



**MONTHLY**

**Newsletter**

**JANUARY 2022 Issue**

## Open Day Fun

From the 16th to 21st of October 2021, the Youth Truck held a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Open House in conjunction with the Youth Empowerment Centre's (YECs) of Tororo, Busia, and Kamuli districts. Over **500** young people were in attendance. The aim was to reach and engage young people with SRHR information, strengthen referral linkages for service uptake at health facilities, and popularize the YECs. Many of the issues youth face are magnified by the COVID-19 lockdowns. There are issues such as high teenage pregnancy rates, SGBV, low uptake of family planning commodities, drug and alcohol abuse, and HIV. The Youth Truck also supported Wakiso and Kamuli districts with community mobilization for the Covid-19 vaccination, which led to increased uptake.

## Advocacy Champions

A4HU participated in capacity training sessions on budget policy for over **140** technical, district leaders and Civil Society Organisation (CSO) Coalition members in the districts of Kamuli, Mityana, Mukono, and Tororo. The Annual Regional Review meeting to take stock of the 2021 achievements and strategize for 2022 was held on the 2nd and 3rd of December 2021. On December 7th 2021, the Family Planning Budget Advocacy Group (FPBAG) and the Civil Society Budget Advocacy Group (CSBAG) fraternities presented joint Advocacy Asks to the Parliamentary committees on health and budget.

**Please note that our office telephone number has changed to +256 393-255411**



Due to the additional strain that the pandemic has placed on governments, health systems, and even the family unit, gender equality and some level of SRHR parity for young people has fallen further behind.

### Empower Youth Project (EYP) builds skills at Bonita Training Centre

In November 2021, for three days, **88** Peer Educators from the YECs were trained in SRHR advocacy, Leadership, Club management and Entrepreneurship skills. Deploying youth-friendly approaches made the sessions very interactive with group discussions, role play and Q & As.



Our Youth Empowerment Centre (YEC) platform grew with the formation of a new YEC in the district of Kamuli, which has one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates at **6,535**, according to the UNFPA *2021 fact sheet*.



## The Sanitation Entrepreneur



Sanitation Entrepreneurship was created to increase the use of improved sanitation services and products. Through the Team Up Program, and with support from A4HU, local enterprises are supported in strengthening their business plans, gaining access to equipment, and identifying sales and distribution channels for sanitation products and services. TeamUp and A4HU have supported sanitation entrepreneurs to develop and promote innovative WASH technologies priced according to different income levels and preferences. The local Sanitation Entrepreneurs were supported to demonstrate low-cost toilets, improved technologies and establish mechanisms for selling the products at the village level. Sanitation entrepreneurs trained were given equipment like tuk-tuk (Motorbike with a carrier attached), nets, cement, binding wires, frames, gloves and helmets, bricks.

