

SUCCESS STORIES



My name is Apio Stella, I am 22 years old, I come from Arie village, Apoka parish, Ogur sub-county, Lira district. I come from a family of 13 children and I am 5th born. My parents did not send us to school except 5 of us who even stop in lower primary.

Before I was arrested, I used to sell grains like peas, beans and Simsim in local markets in our community. I started doing this work before I was married and this has helped me pay fees for my daughter who is now in Primary 3.

When I was arrested in July 18th/7/2011, I was charged with fighting. I took five and a half months in prison but since then my case was never followed by both my relatives and the complainant. Life in prison was not easy because you are forced to do heavy workload, poor feeding, shelter and lack of freedom of speech. I prayed to God and I was released and life is a bit fair compared to life in prison and I hope I will soon go back to my normal life

I would like to thank Art for Children Uganda and War Child Holland for their program which changed so much while in prison. The BIG DEAL help me in problem solving, forgiveness, I didn't go to school and never knew how to write my name but I can now read and write and my life has change and I can socialize with other people especially my fellow inmates while in prison. I also want to thank ACU for helping me to reinstate my business and with vocational skill on tailoring that I learnt while in prison. I think this will help me to come back to my normal life and I can continue paying my daughters' schools fees.

To my fellow youth avoid things that make you get in conflict with the law

Photo withheld on
request

My name is Olake Bob 22 years, I come from Bar Onger Village, Bar Onger Parish, Railway Division, Lira Municipality, Lira District

Before I was arrested and brought to prison, I was a builder. I have a wife and 3 dependants that I look after them. Due to family hatred, I was accused, arrested and charged with rape

When I was imprisoned, my family got disorganized, the children I use to pay them school fees missed school for the period of 2 years that I was in prison. I experience that prison is hell of

life. I was treated roughly, mixed with hard criminals, forced Labour and lack of freedom. Life was hard for me and I knew my life as come to the end against my will.

Now that am out, I see that my life has change and I now have hope as a youth I will make my life better for me and my family. Prison life taught me how young people should handle life. Young people should listen to their parents/elders. Prison is not meant for you don't try to go there

I would to Art for Children Uganda for helping me while in prison by teaching me how to forgive people, how to handle conflict, how to deal with emotion, how to stay with people and above all, they brought me back home and unite me with my family members and the complainant.



My name is Emol Quinto, am 26 years old, I come from Olengo 'B' LC 1 Akwangkel parish, Alooi sub-county, Alebtong district.

Before I was arrested, my life was easy. I was an electronic technician and I used to repair mobile phones, Radios, TVs and wiring electronic lines in houses. This work made me my life easy

Life in prison was hard. I was torture by my fellow prisoners, poor feeding and crowded rooms with poor ventilation. When Art for children Uganda started visiting with their programs, I leaned forgive is key in reconciliation, have learnt how to handle my emotions, understand my rights and responsibilities, have also learn how to make and choose good friend and conflict resolution

When I came out of prison, I went back and found my home disorganized, my wife had got married to another man. My tools and equipments were not there anymore and my houses had collapsed. Life was yet again difficult because I had no where to begin from. Art for Children Uganda supported me with tools to start my business and am proud that am leading a successful life. The tools has helped me generate some income which am using it to build my new house and begin a new life.

To my fellow youth, prevent yourself from crimes. Avoid things that can make you go to prison, choose good friends, do not admire to get what you can't get and avoid drinking.



Am Abale Robert a Ugandan by nationality, 22 years old. I come from Bar Opuu village, Boroboro parish, Adekokwok sub-county Erute, Lira district. Am married with four children (3 boys and 1 girl). Before I went to prison, I was a peasant farmer and I used to do some small business to supplement my farming to sustain my family. I used to live a good life and socially interact with people but incidentally I found myself in prison due to circumstances beyond my control

I went to prison on matter of land conflict /wrangle. While in prison, I was harassed by my fellow prisoners, I even got scabies, poor food and forced labour. My being in prison has deteriorated me and my family. My children did not continue with their studies during my absence and all my animals were stolen. Prison changed me positively and I will work hard and double my effort to make my life better.

With all these, I am now appealing to my fellow friends and every one that they should stay well with the society so that they should not get in conflict with the law.

I therefore would like to thank Art for Children Uganda and War Child Holland for their assistance toward my coming out of prison. I am very grateful for the ox-plough which was given to me, I believe I will use it properly for the good of my family. May God bless the administration of Art for Children Uganda.