

**FCF**

# **Fecane Child Foundation**

## **Organisation Profile**

**2023**

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## **Introduction and Background**

Fecane Child Foundation is a community Based organization (CBO) based in Wakiso, the city of Uganda. It was founded in 2020 as a slum youth initiative under the patronage of Mr Badru Kalanzi Shafic. Starting as a community-based organization (CBO) during the period of Covid 19 in the Country and whole world, Fecane initially focused to support the vulnerable children (orphanages, homeless) and youths from the street in the crowded places of Wakiso Uganda through provision holistic transformation, mobilization resources and establish educational opportunities, welfare, facilitate rehabilitation plus teaching them religious values and morals. In 2023 Fecane was officially registered as a CBO and a company and expanded its activities according to the needs assessment carried out in an early state of its operation. Following an early intervention approach, Fecane decided to focus its programs on the most vulnerable children and youths from the slum community, most of whom being school dropouts and orphans.

Fecane's mission is to restore hope among vulnerable (orphanages, homeless) and communities that have been affected by poverty, abuse, violence, disease and other natural calamities.

### **Core Values**

#### **¥ Transparency**

Fecane Child Foundation guarantees a transparent way of operating with a proper accountability system, which implies a responsible management of funding and community resources.

#### **¥ Community participation**

Fecane Child Foundation believes that a sustainable community empowerment can only be succeeded by community participation and ownership. Therefore the target community is involved in project design and implementation.

#### **¥ Resource orientation**

Fecane Child Foundation's approach implies a start from the available community resources, regarding our target group as subjects with a wide range of individual potentials and experts of their reality

## **¥ Social cohesion**

Fecane Child Foundation is working with a heterogenic target group from different cultural and religious settings. Core value of our work approach are the fundamental human rights, which regard every human being as equal, not regarding their tribe, their religious believes or cultural norms.

## **Area of Intervention**

Wakiso District comprises of slum areas for example Bwaise, which accommodates approximately a great number of inhabitants. As most of the informal settlements of Bwaise was built into a swamp, which causes serious floods during the rainy season. Part of its residents came from rural areas of Uganda, seeking for employment in the capital city. Others came as internally displaced people, who fled to the capital from war affected areas in northern Uganda. Moreover Bwaise and Nansana accommodates a high number of refugees from neighbouring countries as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Somalia and Ethiopia, forced to flee from poverty, famine, intertribal conflicts and war.

Half of Bwaise's population is living in informal settlement, hoping for an improvement of their own living conditions. Fled from poverty in their places of origin, they now are confronted again with a challenging situation, as they face a lack of access to most of the basic public resources such as water supply, sanitation, health care and education. Accordingly, the unemployment rate within the informal settlement is tremendously high. Apart from that, over the past years the population of Bwaise struggled with an increase of HIV-infections, which caused a large number of households headed by orphaned children.

As all of the affected families face a lack of financial resources, they are not able to provide the monthly amount of school fees. That is why the majority of the children have very limited access to formal school education. Moreover, a high number of children are forced in labour in order to secure the daily income of their families.

Consequently, Bwaise has to struggle with a large number of school dropouts, whose future prospective is accordingly limited. Criminality, early pregnancies, forced marriage, prostitution and drug abuse are some of the major problems the area has to deal with.

## **Target Group**

The direct beneficiaries of Fecane's activities are the most vulnerable children and youths living in informal settlements. Living in an unprotected environment, struggling with a wide range of challenges, children and youths are in particular at high risk of becoming victims of rape or other physical violence, drug abuse and forced child labour. Moreover, the lack of literacy and sensitisation results in an increased risk of HIV infection.

Having a very limited access to formal education, the future prospective of the targeted children and youths remains a challenge to them and the community.

Fecane's work approach implies the empowerment of the target group at an early stage in order to reduce the risk of them becoming victims of their circumstances, unable to mobilise own resources.

### **Major Objective**

To provide a holistic transformation of vulnerable children, youth and disadvantaged communities by offering training, empowerment and exposure to life changing innovations.

