Today’s Child Tomorrow’s Nation.
The HIV epidemic in Uganda continues to show less signs of zero infection compared to 2013, an estimated 1.6 million people were living with HIV, and an estimated 63,000 Ugandans died of AIDS-related illnesses. As of 2013, the estimated HIV prevalence among adults aged 15 to 49 stood at 7.4%.

Promising signs were shown between the years of 2005 and 2013 as the number of AIDS-related deaths in the country was reported to have decreased by an estimated 19%. Nevertheless, at the end of 2013, Uganda had 140,000 new cases of HIV infections, accounting for 7% of the world’s total increase – the third largest increase in any country.

Robust treatment and prevention initiatives have been implemented in recent years, leading to improved conditions for people living with HIV. Due to the implementation of antiretroviral treatment throughout the country there has been a gradual increase in the number of people living with HIV receiving treatment. However, as of 2013 more than 60% of adults living with HIV were still not on treatment. The key affected people are the commercial sex workers with HIV prevalence of more than 34.2% i.e. in 2009 - 2014, Bodaboda cyclist, forks fisher men, long distance drivers, adolescent girls/ young women.

The majority of new HIV infections occur among young women and adolescent girls. The issues faced by this demographic include gender-based violence (including sexual abuse) and a lack of access to education, health services, social protection and information about how they cope with these inequities and injustices.

This 2016 annual report brings to the fore all what inspired at Change African Child International, in terms of achievements, lessons learned, Challenges and way forward.
Introduction

This is Change African Child International (CACI)’s annual Report. In summary let us first of all present to you our programs which are as follows.

**ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN’S PROGRAM (OVC)**

This involves vocational training (cosmetology, Tailoring, Knitting, Shoe making and ICT). It also includes parental counseling in schools and homes, child protection from Abuses and psychosocial supportive counseling to OVC’s and youth support activities.

**ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM**

We also provide adult education and empowerment, which involves training literacy and conversation in English and Luganda.

**WOMEN’S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT**

This program provides entrepreneurial skill through half-day workshops. In these, we train home management and establishment of small businesses and educate on saving schemes and the formation of small enterprise groups (e.g. soap making, baking, tailoring etc).

**HEALTH PROGRAM**

We provide positive living counseling and emotional support to those living with HIV/AIDS, VCT and HIV awareness and sensitization.

**ADVOCACY AND LOBBING**

We would appreciate volunteers who could lobby on behalf of the organization and its programs as a whole. This would involve grants and proposal writing, skills in fund raising is all appreciated. Volunteer’s internship is welcomed at our organization.

We thank everyone who has been supporting us in any way and we welcome you for advise, advocacy and support. Below are other details in our report.
1.0 Background:

CACI is a voluntary and non-profit Organization founded in 2012 and dedicated to improve the living conditions of children, youth and women. CACI operates by supplementing the Uganda Government's efforts and other Stakeholders' efforts to address the plight of the children, youth and women. CACI works and operates through partnerships with local communities at the grassroots, works with local governments, religious institutions and national, regional and international organizations. CACI is registered with the NGO Board (registration number 9484 and certification number S. 5914/ 9962).

CACI mainly work on care and support to people infected and affected with HIV/AIDS in order to mitigate the effects of the epidemic. CACI also, aims at strengthening the coping of OVC’S and the people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA), families to progressively become economically self-reliant in economic strengthening, leadership skills development and adult Literacy.

2.0 Goal:

CACI's goal shall be "To identify, plan and manage community based development projects aimed at promoting the quality of life and socio economic welfare of the community”.

3.0 Mission Statement:

CACI exists to economically and socially empower families and communities to holistically address child rights.

3.1 Vision

CACI has “A Vision of a Society where Child Rights are respected and all Children Live Dignified Lives.”
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S MESSAGE

The year 2016 has been another step forward for Change African Child International working round to meet its work plan, re-examining the challenges and needs of the people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in Wakiso and Kampala districts as well as drawing lessons from different activities and projects carried out in this year.

- CACI is still noting high increase of school dropouts i.e. children below 18 year from poor families caused by women inevitability to support themselves due to low levels of education and yet their compose a big percentage than the men. This big %age of women are unemployed thus cannot contribute to the incomes of the family that would have paid fees for the children and fail to dropout from formal education. Thus a good number of children and youth after dropping out of school get abused to sexual harassments and abuses by joining sexual commercial workers, housekeepers and mistreated in peoples’ homes, scrap collections on dustbin, beating and roadside stall selling etc.

- The above challenges were the most multi faced nature of poverty issues affecting the communities most especially women and children this prompted CACI to intervene and join contribution to other organizations working to rectify these challenges through our developed strategic plan of skill empowerment program in the vocational training at CACI targeting young children and the youth for economic development and reducing risks that would have contributed to this age range trapped in HIV/AIDS in searching for money from sugar daddies and mammies.

