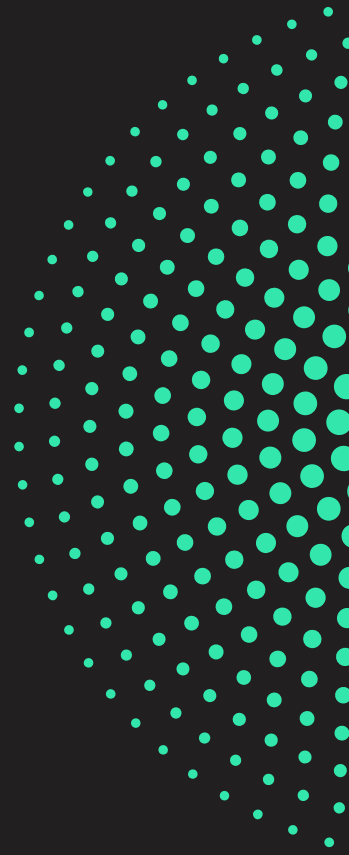
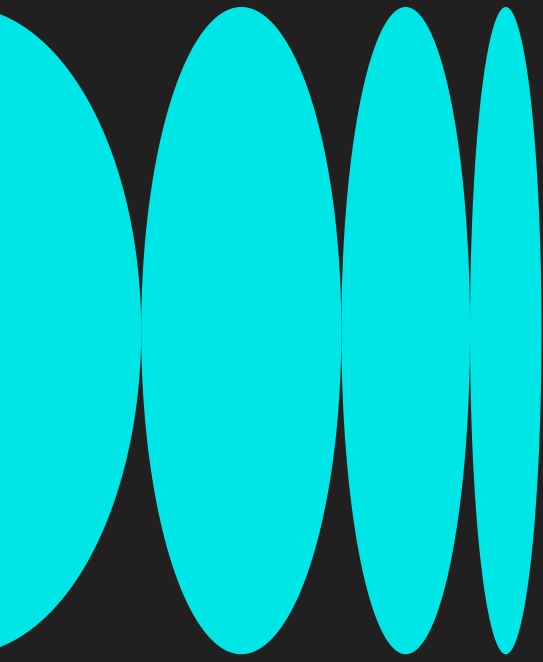




2024

IMPACT **REPORT**

**SINCE
1998** **empowering
positive change**



**‘Our efforts
bore fruit–
impacting
lives today
and into
eternity.’**

Frank Heyward,
Director



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Thank You to
All Involved

A letter from our founder and director

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends,

It is with heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation that I present to you the 2024 Impact Report for COME Uganda. This past year has been both fruitful and challenging, yet the Lord has remained faithful in guiding our mission forward as we continue to foster Abundant Life Centred on Christ.

Through the continued generosity of our sponsors and financial partners, our efforts bore fruit—impacting lives today and into eternity. Together, we generated significant impact in the areas of education, hospital care, empowering women, and the development and support of pastors. Despite financial constraints and economic pressures in Uganda, the determination and resilience of our team, along with your unwavering support, enabled us to serve those in greatest need with compassion, excellence, and faith.

Education remains at the heart of our work. Across our campuses in Lugala, Masanafu, and Kasengejje, over 450 students received holistic care and education. Our sponsored students achieved excellent results in their national exams, with many transitioning into secondary schools and vocational training. In 2024, 8 vocational students graduated with qualifications in catering, mechanics, hairdressing, medicine, and fashion design — a testament to how sponsorships are transforming lives.

We also celebrated vibrant school activities: cultural presentations, environmental awareness projects, and speech days that reflect our commitment to nurturing well-rounded children. The CRANE competition on environmental conservation, won by our Kasengejje Primary students, reminded us of the importance of equipping young people to steward creation responsibly.

Spiritually, COME Uganda continued to invest in local church growth and theological training. We supported 41 churches in central and western Uganda, conducted multiple conferences, training sessions, and door-to-door evangelism efforts — resulting in 96 new believers and 68 baptisms. We have witnessed growing maturity in our congregations as false teachings are replaced by solid biblical truth.

We also strengthened our youth and children's ministries, holding monthly gatherings and end-of-year celebrations that built spiritual discipline and community. Volunteers like Annette Wenene, who faithfully ministers to children with leukemia at Mulago Hospital, are a living example of how our mission touches both the hearts and homes of the Ugandan people. With your help, Annette and her family now have a secure home of their own.

Yet, this year was not without its challenges. The increasing cost of living and difficulty securing new sponsorships forced us to revise our funding model. While parent contributions increased to sustain operations, school fee defaults and under-enrolment led to budget deficits. Nevertheless, the kindness of individual donors and non-restricted funds helped us stay afloat. The land at Lukwanga remains on the market.