### **Specific Objectives**

Increase of access to public resources and future prospective for the most vulnerable children and youths in the slum area of Wakiso District

Raised community awareness in terms of health and hygiene matters as well as human rights issues.

Social and economic capacities of families in the community are strengthen in a long term.

### **Activities / Outputs**

#### **Output 1: Education**

Focussing on the sustainable improvement of future perspectives of children and youths from the streets and poor families, Fecane has worked tirelessly looking for educational support in form of school fees, full bursaries and half bursaries which have been given to these vulnerable and youths from the streets and poor families in the community.

#### **Girls Education Challenge (GEC)**

As girls are the most vulnerable group of the slum community, Fecane developed a program focusing on empowering girls. The Girl Child Program provides a safe space, in which the girls are encouraged to continue their school education. It also gives them the opportunity to share their experiences and challenges, discuss their topics of interest, develop coping strategies and discover new interests and

## **Soccer Academy**

In 2023, Fecane established the Soccer Academy after the partnering with Empala United, which mainly focuses on street children from the Wakiso area plus Kampala. As previous experience has shown, a successful reintegration of this beneficiary group into the formal education system requires a consideration of the children's daily life background. Living in the streets of Uganda, many of the children have never been integrated in any kind of education system, formal or non-formal. Being responsible for meeting their daily needs, their life was characterized by drug consumption, violence and abuse. The idea of the Soccer Academy is to strengthen the children's self-confidence by encouraging them to develop their individual talents. Therefore, the Academy's approach is to start with the children's potential resources. Living and training together as a team also enables them to improve their social skills and gives them the experience of being integrated into the soccer community, where they are accepted with all their personal characteristics.

### **Output 2: Community sensitisation**

#### **Drama Club**

The Fecane Dance and Drama Group was founded in 2023 based on local and cultural dances and comprises of 20 members, most of whom themselves have previously been beneficiaries of Fecane's programs. It is facilitated by trainers and reaches out to several vulnerable communities in and around Wakiso on a regular basis. Using creative methods in order to increase community awareness enables to address topics as HIV/AIDS, hygiene and health matters in general, human rights and child protection issues.

So far Fecane's drama outreach team carried out 10 drama shows in the community around Wakiso District. The group also participated in 5 events organised by other Network members in Wakiso District. With their drama shows and presentations, they have successfully passed on important information to our targeted population. They have been applauded dearly by the population and hearts of many have been touched due to their remarkable stories.

#### **HIV / AIDS and reproductive Health program among the youths and young people.**

Slum areas have some salient characteristics, which include high population, prostitution, high rate of teenage pregnancies and orphaned children as a result of HIV/AIDS among others. These issues point to the need for reproductive health programs especially among the youth. Many youth in the slum areas have a few people to look up to in terms of good morals and many end up abusing drugs, being alcoholic and having sexual intercourse at an early age, thus exposing themselves to HIV/AIDS and early pregnancies. Therefore, Fecane utilizes the counsellors it has for counselling sessions both one on one and in groups. Our

networks offered extensive help in providing reproductive health services. In terms of community sensitization, we intend working through a drama-based approach, using drama as a facilitation tool to convey messages about child labour and HIV/AIDS among other issues affecting communities. Many children below the age of 18 in Kampala district are in child labour, working as domestic workers (house helpers), commercial sex workers, selling maize, and working in garages among others. This is due to the fact, that they sometimes are the family's breadwinners after the death of their parents and they end up in child headed families.

### **Community Outreach Team**

Aiming to sustainably improve the living conditions of the communities' most vulnerable groups requires that their social environment is taken into consideration. Fecane considers that a long term improvement is only achievable by including families and relatives of the direct beneficiaries in the scope of the implemented project activities. Therefore, Fecane has an outreach team of counsellors, who are assisting the targeted families in developing necessary economic skills and setting up small businesses. Furthermore, the Fecane team provides psychosocial counselling, encouraging the communities to enhance their problem solving strategies starting from their own fund of resources.

