



ST. FRANCIS
HEALTH CARE SERVICES
LIVING WITH HOPE & DIGNITY

2022 Annual Report



About Us

St. Francis Health Care Services is a grassroots registered NGO operating legally in Buikwe District providing a comprehensive holistic package of health care services. Our service provision model stretches to other districts like Mayuge, Kayunga, Kamuli and surrounding areas.

Since its inception in 1998, St Francis has been operating in a holistic model focusing mainly on; home-based care model for health care, adolescent reproductive health and rights and psychosocial support. St. Francis has succeeded in its operations for this long partly because of a dedicated staff team actively liaising with a vast networks of community volunteers to deliver its services to the community.

Through this, St. Francis has steadily increased its services to cater for the demands/needs of the community and providing safe spaces for the marginalized communities/individuals. St. Francis is currently one of the largest ART (Antiretroviral Treatment) service providers in Buikwe district for the last close to ten years and until 2016 has been the district referral center for CD4 count screening. With the current expansion in services, St. Francis was recently upgraded to a Health Centre four (IV)

status serving as a district referral facility. With a fully functional Operating room (OR), radiology department (digital X-ray and Ultra sound scan), Fully equipped laboratory, one hundred twenty (120) patient beds, three full-time medical officers, over thirty-eight (38) medical staff members, ICU ambulance and full unit of over twenty (20) social workers and supporting staff, St. Francis is focusing on being a one stop center for human services in the eastern region.



The organization offers, treatment, care and support to her target groups, addressing orphans and vulnerable children crisis, Supporting grandmothers and their vulnerable children, adolescent sexual reproductive health and rights services, Awareness and Sensitization, HIV&AIDS counseling and testing services to the communities as well as other psychosocial support services. St. Francis involves its communities in all operations of the program to ensure ownership of the interventions as a means for sustainability.

St. Francis has developed in this area partly because of its efforts to provide comprehensive medical services with outreaches through drug distribution points, minimal turnaround time for Laboratory test results and effective services provided by Sixty-three (63) staff members including health and social workers. In its service scope, it has widened its range of services to cater for persons in the reproductive health group, youths, through the young positives club and child mentoring programs and elderly persons through an active grandmothers' program.

St. Francis has recently finished construction of a radiology unit focusing on X-ray and Ultra Sound scan services. Recently, St. Francis installed an electronic clinical management system with the aim of serving our clients with swiftness as well

as enabling all our internal operations accessible by everyone at the facility in real time. This system will help in improving efficiency, transparency, accountability, proper planning and making decisions based on evidence.

All of St Francis' interventions are designed to offer a holistic approach to cater for the needs of our clients.



What we stand for



Vision

A healthy, socially and economically empowered community.



Mission Statement

To provide equitable, inclusive and affordable quality health care, economic empowerment



Values

Equity of access
Affordability
Effectiveness
Partnerships
Efficiency and
Accountability

