

ChildVoice



At Imvepi Settlement, We're Growing

As the number of displaced South Sudanese girls at Imvepi Settlement continues to grow, we are expanding our outreach, and are now active in a third zone within the sprawling camp.

We now have about 1,600 girls enrolled in our therapeutic and vocational programs, one of which is agriculture. Girls enrolled in the program have now planted tomatoes and roughly five acres of soybeans -- a crop highly valued as a primary source of protein both for human consumption and for livestock. The girls are growing crops for their own use and to sell at market, and developing valuable agricultural and business skills in the process.



Passing the Test in Uganda

We're pleased to announce that all of the girls in Class 10 at the Lukome Center who recently took Uganda's National Vocational Examination have passed the test!

Uganda's education ministry has been pushing in recent years to expand access to vocational training to reduce the number of young people who drop out of school and are unemployed as a result. Our vocational education programs became fully certified by the Ugandan government in the spring of 2018 -- an important milestone for both the Lukome Center and for the girls who live, work, and study there. Having their vocational technical certificates will open the door for our students to further improve their economic outlook as they return to their families and communities.

Class 10 is our first group of girls to graduate under the fully certified program and be able to take the National Vocation Exam; however, we have invited girls from former classes to return so that they, too, can take the vocational exam and earn technical certifications.



THRIVE Expands

As we prepare to expand the THRIVE Project into Nigeria, a group of dedicated volunteers got together in late October to make more THRIVE pad kits. It was a "heartwarming and humbling" opportunity, as one volunteer put it, to connect to the girls in our programs in Uganda and Nigeria. Said Pastor David of the event: "It makes the girls feel closer - being able to do something personal for them. Each piece represents a person."

The THRIVE Project educates adolescent girls about reproductive health, emotional wellness, and maintaining healthy traditional and cultural relationships, as well as providing them with economical, environmentally friendly reusable menstrual pads.

For more up-to-date news on this and other programs, visit childvoice.org.



Although they haven't graduated yet, two of the four Auto Mechanics and Driving School students in Class 11 have already passed the national driving exam! Driving is a particularly lucrative vocation in Uganda, and the newly licensed drivers—Anena and Ajok, both rape survivors and child mothers—are eagerly planning either to start their own businesses or find work as drivers. We look forward to seeing all the girls from Class 11, who are now in the midst of their practicums, take and pass the vocational exams as well.

For the girls enrolled in our programs, vocational training in marketable skills is a key component of both their recovery and their future success. Hand-in-hand with therapeutic counseling, it not only helps these girls overcome the trauma they have experienced, but it also paves a path for them to become self-sufficient providers for themselves and their children.

Join Our New Team & Intern Network!

We're excited to announce the launch of our brand-new Team & Intern Network, designed to bring together people who have been on a team trip or completed an internship with us. To learn more about the Network or to join, contact our Team and Intern Coordinator, Kelsi Kautz, at teamsandinterns@childvoice.org.

Exciting News from Nigeria!

November is the first official month of activities for the Nigerian girls enrolled in ChildVoice's new program in IDP camps in the Yola region. Please pray for these girls, and for the Nigeria staff, as we officially launch our program there.