

ChildCare Foundation (CCF)

Inclusive Futures: Education & Protection for Children with Disabilities in Uganda

GlobalGiving Project Concept · Mayuge District, Uganda

Project Overview

Project title: Inclusive Futures Education & Protection for Children with Disabilities in Uganda

Organization: ChildCare Foundation (CCF)

Location: Mayuge District and Jinja, Uganda

Project stage: Existing program, seeking funding to scale

Focus area: Disability-inclusive education, healthcare, and protection

Project summary

Across Uganda, children with disabilities face compounding barriers to education, healthcare, and safety. In Mayuge District and the wider Jinja region, ChildCare Foundation is tackling these challenges through a holistic program that removes financial barriers to schooling, trains teachers in inclusive methods, delivers healthcare and protective supplies to children with albinism, and advocates fiercely for the rights and safety of every child—especially girls with disabilities who are at the highest risk of exploitation and violence.

The Problem

Uganda, like much of sub-Saharan Africa, carries a heavy burden of exclusion for persons with disabilities. Globally, the World Health Organization estimates that approximately 1.3 billion people around 16% of the global population live with a significant disability. In Uganda's Jinja District and neighboring communities, the faces behind these statistics are children: sitting at home instead of classrooms, walking past health clinics they cannot access and enduring harm that often goes unnamed and unpunished.

Barriers to education

- School fees, uniforms and learning materials remain out of reach for families living in poverty effectively locking children with disabilities out of classrooms.
- Many mainstream schools lack teachers trained in disability-inclusive pedagogy leaving children who do attend unsupported and marginalized.
- Physical inaccessibility of school premises further excludes children with mobility impairments.

Health vulnerability, children with albinism

- Children with albinism face severe sun sensitivity, yet sunscreen a medically essential item remains prohibitively expensive for most families in Uganda.
- Without protective supplies and proper medical care, these children face serious and preventable health consequences compounding their exclusion from school and community life.
- Harmful cultural myths surrounding albinism have in some cases led to discrimination, violence and loss of life.

Violence and exploitation

- A documented pattern of exploitation has emerged in which girls with disabilities are targeted at night by able-bodied men, left pregnant and abandoned, traumatized and too frightened or confused to name their abusers.
- Research confirms that children and teenagers with disabilities are significantly more likely than their non-disabled peers to experience emotional, physical or sexual violence.
- For women and girls with disabilities, limited mobility makes escaping abusive situations harder, social stigma silences survivors and discrimination from service providers reduces access to justice.
- The consequences are devastating: many girls drop out of school after abuse, trapping them in cycles of poverty and marginalization. Uganda loses an estimated Shs 31 trillion annually due to the broader impact of gender-based violence.

Our Solution

ChildCare Foundation's Inclusive Futures program addresses these interconnected challenges through four integrated pillars, working in partnership with local schools, healthcare providers, community groups and families.

Pillar 1 — School access & retention

CCF removes the financial and material barriers that keep children with disabilities out of school, covering school fees, learning materials, uniforms and transport where needed. No child should be excluded because their family cannot afford to send them.

Pillar 2 — Inclusive teacher training

CCF equips teachers with disability-inclusive pedagogy skills ensuring that children who do enroll receive quality instruction, respectful treatment and the individual support they need to learn and thrive.

Pillar 3 — Healthcare & protective outreach

Through regular free healthcare outreach in Mayuge District, CCF provides medical care and essential protective supplies including sunscreen, sunglasses, and lotions to children with albinism and others with health-related needs. These services bridge critical gaps left by the formal healthcare system.

Pillar 4 — Advocacy, protection & community change

CCF challenges harmful cultural myths, raises awareness on disability rights and gender-based violence and works with community leaders, families and local organisations to create safer, more inclusive environments. This includes direct advocacy for girls and women with disabilities who are most at risk.

The Story We Are Telling

Imagine a girl in Mayuge District born with albinism. Without sunscreen, every school day under Uganda's fierce sun is a medical risk. Without a school fee, the classroom door is closed to her. Without a teacher who understands her condition, she sits silently at the back, invisible. And at night, she is vulnerable in ways she does not yet have the words to describe.

ChildCare Foundation removes every one of those barriers. We pay her school fees. We put sunscreen in her hands. We train her teacher. We stand in her community and say: this child has rights and we will defend them.

This is not one child's story. It is the story of thousands of children across Mayuge and Jinja children whose potential is intact, whose futures are possible and who need the world to show up for them.

Outcomes & Indicators

CCF's Inclusive Futures program tracks progress across five outcome areas, aligned with GlobalGiving's reporting requirements and international frameworks including the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and Sustainable Development Goals 4, 10, and 16.

Outcome area	Key indicators	Reporting frequency
1. School access & retention	80-100 children with disabilities enrolled through CCF; 40% reduction in dropout rates; 80 children receiving school materials	Annually
2. Inclusive education quality	20-30 teachers trained in disability-inclusive pedagogy; 60% applying inclusive methods (classroom observation); Reported learning improvement	Bi-annually
3. Health & protective care	100 children receiving healthcare outreach; 80% children with albinism receiving sunscreen & supplies per cycle 60% Reported wellbeing improvement	Per outreach cycle
4. Community safety & inclusion	10-15 community awareness sessions held 300-500 people reached with disability rights messaging 50% Reported reduction in discrimination incidents	Quarterly
5. Protection from violence	80-100 girls/women with disabilities reached by GBV awareness 100% cases referred to support services 60% increase in community awareness of reporting channels	Quarterly

Why ChildCare Foundation

CCF is not an organisation that parachutes into communities. We are embedded in them. We work with schools, healthcare providers, community groups and local leaders because we know that lasting change happens through partnership, not imposition. Our healthcare outreach in different District, our advocacy for persons with albinism and our work with vulnerable women and girls all reflect a single conviction: that every person, regardless of ability or condition deserves dignity, safety and opportunity.

We welcome like-minded partners, donors and collaborators to join us in building stronger communities and brighter futures for all.

A Note on Fundraising Goal

CCF recommends setting an initial GlobalGiving target in the range of \$15,000–\$30,000, representing support for approximately 50–100 children over a 12-month project cycle. This is a credible, achievable goal for a first GlobalGiving campaign and allows CCF to demonstrate measurable results before scaling. A specific per-child cost breakdown (school fees, supplies, healthcare per child) should be added once internal programme budgets are confirmed.