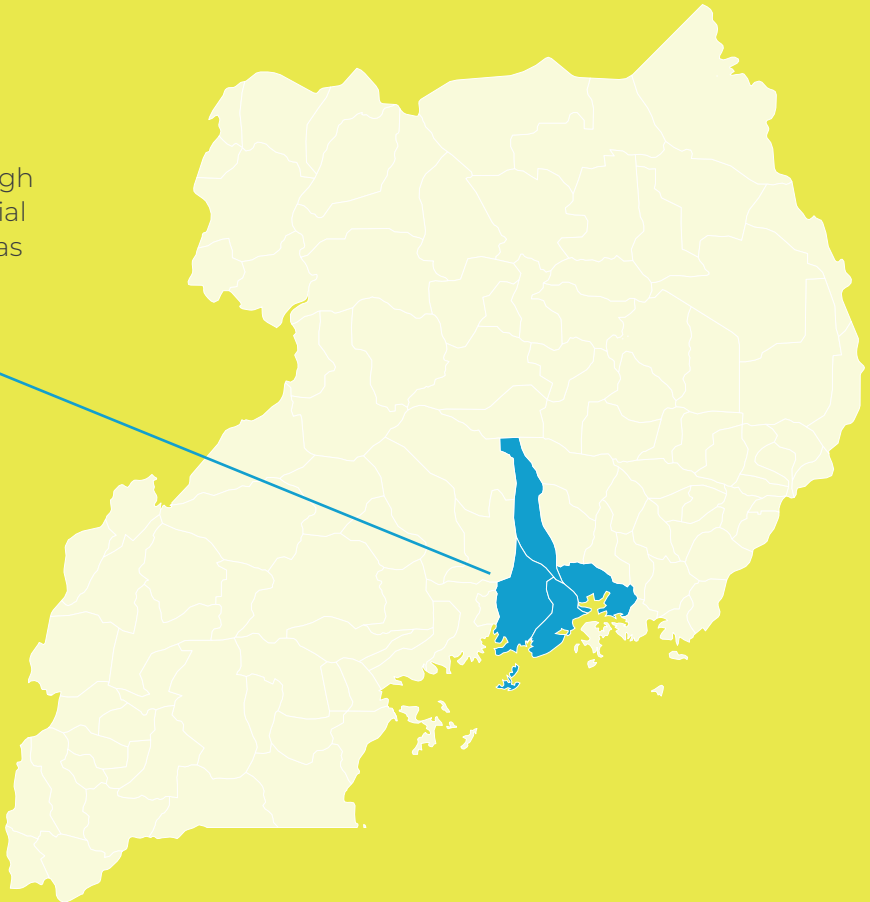
Our Reach



• Our proven low cost high
• impact health and social
• interventions model has
• enabled us reach

21,211

• clients in 2022 from
• buikwe, Jinja, Kayunga
• and Mukono district.



Our Impact at a Glance



Health

1. 5,734 OPD New attendances	11. 1,417 screened for breast cancer
2. 668 Suspected fever	12. 1,577 Postnatal attendances
3. 84 Malaria cases treated	13. 51 exposed infants tested
4. 433 Urinary Tract infection	14. 51 babies tested 1 st PCR
5. 235 Diabetic patients seen	15. 50 Babies tested 2 nd PCR
6. 5,730 screened for TB	16. 30 Babies tested 3 rd PCR
7. 396 TB presumptive cases	17. tested 3 rd PCR
8. 52 New and relapsed TB cases	18. 754 Children fully Immunized
24. 604 ANC first visit	19. 424 tested for Hepatitis B
9. 443 pregnant women tested for HIV	20. 389 tested negative for hepatitis B and 35 tested positive
10. 3 Pregnant women tested positive	21. A total of 9,856 Blood samples collected from 11,060 OPDs
25. 704 deliveries	



22. A total of 33 samples of stool collected
23. Total of 1,570 urine samples collected
26. 443 sputum samples
27. 227 HB tests done
28. 1,789 CBC tests done
29. 485 Syphilis tests done
30. 272 CD4 tests
31. 496 Genexpert tests and 25 Multi resistant Tb cases
32. 79 renal profile done
33. 60 Liver profile done
34. 1,827 Viral loads done
35. 1,337 inpatients
36. 166 C-sections done
37. 8 Laparotomy operation done
38. 43 evacuations done
39. 1 testicular operations done

40. 2 cholecystectomy done
41. 2 Herniorrhaphy done
42. 5 Appendicectomy
43. 1 excision Biopsy
44. 9 SMC
45. 23 other procedures
46. 2,022 HIV positive active on ART
47. 162 enrolled on ART in 2022
48. 1,995 active on 1st Line ART regimen
49. 170 active on 2 nd Line ART regimen
50. 3 active on 3 rd line ART regimen
51. 80 Persons given PEP
52. 228 individuals started on Prep
53. 124 patients transported with the ambulance
54. 3,493 women provided with family planning commodities

Medical services offered at St Francis in 2022:

With support of the dedicated medical team 2022 saw us provide the following services; OPD investigation and diagnosis using our Laboratory and team of doctors, clinicians and nurses, Antenatal, maternity and postnatal services at our MCH department, theatre, and ambulatory services. 2022 saw us expand our services to radiology and scanning, dental services.



Youth empowerment and child protection

1. 402 supported with school fees in Primary
2. 23 supported with School fees in secondary
3. 379 Supported with scholastic materials
4. 8 Supported to attain vocational skills
5. 1,864 orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) under our care
6. 102 youths in shadol idol Club
7. 100 youths participating in ART and performances
8. 5,707 youths reached with sexual reproductive health including Online (SRH)
9. 21 child protection cases handled
10. 20 Youths trained in leadership and advocacy
11. 25 youths trained in ICT
12. 22 Girls participating in football
13. 1,490 youths reached with SRH messages during football engagements
14. 14 Community cleanings exercises conducted by the youth
15. 10 youths participating in the community cleaning exercises
16. 2,015 youths reached during SRH outreaches in schools





The St Francis team pose for photos during the summit.

