

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



**NAMUTAMBA
REHABILITATION CENTRE**
for Children



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LIST OF KEY ACRONMYS

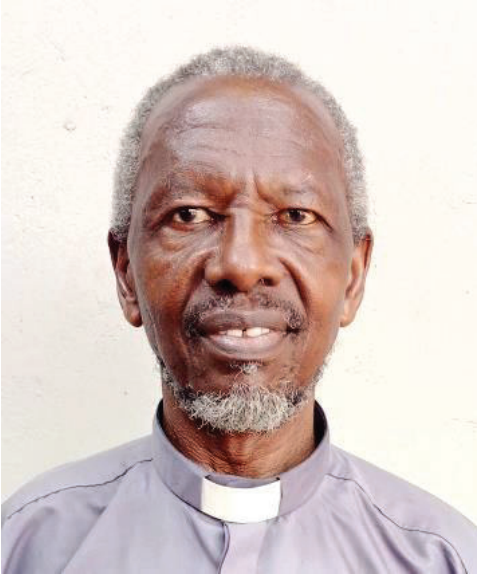
NRCC:Namutamba Rehabilitation Centre for Children

BoD: Board of Directors

CoRSU:Comprehensive Rehabilitation Services

OT: Occupational Therapy

PT:Physio Therapy



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Greetings to you all in the name of our lord Jesus Christ. It is a joy to share on the experiences of Gods goodness, mercy and how he sustained us in the last three years 2020-2022. This was a time when NRCC was developing and beginning to implement plans that would lead us to more stability and move to greater heights. The season of Covid 19 affected us by hampering the progress we would have made.

The year 2022 had its own unique challenges where we had to handle a heavy backlog for the past three years. As the interim Board, we agreed on assignments that had to be completed before December 2022 and we drew several key timelines which were not met because of several challenges that we had not anticipated and were difficult to be handled within the set time lines. However, i appreciate the number of times when the standing committee of the board would meet to make key strategic decisions on the leadership of NRCC. It was amidst such an environment that we were able to recruit the current Executive Director, physiotherapist and outreach officer.

I want to appreciate the support of Alliance Mission who did not abandon us when we needed them in the challenging time of transition and for their patience and christian approach in handling a number of issues of NRCC. I also thank the community members who have always stood with us in various challenging times. May such a spirit of community participation continue growing.

Appreciation also goes to the Embassy of Germany who gave us a donation that helped us to remove asbestos sheets and to reroof the main building of NRCC which was done successfully.

Board members and all staff are appreciated in whatever they have been doing to keep the centre moving forward amidst challenges. Although we still have a backlog of issues to handle, we look forward to when we shall hand over to the new board and we pledge our support for a smooth transition.

We thank God who strengthens us to do all things in Jesus Christ. Phillipians 4:13.
May God continue blessing NRCC!

Rev. Canon John Israel Mwesigwa
Interim Board Chairman

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It gives me immense pleasure to share with you our organizational performance and activity report for the ended year 2022.

As a new Executive Director, this was my first year in office, since July 1st 2022. On this date, i reported with two other new staff members; Raymond Nasasira (Physiothrapist) and Dianah Kyamulabi (The Outreach Officer) respectively.

The year 2022 was a transitional year for NRCC with major adjustments, restructuring and realignment, making challenging decisions and personal sacrifices in order to set up managerial and proffesional systems and mechanisms to enable us serve children with disabilities better with a more visible and measurable impact, as well as creating organisational stability and an enabling environment for all.

I am glad to report that throught the year 2022, we were able to carry out several activities to improve the wellbeing of childen with disabilities. For all that was accomplished, we are grateful to God for working through us and various stakeholders to change lives and restore hope through rehabilitation programs, counselling and encouragement. The testimonies from beneficiaries are exciting and encouraging.

Like any other organisation, NRCC faced a cocktail of challenges mainly of governance, managerial and financial nature. These caused a serious crisis and a state of fear and anxiety among the stakeholders especially the staff, but this was managed through making various adjustments and cutting costs on various cost centres most especially on staff emoluments.

Towards the end of the year 2022, our work was affected by the out break of the Ebola pandemic in the sub region. Our clients were cut off especially from Kassanda and Mubende Districts due to the lockdown. This affected client turnup at the Centre and our treatment and rehabilitation trips to CoRSU were stopped to avoid further spread of Ebola. During this period, we handled conditions which did not require surgery like Cerebral palsy and club foot from the safer areas with precaution.

