

## VISION

Rural communities in Uganda able to utilize their knowledge, wisdom & resources in a productive manner, to enable them to improve their quality of life and at minimum are able to provide basic necessities to their families.

## BACKGROUND

Open Arms Projects was founded in 2004, initially providing support to projects providing services to street children and orphans in Uganda.

In 2006 Open Arms shifted their focus to rural communities to provide services to assist families in living sustainable livelihoods and being able to provide for their children. This was with the aim of helping to prevent the causes which lead to children going to the streets, as well as helping communities to ensure orphans in their community are cared for.



Open Arms Projects builds the capacity of organizations and groups, within rural communities in Uganda, to provide high quality vocational training, life skills training, business training, start up loans and improved access to market. Our projects target the youth, widows, single mothers and other disadvantaged individuals in such communities.

We also aim to transform the relationship between youth in UK and Uganda through our Development Education program.

## OBJECTIVES

**Improve the wellbeing of individuals & families in rural communities of Uganda**

- Increase access to Vocational Skills Training In
- Increase access to Financial Services
- Increase availability of business skills training
- Increase awareness of social, political and health issues affecting the wellbeing of individuals

**Improve the effectiveness of 'development funds' spent in Uganda by small NGO's & charities, international volunteers & missionaries**

**To educate communities & individuals about issues affecting global development**

## PROJECTS



### **Rural Community Vocational Development (RCVD)**

Training vocational trainers from rural community groups to enable them to improve the quality of their training & run their projects more sustainably.



### **Vocational Centre of Excellence (VCE)**

Vocational Training Centre for RCVD members and students from less advantaged backgrounds.



### **Micro Enterprise Program (MEP)**

Small scale loans in rural communities, provided with training in business skills, family health awareness etc.



### **Capacity Building Program**

Training community groups in project management, including accountability, report writing & techniques to become self sustainable.

Resource Centre for local NGOs, including book's, manuals & computer/ internet access for project management and other development resources.





**VISION:** A centre whose graduates are producing high quality products, including unique Modern African Fashion items for local & international markets.

## RCVD MEMBERS

Trainers from RCVD member projects, often have limited skills in the vocation in which they are training, however, they have the commitment to their community to help others learn.

Providing them with improved skills training they are able to improve the skills in that vocation throughout their whole community.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Build the capacity of rural community groups to provide high quality training in their community
2. Provide disadvantaged individuals with skills which enable them to improve their livelihood & become self reliant
3. Enable rural communities to produce good quality & low cost clothing for the residents
4. identify & train highly skilled & diligent individuals from rural communities in the poorest regions of Uganda to become designers or producers, able to produce high quality, unique products reaching national & international markets.

## NEW PROJECTS

### DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION Project

The project creates an educational link between schools in UK and Uganda. Youth in schools create education packs with information on issues regarding or effecting development in their community.

### DEPAS - Development Project Advisory Service

This is a low cost advice service available to new groups, charities & NGOs setting up projects in rural communities. The service is to ensure the communities are the predominant say in the design of the projects and that the whole community has ownership of the project.

### COMMUNITY RADIO Program

The use of Radio is one of the easiest approaches to raising awareness of health, social or political issues in rural communities. This program aims to train small groups in rural communities on how to set up a local radio station and provide them with information and training on how to get information and advertisers on their radio stations.



## FROM POVERTY TO PROSPERITY

*Improving wellbeing in rural communities of Uganda*



### OPEN ARMS PROJECTS

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