



WE ARE STRONGER...

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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Nyaka works with communities to nurture and protect children so they can learn, grow, and thrive.



A Letter From Our CEO



What a year 2020 was! We at Nyaka have emerged **stronger than ever** – we have worked tirelessly to adapt our programs to face the challenges that the pandemic and the measures taken to contain it have brought us. We are proud of all that the Nyaka staff and communities have achieved over the course of this year!

By government directive our students were out of school from March–October 2020. Our teachers worked to support them – sharing health messages, distributing education packages and emergency supplies, teaching small group clusters and bringing the mobile library to communities. **Teaching skills and teacher – student rapport is stronger than ever.** Our students have gained greater independence in their learning and are returning to school with even more excitement and with an increased commitment to education.

Sadly, one result of the pandemic in southwest Uganda, as experienced globally, is an increase in sexual and gender-based violence. Our staff obtained key worker permits to meet the rising demand for our services. In 2020, Nyaka SGBV staff supported 195 survivors with 87 reported during the lockdown period alone – the highest number since the program began in 2015. Once lockdown ended in 2020, we redoubled our preventative efforts, working hand in hand with boda (motorcycle) drivers, grandmothers, grandfathers and the whole community to rally together to challenge and prevent SGBV – **Our commitment to fighting SGBV has never been stronger:** Enough is Enough!

Our Grandmother Program has gone from strength to strength. In 2020, we expanded into the neighboring district of Rubanda and recruited an additional 5,000 grandmothers together with the orphaned and vulnerable children they care for. Grandmothers are forming groups, undertaking early training and are already benefiting from some of the services that we offer Nyaka grandmothers. They are so excited to be part of the Nyaka family.

This year, on Monday, August 2, 2021, we celebrated our 20th anniversary. We continue to look back on all that we have achieved and **how much we have grown** – from a two roomed schoolhouse and a dream, to what we are today: our holistic approach embodied across three districts, multiple programs and activities encompassing entire communities from newborns to grandmothers.

We thank you, our partners, donors and supporters across the world for standing with us through the challenges of the last year and for supporting our growth and achievements over the last 20 years. None of this would be possible without you – the **Nyaka family is growing and is stronger than ever!**

Webale!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'JK', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Twesigye Jackson Kaguri
Nyaka Founder & CEO

Year In Review



Students Leave School Early

Until March 2020, Uganda was one of the few countries in the world with no confirmed coronavirus cases. As part of the national preparedness plan, the president of Uganda announced a number of measures which included the closing of all schools. On March 18, 2020, all Nyaka students were sent home to their communities. On March 20, 2020, Uganda registered its first case of COVID-19.

COVID-19 Response

Beginning in April 2020, Nyaka implemented a community emergency COVID-19 response which included food, medicines, books, study packets, and mask distribution.

Due to the pandemic, in-person SGBV counseling switched to phone counseling support.



Education Focus

By strictly following the COVID-19 SOPs, all three Nyaka schools were allowed to reopen on October 15, 2020 for the final year candidate classes of P7, S4, and S6.

Students that remained out of school, continued to receive study materials and were periodically assessed by their teachers through small cluster learning.

737

students were educated

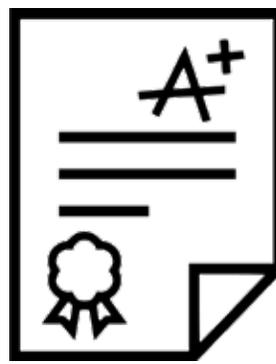
1,548

masks were given to students

5,598

sets of study materials were distributed

Completion of our Vocational Secondary School campus



85% of Nyaka and Kutamba primary students passed their PLE exams and will advance to the next grade level

Rodger's determination to learn is stronger

Rodger is a nine year old student at Kutamba Primary School. He lives in Rukungiri district with his paternal grandparents and six siblings. Rodger joined Kutamba in 2017 as a nursery student. When he was younger, his parents divorced and soon after, his mother was diagnosed with a mental health disorder. Due to his father not being active in their lives and after his mother's diagnosis, Rodger and his siblings were sent to live with his grandparents.

After losing both parents, they depended on them for everything. Being one of seven children, Rodger lost hope of ever attending school with his friends, because he feared his grandparents would not be able to pay for school fees, uniforms and other scholastic materials. Rodger's grandfather learned about Nyaka schools from the local council chairman who told him that Kutamba Primary School was accepting new students and that neither students nor their guardians pay school fees. For the last four years, Rodger has gratefully benefited from his chance to receive an education: "If I never got the opportunity to join Kutamba, I wouldn't be in school now. I am now able to read simple words on my own, write them and do some simple calculations. I am working hard to become a teacher when I grow up. I thank Kutamba for sponsoring me."