We continue to support young people on Saturday through the club. The club supports them with life skills such as communication skills, business skills, computer skills and health information and services which help them to make informed decisions in their day to day lives. The program also addresses issues like HIV stigma, treatment literacy, as well as positive living among YPLHIV

through peer-to-peer led sessions, guided tours, motivational speakers and music dance and drama which is not only used by the youth as a tool for mobilization & communication tool for sensitive issues during the club outreaches to schools and communities, but also as a therapy to the young positives as they fight their plight amongst themselves Adolescent girls and young women living with HIV are often exposed to many challenges including but not limited to Stigma and discrimination, low self-esteem, gender based violence which exposes them to many risks like unintended pregnancies, school dropout, all these reduces their chances of competing very well with their male counter parts. To close the gap 13 youths (5 boys and 8 girls) were selected to attend the National Y-plus HIV Summit at Hotel Africana in Kampala from the 19th -21st April 2022. The purpose of the summit was to create a platform for learning and sharing the best practice for effective SRHR/HIV programming for young people.

Food security and nutrition

1. 62 beneficiaries trained in FFs
2. 5 active FFs Groups
3. 75 dialogues conducted
4. 382 households reached with cooking demonstrations
5. 6 radio talk shows conducted

80% of our beneficiaries depend on subsistence farming and animal rearing. These activities support families with food and income in their day to life, intended to ensure food security in the home also focuses on food preparation and food handling. We have supported groups with post harvesting knowledge and materials for their produces such as Tomato boxes, and taplines. In 2022 we conducted trainings and Nutrition dialogues including screening of children for malnutrition.

Kigozi Gertrude assessing an OVC during a nutrition screening exercise in Namilyango village.



Backyard Gardening/Urban Horticulture

Backyard gardens are one of the main pillars that have sustained households with food during COVID 19 pandemic lockdown. One example is granny Napoko Maria 65 years of age who has sack mounts in her home, a skill she learnt from one of the backyard trainings.

She says sack mounts have supported the family with vegetables at all times which kept her family healthy. We concentrated on monitoring to check on impact of these gardens in families and the results indicated that this was a positive intervention to support households in food security.





OUR AGYWs benefit from FFS

Activity (V) Backyard gardening Granny Amoit Dimintiria left and Napoko Maria happily harvesting vegetables from their gardens.



Collaboration with EWB Irrigation Project/Drilling of borehole

EWB USA chapter commenced on the works in August of the irrigation project by drilling the bore hole hence completing the first phase of the project. On completion of the borehole, the water was tested and was confirmed suitable for human consumption. It was a temporary measure to enable the community access safe and clean water as we await the next phase of the project which will embark on installation of solar powered irrigation system for the property.



Omoana CRC staff witnessing the drilling process



Social economic empowerment



12 New Villages savings
Groups Formed
58 Cumulative VSLA
groups monitored
5 Groups trained in
Financial Literacy
14 Youths placed for
apprenticeship
15 Apprentices
completed their course
11 Groups trained in
Community Skills

58 established VSLA groups were supported in 2022, We have also managed to support 50 households with booster grants under MUWRP project to improve on their IGAs and there has been great improvement in the income of our Guardian households. The benefit of saving has continued to grow from Group level to individual level.



Family Strengthening



197 beneficiaries trained in parenting skills
7 groups trained in parenting skills
89 girls and boys trained in Life skills
5 Number of groups trained in life skills
2,333 Beneficiaries engaged in psychosocial support.

2022 saw us implement different activities under family strengthening like life skills, GBV sessions We have also conducted Vulnerability Assessment to identify new AGYWs and OVC. We conducted ongoing counseling and psycho-social support.



Radiology department

The Radiology department has been completed with the two machines (X-Ray and Ultrasound sound scan) fully installed.



X-Ray room fully set up

The components on the Xray machines include; Fixed table, chest stand, main unit, Printer, CR System, Generator and a work station.



Above is the Control unit for the X-Ray that has a printer and CR unit.

The Ultrasound scan machine has five (5) Probes that include; Linear, Convex, Transvaginal, Echo (Cardiac) and 3D.

