

I Am A Girl

empowering women and building healthier communities



Empowerment Through Development

We teach women how to make reusable pads to care for menstrual days, and weave baskets to care for economic wellbeing.

Since April we have trained over 50 young girls on reusable pads, so they can learn about menstrual hygiene and care for their menstrual health. In May we expanded our services and started training women's community lending groups on financial literacy and basket-weaving so they can generate their own income and build community wealth.

We are constantly striving to build and grow our programs so they can meet the needs of the community. We are currently building partnerships in order to implement our gender based violence programs and improve mental health for the women that we serve. We are confident that through our enriched programming and consistent passion we will improve the lives of women and communities in the Elgon region.



Reusable Pads

Workshops to support female reproductive care



Gender Based Violence

Combat gender based violence with empowerment sessions



Community Lending

Support financial freedom for women



Menstrual Hygiene Day: I Am A Girl Annual Fundraiser

By Jimmy Isaraza

I Am A Girl held its first annual fundraising dinner on Menstrual Hygiene Day, May 28th, 2021. Speakers were invited from several industries and the evening included music, poetry, and reusable pad demonstrations.

Speaker after speaker praised the impact of I Am A Girl and the conversation it has ignited in the community. Participants in the dinner were especially delighted by the reusable pad program, as this has caused a noticeable decline in absenteeism amongst girls during their menstrual days.

Key highlights from the dinner included: a reusable pad demonstration by Nandudu Zahara, a 12 year old from Nabisolo primary school; a poem about menstrual bullying written by I Am A Girl and read by Mutoni Hope, a 12 year old pupil of Doko primary school; and women's groups handmade crafts demonstration.

The colorful fundraiser was officially opened by Hajji Kafo Mutwalibi, Director Mpogo Islamic Center and concluded with a networking session as donors celebrated I Am A Girls accomplishments and looked to the year ahead.

A Story from the Field: From a Craft to a Business

By Nakami Betty

I saw trouble coming my way in 1997 when I lost hope after losing my husband and becoming a mother of two at the age of 24. I had a son and a daughter to look after and no job. Thankfully, I had some arts and crafts skills to lean on, but not much. I quickly realized that these were the skills I had to rely on in order to raise my children. Not long after, I remarried and together we had more children, creating more financial hardship. With strained resources, we were constantly fighting and the marriage became unstable. I wasn't earning enough to support the family.

I was working hard and trying to become a successful entrepreneur but it was all in vain until I met I Am A Girl Organization. They are empowering me and other women in Masabaland by teaching how to save and build arts and crafts businesses. They are also looking for places for us to sell the products we make. I am proud of them and now I have a reason to smile because I am sure I will sell what I make. It has not been an easy journey for me and my family.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

I Am A Girl would like to thank our current partners and sponsors for their generous contributions and commitment to our mission.

- Mpogo Islamic Center for supporting IAG's economic empowerment program and reusable pad program.
- TheFlow.World for their generous contributions of reusable menstrual cups.
- American Women for International Understanding for their grant supporting women's mental health and community care groups.



Coming soon!

Our women's community lending groups are currently weavings beautiful baskets that will financially support their families and communities. I Am A Girl will be selling these baskets on behalf of our women's groups. All proceeds will be distributed amongst group members.