

Foundation for Inclusive Community Help (FICH)



PROJECT OVERVIEW

Introduction/project background

Foundation for Inclusive Community Help (FICH) formerly known as Fight to Improve Community Health is a vibrant grassroot organization based in Loro-Alidi, Oyam District, Northern Uganda.

FICH's program provides second chance education for youth and livelihood skills development while promoting group savings through Village Savings and Loan Associations and entrepreneurship trainings. The organization works with beneficiaries in gaining admissions into public schools and support student with learning materials. FICH provide orientation for the teachers in the schools were beneficiaries attend to equip them with psychosocial & counseling skills, Reproductive health information to help them in addressing some special needs of the beneficiaries to help them stay in school. Some beneficiaries are trained in processing Soya Flour for income and health benefits in the community. FICH also spends significant amount of time organizing community and school outreach programs.

These programs are tailored to meet specific needs to boost agricultural production, value addition, startup equipment, support micro-enterprise initiatives, HIV/AIDS, Hygiene and Sanitation awareness creation and enhance a vulnerable community's access to sustainable sources of income for health benefits.

Goal:

- Overcoming barriers to access, retention, learning and progression for adolescent girls in and out of secondary schools.
- Promoting employment and decent work among youth and innovative thinking for income generation.

Project objectives

- To increase access and utilization of reproductive health services among the youth
- To improve access, retention, learning and progression of adolescent girls in and out of school learning environment.
- To increase employability and incomes from entrepreneurship and business management skills.

Project Implementation Strategies

Trainings: FICH is equipping beneficiaries with entrepreneurial and business management skills using ILO Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) program, skills development in soya flour production for both income and health benefits, and life skills development through technical and 5D cycle of Dream, **Discover** who they are, **Dream** about what they want to become, **Design** ways of achieving those dreams and **Develop** key skills that lead them to rewarding **Destiny**.

Partnership: FICH seeks to maintain scale up the levels of partnership and initiates new partners for project sustainability.

Stakeholder engagement: FICH seeks to work and engage with stakeholders at all levels. These among others includes District, Ministries, Technical teams, Line Ministries, National networks, private sector, development partners among others.

Policy Influencing: A key strategy that FICH uses the pro-active means to influence policy at local and national levels. FICH engages households based researches in the area of education, employment and health for social action in the community.

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Key Project Activities

- Developing and strengthening peer to peer groups for skills development.
- Providing psychosocial and counselling
- Training on entrepreneurship and business management
- Providing information on reproductive health rights, HIV/AIDS, Hygiene and Sanitation
- Promoting nutrition products like soya flour
- Sponsorship and mentoring for in and out of schools girls
- Training (e.g. sanitary pads, shoe making etc.) and provision of startup material, equipment & tools for beneficiaries.

Key Project Outputs

- ✓ Girls are going back to school, staying in school and finishing their study.
- ✓ Girls are receiving psychosocial support, counseling and guidance.
- ✓ Reproductive health information being disseminated among beneficiaries.
- ✓ Mentoring program in and out of secondary school are conducted.
- ✓ Beneficiaries are receiving practical vocational, entrepreneurship and business management skills development.
- ✓ Mentors are oriented and trained to support the girls in life skills development and psychosocial
- ✓ Livelihood support are provided to beneficiaries

- ✓ Beneficiaries are receiving learning materials and sanitary towels
- ✓ Entrepreneurship and business management training provided

Anticipated project outcomes

- Improved access to secondary school & vocational studies for 'in-school' & out of school girls
- Improved retention and learning of girls in school.
- Improved livelihood skills training opportunities for 'out of school' girls.
- Improved progression and better trauma management for the girls.
- Increased household income and employment creation
- Access to better healthcare services as a result of availability of finances and resources.

Funder:

1. International Labour Organisation
2. Global Fund for Children

Total project Costs:

\$ 34,000

Project duration (years); Start and finish dates/year

Start Date:

- ILO 2015
- Global Fund for Children 2014

End Date:

- ILO December 2016
- Global Fund for Children December 2017

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