As a foster parent, I have had the opportunity to experience the joys of providing family-based alternative care for children who would otherwise not have had a chance to experience the love and support of a family. When we first brought Muwanguzi into our home, he was timid and unsure of himself. However, over time, he has blossomed into a confident and happy child who is full of energy.

One of the great joys of foster parenting is seeing firsthand how children can grow and thrive when they have a stable home environment and loving caregivers to guide them. Our family has worked hard to provide Muwanguzi with a sense of routine and structure, while also creating opportunities for him to explore his interests and connect with others in the community.

To see a child like Muwanguzi come into our home and flourish is a truly rewarding experience, and one that has enriched our lives immeasurably.

Fred Irumba
Community parent*
Uganda Celebrates Significant Milestone in Care Reform Journey

We are always thrilled to share how your support helps to make a significant difference and changes in lives.

In April 2023 we reached a significant milestone in the Tororo District, in the form of a responsive, community-led child protection system. Uganda launched Tororo District as a learning hub for Uganda and the region. This is a significant achievement in your efforts to support children in Uganda who live in residential care or institutions and whose families can be supported to look after them.

Together, we are committed to embracing change and leading the way in demonstrating that orphanages are not necessary and can be replaced by alternative care provisions.

This is a critical step in our care reform journey as studies have consistently shown that children thrive best in families, and research indicates that 80% of children living in orphanages have families they can return to. For Tororo, this is no longer just a dream, but a reality.

We are incredibly grateful for your support and for joining us on this incredible journey to ensure that every child in Uganda thrives in a safe, nurturing, and loving family.

“We believe that we can be able to maintain the child protection system and see to it that what has started can be continued.”

Susan Asemenye, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer, Tororo district.
Working hand in hand with communities and families, we create innovative solutions, to replace orphanages with more effective child protection systems.
Connecting Active Families and Communities

In today’s increasingly connected world, at the Child’s i Foundation we focus on the importance of building strong families and communities. Often Overlooked, the concept of a strong family and community is essential to a healthy, thriving and prosperous society. Strong families and communities are not only a source of emotional support, but also a source of economic stability.

The sense of belonging created from having a strong and empowered family makes it easier to access social services and other resources that are needed for improving their wellbeing. A strong community is key to a prosperous and healthy society. By fostering community ties in an environment of trust and collaboration, ensures a reduction in children and family separation. Together, we are creating a better society for all, by investing in our families and communities.

Working in partnership with community members and local governments, we create innovative solutions, tailored to the specific needs and contexts of children, to replace orphanages with more effective child protection systems.

Our Active Family and Community Support model (AFCS), has mobilised local communities and equipped them with the skills, resources and confidence to support families in need. This community-driven approach has enabled local solutions to the challenges facing families, such as developing alternative families solutions like kinship care and foster care for those children who require them. This has significantly strengthened families’ bonds and protected vulnerable children.

Child’s i Foundation works in partnership with national governments and other civil society organisations, ensuring that together we are creating communities that focus on and provide care, and protection for all children, making a positive and lasting impact on the lives of those we serve. We are committed to making families NOT orphans a reality.
It has been a privilege to care for Teddy. All one needs is to love the child.
MEET PETRA

Petra is a shining example of hope, compassion, love and family for children in need of foster care in Uganda. Opening her home and heart, providing love, support, and a sense of belonging to three children including one with disabilities.

A graduate of the Child’s i Foundation Foster Care programme, and approved by the District Alternative Care panel to be a foster carer. Petra welcomed Teddy, despite the pandemic, a child with complex needs, including Epilepsy and Down Syndrome, into her home.

Petra is providing Teddy with the best care and environment to thrive thanks to the support of her wider community. Teddy was warmly welcomed by her new siblings, their love and attention have been helping to continue to develop her fine motor skills and other movements.

Petra encourages other community members to follow her lead.
A Beacon of hard work and dedication in the Community

Norah is the definition of what hard work and dedication can achieve. Her passion for helping others has enabled her to become an emergency foster carer and an advocate for the well-being of children and families in the Tororo District.

