

About the 2022 female adolescents' boot camp-Mubende chapter

Generational poverty and the failure to break poverty cycles in rural areas of Uganda is tied to many factors. Adolescent girls in particular, easily succumb to sex traps which compel them to become teenage mothers, contract AIDS, and ultimately marry off to fellow immature teens or mature but desperate adults. As a result, they can't continue with school, and so their aspirations are nipped in the bud, they resort to odd jobs, menial and manual in nature. This however will not change unless grass root interventions start to identify causes, analyse the processes and provide solutions to these problems. It's against this background that Relief Partners Uganda has organized an all-female camp named "The 2022 female adolescents bootcamp", this will be a mind-blowing camp that will take place in April 2022 in Mubende district, it will be hosted at St. Charles ss Mubende. A total of 500 female students will participate and among many outcomes, it will inspire, and light a fire in the souls of adolescent girls to make informed sex decisions thus setting pace for their future success.

The problem

Lack of comprehensive sex appropriate information shares a fat share for the cause of teenage pregnancy, early marriages, contraction and spread of AIDS and ultimately, breaking poverty cycles remains a forbidden fruit. Widespread school closures caused stress, anxiety, isolation, and depression among school going girls succumbed to teenage pregnancies, substance use/addiction, early marriages, gender-based violence, child labor, exposure to pornography among other devastating effects of Covid-19. It's certain that female students will continue to drop out of school even though schools have resumed, the few or many in school will most probably not give education the attention it deserves. In order to gain basic necessities and other luxuries, girls continue to engage in transactional sex and intergenerational sex with men fit to be their fathers. Now that schools are open, many of these girls even if they went back to school, they continue to have mixed feelings. Taming the minds of female adolescents requires much more than just class room teaching.

Justification of the need for a boot camp

Teachers received learners whose minds are corrupted, they are victims of gender-based violence, abortion, transactional sex, substance use/addiction, teenage pregnancy, mental health, permissiveness and vulnerability. The parents who are the immediate counsellors are caught up in activities to fend for their dependents thereby leaving the young minds to succumb to forces of unsafe sex. If no urgent intervention is done, we are most likely to have high levels of dropouts, increase in substance use/addiction, disrespect and arrogance at school, increase in teenage pregnancy, increase in cross generation sex, increase in spread of HIV/AIDS and other STDs. A third party like Relief Partners Uganda is a resourceful partner if we are to collectively get over this predicament and secure a better generation in Mubende district.

About Mubende district

Objectives:

Overall objective

The 14 days camp, aims to enhance the mindset of 500 female adolescent students (14-18yrs) from 20 secondary schools in Mubende district by April 2022, to stimulate their mental and emotional capacity to make safer sex decisions.

Specific objectives

- 🌱 To caution 500 female learners to have meaningful relationships, avoid bad influences, intergenerational sex and transactional sex hence reducing school dropout, substance use, and early marriages.
- 🌱 To equip 500 female adolescents from 20 schools with positive thinking and perceive education as a life changing avenue hence having disciplined and focused female learners.
- 🌱 To hold career fares in the camp so as to stimulate 500 female students to lead positive and visionary lives thus encouraging them to stick to their dreams and pursue meaningful careers.
- 🌱 To attract 05 female celebrities and 05 influential women who the young female generation look up to so as to inspire school girls to stay focused.