As its constitutional requirement, during the course of the year, NRCC embarked on a transitional journey from a Directors led organization to a General Assembly led organization.

We started registering members of the first General Assembly towards the end of 2022, in preparation for our first Annual General Meeting and the election of a substantive NRCC Board of Directors. This membership drive was also intended to raise some money to support the centre. Honestly, this was a very challenging activity, being the first of its kind in the history of NRCC, but I am very glad that we managed to register members who are passionate and willing to serve these little ones in desperate need of attention. I believe with our combined effort, NRCC will rise to greater heights. I sincerely appreciate all of you who responded positively towards this voluntary membership call.

In terms of donors, our everlasting gratitude goes to Alliance Mission in Germany for their invaluable support. Many lives of children with disabilities have been transformed through their kindness and to that we are very grateful for their patience and guidance especially when NRCC was going through the tough time of transition (which is still ongoing).

In the same way, I would like to appreciate all our other partners especially Katalemwa Cheshire Home, CORSU, Chance for Children, St. Johns Church of Uganda Namutamba among others for their immense support and good working relationship. It would be difficult for NRCC to work in isolation. We hope to improve and maintain our relationship to help us serve better.

It has been my privilege and honor to lead NRCC through memorable and yet tough times of transition. I heartily appreciate the support and guidance of the Interim Board of Directors, Management and Staff for the team spirit and commitment exhibited during the ended year 2022. Sister Ute the donors representative, our volunteers Dr. Birgit and Olaf and all friends and well wishers of NRCC. It would have been difficult for NRCC to survive the waves of change without your support and prayer. I believe the lessons learnt in 2022 at different levels will improve our service delivery, networks and relationships.

All in all, we closed the year 2022 on a more positive note, with renewed strength, great plans and will to continue serving children with disabilities, and changing lives.

We are looking forward to a more productive year 2023 with fresh opportunities and blessings.

I thank you all. May God bless you

Charity Tumukunde
NRCC Executive Director.

ABOUT US

Namutamba Rehabilitation Centre for Children(NRCC) is a registered Non Government Organisation (Reg No.3171), providing rehabilitation services to children and young adults with disabilities, since 1995. It is found in Namutamba village Mityana District and provides services mostly to the neighbouring districts such as Mubende, Kiboga, Kasanda and Kyankwanzi among others. Over the years, many children with disabilities have benefitted from the various rehabilitation services offered by this organisation.

OUR VISION

A Centre of Excellence, comitted to offering Holistic Services to children with disabilities.

OUR MISSION

To empower, support and work with children with disabilities in an effort to better their lives through specialised and client tailored programmes.



SERVICES OFFERED:



- ☒ Specialised consultation and surgery
- ☒ Admission of children for pre and post operative care
- ☒ Provision of assistive devices
- ☒ Physio and occupational therapy
- ☒ Psychosocial support
- ☒ Outreaches and follow ups
- ☒ Parent support groups among others



COMMON CONDITIONS OF OUR PATIENTS INCLUDE:



- ☒ Cerebral palsy
- ☒ Club foot
- ☒ Osteomyelitis
- ☒ Hydrocephalus
- ☒ Post burn contractures
- ☒ Cleft lip
- ☒ Post injection paralysis
- ☒ Arthritis
- ☒ Deformities
- ☒ Bone tuberculosis
- ☒ Drop foot
- ☒ Epilepsy among others



ORGANISATIONAL GOVERNANCE

In this report period of the year 2022, NRCC governance structure comprised of 9 Interim Board of Directors. Several consultative meetings were held because NRCC was going through a transition and many issues needed to be addressed.

INTERIM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

No.	Name	Position
1	Rev. Canon John Israel Mwesigwa	Interim Board Chairman
2	Pastor Francis Aoli	Interim Vice chairman
3	Ms. Edreda Bampata	Interim Treasurer
4	Eng. Eric Mugwanya	Interim General Secretary
5	Ms. Loy Kaluganda	Interim Vice secretary
6	Pastor James Kayira	Interim Member
7	Mr. John Njendahayo	Interim Member
8	Ms. Sanyu Margret Mulondo	Interim Member
9	Ms. Shallon Akampurira	Interim Member



MEDICAL REHABILITATION



2022 had some interruptions (some beyond our control) which affected our work, like the outbreak of Eloba in the subregion and the reroofing exercise which led to a temporary closure of the centre. However, we still managed to provide quality medical rehabilitation services to children with disabilities from different parts of uganda and beyond.