Since COVID-19 has shut down in-person learning Rodger says, "I am sad because I cannot regularly attend school, however, I try hard to meet my teachers whenever we are told to meet them in the field to receive home study materials."



Grandmothers



5,000 additional grandmothers have been added to our program



More than **\$158,000** was made available to Grandmother Groups for circulation in the microfinance program

297

solar lights were distributed to grandmothers who had school going students

244

water harvesting tanks were given to grandmothers

1,400

garden hoes were shared with grandmothers to help care for their personal gardens

Sadress demonstrates strong diligence

Sadress, a 70 year old widow from Nyaruhungye village, lives with her four grandchildren and their parents in her newly constructed home. Before Nyaka constructed her new home, pit latrine, and kitchen, Sadress lived with her son, daughter-in-law and four grandchildren in a small grass thatched house with damaged walls. They used to have to cook inside the home, which was badly ventilated, so it became very smoky. They also had to use a pit latrine that was in poor condition. Unfortunately, with the heavy rains, the house collapsed but thankfully no one was injured.

Sadress is a long standing and active member of her grandmother group despite her age. Being a member of her group has allowed her and her family to benefit from mosquito nets to prevent malaria, access to micro loans to help her start a small business, and agricultural supplies to increase production from her garden. All of these benefits from her group have greatly improved her family's standards of living. Sadress is among the happiest grandmothers in the area: "Thank you so much, Nyaka, may God bless you", says Sadress.



Community

5,767

Blue Lupin Library visitors

4,740

patients treated at Mummy Drayton and Kutamba Health Clinics

1,026

grandmothers, children, and pregnant mothers tested for HIV/AIDS

More than **400,000** people had access to anti-AIDS, SGBV, and COVID-19 education through radio broadcasts



In partnership with Stanbic Bank Uganda, we provided food relief to the **260** families most in need

The Community strongly depends on us

Nyaka alumni students, now in university, Daphine (Makerere University), Michael (Makerere University), Arinda (Ndejje University), and Pius (Uganda Christian University), took some time to jointly write a thank you letter to the Nyaka Blue Lupin Community Library.

“We have one secret behind our success and that is Nyaka Blue Lupin Community Library. Our words cannot express how it has helped us in our academic lives. The community library has really provided us with the best learning environment. So much so that we have no regrets about not being currently allowed [to attend] our respective universities for in person learning due to the COVID-19 outbreak causing temporary closure. As a result, our learning institutions have all decided to conduct long distance learning and the Nyaka Blue Lupin Community Library has played a big role in easing our distance learning. The library computers have really helped with our coursework and we appreciate them.

We are grateful to the Nyaka Blue Lupin Community Library librarian, Mr. Tusiimire Mark, who has always been there for us in our academic struggles by guiding us on how to use the library resources and empowering us to carry out our studies. We have nothing big to give him but only to say thank you wholeheartedly and may you keep with the spirit of loving your profession.

We really thank Nyaka for having constructed the Nyaka Blue Lupin Library because it has been such a large part of our success as Nyaka students and university students.”



Sexual & Gender-Based Violence (SGBV)



Under legal support, **50** new cases were reported

SGBV staff, alongside a medical doctor and police officer, participated in a TV talk show to discuss the increased cases of GBV due to COVID-19

50,160

community members received education on SGBV

195

survivors received medical care services

180

professionals, grandmothers, and grandfathers were trained on how to report cases of SGBV

Balinda is a strong survivor

Balinda, a 10 year old girl, walks home everyday with her friend after school. While walking home, she and her friend passed her uncle. He started talking to them and telling them stories as they continued walking home. They were all headed in the same direction, so Balinda didn't think much of it. Once they reached a certain point in their walk, her friend took another path home, while Balinda and her uncle continued on their path. As they passed his house, Balinda's HIV positive uncle forced her inside and sexually assaulted her.

When Balinda escaped, she immediately went home and told her mother everything. Balinda and her mother turned to one of Nyaka's Healing Centers for help. Balinda was treated and given medication. The SGBV team held consistent counseling sessions with her to ensure that she was mentally healthy enough to stay in school. The team together with the police went to arrest her uncle who was taken to court where he pleaded guilty and was sentenced to over a decade in prison.