- Therefore we should always remember that HIV/AIDS is the world’s threat because a lot of funds is located to it to support the poor for treatment and economical support than any other disease.

- To our board members, project funders, friends and the community which has enabled our factors, without which CACI’s goal and mission would have been very difficult if not impossible to realize its achievements we really thank you for the effort put in.

May God bless you,
Thank you
Resty Mutaawe,
EX. DIRECTOR.
EXECTIVE SUMMARY

Change African Child International head quarters are situated at Kanyanya – Ndejje off Namusuba – Entebbe Road. Email: 1-director@cac-international.org, 2- info@cac-international.org

Website: www.cac-international.org. We operate in villages in Wakiso, Kampala Districts and other areas of the country where different projects have been started to eradicate poverty like Mukono district rural areas.

In this report 2013, we have highlighted a number of activities/services we do render to our beneficiaries. Including; Care for people with HIV/AIDS, support of orphans in vocational school/training skills for both girls & boys, functional adult literacy for men and women, income generating activities/sustainable livelihood activities for men and women, day care centre for PLWA’S and affected ones, sensitization on HIV/AIDS through MDD and workshops.

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

1. HOME BASED CARE/ PALLIATIVE FOR PLWHA’S

This is a home based approach service delivery to client with HIV/AIDS with in our area of operation, where by the CACI volunteers and counselors offer free services to these clients on issues of Disclosure and its importance to the infected people, Drug adherence information, importance of WILL writing and the need to have one put in place, psycho-social support in positive living, counseling.

Thus the services that would have been costly if taken to hospital by the care givers like hygiene, counseling, drug follow-ups adherence, end of life care is always done at the easy reach of the clients’ home by the volunteers. The total number of clients with CACI by 2016 are 182, 35 males and 147 females. Purposely for the above services and many others apart from treatment which acquired by our clients from different Health Centers of their choice and we net work with these Health providers.

❖ Pain management and end of life care

Change African Child International offers to its clients from all diagnosis through the end of life care CACI refreshed/trained the already existing volunteers in home based care management of symptoms as key elements of palliative care. In the long run this will
greatly improve the quality of life for PHA’S and ensuring post-bereavement stability with families of decreased PLWHA’S

The Director during one of the visits in a client’s home

Training primary care givers to access knowledge on palliative care delivery to PHA’S.

Due to limited resources, a few of the care givers were trained in the above area with an aim of reducing stigma & discrimination among the care givers towards the PHA’S especially those taking care of the positive children and youths in supporting them adhere and copy up to the life of positive living in relation to the life time drug adherence.

Preventive care package.

In order to have a holistic approach in giving care and support to our clients, the preventative care package of sensitizing our clients on preventative in terms of malaria, drinking of safe water, encouraging them sleep under treated mosquito nets. However, this was only awareness on these aspects than providing them to a few poor families that could not afford meeting these preventive measures like mosquito nets, water guard drugs.

Provision of clinical care

Change African Child International do not have a clinic of our own at which clients can be treated for opportunistic infection of clinical components of the program are delivered through a referral with Ndejje
Health Zanta, JCRC Lubowa, Mildmay, Alive Medical Service and other Health providers of the clients’ convince. After treatment, CACI starts to make follow ups on psycho-social support at family level.

**Provision of counseling and testing services**,  
HIV counseling and testing its one of the activities that is done through open market outreaches carried on by the CACI counselors and volunteers with a medical provider team from Ndejje Health Centre therefore in this year 637 people were tested and 42 were found HIV positive and referred to different health centers of their choice for further management of O.Is.

**COUNSELLING**

HIV/AIDS counseling is crucial component in the response to HIV/AIDS. It is an essential part of HIV testing - the entry point to prevention as well as care and treatment. Counseling also pays a vital role in programs focusing on the prevention of mother to child transmission. Counseling is said to help make people living with HIV/AIDS and everyone else – feel and live better, and grow personally. The HIV positive individuals need to find ways to live a psychologically healthy life after diagnosis.

**COMMUNITY SELF HELPING SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD**

In this year 2016, CACI identified some less costly projects / IGA’S to train the community including PHA’S with an aim of reducing poverty / low income at household level that was found out to have increased high school drop outs especially among people living with HIV/AIDS to an extend that while CACI tried to enroll these school drop outs of PHA’S in Vocational training at a free cost still the problem of contributing training materials say for saloon, Shoe making & tailoring. It was still lacking and a challenge thus an idea of supporting the entire family was thought of by providing them with skills & knowledge in the simple projects like hand crafts, making of candles’ preparing & parking Vaseline, liquid soap and some piggery in rural place where space is enough. Hoping to extent it to many community members after the demonstration farm suited in Mukono-Kiwugo Village.