As a Community Volunteer, she provides a safe environment for children and families, through, and combination of case referrals to the appropriate authorities, counselling, and advocating for their safety. She inspires those around her with her commitment to providing a safe and supportive environment.

Norah’s leadership is highly respected by her peers and community with many following her lead and becoming engaged in community service, stepping up to serve their community in the form of volunteers, foster carers, and Village Health Team members.

She has opened the door for others to contribute to making a difference in the lives of children. She continues to urge members of the community to come together to foster a child and provide them with the love and care they deserve.

Norah’s hard work, commitment and determination to unlock potential in others has seen her become a beacon of hope for her community. Each and everyday she continues to prove that with the right tools, training, support, and dedication, anyone can make a positive and lasting impact.

In the last six months, we have trained and supported 871 Community volunteers to identify vulnerable children in the community.
Your Impact in numbers

- **458** families supported with food, medical, education, and other assistance to ensure they stay together
- **751** Community volunteers trained and active in their communities
- **118** foster carers trained to provide a safe and loving home to children in need
- **13** children moved from orphanages and placed in safe and loving families
- **310** young people reached and supported by trained wellbeing champions
- **84** parents of children living with disabilities: trained on parenting, child rights and child protection
- **44** Community Development Networks monitored
- **34** foster carers approved by the local government to provide a safe and loving home to children in need
- **2** institutions supported to transition into community hubs
Sumaya is a determined, compassionate and passionate advocate for women and girls, particularly those who are marginalised and facing challenges. Drawing on her own experience of growing up in an orphanage has given her a deep and personal understanding and through her work as a social worker, she knows the importance of offering support and guidance to young adults in need.

As a graduate of Child’s i Foundation’s Mental Health Training programme, part of the youth wellbeing project, to educate social workers on using trauma-informed approaches. This training programme had such a profound impact on Sumaya, that she is now dedicated to using our Breaking the Cycle toolkit and her as well as her personal experience to support care leavers.

She is continuing to make a real and lasting difference in her community through her internship role at Catholic Relief Services and her active membership in the Association of Care Leavers Uganda (ACLU).

Like us at Child’s i Foundation, Sumaya believes that all social workers should have a good understanding of mental wellness and should use trauma-informed approaches when working with those in need.
Training of foster parents

Foster care training is essential for prospective foster parents to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children in need. It equips them with the necessary skills and knowledge to handle the challenges that come with fostering, including trauma-informed care, behaviour management, and legal requirements.

Our foster care model has been instrumental in providing children with stable and loving families, allowing them to thrive in a safe environment. With the help of dedicated foster parents and support from social workers, many children have been able to overcome adversity and achieve their full potential.

…”because of the foster care training, I have learned to prepare well and open up to my family about the child we are about to bring into the family.”

Nabukeera Cissy
Community parent
We hope that you have enjoyed reading our latest impact report, which shines a spotlight on the incredible contributions of our community parents, volunteers, government, civil society organisations, and supporters.

It celebrates those who offer love, stability, and support during times of great need to children and their families. We are deeply grateful for your unwavering commitment to our cause, and we take immense pride in sharing the inspiring stories of those who have truly made a difference in the lives of children within our community.

The report highlights the efforts of people like Petra, who provide safe and nurturing homes for children who can’t live with their biological families. We also pay tribute to community volunteers like Norah, who tirelessly contribute to our community-led child protection system, ensuring children's safety and well-being within their own families.

We are thrilled to feature stories of young people like Sumaya, who has firsthand experiences of care and have used their experiences to support others in their community who are facing trauma. We stand proudly alongside them, amplifying their voices and championing their resilience.

Last but not least, we are celebrating a significant milestone in Tororo’s care reform efforts. We hope this report inspired you, just as it did us. Thank you for being an integral part of our community.

With gratitude and love,

Christopher Muwanguzi
Chief Executive
Child’s i Foundation
Our strategic objectives:
1. Consolidate and champion good practice
2. Scale up through partnership and collaboration
3. Mobilise a mass movement for care reform through authentic and African voices

Our 2023-2030 strategy
Nearly half of the world’s children will live in Africa by the end of the century. In the continent with the highest level of poverty, there are numerous risk factors for family separation.

