



2021 ANNUAL REPORT



www.wellsofhope.org

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List of acronyms

- AIDS** :Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
- BOD** :Board of Directors
- FIWA** :Formerly Incarcerated Women Association
- HCT** :HIV Counseling and Testing
- HHSS** :Hope High School Semuto
- HIV** :Human Immunodeficiency Virus
- SOPs** :Standard Operating Procedures
- USA** : United Sates of America
- WOHJS** :Wells of Hope Junior School
- WOHM** :Wells of Hope Ministries

History

Wells of Hope Ministries is a Christian Non-Government organization that reaches out to inmates and their families. The organization was founded in 2002 in Murchison bay Prison Luzira, Kampala by Francis Ssuubi where he was an inmate on remand for a period of 68 days. He was later acquitted after the charges were dropped.

While in prison, he wrote the Wells of Hope concept. During imprisonment, he discovered the inmates' biggest worry is the situation of their families that they left behind especially their children. Francis, accompanied by some volunteers then started going to prison to preach; they used to praise and worship God. They started by preaching to inmates at Upper prison Luzira. Through the sessions they conducted, the inmates' hope was restored. They had hope in God that their families would be taken care of and that they would reunite with their loved ones one day.

In 2004 Francis and volunteers started doing Christmas parties for Children with incarcerated parents. They would do this with support from friends. The children would merge to celebrate this day; they used to sing, dance, play together, get gifts and cut cake, something their parents could not afford to do for them.

Wells of Hope Ministries was officially launched on 25th November 2005. In 2007, Wells of Hope Ministries started by paying school fees for the children. The children were studying from schools in their communities which were near their homes. In 2010, Wells of Hope Ministries rented a facility which served as a school for the children. The children received education and welfare support. In December 2011, the organization purchased land in Kyajinjja, Semuto-Wakiso district.

Construction work kicked off and at the moment, the organisation has a primary school, Wells of Hope Junior School.



The school provides education and welfare support to children with parents in prison and has attracted a number of children from the community as well. The children are taken care of by a well-trained Teaching and Support staff. Wells of Hope Ministries is renting premises in Semuto-Nakaseke District where Hope High School (formerly known as Wells of Hope High School) is located. It is a secondary school where children from Wells of Hope Junior School proceed for secondary education; after they have graduated from primary level. The school also has children from the community.

The organization also has children supported in tertiary; vocational institutions and university. The ministry supports families of inmates through projects which they embrace as a livelihood to sustain their families. With a qualified and committed team, Wells of Hope is able to reach out to more inmates and their families. Wells of Hope gets its support from partners and friends in Uganda and outside Uganda.



MANDATE

To be compassionate by responding to needs of prisoners and their families.

VISION

A society where people especially children affected by the criminal justice system get justice and regeneration in their lives

MISSION

To address needs of prisoners and their families, with great attention given to children with a parent in prison through sustainable and compassionate programs



Message from Chairman

Warm greetings to all our friends, donors, sponsors and partners in our Lord Jesus Christ.

It is with excitement that we begun the year 2021 with zeal and commitment to realize unaccomplished activities for 2020 and yet set new targets for 2021. We have been steadfast to recover from the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic with a mix of approaches; working from home with virtual interactions, maintenance of skeleton workforce and strengthened partner grass-root engagements. Contained in this report are some of the key milestones that Wells of Hope Ministries has attained and lessons drawn throughout the

whole year. All the programme design and implementation have been a result of a compassionate, and committed professional team of staff that have exercised high degree of resilience and innovation to bring about meaningful impact to our beneficiaries and communities that we serve.

The year 2021 has been characterized by focusing mainly on critical program areas with strict observance of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for COVID-19 pandemic given our mandate to serve and protect the children with parents in prison and their families. To this end, the Board of Directors in close collaboration with the Executive Director and the secretariat team have ensured that all our beneficiaries are safe as they are involved in our programs and related engagements. I must mention that all the three quarters of 2021 have been characterized with tangible positive results.