### **Rescuing, Rehabilitation and Re-settling of the street kids**

In 2023, Fecane conducted 20 outreaches with at least 100 children reached in areas of Kisenyi, Kamwokya, Kawempe, Bwaise, Nsambya, Katanga, and Kalerwe. Through these outreaches, at least 2 children were rescued/referred per outreach. Outreaches involved sensitization, counselling and praying for the children. These exercises gave the children an opportunity to rethink about the life they were living. During the outreaches, basic needs like food, health care services, water, sanitation, shelter, education, information and child protection were provided to children in vulnerable situations. The rescued children are currently undergoing rehabilitation at our temporary centre. And some have been re-integrated into their families and societies gradually after family tracing and joint counselling.

### **Training Local community in Child Protection**

Fecane has continued to work with local leaders to ensure child protection at all levels in different communities 150 community members and 50 Local council I, II, and III in the areas of Kampala central and Nansana Town council were all trained in child protection issues. The trained leaders have in turn educated their subjects on child rights. The leaders are also increasingly reporting cases of child abuse to the relevant authorities and key stakeholders hence enabling Fecane to receive many referral cases concerning children from different communities.

## **Resource Centre**

Fecane Child Foundation as a community Based organization have been funded by other Organization to create a resource centre by practicing different activities for example allowing youth to learn about their sex behaviours, girls how to take care of themselves in periods. Youth can access more information from different text books and internet, as well as games, including chess and television. The centre also provides counselling.

With activities offered in 2022, our resource centre attracted many youth and children from the slums, sharing knowledge and ideas.

### **Fecane's Achievements up to Date**

In 2023, the soccer academy has increased up to a number of 100 team members comprising of former street children. Supported through our scholarship program, 70 of the soccer boys managed to reintegrate into the formal school system. Competing with soccer teams in and around Kampala, for example in the slums derby each year plus other competitions and have been a tough opponent to many teams.

We are proud of the impact that we have already had on the young people we work with. Through our programs, we have seen young people develop their creative skills, build their confidence, and forge new friendships and connections.

In terms of cross-linkage, Fecane has established a network within which we collaborate tightly with other local stakeholders in the field, such as Refugee Together for Social Development, MYDEL, Empala United Football Academy and others.

### **Fecane's Source of Funding (2020 to Date)**

- Fecane's member contributions
- Donations from private individuals
- Local Government grants

**The FCF-Team**

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**Dance and Drama Group**

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## **Conclusion**

Owing to the support of our kind donors, the commitment of our few volunteers and the encouraging team spirit among the professional Fecane staff members allowed us to constantly elaborate and extend our activities with the community of Nansana-Wakiso.

Never the less, the successful continuation of our activities remains a never ending challenge.

As we are a non-profit organisation, the future of our commitment depends eminently on your support! For our children and youths from the slum community of Mengo-Kisenyi, even a small contribution can already make an immense difference.

### **Are you interested to get involved?**

Your partnership enables us the continuous improvement of our work and, therefore, has a sustainable impact on the lives of the vulnerable community of Wakiso. Are you still thinking about how to get involved? Fecane offers a variety of ways. Just choose which one is most preferable for you:

#### **Volunteer**

Fecane's work has constantly been enriched by our volunteers within the past years. If you are interested in supporting us with your own commitment, ideas and skills, feel warmly welcome to contact us any time.

#### **Sponsorship**

Have you always thought of donating for a good cause, but you were never sure about where exactly the money goes to? Fecane's sponsorship program provides the opportunity to have a one-to-one relationship with one of the children. Your support can empower a child through ensuring the access to school education and therefore a great enlargement of sustainable future prospective. If you think, this could be the suitable way for you to support us, don't hesitate to contact us.

#### **Donation**

Beneath the opportunity of individual sponsorship, financial support is essential for carrying out the variety of our projects. Therefore, Fecane's is grateful of any financial contribution, which ensures the future of our activities.

***-THANK YOU-***