

2022

ANNUAL REPORT



Amani Transformational Foundation

12/31/2022



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Message and word of thanks from the Board Chairperson

Welcome to Amani Transformation Foundation (ATF)'s first Annual Report. We established the organization in 2021 as a home-grown, youth-led organization founded, run by and for the indigenous people. This was an exciting start-up year with the founder members planting the seeds for fulfilling ATF's mission of creating access to education, health care and development opportunities for women, men and young people in Moyo and Adjumani districts. Thanks to the hard work of the Board of Directors, the organization made great strides in setting up governance and management structures, creating visibility and linkages with the District Local Governments, and setting up pilot education programs in Moyo and Adjumani.

In February 2022, the Board of Directors appointed a Management Committee to oversee the day -to - day operations and a District Liaison Volunteer to coordinate activities with the Local Governments (LGs) in Moyo and Adjumani districts. The Management Committee developed several policies such as Volunteer Policy, Safeguarding Children Policy and Financial Policies. ATF created partnerships with the District LGs. Through the efforts of the District Liaison Officer, the LGs in the two districts not only welcomed ATF's vision, mission and goals which align with the districts' priorities but also provided permits for the organization to carry out activities. With the support of the District LGs, ATF, currently a company limited by guarantee, also made tremendous progress towards registering with the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) bureau as a fully-fledged local NGO.

Currently operating like a start-up environment, activities are facilitated by two volunteer program officers (one in each district), the District Liaison Officer, a volunteer accountant and a volunteer Program Coordinator. A total of seven youthful and motivated volunteers were engaged stationed in Moyo, Adjumani, and Kampala. Starting in July 2022, ATF focused programming on creating and promoting access to quality education in both Adjumani and Moyo districts. In direct response to the psychosocial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on schools in the two districts, working closely with the LGs, four schools (two in Moyo and two in Adjumani) were selected for a pilot project. These schools are Etele Primary School and Moyo Secondary School in Moyo district, and Cessia Primary School and St. Mary Assumpta Senior Secondary School in Adjumani District. ATF initiated psycho-social support activities in the selected schools in the aftermath of student-led strikes that resulted in school closures and destruction of school property. A total of 314 students attended psychosocial support sessions facilitated by volunteers between May and December 2022.

To ensure that beneficiaries are included in programme planning, ATF strategically organized an Essay Writing Competition to mark the Day of the African Child in June 2022. A total of 15 students in candidate classes in Moyo Secondary School (Moyo) and St. Mary Assumpta Senior Secondary School (Adjumani) participated in writing essays proposing solutions to the challenges faced by students and the causes of strikes in schools. Six students with winning essays were awarded cash prizes and



scholastic materials. ATF will use the information from the essays to inform future programming and psycho-social support activities.

ATF also launched a literacy campaign, “Kolaki Ta” translated, “Let Them Read” in commemoration of Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day in Adjumani on July 1, 2022. A total of 39 students participated in DEAR Day debate organized by ATF to encourage and motivate students to read. Friends of ATF in the diaspora also embarked on a Book Donation Drive to collect books from Europe and United States to be shipped and donated to libraries in the designated schools.

ATF’s support to candidate classes contributed to improved grades for some candidates. ATF provided scholastic materials to all Primary Seven, Senior Four, and Six candidates in the four respective schools. ATF Volunteers also provided remedial classes to thirteen candidates in Etele Primary School in preparation for Primary Living Examinations (PLE). All students supported with remedial classes passed in division one and two.

Now that we have planted the seeds, we must continue to water the ground, and nurture the seeds of this work to full growth. In the coming year, we hope to enhance and scale up our education programmes while cultivating entrepreneurial skills among young people. It is our hope that schools will be an entry point for creating access to quality health services and community development. In order to do this, we shall need a greater measure of financial resources.

A big thank-you to all ATF Board and Management Committee Members, and Volunteers who offer their time and donate financial resources towards the work of this organization. The struggle continues until ‘Women, men and young people in Adjumani and Moyo districts are healthy and can effectively contribute to personal and community development.’