I commend the initiative and continuous efforts by the organization to maintain a healthy relation with our friends, donors and funders through constant engagements and courtesy communication about important work and activities where their support is allocated.

We pride over our efforts to raise over 80% of our initial fundraising target for the end of year 2021 campaign. Thank you all for your generosity towards our funding envelope as most of what we have achieved in 2021 have been possible because of this support!



The organisation intends to adhere to the realigned and adjusted programs and way of work so as to effectively match the changing work dynamics and beneficiary needs and aspirations. We are nearly completing the construction of the administration block at Wells of Hope Junior School and plans are underway for furnishing it. We have also acquired land for the High School and plans for construction are underway.

We thank all friends, donors, sponsors and funders who have generously and tirelessly stood with our organization in support of the different programs and activities purposely for the betterment of lives and wellbeing of inmates, children with a parent in prison and their families.

My special thanks to all board members for the zealous and untiring commitment exhibited throughout this year. Indeed, together we have been able to achieve a lot and concluded 2021 successfully.

SAM ALOCI

BOARD CHAIRMAN

WELLS OF HOPE MINISTRIES

Message from Executive Director

The year 2021 started off with very low momentum and uncertainties propelled by prevailing conditions of COVID-19 and strict observance of Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) with related restrictions to some areas and facilities. This compelled the organization to devise means and approaches of work that included; working from home with virtual interactions and rotational workforce to safeguard against unprecedented events and health challenges among our staff fraternity, Board of Directors and beneficiaries.

We have carefully adjusted our programmatic focus and the implementation modalities; successfully embraced innovative safe and practical approaches as we reached out to inmates and their families while delivering support and extending services. A case in point is; we have adopted online classes and materials while educating children with incarcerated parents and phone calls for child and parent bonding. While flexing the working approaches, the team of staff has effectively and efficiently achieved desired outputs mainly through; virtual meetings (zoom and google meet), teleconferencing, e-mail and work-based WhatsApp group platforms. This has been accompanied with periodical technical working group meetings for staff members and the oversight function of the board. In addition, several community engagements and caregiver trainings have been held to advance their income generating skills and knowledge for improved socioeconomic standards to ably cope with their situation and the effects of COVID-19 pandemic.

The strategic implementation measures that have stood more pronounced in the year 2021 are; the hybrid learning that has enabled children to continue accessing education at Wells of Hope Junior School, Hope High School and from different locations, successful placements of children in families under the Family Based Care Project (FBC) and the former female inmates that have been fully reintegrated in their respective communities with promising self-initiated income generating activities supported under the Wells of Hope Women Safe Home. Besides, families of inmates have been visited; frequent phone calls made to them, trained and accorded appropriate psychosocial support.



Children have bonded with their parents thus closed the gap virtually caused by absence of a parent at home! The organization has had an opportunity to train staff in order to improve administration, planning and reporting to suite the ever advancing global institutional governance and dynamic needs in the NGO fraternity. We anticipate a brighter future as we are driven by the commitment and compassionate attitude of staff members and partners towards our cause of helping inmates, children with parents in prison and their families. This report entails our key achievements and inspirational narratives from beneficiaries that include; the inmates, children and caregivers of the children sharing their experiences and perspectives in relation to the programs and support. I am overjoyed by the fact that the organization's efforts and resources have led to tangible impact in the lives of our beneficiaries.

My gratitude goes to every one of you for the, sustained support and contribution that made this a reality; the Board of Trustees, Board of Directors, Staff, Donors, Volunteers, Partners, Friends and Advocates. As you navigate through 2021 program and activity journey, I appeal to you to reflect on Wells of Hope focus and interventions visualized in a society where people affected by the criminal justice system get justice and regeneration in their lives.

