



# Kawempe Youth Centre Newsletter

## LIBRARIES & ICT: THE LOCAL PROJECT

By Esther Kyazike Ginda, KYC CEO

KYC is among the 10 libraries to benefit from the Local Content for African Libraries (LOCAL) project that is being piloted by Worldreader in partnership with National Library of Uganda (NLU) from May 2018 – May 2019. Worldreader's mission is to create a world where everyone is a reader through; building on digital platforms and mobile connectivity in the developing world to make books available to children, schools, libraries, communities and families who need them the most. It is a global nonprofit dedicated to transforming reading using technology.

The main objective of the LOCAL project is to promote digital reading for children in a language they understand. The project is designed to reach children up to the age of 12; and it is to be implemented by

selected libraries in Uganda. Each library will receive 50 e-readers loaded with 200 books. The project main activities include;

- Provision of local books through a publisher and librarian inclusive model
- Deployment of digital books and activities to libraries
- Development of a digital toolkit to help replicate the deployment of digital books and activities.

From 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Librarians from the selected libraries attended an orientation training on accessing and promoting reading through technology. Another training will take place in September 2018.●



## LIBRARIES & ICT: CLASSROOM SKYPE COLLABORATION

By Amia Catherine

Classroom collaborations are a way of making learning more interesting and exciting virtually hence breaking physical boundaries. KYC Uganda was privileged to connect pupils from one of our mobile library schools, (Life Care Primary school) with a school in New York (one of the Ardsley schools) through classroom Skype collaborations for Global Goals. Pupils learnt about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and were able to learn more about diversities. Pupils from the school in Uganda shared about the five regions in the country and the different traditional dances, not forgetting cultural beliefs and traditions among others. Some of the benefits of such collaborations are; they improve social interactions and supports diversity, fosters the development of interpersonal relationships and they also contribute to the development of oral communication skills. Collaborative classrooms also create an environment for Students to build their self-esteem and enhance students' satisfaction with the learning experience.●



## AFRICAN STORY BOOK PROJECT (ASB):

In May 2018, Dr. Gulere trained KYC in publishing for children through ASB which is a literacy initiative that provides openly licensed picture storybooks for early reading in several languages in Africa. The platform has an interactive website that enables users to read, create, download and adapt stories. New stories that the staff published include; Abaana b'ebisasalala, Ebinazzi, Gonya ne Wambwa.●



KYC Staff with Dr. Gulere

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## CELEBRATING ADVOCACY DAYS:

### D.E.A.R DAY IN THE COMMUNITY *By Bulyaba Ruth*

Reading is so fun. However, a trip to the library is not the only way to keep children interested in reading. This time round, KYC carried books and other learning materials to the community for children to engage in during the Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) day 2018. Children were engaged in various activities such as story reading, shading and making photo frames out of their shaded pieces with the help of material from old hard cover books. They excitedly decorated their frames with glitters, stickers, colors and all that they could find to make the best Frame ever. Such activities enhance children's concentration, develop children's imagination and creativity, they are also a form of entertainment. ●



### WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018:

To celebrate World Environment Day, KYC Uganda staff (Leonard Musolooza and Ruth Nakabuuka) conducted a Climate Action session with young people under the 2018 theme "Beat Plastic Pollution. Libraries are well positioned to raise awareness on such issues and engage communities to take action on climate change. ●



## KNOW YOUR 2030 GOALS:

By Amia Catherine

Since KYC became an official member of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)-Youth, efforts are being made to raise awareness on the UN2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to inspire young people and community leaders to take action on the goals for Sustainable Development. From January to April 2018, KYC facilitated Roundtable meetings for young people to empower them with indepth knowledge about the goals and how they can contribute to achieving them. As an action, the young people were tasked to come up with community projects ideas which will be implemented when funding and or support is available. We look forward to further engagements that will enable young people take action the goals. ●



## KYC PARTICIPATES IN THE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP.

According to Fortune for Africa, Kampala city generates about 1,200 – 1,500 tonnes of garbage on a daily basis. From this, Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA) collects about 400 -500 tonnes of garbage on a daily basis, leaving about 60% of the garbage uncollected. As part of our social corporate responsibility, KYC participated in the clean up process of Kizza zone community. ●



"A clean environment, a clear Mind."