Finishing Nyaka Vocational and Secondary School

Nyaka has completed the construction of the NVSS campus including a brand new chemistry and physics laboratory! The NVSS campus is complete with a fence and gate to keep all our students safe.

Leading the emergency response

In April 2020, Nyaka rolled out a strong public health and emergency community response initiative: distributing masks and bars of soap to the COVID-19 task force and grandmothers, sharing multi-lingual health messages, using infrared thermometers, sanitizers, soap, and installing multiple hand washing stations to encourage frequent hand washing at all Nyaka facilities.



Virtual marathon

Runners from around the world represented Nyaka during the 2020 Virtual TCS New York City Marathon.



Jackson's 50th birthday fundraiser

Nyaka held a grandmother focused fundraiser in celebration of Jackson's 50th birthday. Our goal was to make each of our grandmothers feel appreciated by treating them to lunch.

Expansion of SGBV Program

Nyaka has established four Healing Centers based in health facilities in Kanungu district and has delivered bespoke training to local community members, healthcare workers, and community development officers.



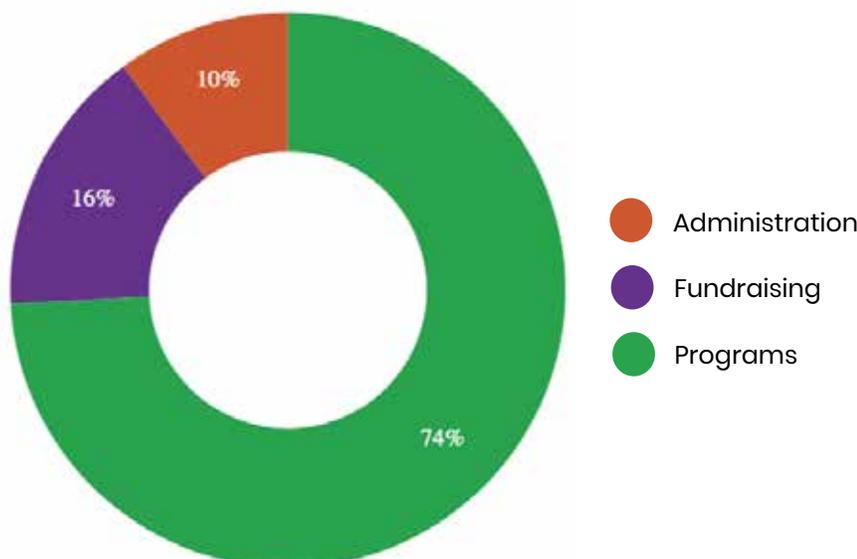
Supporting clusters of students

As schools remained closed nationwide, our students were supported by Nyaka teachers with small group study sessions. Teachers would conduct home visits with students, bring educational materials, and coordinate with the mobile library team to support small group learning.

Financial Report

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUE AND SUPPORT:			
Contributions	\$ 1,647,884	\$ 453,343	\$ 2,101,227
Investment income (loss)	14,831		14,831
Net assets released from restrictions	607,027	(607,027)	
Total revenue and support	<u>2,269,742</u>	<u>(153,684)</u>	<u>2,116,058</u>
EXPENSES:			
Program	1,259,595		1,259,595
Fundraising	265,900		265,900
Management and general	171,714		171,714
Total expenses	<u>1,697,209</u>		<u>1,697,209</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS:	<u>572,533</u>	<u>(153,684)</u>	<u>418,849</u>
NET ASSETS, beginning of year	<u>294002</u>	<u>340978</u>	<u>634980</u>
NET ASSETS, end of year	<u>\$ 866,535</u>	<u>\$ 187,294</u>	<u>\$ 1,053,829</u>

Thanks to your generosity and support, more than 70% of your donations went directly to help vulnerable children and grandmothers in Uganda.



Board Members

Thank you to our Board of Directors for their time, dedication, and passion to make Nyaka great. Their leadership is a crucial part of our success this year and for years to come.