This machine has a Fuji printer and a separate TV screen is going to be mounted on the wall for the clients to be able to watch their images being scanned while they are resting on their examination couch in real time.



Ultrasound scan room





Safety & Quality Assurance tests

One of the protocols for licensing the radiology department includes conducting safety and quality assurance tests on mainly the X-ray machine and the facility's capacity to have a radiology section. Assessments were conducted at the facility by Physicists. These assessments mainly focused on ensuring that the required measures are in place to conduct tests in a safe environment.

The assessments were conducted by a team of Physicists from the Uganda Cancer Institute, Department of Radiotherapy. The assessments focused on these key parameters;

- Equipment (X-ray) functionality and the accessories.
- Adequate shielding of the facility from radiations
- Radiation safety for the patients, users and the general public
- Radiation outputs are within acceptable limits
- The image quality of the equipment (X-ray) met the required standards.

- The suitability of the equipment (X-ray) to the nature and standards of the facility.
- Location of the radiology department within the facility.
- Accessibility of the equipment to the patients.

The assessment results were all good indicating that the facility and the equipment met all the necessary standards including the quality of the equipment that were procured and installed.

St. Francis hired a full-time radiographer working from Monday-Friday every week.





Full Equiped Lab at
St. Francis Healthcare

Advantages of having a radiology unit.

The installation of these machines at St. Francis gives our clients/patients the convenience to access all services including diagnostics in one place saving them the extra costs and other challenges involved in conducting tests from other facilities.

On the other hand, having these machines will help us retain clients who otherwise wouldn't return to St. Francis once they are referred to conduct X-ray tests and scans outside.

St. Francis is famous for being mindful about fees for services given to clients within our communities especially the poor. St. Francis will be able to competitively provide affordable diagnostic services to clients who wouldn't afford these tests from other facilities.

With the availability of a Radiology unit, St. Francis intends to get into partnerships with Insurance companies as one of the medical service providers in the Eastern part of Uganda.



Omoana Children rehabilitation program

Omoana Rehabilitation Centre is a children's project under St Francis Health Care Services where HIV positive/malnourished children who are in stage 3 and 4 of HIV/AIDS are rehabilitated and after wards taken back to the community when their health has stabilised.

The children admitted are between the age of 4 and 18 from St Francis' catchment areas in central and eastern Uganda. Children are rehabilitated and are afterwards reintegrated back to their families. Thereafter, monthly monitoring is done to assess their health condition and the environment in which they live.

This year, the house admitted 23 new children (13 females 10 males) with an addition of 4 returnees totaling to 27 children. Majority of the children who came in were underage according to the required criteria, which meant staying with mothers/caretakers in the house as well.

An assessment was done to find out the suppression rate for the regularly followed up children/youths accessing their ART from St Francis. Out of the 75 children/youths, 67 had

suppressed viral load (89.3%), 7 had Detected viral load (9.3%) and 1 had missing results due to a transfer out made (1.3%). This assessment is done every 6 months.

Reintegration

22(18 new Children and 4 returnees) were re-integrated to their community.

Before reintegration, the guardians are prepared with financial skills, parenting skills and skills on how to give medication to the children. Also, the VHTS (Village Health Teams) of the respective areas are involved in the reintegration process so that they routinely (Weekly, Bi-weekly and monthly) monitor the children.



STORY OF ESTHER

Babirye Esther (2 years) was admitted at Omoana house when severely malnourished. She could hardly walk and talk. She was started on RUTF from Nalufenya, monitored on a balanced diet and had a strict ART schedule. Currently, she has achieved many milestones i.e. Can play, can walk without assistance and has started talking. The mother is now being prepared for re-integration.



**Babirye Esther
(Before intervention)**



**Babirye Esther
(After intervention)**



**Kyomuhendo Shalom
(Before intervention)**



**Kyomuhendo Shalom
(After intervention)**



Segal Family Foundation 



omohana 

 Washington
University in St. Louis


Eirene
Suisse

 GOULD
FAMILY
FOUNDATION

 ELTON JOHN
AIDS FOUNDATION

 THE
ELIZABETH TAYLOR
AIDS FOUNDATION

 USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

 Columbia
Business
School

 THE
MERCURY
PHOENIX TRUST

 MUWRP
Makerere University Walter Reed Project



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