

What is PEPFAR?

PEPFAR is the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief plan, is a five year bi-lateral commitment by the United States government to support HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment programs in developing countries.

On May 2003, the United States leadership against global HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and malaria Act of 2003(public Law 108-25) was signed into law creating the Presidents Emergency Plan for Aids Relief. (PEPFAR).

The PEPFAR Uganda community grants program seeks to assist local Ugandan grassroots community organisations to implement projects that promote HIV/AIDS prevention and provide care and support. And it's of this cause that on 7th/May/2019 Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation received PEPFAR grant amount of **\$14,300** equivalent to **UGX 52,905,000** for their efforts towards achieving an AIDS-free generation.

Rwenzori Special Needs Foundation received the above mentioned funds to encourage and empower disabled OVCs and young women living with HIV with Valuable skills to break down the barriers to employment, opportunities and desirable healthy life.



OUR PROJECT DESCRIPTION.

RSNF's glass bottle recycling skills for disabled OVC's and young women breaks down barriers for employment of this, neglected and victimized group, it is an initiative that's good for the environment, it has sustainability element and its replicable. Creativity is often lacking on how to use innovative and creative methods to promote skills amongst youth with disabilities to help them secure gainful employment and most projects are centred on usual vocational courses which this project breaks away from by posing something new and innovative and taking this special group of



beneficiaries. They get hands on training and make quality household and fashion products out of wine and beer bottles recycled from landfills, hotels and bars.

The project in addition trains beneficiaries, caregivers, their families and their communities in HIV prevention and care, provides them with linkages to referral support networks with health centres, savings groups and other partner organisations for medication and welfare ensuring its outreach is not limited. Our project comprehensively improves beneficiaries' quality of livelihood, enhances health and dignity for them as individuals and gives them a unique opportunity to work their way out of poverty.



OUR OBJECTIVES AND GOALS

- 1 Encourage and empower disabled OVCs and young women living with HIV to develop valuable skills to breakdown the barriers to employment, excel and live desirable life.
- 2 Enhancing prevention and care of disabled OVCs and young women living with HIV/AIDS.

The project addresses the following needs in our community

- a) Rights for OVCs and youth with disabilities
- b) Vocational training and family support
- c) Rehabilitation and HIV services for disabled

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS.

- Cooperation with field teams to identify cases of OVCs and young women with disability who are also HIV positive and face discrimination from family, relatives and the community at large.
- Community members provide free labour on activities involving sourcing of materials for training and preparations.
- Provide community financial contributions when called upon through monthly meetings.

ACTIVITIES.

RSNF is implementing a glass bottle recycling workshop to train and employ 40 disabled youth and young women who are out of school with glass artistry skills. The youth will get hands on training and make quality household and fashion products out of wine and beer bottles recycled from landfills.

OUR PARTNERSHIPS.

ORGANISATION	Type of partnership
Bukuuku Health Centre IV	HIV testing, counselling and follow up services
Kicwamba Health Centre III	HIV testing, counselling and follow up services
Kyaninga Child Development Centre	Physiotherapy services to our beneficiaries

Story about one of our beneficiaries.

Kabaswaza Sylvia is aged 17 years, she is deaf and positive living, we chose to register Sylvia for the glass recycling program because she is a school drop out, disabled and positively living.

Through radio announcements her family learnt about this glass recycling program at Rwenzori special needs, they immediately called our office lines and we asked them to come for more information at RSNF offices.



Sylvia despite the fact she is positive living she had no idea about reduced HIV disease transmission. And while HIV sensitisation is carried out these are the groups that are left out, no sign language interpreters to translate this information for them.

RSNF aims at translating, HIV information on Reduced HIV disease transmission with improved HIV case detection and treatment to the deaf community and other disabled persons, to achieve an AIDS free generation.