ELLEN EVA K. SSUUBI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

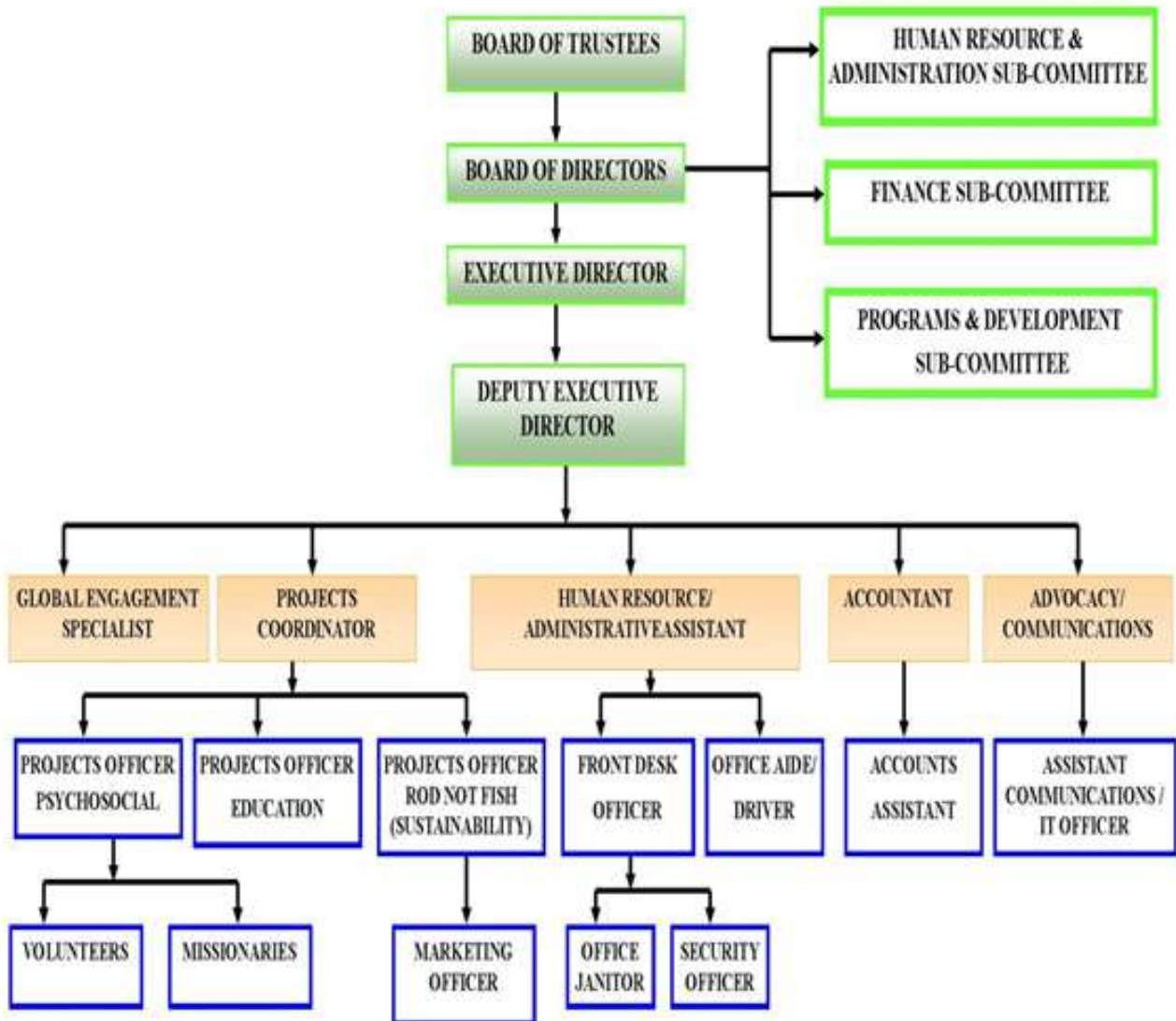
WELLS OF HOPE MINISTRIES

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Wells of Hope Ministries

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



Board of Directors



SAM ALOCI

Chairman and Member on the
Programs & Development Sub-committee



KENNETH OKUMU

Treasurer and Member on the
Finance & Administration Sub-committee



ELLEN EVA K. SSUUBI

Executive Director, Secretary and
Member on the three Sub-committees



ERINA MUGABI

Board Member and Member on the
Programs & Development Sub-committee



GLORIA K. SERUWAGI

Board Member and Member on the
Human Resource Sub-committee