Below are some of the IGA’s training/ demonstration
This is a program implemented as a result of the impacts of HIV/AIDS which most of our clients, children dropout of school because their parents could no longer support them in school due to the fact that some widows were thrown out of their former spouses homes and left with nothing. To others are involved in cheap businesses of selling alcohol, a challenging situation that even some of our children in vocational school are taking part in this business with its challenging situation of customers taking advantages of using these young girls for early marriage and sex thus putting them at risk of acquiring HIV as well. This was identified during the OVC Home Visits by our counselors, where too many families in the above situation do not value the girl education.
4.0 Methodology of work in Vocational Training.

i. **Practical learning**: The main mode of teaching and learning is practical; we use a hands-on approach whereby students use sewing machines, computers, and salon activities directly.

ii. **Learning the theory of the skill being taught**: the purpose of this is to understand the theory behind the skill that is trained.

iii. **Co-curricular activities**. This develops students’ sense of competitiveness, leadership, talent developing i.e. through Music Dance and Drama and sports competitions, Club activities and Charitable works.

iv. Students learning and Knowledge sharing for example life experience/Testimony sharing and focus on the future.
Pupils in learning center supported by CACI in scholastic materials; 43kms along Kampala Mityana road these children are living in the most remote place and vulnerable to education, clothing, nutrition and medical care of the general illness however CACI have always contributed to the school scholastic materials and clothing’s mobilized from well-wishers of CACI and Churches to support these children live a relative happy life though we have not yet done it the best due to lack of resources.

Brief background of this centre:
This centre was founded by an old lady 60 years old, primary 7 dropout after identifying the need for her community that children could not move long distances and crossing the main road to reach the UPE school in that sub county therefore the children would stay home until she built that semi poor structure with other parents who supported the idea. Currently the center is having 40 children who come from their own homes to school to acquire basic knowledge and CACI through our community field visits we identified this centre that needed our attention and support which we are trying to do.

Challenges in this centre
- Each year a challenge of increased number is noted in this centre and yet the structures are in poor state and few to accommodate them.
- Volunteer teachers are few, lack training materials, no payments but willingly offer these children knowledge.
Children in this centre, their future brings a lot of questions on what will be the next step after the Age of 15 if they can no longer fit in the school of the 3 classes only at the moment.

**Other services offered by the organization**

- Home visits to Orphans and Vulnerable Children [OVC’S] families in order to bridge the gap between the guardians and the children at school by making them value the need of these children attending and completing their courses.
- Psychosocial supportive counseling to both the OVC’S and People Living with HIV/AIDS.
- Trainings to:
  a) Community Volunteers
  b) Counselors
  c) Religious Leaders & Political Leaders
  d) Behavioral change trainings to the youth
  e) Capacity building
  f) Formation of positive living clubs
- Voluntary Counseling and Testing through Net-working with partner organization and medical personnel.
- Community sensitization on different aspects e.g.;
  a) Malaria prevention.
  b) HIV Prevention.
  c) Hygiene and sanitation.

**METHODOLOGY OF WORK TO PHA’S/ COMMUNITY IN GENERAL**

- **Door to Door Home Visit:**
  Different planned activities are always delivered to homes of OVCS, PHA’S and other homes e.g.
  i. **WILL** information writing & information delivery.
  ii. Counseling
  iii. Prevention messages on Malaria, HIV/AIDS & other STD’S, Hygiene & Sanitation etc.

- **By the use of Music Dance and Drama,** we carryout awareness and sensitization drives in the community about HIV/AIDS and other communal diseases etc.

- **Evaluation of all activities done every month as well as report writing and documentation.**

**Target OVC’s:**

- Orphans
• Vulnerable children from poor families.
• School dropouts due to various reasons.
• House maids.

**Palliative support targets**

• People Living With HIV/AIDS
• Affected family members as a result of HIV.
• Elderly people taking care of the orphans
• Children with HIV/AIDS

**Adult Literacy target**

• Women and men who did not attend school or with low education levels with emphasis put on women most

**Voluntary Counseling and Testing Target**

• Youth
• Couples
• Children
• And other categories of people
CACI women empowerment group

The director Change African Child International inspecting the knitting class.

Day one introduction to Knitting training and on the right (PINK DRESS) is the women coordinator.
stage one process of preparing the materials used in crafts

Finished products on exhibition
Adult Empowerment groups in Wakiso district supported by ALEF Organization (Adult Learning and Empowerment Fund)

Adult Literacy class: (Empowering women with knowledge and leadership skills). Ndejje group among the listed few. CACI has got 12 empowerment groups in Wakiso district with a total of 214 adults learning by 2016, facilitated by 12 facilitators and two Coaches/ monitoring and evaluation staffs. This program has changed many of peoples’ lives.

