

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

QUARTER FOUR

VISIT FROM HELEN GRANT MP, THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER'S ENVOY FOR GIRLS' EDUCATION

This quarter the GEC girls were privileged to have been visited by Helen Grant, the British Prime Minister's envoy for girls education, hosted by Kampala Baptist Church. They showcased their work, for example, the girls trained in skills such as tailoring, pavers & brick making and shared their milestones. Now they are able to use these skills to earn money that supports them in their daily living. She said **"Many, many thanks to CRANE and Viva for your incredible work. I see the passion in your eyes and the pride when you tell me the stories of your young people and how they're progressing."**

"Children, believe in yourself, others can help but at the end of the day the drive comes from you." Helen Grant MP



EMPOWERING TEACHERS

Both children and teachers have been out of school for a long stretch of time as a result of the COVID-19 school lock down. Since children have been exposed to the out-of school environment, they need to be adequately supported to learn and unlearn certain behaviours, skills and knowledge. For teachers to be able to cater to the complex and diverse learners' needs, they need to be prepared. As a means of preparation, **12** teachers were given a training in ICT integration and **70** in psychosocial support. Teachers said:

I am now more confident at handling difficult situations. This starts with me taking care of myself and then being able to help the children. I have also gained a better understanding about giving the children an opportunity to talk and learning to listen. Elizabeth Kahunde.

We need to handle children carefully and with patience as we teach them especially after the CV 19 challenges they have faced. I learned that to do this well and effectively, I must take care of myself as a teacher. Joy Nakitoogo



THE DRIVE TO DO THE WORK WE DO

"My work gives me the opportunity to engage with children and young people who are among the most engaging audiences you can work with. Each young person is unique, and brings their own light of experience, needs and expectations. In communities, many young people mention their love for music but are shy about expressing themselves. When asked why they feel shy, most have been reported to say "nobody will tell me if anything I do that is music related is right or wrong". This motivates me to keep creating opportunities for children and young people to engage them in quality music practice and experiences."

Solomon Mugabi -CRANE music teacher

VISIT:

[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=JMXRDTG0Z64](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JMXRDTG0Z64) TO WATCH
SOME OF THE CHILDREN'S WORK.



Children all smiles with a police officer as they await resettlement.

Case story -JOHN (not real name)

Was abandoned by his mother and left at his father's house where he was badly neglected. In 2007, A neighbour got so concerned about his wellbeing and contacted the local council official. John was found in a terrible condition as he suffered from malnutrition. He was then taken to An Open Door before a foster family was found for him.

While he was still at the institution, he had a chance to spend the holiday with one of the care takers called Sarah who bonded with him so well and decided to foster John. Since 2011, John has been living with Sarah.

While he was in the foster family, CRANE was contacted for support and has walked with him through primary level, secondary level and at the vocational institute. He did Automotive mechanics for two years and will soon be graduating. He has grown up into a responsible young man who now has a good future ahead of him having acquired skills.

What difference would you like to see in the children you work with?

" All children belong to a family, but because the world we live in is broken , so many children are left without families. I would love the children to appreciate the opportunities given to belong to a family" and use that to thrive and give up thinking that they were neglected or abandoned." **Hope Tino - Families Officer**



THE DRIVE TO DO THE WORK WE DO

Reintegration: Three boys.

Henry aged 12 years, Wycliffe aged 12 and Trevor aged 11 years had come from playing football and while passing by a market were suspected of being thieves. One person ran after them threatening to take them to police and they decided to run away to Kampala for fear of arrest.

They stayed on the streets of Kampala for a short time and went back to Lugazi. They met one boy who told them that the community had promised a reward of 50,000 shillings for anyone who would take those boys to the police. So they decided to run back to Kampala.

As they were on the streets begging, a good Samaritan sympathised with them and took them to Central Police Station - CPS Kampala. Police then communicated with the police in Lugazi to ascertain whether they were really coming from there. The police in Lugazi got in touch with the LC1 chairperson of Kinyoro Zone where the boys claimed to be from and was able to trace their family.

CRANE supported the police in transporting the boys back to Lugazi, reunited them with their family and the mother was happy to receive her children.



What inspires you to do the work you do?

"Serving children is my passion. Each time I do my work, which is safeguarding children, I see the impact made in the lives of these children and that motivates me to keep going. In another way it's like giving back to society/children what was given to and done for me." **Mike Luweesi** - Safeguarding Manager



I thank CRANE for giving us the knowledge of VLSA, where we started saving money. From my savings and interest last year, I was able to invest in my husband's business and by God's grace the business grew and we made a lot of profit. We used part of the profit to pay school fees for our daughter who was a Senior 4 candidate. She was able to sit her exams without any hindrances. We invested the other part of the profit in rearing of turkeys. The availability of affordable credit through the VSLA has strengthened my family because we are able to borrow money to meet family needs and pay it back with friendly terms and interest. I am very grateful for CRANE." - Faridah

What inspires you to do the work you do?

"The success stories of the girls who are thriving and the impact seen. I thank God that I'm part of this even in the small way. I am inspired to give my all"

Jacqueline Kamarunga -Finance Assistant