NRCC offered different services to children with disabilities at the centre which included; physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nutritional support, psychosocial support to both children with disabilities and their care givers among others.

A total number of 284 Children received services in the year 2022 and the condition was cerebral palsy with 66 children).

with the highest number of children



Postural Management of a Cerebral Palsy Child



Clubfoot cast removal

DISABILITY STATISTICS FROM 2019-2022

DISABILITY	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTAL
Cerebral palsy	132	89	67	66	354
Club foot	60	33	40	31	164
Osteomyelitis	15	16	19	13	63
Post burn contracture	10	6	13	8	37
Arthritis	4	3	3	4	14
Cleft lip	4	1	2	4	11
Epilepsy	13	7	3	3	26
Post injection paralysis	14	10	12	6	42
Others	176	145	191	149	661
Total	428	310	350	284	1372

CHANGE STORIES: Florence



13-year-old Nakibuuka Florence was brought at NRCC on 25th May 2022 by her Father with painful wounds around the pelvic region, unable to stand or walk. She was diagnosed with bilateral septic Hip Arthritis, Severe Acute Malnutrition and osteomyelitis. She was started on Antibiotics and daily dressing and later taken to CoRSU for further investigation and management. Florence was discharged from CoRSU on 2/8/22 back to NRCC for post-surgical treatment, nutrition and physio-therapy. At NRCC, she underwent treatment and was discharged on 2/11/22. She no longer has pain and can now walk using crutches. Florence is now able to go to school and is a happier little girl.

Karungi before treatment



During treatment



Karungi Percy was referred to NRCC by Bukuya HC IV Kassanda District on 18th November



2022 for management at two months old, with severe club foot for both legs. At NRCC, she was assessed, mother educated about child's condition, counselled and the medical team started manipulation and casting immediately.

After a series of sessions, we were able to have the feet in their desired position. She's currently on daily and night bracing and treatment is still ongoing. The mother who was terribly scared and stressed about her child's condition is now happy that her little girl is now okay and is very grateful to NRCC.

Current state

MAJOR WORK DONE

Reroofing of the centre main building.

NRCC got a donation from the German Embassy in Uganda to help in re-roofing the centre main building. After a lot of processes and procedures, we were able to complete this activity. The old asbestos roof which was hazardous to the occupants of the building particularly the caretakers, children and staff was removed, disposed safely and replaced with proper iron sheets. We even managed to replace the old ceiling with a better one. Special appreciation to everyone who got involved in this exercise most especially Ms.Kaluganda Loy who became a conduit through which this great donation came through.



AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION ACTIVITIES

In a bid to enhance visibility of NRCC, the Executive Director working with the outreach and medical departments, conducted awareness raising campaigns in the neighboring community especially with the support of St. Johns Church of Uganda Namutamba and the different schools. With the help of our old patients like Mr. Katende Davis, we were able to share visible success stories of empowerment and real rehabilitation. We are grateful to St. Johns Church of Uganda Namutamba which gave us a powerful platform to share about NRCC and call upon community engagement. This has improved people's knowledge about disability and the different cases managed at the centre.



Sensitization at Namutamba Demonstration School

THE CHARITY RUN

As a local resource mobilization and disability awareness strategy, NRCC staff participated in the charity run organized by Mr. John Njendahayo, a board member and Director Nkuru Vocational and Business Institute on the 29th/10/2022 to fundraise for NRCC in remembrance of the late Betty Nakafunvu. Two million Uganda shillings was raised and handed over to the ED. Participants were also sensitized about disability and called upon to support NRCC's vision.



NEW STAFF

The Interim Board of Directors working with AMLEM LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION recruited three new staff to fill the vacant positions of Executive Director, Physiotherapist and Outreach officer. They begun work in July 2022.

Executive Director: Charity Tumukunde
Outreach officer: Diana Kyamulabi
Raymond Nasasira: Physiotherapist.

ORIENTATION WITH KATALEMWA CHESHIRE HOME

As a means of enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of NRCC staff and BoD, on 8th and 9th September 2022, we had a very good orientation at Namirembe Guest House and Katalemwa premises respectively to equip us with knowldge and skills as we strive to be more impactful to the beneficiaries of NRCC.