In all these situations, God has reminded us of the strength found in unity. Our staff have grown professionally, our alumni have begun to give back through the newly formed COSA (COME Old Students' Association), and our volunteers have received essential training to enhance service delivery in places like Mulago Hospital. Social responsibility initiatives like door-to-door waste management awareness by HOPE Alive continue to demonstrate our mission's relevance in everyday community life.

As we look ahead to 2025, we remain steadfast in our vision. We will continue working diligently to improve financial sustainability, expand our educational reach, and empower our staff and alumni to lead with purpose. Your continued prayers, sponsorship, and generosity are what make this possible.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the COME Uganda team, and the children and communities we serve, thank you for walking this journey with us. May we continue to be the hands and feet of Christ in all we do.

With warm regards and blessings,
Frank Archer Heyward
Director & Chairman



459

students educated
in 2024

\$138,123

raised in child sponsorships



EDUCATING

CHILDREN

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1

Strong Attendance and Academic Performance

Throughout 2024, all COME Uganda campuses experienced good student attendance, from nursery to vocational levels. The academic year concluded on a high note, with Primary Seven learners sitting for their Primary Leaving Examinations. Out of the total candidates, 42 passed in Division 1 and 2, and 7 in Division 3 and 4 — a commendable performance that enabled their transition to secondary education under the ongoing support of our Sponsorship Program. Currently, 70 students are enrolled in various secondary schools across the country.

2

Creative Learning and Community Engagement

HOPE Schools fostered a dynamic learning environment. Lugala Nursery (74 students) held a vibrant graduation featuring scripture recitation and cultural presentations. Masanafu Primary (186 students) hosted games and a police-led safety workshop. At Kasengejje (199 students), learners earned recognition in a CRANE environmental competition for their original work on waste management.

3

Vocational Training and Targeted Support

Vocational training continued to empower young people with practical skills for self-sufficiency. Of 24 vocational students, 8 graduated in fields like catering, hairdressing, mechanics, medicine, and fashion design. Unrestricted Roberts funds supported three additional students (two in Senior Four and one in Early Childhood Development) and provided food relief to struggling families.

4

Financial Setbacks and Strategic Response

The year was not without its financial difficulties. Rising costs of essential goods and challenges in attracting new sponsors forced COME Uganda to reduce its financial contribution to secondary students from 88% to 70%. Consequently, parents/guardians were asked to increase their share from 12% to 30%. HOPE Schools also faced deficits due to lower-than-expected enrollment and fee defaults. However, through the redirection of secondary school project funds and generous unrestricted donations from key supporters, schools were able to stabilise. In response, a revised fee structure has been developed for 2025 to ensure sustainability while continuing to support access to quality education.

43

women empowered
in 2024

\$1,500

raised to complete Annette's house



EMPOWERING

WOMEN

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1

Zaabu – Turning Skill into Strength

Meaning “gold” in Lugandan, Zaabu is a support group of HIV-positive women empowered to live independently by developing sewing and crafting skills. They produce handmade items—dolls, bags, and jewellery—sold at local markets and online globally. Their work generates sustainable income, allowing them to feed their families, afford medical treatment, and regain dignity.

2

Expanding Market Access for Vulnerable Women

Five Zaabu members continued to produce high-quality sewn items, with Banana Boat as their main Ugandan market. International sales, particularly in Australia, provided additional income, further improving their financial security and quality of life. Expanding Zaabu’s access to international markets continues to be a focus as we look to the future. If you would like to support Zaabu in establishing their market presence in Australia or anywhere in the world,, we’d love to hear from you. Drop us a line at admin@comeuganda.org today.

3

Annette’s Story: A Testament to Strength and Support

Annette Wenene, a mother of four and devoted volunteer, has served with COME Uganda’s Hospital Care ministry at Mulago National Referral Hospital since 2021. She provides bedside care and spiritual support to children with leukemia and leads the Children’s Ministry at Lugala Christian Outreach Church, where she also counsels and evangelises.

Despite faithfully serving others, Annette faced serious housing challenges. After falling behind on rent, her landlord began evicting her by removing her belongings. Though she had started building a small three-room house, she couldn’t afford to complete it. Thanks to generous sponsors, the \$1,500 AUD needed was raised. Today, Annette and her children live safely in their finished home — a testament to how donor support can restore dignity and bring lasting stability.

