



THE ALBINO PROJECT UGANDA

Rescue, Restore, Rebuild and protect for a better generation of Persons with Albinism

2014 ANNUAL REPORT THE ALBINO PROJECT



SITE FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM (SCOSP) IN UGANDA

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Empowering the Vulnerable groups of people in the community for Development



Prosper with his Teacher in class



Ivan leads his class in English



Evelyne is now in safe hands



Annet working hard during her computer training



Children received hygiene & school supplies



15 children got sun glasses –
Natasha above is one of them.



Halerimana worked hard to succeed in Senior 4

1.0 Introduction and Overview

Site for community Services Program (SCSOP) is a Not for Profit Community Based Organization registration Number#1123 in Uganda.

Vision: SCOSP envisions a Community in which the vulnerable groups of people are empowered for Development.

Mission: SCOSP Exist to support and coordinate efforts of the marginalized and destitute people in the community to improve the quality of their lives.



1.1 Some of the Misconceptions about People with Albinism (PWA).

-PWA don't die, that they just disappear

-Having sexual intercourse with PWA cures AIDS and also creates wealth, for this reason most of these albino females are sexually harassed.

-Children born with albinism cause curses of poverty and death of the head of the to the families and for this false belief most women who give birth to children with albinism have been deserted, chased or sent away from their marital homes.

- Body parts of people with albinism if mixed with magic portions create wealth, for this reason, the albinos suffer through; mutilation, murder and trafficking for wealth. Further on this, the graves of the albinos were vandalized in some parts of Africa.

1.2 Summary of Achievements



The year 2014 was characterized by several actions and processes in the social and

economic context that shaped the implementation of the albino Program Uganda.

Children Living With Albinism (CLWA) live in fear for their lives because of the harmful socio cultural practices that put their lives; in danger and even at a loss. The most common practices in Africa are Magic ritual murder and Sacrifice for body parts, trafficking, discrimination, Neglect and attacks.

In 2014 a total number of 15 CLWA were rescued, offered psychosocial support, offered protection and education and placed in safe homes. Another child (Betty) was received and also offered shelter, protection and education. This number was added to the 15 children that were rescued and offered protection, shelter, clothes, food and education in 2013.

This brought the total number of children supported under the Albino project to 31 by December 2014. SCOSP has also sought legal action and action has been taken for cases of sexual gender based violence on the lives of children with albinism.

2 Albino children have completed and graduated from Senior four and they will be joining Higher Advance Education. 1 albino girl is undertaking vocational studies.

2 Albino children under our program have been linked and participated in trainings of HIV/AIDS Care as Community peer educators. 1 of the albinos is doing a Bachelor of Public Administration and Management and she has also worked with scosp as an interne after her computer training.



Social inclusion of albino children in schools for quality life



Equipped children with necessary requirements to enjoy school. Joram, Kirabo and Guidance are smiling because of this great opportunity.

2.0 Education



SCOSP is a unique charity organization in Uganda that is instrumental in conducting the only existing Educational Outreaches for children and youth with Albinism as a means of empowering them to be self reliant for a better future.

We continue to provide educational and vocational support to albino children and young adults. We are increasing opportunities by

fronting the vulnerable albino children child and young adult in the decision-making process about their future.

We emphasize and put education for children first because high quality and decent education is the key element in transforming albino children's efficiency to improve their lives.

At scosp we believe that education if the right of every child but unfortunately, Children with Albinism do not have a chance to enjoy this right among others. Free high quality, decent

and inclusive education was and is still provided to CLWA. Children with Albinism don't enjoy the right to education, food, shelter, basic health care, respect, and love and SCOSP is also addressing this gap.

3 albino children of school going age had never had an opportunity to be in school but rather their father wanted to behead them because he falsely believed that they were bringing a curse of poverty in his home.

Computer Training Program for Children living with albinism is part of the vocational training program to equip them with employability skills. Annet is working hard at her computer training



3.0 Rescue and Protection of CLWA



16 other children were also placed in safe homes. 4 of these children were chased from the second home where we had placed them forcing scosp to rent for them a house where they continued receiving food supplies and hygiene products. The space around this place is being used for agriculture and so far beans have been harvested which the children are eating at their school.