Board members during a leadership training at Namirembe Guest house



NRCC staff at Katalemwa Cheshire Home



A MESSAGE FROM OUR VOLUNTEERS



We are Dr. Birgit and Olaf Berthold from Germany. By Gods call we left our country to come with a Christian Organisation "Coworkers" to Uganda and to serve at the Ndejje University. Coworkers supported NRCC in the past with a specialist for administration and accounting. To continue the collaboration with NRCC, Coworkers asked us to join the team in Namutamba as volunteers.

Birgit is a medical doctor and Olaf is a forest engineer and so we offer support in different areas. Every two weeks our journey goes across the dirt roads from Ndejje to Namutamba and we spend a whole day at NRCC.

The first time that we were travelling, God gave us a wonderful rainbow on the way. The rainbow is also a symbol for Namutamba. We could feel, that God has a big love for Namutamba and the children and parents there, and that he renewed his promise to be with NRCC.

For us the days in Namutamba are every time very fulfilled. We enjoy the strong spiritual community in the team. In the morning we start together with worship and devotion and praying. Everything happens out of God's grace! And it is so great to see how the team is serving the weakest of the society. Some of the children even can't talk because of their disability, but NRCC gives them a voice in the society. When we come back after two weeks, we find many stories of success: children who could only lay on the ground, are sitting and playing, others learning to walk and we find a smile on the faces of the children and the parents.

God does miracles and He gives new hope.

We are very thankful to serve in God's kingdom as a part of the team of NRCC.

STAFF PROFILE: THE LONGEST SERVING MEDICAL PERSONNEL



Asiteru Grace, the Nursing Assistant joined NRCC in 1997. Over the years, Grace served NRCC in different capacities and this gave her a unique experience and understanding of NRCC.

Grace is a very humble, committed christian and is very passionate about her work. Her pure kindness and warm smile is always very welcoming and comforting to all who interact with her.

Graces begins her work at 9am , after devotion and it involves preparing workrooms, checking the wards to ensure all is well, preparing dressings and supporting the medical team where there is need. Grace also usually spares time to talk to the mothers and patients who may need special attention.

Grace is motivated by her passion for working with children and this has majorly contributed to her long service at NRCC which has now become her other home. Driven by love, empathy, simplicity and patience, Grace always serves faithfully even amidst different challenges because she believes that love covers everything.

Grace appreciates the funders for loving and supporting children with disabilities . Their support has changed many lives of children who were neglected, abandoned and hopeless.

She also appreciates the Executive Director and fellow staff for their tireless efforts and for creating a friendly work environment. She believes that God is going to do amazing things for the centre and prays for Gods Grace and favour upon NRCC.

NRCC SAVED MY LIFE: THE STORY OF A FORMER BENEFICIARY.



Kwagala Sylvia, a mother of 2 children was a patient at NRCC in 2003 at 13 years.

Sylvia who is originally from Kyankwanzi District was born without any disability but her life changed when she fell sick at the age of 12. She narrated that she felt back pain and her uncle took her to a health facility in Kyankwanzi District and was given injections. The first injection went well and she was told to return the following day for the second one. Unfortunately, the second injection caused paralysis of the lower part of her body.

Sylvia was never taken back to hospital and was abandoned in the house by her parents for two years. She was later rescued by a good samaritan from Kiboga District who was collecting children with disabilities to take

them to Namutamba Rehabilitation Centre for treatment. It took Sylvia and her 6 year old little sister who was her only caretaker, three months of living in different homes to arrive at NRCC because the good samaritan had to collect a good number of children to reduce on the transport cost.

When they finally arrived at NRCC, Sylvia remembered vividly how sick and helpless she was; with sores all over her body but the staff at the centre took good care of her beyond her expectation. She was treated and when she was able to sit, she was taught tailoring and later discharged with a package to enable her start a new life of self sustainability.

Sylvia believes that if it was not for NRCC she would not be alive. She is very grateful to NRCC for accepting a helpless girl like her and loving her even more than her own parents. With her tailoring skills acquired from the centre and the sewing machine, Sylvia is now able to fend for herself and her family because NRCC treated her with love and empowered her.