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## COMMUNITY HEALTH OUTREACH:

*By Nakabuuka Ruth & Musolooza Leonard*

### HEALTH SESSION ON HEART DEFECTS

***Did you know that dental problems affect the normal functioning of the heart!!!***

According to Lewis T., “The human heart is an organ that pumps blood throughout the body via the circulatory system, supplying oxygen and nutrients to the tissues and removing carbon dioxide and other wastes.”



*Hilda Grace demonstrating the how the heart functions.*

The Heart is very important to the human body; when it's frail and weak, the body ceases to function perfectly.

We were blessed to have Hilda Grace Nalwanga, a volunteer from Omprakash who took community members through a health session on heart defects in children and how to identify them. So many questions about the defects were asked.

This was a very interesting subject and worth implementing again. ●

### MOSQUITO NETS' DISTRIBUTION:

KYC meeting community health needs through partnerships; mosquito net distribution to community members in partnership with local government. Such are some of the partnerships that libraries can initiate to reach out to communities. At least 1000 people turned up to receive the nets. ●



## CELEBRATING YOUNG PEOPLE

Once a volunteer, now a staff... When I started volunteering at KYC in 2010, I had no idea whatsoever that I would eventually become a full-time staff at the centre. I waited to join the university in 2013, after my Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) exams, but my chances of going back to school to pursue my dream career were close to zero.



However, an opportunity came through KYC's Organisational Capacity Building project that was being funded by Mirembe Foundation, that I got a scholarship to pursue a degree in Library and Information Science at the prestigious East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS), Makerere University. This was such an amazing opportunity for me; I was able to develop professionally and increase my expertise, build a network of experts and friends among others. In January 2018, I graduated together with Ruth Nakabuuka, once a KYC intern, and currently a staff at the centre.

This was one of the congratulatory messages from KYC C.E.O that ran on the KYC facebook page:

*“Congratulations Amia Catherine and Nakabuuka Ruth. I'm honoured to see you grow and develop in the library profession. I am proud to be part of a team that empowers young people.” ●*

**Thank you, Mirembe Foundation for supporting the young people of Uganda.**

## PARTNERSHIPS & ENGAGEMENTS

Working together in partnerships is a very crucial aspect of organizations. Partnerships create authenticity hence avoiding duplication of work, they bring memberships to a wider community of organizations standing for a given cause and they encourage the exchange and sharing of values and resources.

### BRASS FOR AFRICA



Music has the power to build confidence, broaden horizons and raise aspirations. It also allows vulnerable young people to find their way, take charge of their lives and unlock their potential. KYC is contributing to that through partnership with Brass for

Africa. ●

### PLAN INTERNATIONAL - SAFER CITIES GIRLS PROJECT

The project involves building inclusive and safe cities for adolescents with more focus on the girl child. Through the partnership, KYC's space was improved by paving the ground and building a 200-sitter shelter. KYC's space is now more inviting and attractive. ●



### ONLINE LEARNING CIRCLES TRAINING

In April 2018, KYC participated in The Learning Circles training organised and facilitated by Peer to Peer University (P2PU) in partnership with Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) and hosted by Mandeleo Foundation. Learning Circles is a highly participatory structure for organising group work. The aim of the workshop was to introduce the concept of Learning Circles to libraries and to train the librarians on how to facilitate the circles. The P2PU website offers a variety of free online courses which librarians can easily facilitate through a step by step approach. The courses which take at least 8 weeks are selected depending on users' information needs. ●

### HEAD TEACHER LIBRARY TRAINING

In June 2018, KYC facilitated a teachers in "Effective School Library Management and Literacy Skills Development" organized by KCCA at Ntinda School of the Deaf. 26 Government aided schools from Nakawa attended the training. ●



### READING ASSOCIATION OF UGANDA (RAU) WORKSHOP

In June 2018, RAU organized a workshop on **Promoting Literacy through Libraries**. KYC's CEO shared about how the library engages its patrons in all forms of literacy. In attendance were organizations such as; Twaweza, MangoTree, Summer Institute for Languages (SIL), among others. ●

