



2024

Annual REPORT



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YouTube

Mbale Network of Young People
Living with HIV/AIDS - MNYPA

Word from Board Chair

Dear Stakeholders, Partners, Young People, and Friends,

As Board Chair of MNYPA, it is with immense pride and pleasure that I present the 2024 Annual Report. This report serves as a comprehensive overview of our organization's activities, achievements, and impact throughout the year, and stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication of our staff, volunteers, partners, and, most importantly, the young people we serve. 2024 has been a year of significant progress, marked by impactful programs that have expanded access to crucial SRHR services, empowered youth leadership, and amplified their voices in advocating for positive change within our community. We have witnessed firsthand the transformative power of our work, and we are deeply grateful for the opportunity to make a tangible difference in the lives of young people in Mbale. While we celebrate these successes, we also recognize the persistent challenges that remain. MNYPA is committed to continuing its efforts to address these challenges head-on, working collaboratively with all stakeholders to create a brighter and more equitable future for every young person. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend my sincere gratitude to our invaluable partners, donors, and supporters. Your contributions are essential to our mission, and we deeply value your continued commitment to empowering young people and building a stronger community. We invite you to join us on this journey as we strive to create lasting positive change.



MUBEENZZI YONNA
MNYPA Board Chair

Word From ED

Dear Partners, Friends, and Young People,

As I reflect on 2024, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride in the journey we have walked together. This year has been one of resilience, learning, and impactful action, all driven by our unshaken commitment to young people living with and affected by HIV in Mbale and beyond.

At MNYPA, we believe that every young person deserves a life of dignity, opportunities, and good health. This belief has fueled our work, ensuring that we provide not just services, but hope, empowerment, and a platform for young voices to be heard. Through our programs, we have reached thousands of adolescents and young people, equipping them with life-saving knowledge, strengthening support systems, and advocating for policies that protect their rights.

Our programs, including the Stepping Stones with Children Programme, the Heroes for Gender Transformative Action, Make Way Campaign, and HIV treatment Literacy have transformed lives. We have witnessed young people regain confidence, take charge of their health, and inspire others to do the same. This transformation is not just statistics—it is real lives, real stories, and real impact. Of course, this journey has not been without challenges. The high rates of HIV among young people, limited access to youth-friendly health services, and the persistent barriers of stigma and discrimination remind us why we must keep pushing forward. Despite these obstacles, our resilience has only grown stronger. We have continued to forge meaningful partnerships, engage policymakers, and most importantly, stand by our communities.

None of this would have been possible without our dedicated team, partners, and the young people who trust us with their dreams and struggles. To our funders, implementing partners, volunteers, and community leaders—thank you for believing in us. Your support is the reason MNYPA continues to thrive.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to scaling up our impact, deepening our engagements, and ensuring that no young person is left behind. The future holds great promise, and with your continued support, we will build a generation that is empowered, healthy, and unstoppable.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Mbale Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS (MNYPA)

A portrait of Mweru Peter, a man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a light blue polo shirt with a patterned collar and cuffs. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera. The background is a solid light blue color.

Mweru Peter Executive Director,

Mbale Network of Young People
Living with HIV/AIDS (MNYPA)

Meet our team MNYPA



Teddy Kevin Nabuzale

Psychosocial Support Counselor/
Steppingstone Community Facilitator



Andrew Othieno

Digital Media & Innovations Officer



Peter Mweru

Executive Director



Ivan Isiko

ICT and Innovations Manager



Divine Hope Mugide

Deputy Executive Director



Phiona Naluwoza

Assistant Programs Manager



Cyrus Wamwa

ICT support Staff



Derrick Nangooli

Finance/Compliance Manager



Asuman Weere

Human Resource Manage



Joseph Mubendo

Programs Manager



OUR CORPORATE VISION

Quality life for young people living with and affected by HIV.

OUR MISSION

To create a safe environment for young people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS to facilitate meaningful participation in Programs that improve the quality of their lives.

CORE VALUES

- Integrity
- Transparency and accountability
- Collective responsibility
- Team work
- Confidentiality

OUR FIVE BOLD STEPS TO BE VIBRANT, RESOURCEFUL AND CONNECTED

YOUNG PEOPLE

Make Young people our most valued asset.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Triple our income

VISIBILITY

Scale-up MNYPA's presence on the District map

QUALITY

Total quality management.

AGILITY

Establish fit-for-purpose Structures, systems, and processes.