If the global movement for care reform is to be successful, change must be demonstrated and achieved in Africa.

Child’s i Foundation has been working in Uganda for more than a decade now to develop an evidence-based practice that will assist in shaping this change. We are extremely proud of what we have accomplished so far, which is far beyond what might have been expected for an organization of our size.

Having demonstrated that children should grow up with their families and not in orphanages, we are now ready to scale our impact.

Now is the time to make a change. This is the civil rights issue of our time.

It is our mission to bring African practice-based evidence to the movement for global care reform, so that one day every child will thrive in a safe and loving environment.

Our goal
by 2030 Uganda is fully committed to children growing up in families not orphanages
Join us in ensuring that every child in Uganda grows up in a safe and loving environment.

It only takes one small act of generosity to make a big difference in the lives of children growing up separated from their families. There are many ways you can make a difference for children in Uganda. You can organize a running challenge with your friends, donate for free while shopping online, or support our work through philanthropy.

**Take Action**

**Change is possible**

Join us in ensuring that every child in Uganda grows up in a safe and loving environment.

**Are you based in Uganda?**

Giving in Uganda is easy. Simply, sign up with your bank, or give monthly via mobile money.

**Secure a safe future for children in Uganda**

Monthly gifts enable us to invest in specific areas of our work, expand our programmes and innovate because we know that our efforts are being backed up by the Giving Circle community.

**Get a front seat to our work**

The Giving Circle community is part of our family - you will get exclusive updates, meet-ups with the team, and special gifts along the way!

**Be a part of a community**

By becoming a part of the Giving Circle, you are joining a community of like-minded and committed individuals who understand the importance and lasting impact of children growing up in families, not orphanages.

**Transform Lives**

Make a monthly donation to help us change the way children in Uganda are cared for. With your monthly gift, you will support children, families, and communities to ensure that every child grows up in a loving and safe home.

**SIGN UP NOW**

**FIND OUT MORE**

**Standard Chartered Bank**
Child’s I Foundation
USD: 8702840986400
UGX: 0102840986400

**MTN MOMO**
626650

**Airtel** 1253756
Become a Changemaker

One small act of generosity can make a world of difference in the lives of children growing up separated from their families.

From becoming a regular supporter to organising a running challenge with your friends, donating for free while you shop online, to engaging in our work through philanthropy, there are plenty of ways you can help change the way we care for children in Uganda.

Friend

£15 a month

could pay for a visit from a social worker equipped with PPE to support a family at risk of separation

Champion

In 3 months £45

could identify and train a foster carer who could go on to provide a safe family home for a child

Hero

In one year £180

could support a young person transitioning out of care to start their independent life and start a business

Your support transforms lives by making families, NOT orphans

Become a regular supporter and transform the way we care for children in Uganda. Your regular gift will support children, families, and communities to make sure every child grows up and thrives in a family.

Scan Me

Become a Changemaker

Become a regular supporter and transform the way we care for children in Uganda. Your regular gift will support children, families, and communities to make sure every child grows up and thrives in a family.

Your support transforms lives by making families, NOT orphans

Become a regular supporter and transform the way we care for children in Uganda. Your regular gift will support children, families, and communities to make sure every child grows up and thrives in a family.

Scan Me
Thank you to the families, community volunteers, government officials, partners, staff, volunteers, and supporters for making our work possible.

**Goodwill Ambassador in Uganda**

**Our Ambassadors in the UK**

Richard Osman
Tamara Box
Sam Rowe-Beddoe
Greg Nasmyth
Mary O’Connor
Andy Ash
Deborah Francis-White
Nicola Horlick
Natascha Lander
Irem Yerdelen

Special thank you to our photographers Benjamin Nsubaga and Mark Andrew Nsubuga.

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**Mission**

To bring African practice-based evidence to the movement for global care reform.

**Vision**

One day every child will thrive in a safe and loving family.