4

Financial Setbacks and Strategic Response

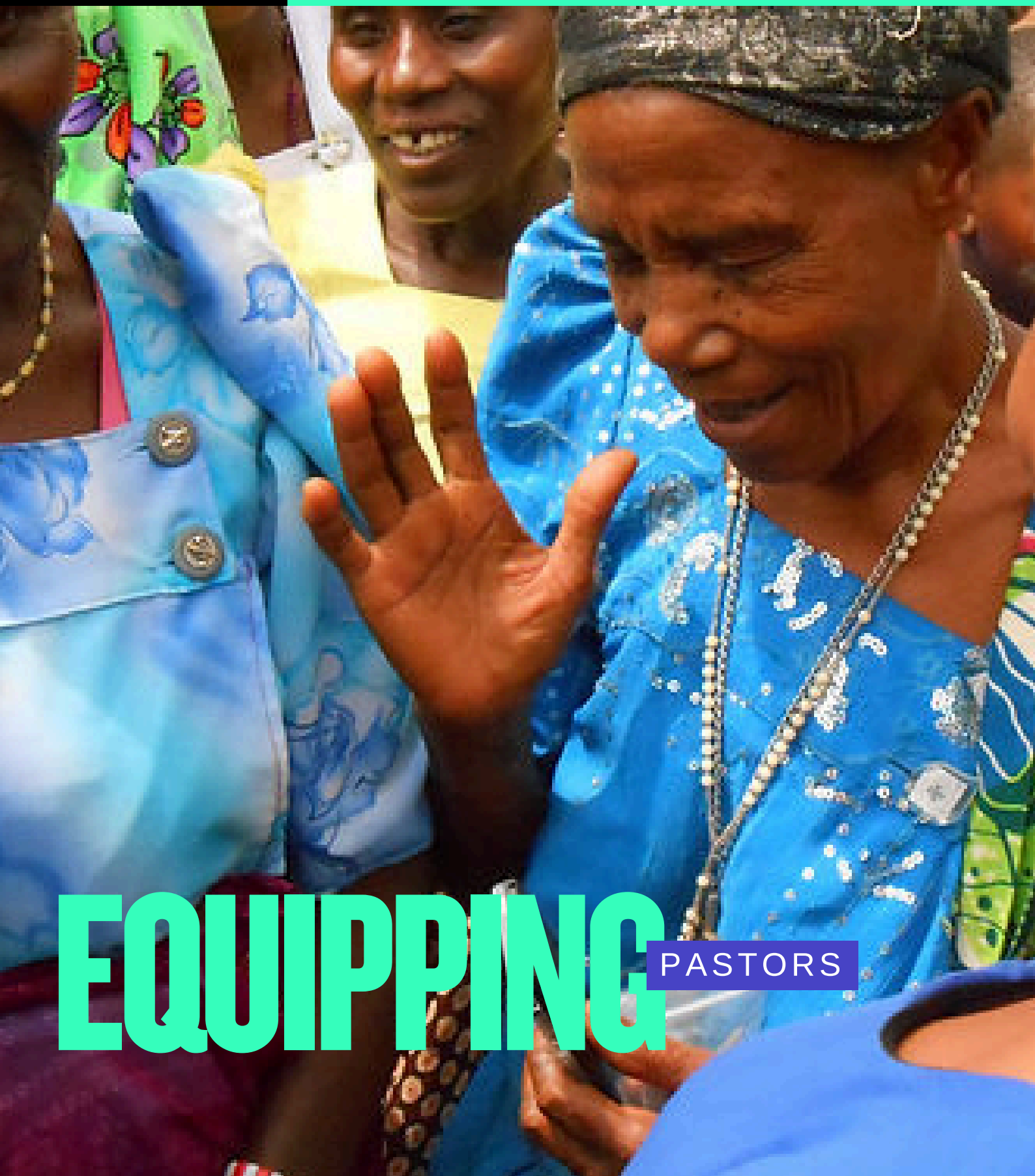
COME Uganda supported female teachers, hospital workers, and ministry leaders to grow through conferences and training. Four women's conferences were held, including one led by the LCO Women’s Ministry at Kyakajja, equipping women with spiritual and practical leadership tools.

41

churches pastored
in 2024

\$10,000

invested in evangelism and pastoring churches



EQUIPPING

PASTORS

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1

Strengthening Church Leadership Through Training

COME Uganda hosted three zonal church leaders' training seminars during the year, aimed at deepening biblical understanding and correcting false teachings. These sessions empowered pastors and church leaders with practical tools for discipleship, leadership, and doctrinal clarity. Graduates received certificates upon completion, affirming their growth and commitment to sound spiritual leadership.

2

Expanding the Network of Village Churches

The mission continued its support for a vibrant network of 41 local churches spread across central and western Uganda. These churches are undergoing a name standardization to align under the banner of "(Village Name) COME Uganda Christian Outreach Church." This rebranding strengthens their local identity and encourages accountability and unity among congregations. Through regular mentorship and oversight, pastors are nurtured to lead faithfully and effectively within their cultural contexts.