Programs

Education Support



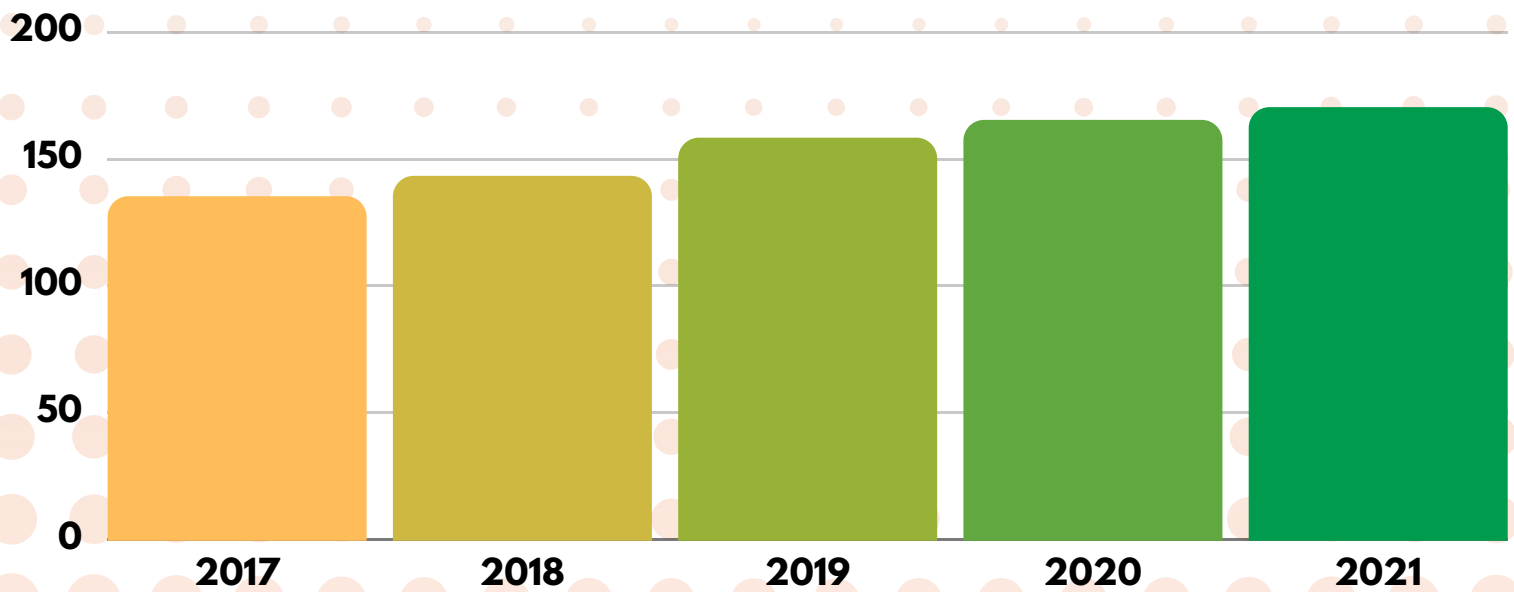
At least 170 children with incarcerated parents have received education support and continued to access high quality education through hybrid learning whereby; 92 are girls and 78 are boys. In addition, 4 of these have been under vocational training and did their final exams; 1 did Electrical Systems and Installations, 1 did Motor Vehicle Mechanics and 2 did Early Childhood Development. Hybrid learning as a new education support component has enhanced learning capabilities of children at Hope High School Semuto through enabling them to attend online seminars; access online resources while doing research, interact with other learners and teachers.