1 girl child was rescued from the shrine of a witch doctor who was keeping her for bloodletting and she was urgently given medical care, placed in a safe home with the scosp staff.



A place was sought at a school where she did her entry exams and she passed to start school again for first term 2015.

After the successful Rescue of 10 albino children in mid 2014, 2 student albino youth of the rescued completed O'level (Senior four) and passed their Uganda National Certificate of Education Examinations and will be joining the next level of education after career guidance in 2015.

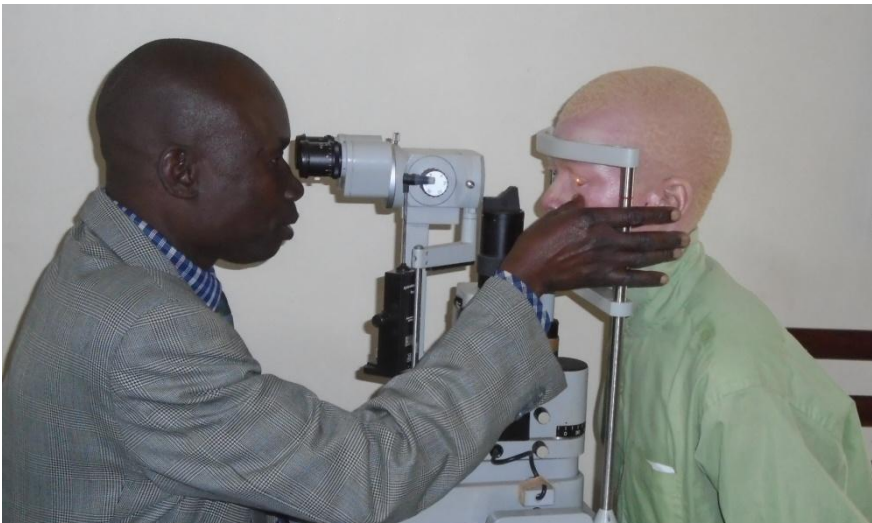


4.0 Medical Care & Welfare

4 Baby Children with Albinism also received welfare and support in form nutritious food supplies, shelter, clothes, hygiene products and 1 of them will join a day care in 2015.

Medical care was provided 13 children as means of urgent attention to ensuring good health of

children with Albinism. Mostly the children suffered from Malaria but there were other health related issues like tooth decay which was also treated.



Bruno is 1 of the 16 children that underwent a Diagnosis for Nystagmus



1 of the 4 baby albino children that received medical care and welfare

6.0 Nutrition and feeding



SCOSP continued the supply nutritious food to the children in the safe homes and nutritious food was also provided at school because it is essential for every child's academic performance.

All our children thus excelled and performed well and were promoted to different upper classes and thus in 2015, they will be in new upper classes.



7.0 Staffing levels

During the staff restructuring, 2 staff left us in 2014 and we had one Internee who completed her internship.

Currently SCOSP has 5 staff and we are gender sensitive when staffing.

8.0 Visibility/Media Engagement

Through awareness Campaigns on local fm radios, the press and community outreaches and at local community meetings we are changing the people's attitudes towards children and people with albinism.

Father attempts to kill his four children for being albinos

BY ROBERT MUHEREZA
editorial@ug.netonmedia.com

KABALE. For bringing shame to his family, a father of nine in Kabale District has been accused by his wife of attempting to kill four of their children. Their crime – they were born albinos.

The mother, Ms Medius Kyarisima, 50, says she had no choice but to flee her marital home in Kinyamari Butanda Sub-county and take refuge at her mother's place in the neighbouring sub-county of Bufundi.

"Last month, my husband Godfrey Ndabahwerize threatened to kill our four Albino children, saying they were a disgrace to his family," she said.

"When I tried to reason with him, he picked a panga and cut me on the right side of my nose. I packed my

belongings and those of my albino children and we went to my mother's place for refuge," she adds.

Mr Barnett Champion, the Butanda Sub-county chairperson, who is privy to the family's misunderstandings, said Ms Kyarisima complained to the authorities and they were still looking for Mr Ndabahwerize. The sub-county boss explained, however, that the husband may be having a mental disturbance.

