rubaga, Joint Youth Gospel International Ministries, Teens Uganda DRCC Kampala Central Division, Abaana Ministries, Human Rights centre Uganda, , Enterprise Uganda, Nansana Civil Society Organization, Rotarian Wilson Sendikwanawa, Street Uncles, Claudia, Daniel plus other partners for supporting Mengo Youth Development Link (MYDEL) May God Bless you