Sincerely

Dr Elizabeth Madraa

Chairperson

Board of Directors



Who we are

Amani Transformational Foundation (ATF) is a small but growing indigenous organization set up by Ugandan citizens to promote health, education and other development ventures in Moyo and Adjumani districts, West Nile region of Uganda. Having legally registered as a company limited by guarantee under the laws of Uganda in April

2021, ATF is in the final stages of registering with the Uganda Bureau for Non-Governmental Organizations. The founders of ATF aim to support government of Uganda efforts to promote education with a specific target of youth through primary and secondary schools, as well as support to health promotion, disease prevention and capacity strengthening through communities and health facilities. We partner with education and health leaders in the two districts. In addition, ATF aims to promote sustainable development projects in the two districts. In the Madi language “Amani” means “for us”. This is the foundation of ATF, we aim to do things for us, by us, with us. Focus on youth means the organization is youth-led and centered around listening to the voices of young people to shape programming, but also working with young people to generate ideas.

Mission

To create access to education, health care and development opportunities for women, men and young people through partnerships and community engagement approaches.

Vision

Women, men and young people in Adjumani and Moyo districts are healthy and can effectively contribute to personal and community development.

Core Values: Commitment| Transparency| Diversity| Respect| Integrity| Accountability

Where we work

Given our organization’s mission and vision that is focused on improving education and health outcomes with the goal of enhancing development in Adjumani and Moyo districts, we have worked with district leaders to commence programs with schools as an entry point. In 2022 we started with two schools in each district, one secondary and one primary. We worked with students and young people to show us the direction our work needed to take as well as priority setting.



Why what we do matters

Young people in Moyo and Adjumani districts are always behind the curve in accessing education opportunities and meeting academic standards when compared to their contemporaries in the rest of Uganda. The COVID-19 pandemic and 24 months of school closures made the situation worse with hundreds of girls getting pregnant, students plagued by psychosocial concerns and prolonged periods of non-access to educational materials. The young people in the two districts did not have access to online resources during COVID lockdowns. Metu sub county in Moyo district reported 500 pregnancies during the lock-down period. Key challenges identified by education leaders in both districts include lack of engagement by parents, poor quality of teaching due to knowledge and skills gaps, lack of appropriate teaching equipment and resources leading to demoralization of teachers. Reading culture has been lost by young people with preference for other forms of sometimes ill-advised forms of entertainment. Aside from academic aspects district education leaders would like partnerships in enhancing the psycho-social wellbeing of young people through access to co-curricular activities including health clubs and sports.

Results of the Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) in November 2022 revealed 1,165 students completely failing their exams in Adjumani and 215 in Moyo. Adjumani recorded 219 first grade results compared to Moyo’s 54. Amani Transformational Foundation is well-placed to provide support to the education sector with a particular focus on psychosocial well-being.

Message from Volunteers

Everyone currently involved in the day to day management, operations and program activities of Amani Transformational Foundation is a volunteer. Management Committee and Advisory Board members volunteer their time, donate funds and mentor other volunteers. District based volunteers spend 10-15 hours a week focusing on district engagement, representation, school and community-based activities. ATF works with a total of 7 volunteers including a District Liaison Officer (1), Volunteer Program Officers (3), Program Volunteers (2), Volunteer Accountant (1) based in Adjumani, Moyo and Kampala.



I'm volunteering with the ATF because its vision and mission aims at transforming the lives of the community in both Moyo and Adjumani districts through promoting health, education and other developmental ventures. This offers great empowerment to women, men and the youths to improve their standard of living-

Janet Bunia, Volunteer Program Assistant, Adjumani



*ATF Volunteers from left to right:
Ashanty Acidria, Sharon Rareo, Janet Bunia, Patrick Enzama and George Ganyizara*

Spotlight on Projects

Psychosocial Support activities in schools

ATF's programming is aimed at coaching young people to look beyond their current circumstances, and self-empower by replacing challenging negative perspectives with more positive outlooks.

