



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS OF DEAF CHILDREN (NAPADEC)

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"Improving communication for inclusive families supported by Deaf Child World wide"

National Association for Parents of Deaf Children of Uganda (NAPADEC) is a non-governmental organization founded in 2009 with a goal of promoting and advocating for the rights of deaf Children and young people in Uganda. **Vision:** A society of deaf children having equal rights, opportunities and improved livelihoods. **Mission:** To advocate for and pursue the promotion of rights, equalization of opportunities and improved livelihoods of deaf children and their parents/families through advocacy, networking, unity and awareness creation. **Goal:** Improved livelihoods of deaf children and Young people (DCYP) of Uganda. **Values:** Integrity, Transparency, Timeliness, Accountability, Teamwork and Innovativeness

The sustainable development goals currently provides for the overall global framework for development for vision of **leaving no one behind**. PWDS limitation in development action platforms and activities has been proved hampered by effective communication and skill that culminates a communication gap that NAPADEC bridges in partnership with other humanitarian organizations. In containing the gap, 259 parents/caregivers have been enrolled in learning sign language in the districts of Masaka, Mukono, Jinja, Iganga, Luuka and Bududa and improvement registered: according to baseline survey Out of the parents sampled, 24 out of 41 parents can sign well. Out of the 24, 17 were good, 5 were fair and 2 were weak. 19 Deaf children reported effective communication with their parents at home and inclusion in development ideas and programs and children whose parents have strived to go for SL classes are reported to have improved their communication at home and inclusion in involvement in development project for poverty eradication.



The board members with the chief walker, parents, deaf children and staff during the awareness event on 14th July 2017 at NAPADEC secretariat

In an awareness creation destined to improve communication parents have received Sign Language books donated by DCW, 777 deaf children, Parents, community members and leaders have been reached in awareness events. 90% of the community leaders report the existence of deaf children and increased awareness of deafness in the community though community members look at helping deaf citizens as charity. Over 98 families are receiving sign language skills and 114 DCW sign language books have been distributed to community members and leaders. In the quest for basic sign language skills acquisition, 08 training centers have been formed to contain the need with 6 sign language instructors to voluntarily teach communities and parents better communication.



The PSG Luuka district with deaf children during annual monitoring visit at Bukhana sub county headquarters

In order to determine the current situation of deaf

education in Uganda, and to identify existing and potential linkages for improving quality education for deaf children and young people in Uganda that can bring about development under ***‘Improving communication for quality education of deaf children and young people in Uganda’***. In line with this year’s international theme for persons with disabilities ***“Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies for all”*** The stakeholders from the relevant government institutions, civil society and parents, Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB), National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC), Ministry of Education and Sports, Uganda Sign Language Interpreters, The Academic institutions like Kyambogo University, primary and secondary schools have been involved to get better strategies for delivering a sustainable education for all. According to UNEB 2017 report, 1,424 candidates with disabilities sat for exams of PLE, UCE and UACE and these included the deaf, blind, those with dyslexia and other disabilities. Currently 181 deaf children are in school compared to 78 deaf children out of school in NAPADEC tentacles.

The advocacy tool and nucleus for strengthening the capacities for the parents for sustainability and poverty eradication schemes in line with the human capital development has been the parents support groups (PSGs) in NAPADEC tentacles of Masaka, Mukono, Jinja, Luuka, Iganga and Bududa districts. Parents have been trained in group management skills, constitution writing and have been registered and linked to the respective sub counties and districts to benefit from the grants, like grant, women fund, elderly and other schemes like operation wealth creation and other programs. There are 90 active parents registered with an average of 15 per district. The parent’s capacity in starting up their own initiative has been improved; for example Bududa PSG has a saving and credit scheme, brick making and poultry rearing.

Mukono parents and community members are undergoing training on income generating activities like soap, tooth paste, candles, shoe polish making, cosmetics, crafts, hair dressing, basket weaving, tailoring, books, sponge, and sanitary pads. This is done in conjunction with learning sign language. The training is aimed at reducing poverty through the solidarity and team work of the parents, enhance independence of the parents and create sustainability, improve on the market base of the

parents and boost on the income as well as diversifying with agriculture.



Parents of deaf children learning how to make shoe polish at Mukono NAPADEC secretariat as a poverty alleviation-strategy

Through the awareness event held at Seeta Church of Uganda Primary School on 15th June 2018 during the African Child Celebration, 102 participants were actively involved in the awareness event. These included 19 parents and children (42 deaf and 29 hearing children), 6 school staff, 6 NAPADEC team and Board.



NAPADEC BoD Chairperson giving remarks during the Day of The African Child Awareness Event with the children, Teachers and Parents at Seeta C/U Primary School.

The event was aimed at creating a more just environment to necessitate learning and motivating the deaf children and their parents to take on goals

that would lead to a better future. The change of the negative attitude among the parents and the community members towards the deaf children was a priority



NAPADEC Team and Stakeholders taking group photo after National Stakeholders Meeting in Mukono District.

The distribution of the toys, solar lights, shoes, blanket cover and clothes to the children made the day colorful with memories unforgettable by both the deaf children and the hearing. They were deeply touched and will live to tell



Deaf Children enjoying the thrill of the gifts distributed to them by NAPADEC donated by Save Resources.



A Parents with Deaf Children Learning Sign Language Skills to break communication gaps with their Deaf children.



NAPADEC participated in International Deaf Awareness Week - Mbale District organized by Uganda National Association of the Deaf.