This has improved their creativity, discovery learning and innovative skills. *“I indeed like teaching and training peers; this helps me to remember whatever I also learned and it has helped me to build more confidence. The training sessions I conduct have helped me to know how to deal with my different learners; get to know them individually; guide and encourage them where they need help”* said Prossy, senior four-trainer for Video Editing and Graphics.



*Prossy, a senior four vacist
conducting a computer class*

Number of children supported from 2017-2021



Psychosocial Support



The organisation provided psychosocial support and extended related services to 81 families with a loved one in prison, 170 children with incarcerated parents and over 60 inmates. From these professional support and services, the beneficiaries have learnt better ways to cope with incarceration and are more resilient reflected in great reduction of psychosocial problems current presented and reported. At least 100 children successfully participated in the camp where they were equipped with life and health skills. This year's theme was Taming Dragons, where dragons implied feelings or emotions which included: isolation, anger, drama queen, among other negative feelings.

They had a health session which was part of the 7 rotational classes where they were taken through a series of sessions about purity and HIV/AIDS. They were encouraged to abstain from sex until marriage, avoid bad company and focus on their goals. During the camp, they were engaged in an HIV counseling and Testing session where a total of 87 tested and received their results. The other classes included: Crafts class, Dance class, What About It class, creation class, slingshots, team building and field games. From such classes and activities for now over the years, the children's confidence, social and leadership skills have tremendously improved. They have learnt to communicate better, work as a team and improved life skills. The major highlights included: 9 children were baptised, children's birthday party, talent show, the shaving cream battle, among other highlights.

Counseling

Individual and group sessions were held with the children and caregivers to help them cope with parental incarceration and having a loved one in prison. The major issues that they faced included: anxiety, aggressiveness, worry, isolation and trauma.

In addition to the face-to-face individual sessions, the children had sessions where they interacted with online counselors. They have developed more self-confidence and self-expression skills.



Family Bonding

The children interacted with their parents through phone calls thrice in 2021. They were not able to visit their parents as they used to because the correctional centres or prisons were out of bounds to any visitors as a way of reducing the spread of COVID-19.

“Mum, the moment you get released I will sew you a beautiful dress. I have learnt how to sew; I now even own a sewing machine!” one of the children told her mother. Through phone calls, family bonding between inmates and their children has been enhanced.

Therapy

Esther Ikesa, one of the children in secondary engaged the children in dance fitness sessions aimed at helping the children to manage stress and to keep their bodies physically fit.





Children's Christmas party

78 children celebrated Christmas; and 17 of these celebrated Christmas for the very first time! It was a fun filled day as we celebrated Christmas together. The staff and children were extremely happy as they sang Christmas carols; danced; played games and shared a lovely meal. Some of the top highlights included: Felista, the Great Lakes Brands Ambassador graced the occasion and she entertained the children; and the children played on a trampoline for the very first time!

Christmas party for formerly incarcerated women



The formerly incarcerated women celebrated Christmas! They received gifts, cut a cake which they shared and enjoyed a sumptuous meal. This was one of the events the women always look forward to.



Caregivers workshops

26 caregivers were engaged in a workshop with the theme I Can, aimed at encouraging the caregivers to stand strong in every situation. The lessons learnt included: HIV Prevention, Treatment and Care measures; Financial Literacy (Saving and Urban Farming Techniques); Parenting-Attachment and Bonding.

Family Based Care Project

At least 6 children were successfully placed in loving families. This brings the total number of children placed since the project started to 13. According to our routine family visits and monitoring, these children are happy and thriving. Field reports and observations indicate that they have continued to access education and receive food, clothing, shelter, among other welfare packages, and above all, they are loved.



Reintegration; Women Safe Home

Sensitization sessions have been successfully conducted on a quarterly basis in prison aimed at increasing awareness about the women safe home yet prepare inmates for life outside prison. At least 9 women successfully received shelter at the home; were also helped to reunite with their loved ones and imparted productive skills as a means of preparing them to live independently in the community. While at the home, they received psychosocial support to help them cope with emotional stress as a result of incarceration and worry.

