



Marianne Foundation for Youth Development- Ibanda (MFYDE) Final Report, January 2021





INTRODUCTION

Organization Name:		Marianne Foundation for Youth Development	
Organization Local Contact:		Justus Ahimbisibwe ahimbisibwejustus@gmail.com	Report Date: 2 nd Jan 2021
Organization International Contact:		Clare Killian (Director – International Relations) clare.killian2@gmail.com	
Country:		Uganda	
Project / Program Name:		Provision of pads to women and girls in refugee camps	
Email:	Fyde.org@gmail.com	Website: www.mariannefoundation.com	Facebook: Marianne Foundation Uganda
Donors:	Global Giving – donations acquired through social media campaigns, foundation partners, and other friends of the directors	Project Status:	On Going

Marianne Foundation for Youth Development (MFYDe) is an indigenous, community-based Not For Profit organization working in western Uganda. We use right-based approaches in our programming whereby communities identify their own challenges. Through rural performance appraisal, we agree with communities what role they can play in solving their own challenges and we work to identify partners who can help us help these communities live better. Right based approach also has an emphasis on the fact that every problem should be looked at as a right and therefore the communities themselves make sure that their right is enjoyed. In our work, we relate the challenges that affect communities and encourage the communities to believe that it's their right to get access to what they don't have. The communities are always encouraged to take the first step towards solving their challenges. This has created a bottom up planning for all our projects. Our projects are community driven. We focus on women empowerment both health, economic, political and social empowerment.



Our Mission:

To empower rural youth and women to lead their communities in innovating appropriate solutions to their own challenges through mobilization, training, and expedient partnership development.

Our Vision:

Marianne Foundation envisions ‘an economically independent community sustaining itself through utilization and conservation of its own resources’.

Project Background:

The project was funded through Global Giving 2020 Accelerator. The project aims at skilling girls and providing 2000 reusable menstrual pads to refugee girls and women in vulnerable situations within the refugee communities of Rwamwanja Refugee settlement in western Uganda.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

No.	Task/Project	Description	People Impacted
1	Selection of girls to be trained in making pads	Due to COVID 19, the selection was done scientifically. We used community volunteers in the refugee settlement. The selected first 5 girls were selected under the Lutheran congregation that is located in the refugee settlement.	10 girls
2	Training in making pads	<p>We transferred the girls from their refugee settlements to our training center in Ibanda.</p> <p>They trained for two and a half months. They went for Christmas holidays and they are coming back for training from 18th January.</p> <p>During the training, we managed to feed them, accommodate them, transport them back.</p> <p>We also trained them in menstrual health and hygiene</p>	10 girls
3	Pads distribution and sales	<p>As of Dec 31st, we have so far cumulatively distributed 2500 pads during the year</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Run for girls marathon Pads; 600 Pads. These were distributed during the total lockdown. They targeted girls who were locked in their homes, without schooling and yet all their parents had no income to even buy food. Due to the pandemic, menstruation supplies were seen as non-essential despite the fact the menstruation does not stop even under pandemic. Using proceeds raised during our 2020 women's day run, we reached out to 300 girls with each a pair of pads. 2. Pads for refugee project: under this, Ellen from Washington sent funds to support the production for sell project. Selling wasn't easy during the lock down but we got few community people who bought a lot of the pads to distribute. Hon. Frank Tumwebaze, the Member of Parliament, under the refugee camp, bought 3000 pads for 1500 girls and women in Refugees and entire Kibaale County, Grace Kesande, who is the woman MP for Rubirizi district, bought 4000 pads for her 2000 women in her area. Locally, our target or point of sell was at different schools but we failed. We sold 202 pads in the villages near our skills center. 	8,402 pads distributed to 4201 women. Each woman or young girl always gets 2 reusable menstrual pads enough for a whole year if taken care of very well