This year, ATF's psychosocial support activities were a direct response to school strikes in the aftermath of the COVID-19 lock-



ATF Volunteer Program Officer, Ashanty Acidria delivers a psychosocial Support Session to girls

downs. The lock-downs exacerbated economic stressors in a community that is already plagued by poverty. Young people missed two academic years with little or no constructive activities. This coupled with economic stressors in the home left young people feeling vulnerable and hopeless resulting in pregnancy, alcoholism, and drug use. At the request of the District LG Education office, ATF embarked on an emergency response.

Focusing efforts on candidate classes, ATF's volunteers visited the designated schools on a monthly basis between July and November. Through counseling sessions, they encouraged young people to continue with their formal education and motivated students to work towards their potential.

It is a great opportunity to me to be a change agent in my society and Uganda as a whole, by promoting access to education, health care and development opportunities for women, men and the youth through community engagement approaches which improve standards of living of my community.-
Ashanty Acidria, Volunteer Program Officer, Adjumani

Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Day 2022

ATF's literacy programme seeks to improve the reading culture among students. On 1st July 2022, ATF volunteers celebrated Uganda Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Day in Adjumani district. The event took place at the Adjumani premises of the Madi Debating Society. In attendance were members of the Adjumani branch of the Madi debating society, students from Adjumani Model Secondary School and ATF volunteers from Moyo and Adjumani. ATF donated 28 reading books to the Madi debating society library. During the event students from Adjumani Model School held a debate about the reading culture in Moyo and Adjumani districts and sought to describe the reasons why young people in the two districts lack a reading culture with reasons ranging from lack of reading materials to destruction and laziness. They provided some solutions to the challenges students face including better access to reading materials, improved literacy and numeracy and presence of role models.



"I am volunteering with ATF because the organization's vision and mission aims at transforming and empowering women, girls and young men socially, economically and politically for better life." - George Ganyizara, Volunteer District Liaison Officer

Day of the African Child Essay Competition

ATF's education programmes strategically seeks perspectives of students that drive interventions. Every year on 16th June the International Day of the African Child (DAC) is celebrated. In 2022 ATF joined the world in celebrating DAC by launching an essay competition targeted at secondary school students. 15 students (8 girls and 7 boys) from two secondary schools participated and submitted essays for grading. The topics they could choose from included: a. ***Why are there so many strikes in schools in Moyo and Adjumani districts and what can be done?*** b. ***What are the key challenges faced by teenagers in your district and what can be done about these challenges?*** The three best essays in each school received a cash prize and all participants received a certificate of participation. Perspectives and solutions put forward by students will feed into discussions with school leaders and program implementers.

"The people of Adjumani, Moyo and West Nile in general have common historical challenges which results into school drop-out, child marriages leading to malnutrition and numerous health related challenges which ATF identified and has come out boldly to tackle. I am therefore proud to identify myself with an indigenous organization that has the best plans for her people."

– Patrick Enzama, Volunteer Program Officer



Winners of Day of the African Child Essay Competition receive a Prize, Moyo Senior Secondary School

***Izonzi Kolata* peer empowerment program**

Recognizing that female students are more likely to drop out of school than males, ATF has set up a special support programme for them. In the Madi language, *Izonzi Kolata* means ‘Let girls study’. The *Izonzi Kolata* peer empowerment program was initiated in Etele Primary School and uses a cascade approach to recruit additional girls to the group. A safe space has been created for girls to share experience and ideas around social and psychosocial concerns as well as how to protect themselves. Girls encourage each other to stay in school. Bringing in external speakers creates opportunities for the girls to hear from others who have had similar experiences to themselves.



“Izonzi Kolata started as a peer-to-peer girl child education promoters club in Etele Primary School. The club started as a way to keep girls in school as they are faced with many social needs and psychosocial concerns. I worked with a young mother to talk to five adolescent girls about on body changes in girls and how to cope with this. The adolescent girls in the club also received information on psychosocial and social dimensions of person's life. Discussions with the girls about issues that face young girls such as defilement, rape, suicide, abortion etc and how they can protect themselves were useful. The club creates a space for the girls to share experience, knowledge and information. The girls support each other from a psychosocial support perspective in order to shield themselves from harm and distress. Raising awareness and increased knowledge has been useful to the girls”. – Sharon Rareo, Program Volunteer, Moyo

International Women’s Day 2022

ATF is committed to promoting gender equality. On 8th March 2022 ATF volunteers joined Moyo district authorities and other stakeholders in celebrating International Women’s Day in Moyo. Volunteers joined a parade and gave a speech to underscore ATF’s commitment to women and girls education and development in madi sub-region.