Health Support



High nutritive food supplements for inmates

1204 inmates living with HIV benefited from 750kgs of soya and 100kgs of silverfish. On average, the inmates' Body Mass Index improved and the adherence to antiretroviral treatment increased.



Medical Care

Wells of Hope Junior School and Hope High School Semuto have a school nurse who provided immediate support, treatment and care to the children. In 2021, fewer cases of children with advanced health concerns were reported. In cases such as these, referrals were made and treatment was administered to the children.

Economic Support



A total of 26 caregivers of the children and 9 formerly incarcerated women were successfully equipped with different business skills of their choice. They were supported to start up Income Generating Activities within their respective communities of choice or residence to be able to support themselves and their families. At least 11 existing women's Income Generating Activities were boosted.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS



School projects

The school farm unit was very productive in terms of yields. With the help of farm personnel, the Young Farmers Club planted yams, sweet potatoes, maize, sugarcane, pumpkins and vegetables which included: eggplants, bitter berries and cabbages. The yields were used to boost the children's daily diet. Some were sold off to the neighboring community and the proceeds were used to boost the farm projects.

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Alumni workshops

The Wells of Hope alumni met to share experience and get equipped on how they can transform their communities using the knowledge they acquired from Wells of Hope. These are mostly boys and girls that have completed school or are at university and trade schools. This is a journey that has just began and we look forward to have children growing to be change agents in their communities.



Mrs Ruth Gambu, Wakisa Ministries - Crisis Pregnancy Center Manager (2nd right) sharing a photo with students at Hope High School Semuto

Visitors

The organisation received 7 visitors who interacted with the children at Wells of Hope Junior School. Asha Kikaire, Benjamin & Joy Kissa shared with the children about God's love. Ronnie & Rebecca and their family encouraged the children to focus on their dreams; not to give up on hope; to be diligent; to use the opportunity they have of being at Wells of Hope to become great people in future.

Wakisa Ministries - Crisis Pregnancy Center interacted with the youth at Hope High School. Mrs Ruth Gambu, the Center Manager presented the Youth Aim High program to the children (youth from Wells of Hope Junior School & Hope High School). The pupils and students expressed confidence as they interacted with Ruth. A total of 64 children engaged in the session whereby 17 of whom were boys.

Partnerships

Partner/ Stakeholder	Relationship/ Intervention
Stephen Lewis Foundation (SLF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychosocial support to inmates and their families • Health support to inmates living with HIV & AIDS • HCT to children with parents in prison and caregivers • Education to children with parents in prison • Administration support
Partners in Hope (PIH) USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education to children with parents in prison • Health support to children with parents in prison • Psychosocial support to children with parents in prison • Support towards construction of administration block at WOHJS • Psychosocial support and economic empowerment to caregivers
Elma Philanthropies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education to children with parents in prison • Health support to children with parents in prison • HCT to caregivers of children with parents in prison • Psychosocial support and economic empowerment to children with parents in prison and caregivers
A New Way of Living, USA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psychosocial support and economic empowerment to formerly incarcerated women
UK Friends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education to children with incarcerated parents
Grace Fellowship Duarte	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative care to children with parents in prison
Uganda Prisons Service (UPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to correctional centers in Uganda • Planning for the Uganda Reentry Guide

Resource mobilisation

Activity/Need	Description	Result
Coin box collection	Placement of 3 coin boxes at 3 branches of Quality supermarkets	UGX4,439,500
Garage sale	Collection of used items through social media adverts and email marketing. Sale of the items at office premises	UGX1,729,000
Online campaigns	Social media adverts and email marketing	UGX31,374,000

Training and development

Internal Trainings

- Enhancing Teaching and Learning Skills
- Communication and Leadership
- Building Expertise in Monitoring and Evaluation