FATHER OF THE YEAR. From Mombasa to Namutamba



Brian Kariuki from Mombasa, Kenya a father to Gidraf (2 years) is a true demonstration of a fathers deep love, commitment, resilience and sacrifice. Brians only child Gidraf developed complications at birth and was later diagnosed with cerebral palsy. After a series of hospital visits, Brian was advised by doctors to start the baby on physiotherapy but he said that he was afraid of the high costs of therapy in Kenya. This became very difficult for him especially because he was still struggling with other medical bills for Gidraf.

Brian was later told about Namutamba Rehabilitation Centre for Children in Mityana Uganda, offering very good free rehabilitation services and after discussing with his family, he decided to travel the long distance to help his only child Gidraf.

Brian arrived with his son at NRCC in October 2022 and was admitted after medical review and Gidraf started therapy immediately.

Brian was the only male care taker during his time at the centre but what made him mostly stand out was his commitment, gentleness and patience . In our local communities, many fathers have a tendency of rejecting or abandoning their children with disabilities, believing they are cursed or a children to other men. Brian accepted his child and is very supportive.

As he prepared to go back to Mombasa after a long stay with us, Brian was very happy and appreciative because his son could stand, play, hold, recognise and respond. He appreciated the medical team for empowering him and is committed to continuing with the exercises so that his son gets much better.

Brian advises parents of children with disabilities to love them, support them and offer the needed medical and psychological support for they did not choose to be born like that. They are not cursed, they are just born different. They require more love, patience and support, not beating or scolding them. He also encourages parents to always pray for their children.

MOTHER OF THE YEAR



Jihozo Angel from Kiboga Kiboga district and baby Natasha have a unique story and relationship. Angel is an aunt to the mother of baby Natasha

The 2 year old Natasha was abandoned by her young mother, a S.2 student orphan who conceived through rape during the first covid 19 lockdown in 2020. She attempted several abortions but failed and was advised by her friends to give birth and kill the baby after.

Natasha was born with a disability and spent some time in the hospital. When she was finally home, her mother attempted to strangle her as earlier planned but feared and decided to abandon her in the house and disappeared. She was saved by neighbours who called the police and Angel the only known relative was contacted

and given custody of the baby.

Unfortunately, this was the beginning of problems and very tough times for Angel. When she reached home with the baby, her husband was very furious especially because the baby was disabled. He abandoned them in the house and moved to an unknown place. Without an income, Angel struggled to take care of Natasha and was later chased out of the house because she could not afford rent. Left with no choice, Angel moved to a local church for shelter. They survive by the grace of God. Christians and other kind people provide clothes, food and money for Natashas medical requirements.

Angel is a committed christian and her faith is challenging to the ordinary person. Even with all her problems, she is always happy and hopeful. Whenever she is at the centre with Natasha, she is very active and helpful around the centre. She is a team leader and always looks out for others with encouragement and prayer. She is also a favorite to many.

Angel appreciates NRCC staff who have always been patient and understanding. She also appreciates the funders who have enabled helpless people like her to receive treatment for their children.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Although we generally had a difficult year, we crowned it with a simple celebration of prayer and thanks giving on 9th December 2022. This has always been the practice previously but we were more grateful to be able to share a light moment as a family this year because 2022 was a difficult year for the centre. So, it was a celebration of victory and giving thanks to the Lord who sustained us, provided for us and kept us safe through the Ebola pandemic and other challenges. It was also moment of encouragement especially listening to stories and testimonies of former patients, care givers of former patients and former staff. We were also grateful to receive presents for the children from Germany and they were very excited.



SUMMARY ACTIVITY PLANS FOR 2023.

- Meeting of the first General Assembly of NRCC (March 2023)
- Inauguration and induction of the new Board of Directors
- As a resource mobilization strategy, we plan to hold two Major Fundraising Events: International Day of the African Child (16th June 2023), International Day of Persons with Disabilities-PWDs and Annual Thanksgiving (3rd December 2023).
- Building a pit latrine and outside bathrooms for proper sanitation and hygiene
- General Renovation of the Centre Main building
- Outreach Clinics
- Enhancing NRCC visibility through Website reactivation, Documentary and radio programs
- Staff apprenticeship program and refresher courses
- Reviving and strengthening partnerships
- Skilling programs

NRCC PICTORIAL



DONATION INFORMATION

Bank Transfer

Bank: Centenary Bank Uganda

Account No: 3100043129

Account Name: Namutamba Rehab Centre for Children (NRCC)

Thank You.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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