Board Members

Twesigye Jackson Kaguri, CEO

Katherine Maruca, Chair

Andrew Pomerville, Vice Chair

J. Robin Langley, Secretary

Edward C. Brynn, Co Treasurer

Girija Krishnamurthy, Co Treasurer

Joy Adams

Azeirwe Boniface

John Brewster

Mark Mahoney

Deborah Malac

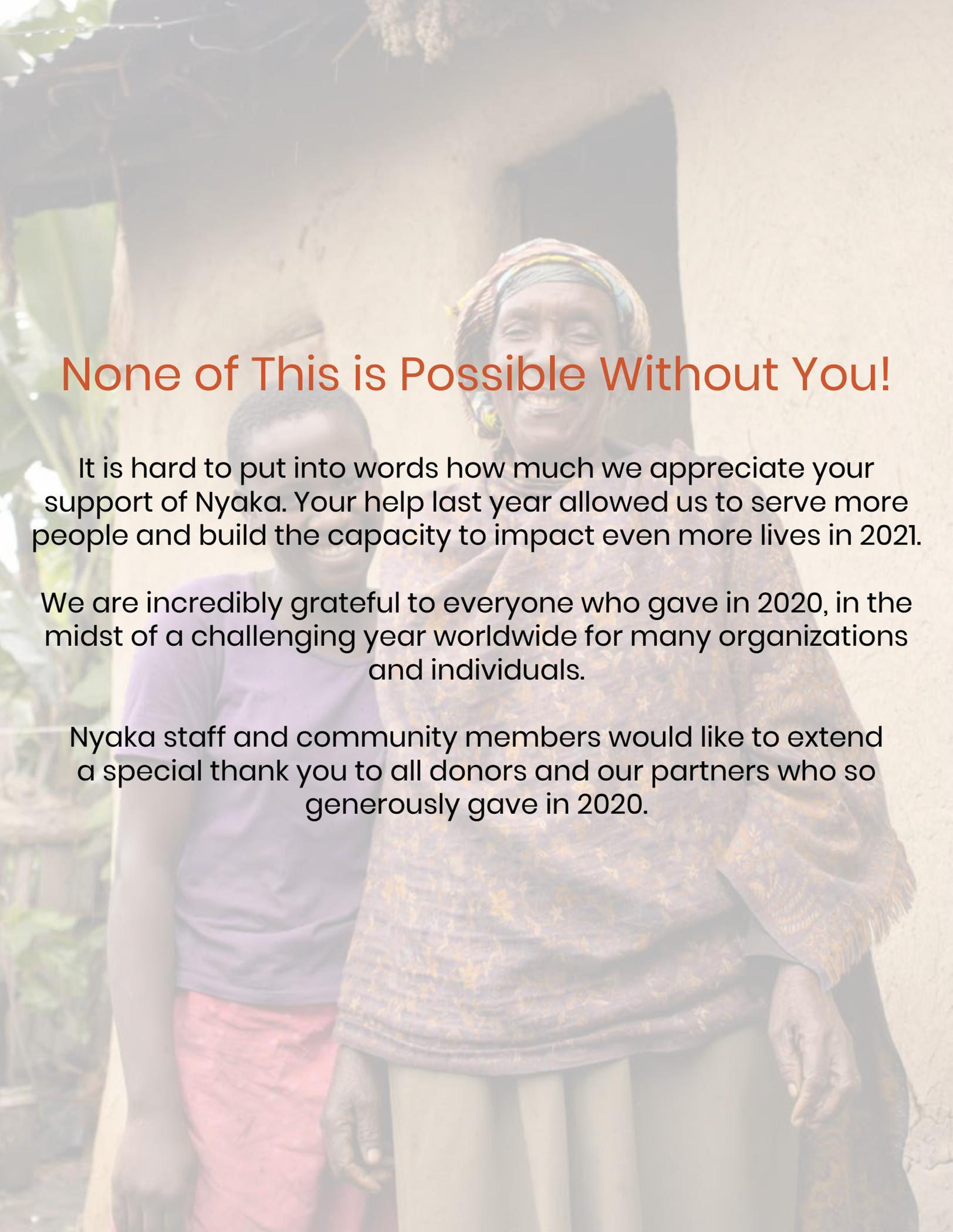
Martha Kahirimbanyi

Lucy Steinitz

Your compassion and partnership makes this life-changing work in Uganda possible. Thank you for working with us to ensure that communities have the resources they need to help their most vulnerable members thrive.

You have helped to change thousands of lives this year.

Thank you!



None of This is Possible Without You!

It is hard to put into words how much we appreciate your support of Nyaka. Your help last year allowed us to serve more people and build the capacity to impact even more lives in 2021.

We are incredibly grateful to everyone who gave in 2020, in the midst of a challenging year worldwide for many organizations and individuals.

Nyaka staff and community members would like to extend a special thank you to all donors and our partners who so generously gave in 2020.





If you have any questions about this report, or
if you want to learn more about Nyaka, please contact us at:

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