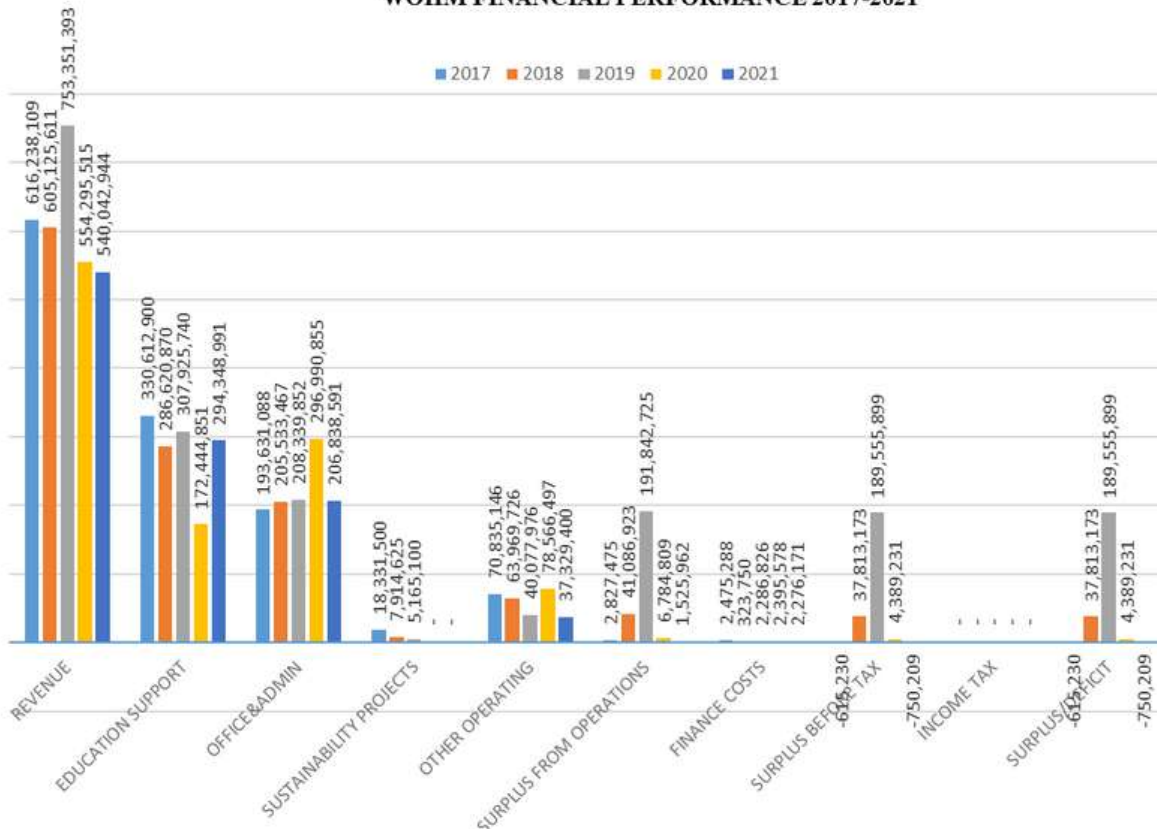
External Trainings

- ECGP; Digital Communication and Fundraising

Financial summary

Avenue	Amount (UGX)	Contribution percentage %
Partnering foundations	477,596,370	91.70
Campaigns	31,374,000	6.02
Coin box collections	4,439,500	0.85
Garage sale	1,729,000	0.33
Contributions in kind	692,750	0.13

WOHM FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE 2017-2021



Sponsors, donors and partners



UK Friends

Rotary Club of Wandegaya

Grace Fellowship Duarte, USA

The Sisterhood; Old Girls of Trinity College Nabbingo; graduate class 1994-2001

Grace Fellowship Duarte

Friends in Sweden

Global Health Corps

Global Development Initiative

Camp David International

Rotaract Club of Kampala East

Next Girl Connection Club USA

JIF Garments

Quality Supermarkets

Nurture Africa

Busoga Trust

Mavuno Cloud9 Lifegroup

Friends in Uganda

College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Makerere University.

Public Interest Law Clinic

Insight Global

DefendDefenders

Wakisa Ministries



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