		3. Global Giving Project: We have so far supplied 802 Pads specifically to refugee communities. We have done one training in Menstrual Health and Hygiene.	
4	Procurement of sewing machines	We have so far bought 5 sewing machines for the girls and more are arriving this January. Training is also going to be shifted to the refugee settlement since transportation, feeding the girls is highly expensive.	
5		1 trainer is employed to teach these girls.	1
6	Home visits		
		Total direct beneficiaries	4,212



Pad distribution



Girls attending a training at Marianne skills center



CHALLENGES

- **Transportation** is a challenge. The organization has no car even a motorcycle. Traveling in public put every member of our foundation at the risk of the COVID 19 pandemic. We will keep praying that friends and partners can fundraise for a simple means of transport.
- Due to **COVID 19**, we are only allowed to have 10 girls on training with strict regulations. This becomes a challenge in implementing of the project and makes every expenditure more expensive than what had been projected.
- There are other needs in the area of operations like no livelihoods to the caregivers of the girls from refugee communities, need for other interventions are urgently needed like family planning interventions in the refugee camps, maternal mortality, etcetera, which need interventions. **We hope to submit proposals on maternal mortality, family planning and family economic empowerment this year.**

FUTURE PLANS

- Ahimbisibwe Justus truly guides all of this work and is a crucial to developing these programs. Therefore, we would like to gain funding to be able to provide him with a salary of 150 USD per month.
- Begin women economic, social and health empowerment programs in the refugee settlement
- Continue fundraising at Global Giving to hit 7000 USD target for the pads project
- Procure vehicle for transportation of staff to conduct field work
- Fundraise to raise money for family planning project in Nakivaale and Rwamwanza refugee settlement
- Conduct quality improvement and quality assurance of our pads for launching on a competitive local market



Projected funds for the future plans

Activity	Projected funding required (USD)
Monthly salary for Ahimbisibwe Justus	150 per month
Begin women economic, social and health empowerment programs in the refugee settlement	5000
Continue fundraising at Global Giving to hit 7000 USD target for the pads project	2000
Procure vehicle for transportation of staff to conduct field work	5000
Fundraise to raise money for family planning project in Nakivaale and Rwamwanza refugee settlement (includes construction of a health center in one of the settlement)	50,000
Conduct quality improvement and quality assurance of our pads for launching on a competitive National market	5000
Total Projected	67,000 + 150/month for salary

Expenditures to date

Expenditure	Total USD
Materials	3000
Training fees	450
Sewing machines	2000
Transportation of girls to the skills center (at the start of the training period and at break for holidays), including vehicle hire	250
Feeding	1200
Home visits to families and pad distribution	300
Total Projected	7200



CONCLUSIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Wendy of Global Giving, our development Director, Clare Killian and all her friends for the recent project, and Bridget Killian for the development of the logo for EmpowerPads. We thank Ahimbisibwe Justus for his tireless efforts to support and empower young women and girls in addressing inequities in their communities. Justus is truly an inspiration to us all. Please know that the all the girls under the skilling program, the women that received pads, all acknowledge your efforts in solving their menstrual health challenges. We thank and appreciate all of the girls and women who have participated in our programming and hope to continue to build a fruitful relationship with these communities.

Thank you for trusting Marianne Foundation amidst COVID 19 pandemic around the world. We promise never to take this trust for granted. We will forever treasure this trust and build on it to impact the current generation so that the many generations to come will find our communities in a better place to live in. The words of Johan Wolfgang are always good to us *“The world is so empty if one thinks of only mountains, rivers and cities; but to know someone who THINKS and FEELS with us, and who though DISTANT, is close to us in spirit, this makes the earth for us an inhabited garden!”*

If you would like to donate, partner with us in any of our future plans, learn more about our programs, or have any questions please feel free to reach out to Ahimbisibwe Justus (ahimbisibwejustus@gmail.com) or Clare Killian (clare.killian2@gmail.com).



Home Visits during the festive season and distribution of family support and pads



Our product
(thank you to Bridget Killian for
developing the EmpowerPads logo)



**Marianne women groups remain major focus for sustainable family based empowerment.
We plan to develop the first women bank in our region.**