3

Reaching Communities Through Evangelism

COME Uganda remains committed to grassroots evangelism, focusing on direct engagement with communities. Over the year, the organisation conducted **3 door-to-door outreach missions**, where church members and leaders shared the message of hope. These efforts led to **96 individuals committing their lives to Christ** and **68 going through the waters of baptism**. The personal nature of these encounters allowed for meaningful conversations, providing people with the opportunity to ask questions and seek spiritual guidance. These outreach efforts not only brought new believers into the faith but also strengthened the spiritual foundation of local communities, fostering deeper connections between the church and the people it serves.

4

Supporting Pastors and Their Families

Strong families are the foundation of effective ministry. Throughout the year, we offered spiritual encouragement, practical support, and fellowship opportunities for pastors and their families—strengthening their resilience, fostering unity in ministry, and helping them lead both their congregations and their own households with faith and stability.

1186

hospital patients
ministered to in 2024

\$28,700

ministering to vulnerable patients



EXTENDING

COMPASSION

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1

Holistic Bedside Support in Hospital

COME Uganda's Hospital Care volunteers at Mulago National Referral Hospital delivered essential psycho-social support to vulnerable patients—many of whom had no caregivers. Services included bedside hygiene, interpersonal counselling, emotional comfort, and spiritual encouragement. This ensured patients were not only treated medically but also cared for with dignity, empathy, and human connection throughout their hospital stay.

2

Empowering Caregivers and Strengthening Communities

The Hospital Care program equips volunteers—many of them women—with caregiving skills, emotional resilience, and mentorship. Through service, they gain confidence, a deeper calling, and valuable experience to advocate for health and compassion in their communities. First Aid training, facilitated by the Uganda Red Cross Society, further enabled them to respond effectively in emergency situations, elevating the standard of care provided to vulnerable patients in need.

3

Health Education and Preparedness

COME Uganda hosted a UNICEF team at HOPE Masanafu, who educated students and staff about Ebola and Mpox. They shared vital information on symptoms, prevention, and response, helping the community stay alert and protected. Uganda is now Ebola-free. A big thank you to Mulago Hospital for providing personal protective equipment to our volunteers during the crisis.

4

Real Impact: A Testimony

"My heartfelt gratitude and appreciation go to COME Hospital Care. Their selfless dedication to caring for patients without attendants or relatives is inspiring. As a Mulago staff member, I didn't know about COME until 2023, when a personal experience revealed the profound impact of their work. A relative of mine, a victim of a road traffic accident, was brought to Mulago by Uganda police. Unbeknownst to us, he had been under COME's care at SB Bossa Trauma Ward for two years. Having lost hope his family had performed traditional rites to bid him farewell. Thanks to COME's unwavering support, he received the necessary care and attention. Remarkably COME's social media efforts helped us locate him."

14

children currently
needing sponsorship

\$365,000

target to sustain all projects in 2025

WHY US?

WHY NOW?



PROVIDE FOR 2025

1

Proven Track Record of Impact

COME Uganda has faithfully served communities for over two decades, with well-established programs in education, health care, church development, and women's empowerment. Our consistent presence and partnerships have produced measurable, lasting results—restoring dignity, breaking cycles of poverty, and strengthening families in some of Uganda's most vulnerable areas.

2

Local Leadership, Long-Term Vision

Our team is made up of local leaders and community members who understand the cultural and practical needs of the people we serve. This grassroots approach ensures that programs are both sustainable and relevant. We're not only responding to immediate needs—we're investing in generational transformation.

3

Strategic Timing for Greater Impact

Rising costs of living, lingering effects of the pandemic, and economic pressures have pushed many families to the edge. Schools, pastors, and caregivers are being stretched thin. Now, more than ever, timely support can prevent setbacks and fuel momentum. Your partnership helps us meet urgent needs and continue vital programs without interruption.

4

Every Gift Multiplied

Our lean operations, strong volunteer base, and co-contributions from the families of enrolled students means every donation goes further. Small gifts create outsized impact—enabling children to go to school, providing lifesaving care, training pastors, and empowering women to generate income. By joining us now, you become part of a story that's restoring hope and changing lives.

Choose Your Impact

Now is the time to act. The needs are urgent. At COME Uganda, we are committed to educating children, empowering women, equipping pastors, and extending compassionate care to create an immediate and eternal impact. Visit comeuganda.org to sponsor a child, a class, a pastor, or a project today.

Pictured Left: 4 year old sponsor child Muwanguzi Elisha who lives with his mother, six sisters and three brothers in a small room with dirt floors. Sponsor him today!

Thank you for your ongoing support

Acknowledgements

We extend our sincere gratitude to all those who provided financial support and worked tirelessly on the projects mentioned within.

Those responsible for **concept and coordination**

All of our **staff** and **volunteers**

Our **board of directors and leadership team**

Our **colleagues** at our partner organisation,
Australia Hope International

Every single one of our **sponsors and financial contributors**

God bless you all.

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