GENERAL ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE EMPOWERMENT GROUPS 2016

- On participants level, we believe that all participants who fully attended a good number of theme sentences from the manual both Level 1 & 2 and considering how the assessments was passed by these people, while in the community can now be in position to fight for their Human rights, read and understand report cards, Bible
reading in Luganda, sign bank and other documents and ready to compete for leadership at local levels.

- Another achievement from this project is, making participants build personal confidence and esteem as an individual and as an empowerment group which led to a few groups registered as CBO’s.
- Facilitators have gained experience through training these groups as well as understanding different attitudes of adults i.e. changing the negative ones to positive attitudes at certain issues like on family planning, culture of early marriages, corruption, not making budgets and many others.

- For the coaches, the role of monitoring and interacting with facilitators and sometimes participants was a good lesson to learn from this project as way of community service delivery approach which is one of CACI’s ways to reach its clients and evaluate the organization’s performance in the community.

Success stories (Thanks to Palle Moeller foundation)

CACI for the last four years we have been passing out students in different courses of Tailoring, Hair dressing, computer training, shoe making and knitting. This has always made us proud of our young children performing well in the field of work.

She is Nambuusi Resty 19 years, S4 drop out born from a poor family the two parents who are all still a live, but the mother seperated from Restys’ father when she was three years old therefore it’s the mother who took on this girl up to S4 through washing peoples clothes to gain incomes that supported the daughter to s4. After this level the mother shared with CACI about the challenge she was going through with Resty of not having hope for her future. The mother cried from our office in fear of her daughter joining early marriage without any colification that she would suffer like what the mother is going through and we allowed Resty to be supported by the organization in tailoring class where she completed 2 years of study with support of palle moller foundation organization’s equipments support to CACI (Tailoring and shoe making machines) Resty was among the beneficiaries from this donation. After graduation last year 2015 the mother was saving some money which she raised to by a tailoring machine which is using outside the friends home/shade along side the road to earn aliving because she does not have enough money to hire working place of her own at the moment however her clients recommend her good quality of work which has enabled her on adaily basis earn 5000/= and above depending on the work done, therefore
Resty has always thanked the organization that supported CACI with the machines which enabled every child to sit on her own training machine for perfect class work that she using in the field thank you so much Palle Moeller foundation you have made a difference in my life.

**SHOE MAKING AND PRODUCTION CLASS**

This is two in one. This class trains students both children and adults and at the same time supplies shoes from the training for sale in order to re-acquire training materials from the sales made and the small profit margin got supports the women who have got the best skills and are making good shoes to be put on market.

CACI’s main goal is to support people affected and infected with HIV and other related problems therefore among this team are clients on ART from Mildmay and Kitebi Health Centre. There are also thanking palle molle foundation for the grate support towards they beneficial from this project.

**LESSIONS LEARNED**

- Efforts to mitigate the impact of AIDS must focus first on the individual and families affected through interventions such as access to therapy, nutritional assistance and treatment for opportunistic infections and other health issues as well as concern of high school dropouts caused by this impact.
- High re-infections & new infections continue to increase in communities as caused by relaxazation in awareness & sensitization on its risks.
Adult empowerment in reading and writing continue to be a point of concern to all adults that did not attend school if poverty is to be reduced in the community.

ACHIEVEMENTS
- CACI in this year 2016 we managed to purchase the 2 acres of land where our extension for service provision offices will be constructed in future.
- Purchase of the different Organization property e.g. Computers, Tailoring machines, Saloon equipments, printers, Photocoper school furniture etc.
- Many of the children who have gone through CACI Vocational training, a good number of graduates are employed and earning a living.
- Partnership with ALEF through Mindset Organization to deliver Adult Literacy services, with Mild may for OVC’s skills empowerment and Palle Moeller for support of OVC’s with training equipments.

CHALLENGES
- Lack of enough funds to implement HIV/ AIDS & OVC ‘S related activities.
- There are so many clients who need counseling however, we still lack enough counselors & other staffs due to fewer funds to maintain/ facilitate them in the organization and yet the need for these staffs is there.
- Our target is reaching every vulnerable / orphanage child by HIV /AIDS and other related diseases this has not succeeded because of less facilitation from the board members to meet the intended figure of at least 100 every year and satisfy them fully.

WAY FORWARD
- Need for technical staff for resource mobilization is a critical issue which needs to be addressed in 2017.
- Linking HIV/AIDS to other service providing organizations.
- Fundraising for learning centre structure in order to have at least permanent classes.
- Organizing staff capacity building trainings

APPRECIATION
Special appreciation goes to these organizations: Adult Learning and Empowerment Fund (ALEF Organization) Through Mindset Organization, Mildmay, Palle Moeller organization, well wishers, the board members, Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development and the community for you effort towards making our activities so impressing to the districts and communities as well.
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