ATF volunteers at International Women’s Day Celebrations, Moyo, 8 March

ATF support to Moyo Babies Home, Etele Parish Church, and other causes in Moyo



Primary 7 candidates and staff at Etele PS receive scholastic materials, November 2022



ATF donated various items to Moyo babies home where 32 babies and young children live.



Candidate classes at Moyo Senior Secondary School received scholastic materials, November 2022



In 2022 ATF donated scholastic materials to Etele Catholic Mission church which runs a youth centre, the Etele Student's Association, for children and young people. The youth centre is a place where students can go and read, discuss with peers and mentors as well as receive counseling and psychosocial support. The Etele Student's Association was set up by the Parish priest, Fr Lawrence during the COVID-19 pandemic to create a space for young people. The aim is to reduce school dropouts and prevent teenage pregnancies.

What we achieved

- 1,093** students attended various activities arranged by ATF: 663 (Moyo), 430 (Adjumani)
- 440** mathematical sets distributed to candidate students in four schools
- 314** students attended psychosocial support sessions
- 112** refugee students participated in ATF activities
- 39** students participated in Drop Everything And Read (DEAR) Day debate
- 36** events arranged
- 15** students participated in Day of the African Child Essay Competition
- 7** volunteers recruited
- 4** vulnerable students provided with material support to sit their primary leaving examinations
- 1** youth club supported with scholastic materials

Looking forward: Plans for the coming year

In 2023 ATF activities will continue to focus on schools as an entry point for psychosocial support, education and youth empowerment activities. The four schools targeted in 2022 will continue to be supported while additional schools will be added as opportunity and funding allows. Focus on improving teacher capacity to deliver educational content effectively, access to literacy and numeracy materials for targeted schools and exploration of opportunities to introduce use of information technology in schools will also be undertaken in 2023. A context adapted psychosocial support curriculum for schools will be developed. ATF will finalize formal registration with the Uganda NGO board during quarter one of 2023 and begin to form formal partnerships with, Local Governments, other local NGOs, as well as international NGOs and potential donors. ATF Board of Directors will continue to strengthen operational Policies and Procedures for Human Resource, and Financial Management.

Financial Report

In 2022, ATF received a total of Uganda Shillings 20,876,742 (5,626.37 United States Dollar) which was 30% of the annual projected operating budget for program activities. Most of the funds went towards payment of volunteer stipends, programmatic and operational costs for program activities.

Table 1: STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	31. Dec. 2022 (Uganda Shs)
CASH FLOW FOR OPERATING REVENUE	
Revenue for operating activities	20,876,742
PROVIDED FOR OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Stipend	9,080,000
Airtime Allowance	3,847,000
Transport	350,000
Other operating expenses	5,389,359
Net cash provided for Operating activities	18,666,359
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Proceed From loan payable	0
Property and Equipment	1,437,000
NET CASH PROVIDED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	20,103,359
Net increase in cash and cash equipment	773,383
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the year	0
Cash and cash equivalent end of year	773,383

My name is Kenneth John Tiondi. I work as a volunteer accounts officer with ATF. I like working with ATF because they instill moral behavior and cultural value among the school going children and promoting health services to the communities of both Moyo and Adjumani district at large. Thank you

Pictorial Essay



ATF Volunteers Janet Bunia and George Ganyizara meet with students and leaders at St Mary Assumpta Girls' Secondary School Adjumani



ATF Volunteers Janet Bunia and Ashanty Acidria meet with staff and pupils at Cessia Primary School



ATF Volunteers Sharon Rareo and George Ganyizara with students and leaders at Moyo



Sharon Rareo with students at Etele Primary School in Moyo



Primary 7 Students of Cessia Primary School receive mathematical sets, November 2022