Ms Kyarisima's anguish, however, is not just to sustain the four albino children; she has five others to take care of. She is now looking to well-wishers for financial support to help her raise her children.

Ms Kyarisima prays that she raises money to purchase land to grow food to feed the children and be able to take them back to school.

The reporter failed to get Mr Ndabahwerize's side of the story because he was reported on the run after local authorities began looking for him.

On May 22, staff of the National Social Security Fund Kabale branch



Ms Medius Kyarisima (L) and her children at their grandmothers home in Bufundi Sub-county in Kabale District after receiving donations from National Social Security Fund officials recently. PHOTO BY ROBERT MUHEREZA

director of Site for Community Services Project, a local NGO operating in Kigezi sub region.

"We feel extremely touched by the current conditions you are living in. We also feel sorry that your husband has turned violent against you and

not protect themselves from direct sunlight.

The family may also need a cow to provide milk to boost the immunity of her children.

Mr Sabiti said at least 25 albinos living in Kabale and Kisoro districts

Author Angelo

KAMPALA. Author, renowned rights activist, breathed her last home in Winston-Salem, North Carolina in the US.

The 86-year-old, one of the most prominent of our time, has been battling cancer. Born Marguerite at St Louis, Missouri in 1928, Angelou's 1969 memoir *Cage bird sings*.

The victim of childhood, her experience of discrimination, troubled family on to inspire a series of quotes, poems and

In Uganda's literature, she was described as

"She is significant literature to liberate black race from the complex, but the world of hatred. Her work is a spiritual one to rise above. Dr Danson Kanungu, the department

ABOUT THE CHILDREN

The children -- Unity Mukyotera, 15, in P5 at

Our second achievement on this was the contributions to the redesigning conventions and eliminates false beliefs of the non-humanity of albinos through documentation of attacks on children with albinism which were submitted to the United Nations.

We are Fight discrimination and segregation/social isolation by breaking the barriers and bringing children to schools and from where they were held in suffering. We are instrumental in progressively eliminating the barriers for further social and work inclusion.

SCOSP has been instrumental in increasing Visibility in the Media. At least all radios in western Uganda have aired out our interventions in the rescue and protection of children with albinism. At least two media articles have been published in the print media.

Father attempts to kill his children for being Albinos.

6 Community dialogues sessions have been held. They were aimed at making Social and cultural awareness campaigns which key factors to eliminate barbaric and archaic practices, such as murdering, mutilation, abuse, and discrimination through community outreaches. These were targeting especially to the extended family of the albinos, that they are also human beings and can be useful citizens if they are accorded the necessary support that they need.



The goals and initiatives to be pursued by Site for Community Services Program with her Partners in Uganda for the Albino Program consist of Awareness Campaigns, Educational Outreaches and Advocacy. We are providing a support in knowledge sharing for local, vulnerable populations of albinos. We are sharing Knowledge on parenting skills, Counseling and support for families of baby albinos. Through community Outreaches we conduct mobilization of public opinion, through awareness campaigns, to ensure the safety of these vulnerable individuals, and guarantee the observance and effectiveness of their universal human rights.



Due to awareness creation the media houses and government department (NSSF) recognized our work and joined the SCOSP team on one of the community outreach.

This media engagement has created awareness and informed the world about the existence and suffering of children with albinism. Local Ugandan Televisions have also started telecasting cases and challenges of people with albinism.

This media engagement has led to the publication of 2 articles in the National Newspapers. Read the articles below:

Albinos in Kabale living in fear due to increased demand for body parts in Rwanda and Tanzania.

<http://ugandaradionetwork.com/a/story.php?s=63891>

Father attempts to Murder his children for being albinos.

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Father-attempts-to-kill-his-four-children-for-being-albinos/-/688334/2329758/-/g56m7sz/-/index.html>

9.0 Challenges, Lessons learnt and recommendations for future engagements.

Monitoring and documentation needs to be stepped up if SCOSP is to compete in the acquisition of resources.

Robust monitoring and evaluation with clear indicators is a must. The indicators should later be monitored and updated during project implementation, this way proper documentation will be achieved.

There is a need to step up the awareness and advocacy campaigns.