Program Profile

4 Projects on-going

12 Sub Counties of implementation

11 Dedicated Staffs and Volunteer

Young People reached and Stakeholders Engaged:

♀ Female 11,271 ♂ Male 6990

Total Program Budget for 2024:

\$55,305.522

MNYPA PROGRAM FOCUS



HIV prevention, Care, Support and Treatment services



Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH) Water, Sanitation and Hygiene



Adolescent and Youth Sexual Reproductive Health



Advocacy



Mental Health

Budget Advocacy Training

The Budget Advocacy Training for District and National Level Impact engaged 30 participants, including youth leaders, representatives from CSOs/CBOs, people living with HIV, disabilities, and albinism, as well as district officials such as the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), District Health Educator, and District Principal Community Development Officer. The training equipped participants with knowledge and skills on budget advocacy from grassroots to district level, leading to enhanced participation and decision-making of young people, particularly marginalized groups, in the budget process. As a result, the district technical team has committed to consistently include trained youth leaders in budget processes, recognizing their capacity to advocate for the needs of young people to be reflected in the district budget. This initiative has strengthened collaboration and advocacy efforts, ensuring more equitable resource allocation and inclusive development in 2024.

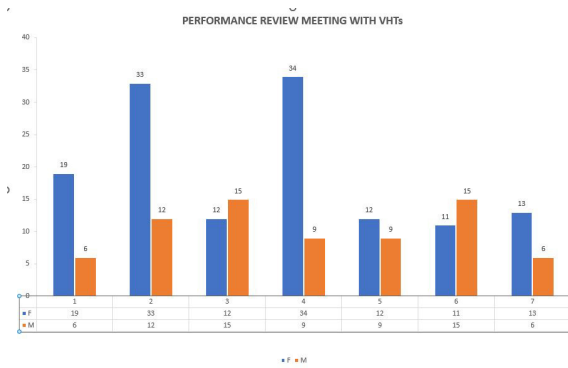
Client Satisfaction Interviews

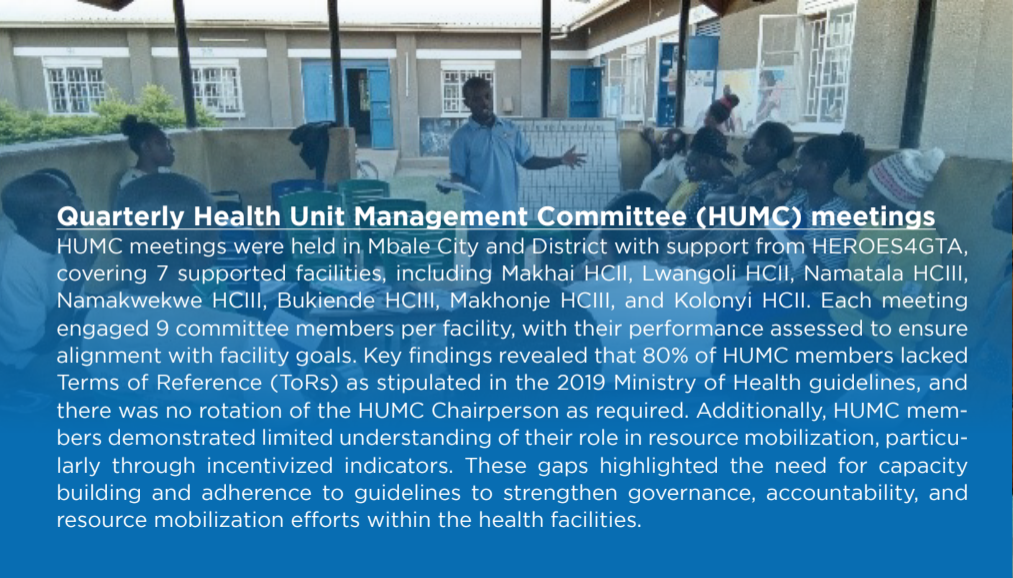
Client satisfaction interviews were conducted across 11 health facilities in Mbale District and City, including Namatala HCIII, Bukiende HCIII, Makhonje HCIII, Namawanga HCIII, Bunampogo HCIII, Muruba HCIII, Busiu HCIV, Wanale HCIII, Budwale HCIII, Namatala HCIV, and Busiu HCIV. The findings revealed a continued understanding and demand

for quality youth-friendly services, with clients appreciating the designated youth days and tailored service hours introduced through earlier innovations by Make Way, Heroes, and the District Health Educator. These initiatives have enhanced the overall client experience and strengthened the demand for accessible, youth-centered care. Additionally, the interviews highlighted improved customer relationships between health workers and clients, fostering a more supportive and responsive service environment, underscoring the positive impact of the programs in promoting youth-friendly health services and improving client satisfaction.



Facility Performance Review Meeting was held with Community Health Workers Facility Performance Review Meeting was held with Community Health Workers (VHTs) in Mbale District, engaging 200 VHTs from 8 supported health facilities, including Makhonje HCIII, Lwangoli HCIII, Bukiende HCIII, Namatala HCIV, Namakwekwe HCII, Makhai HCIII, and Kolonyi HCIII, across both Mbale City and District. Discussions focused on strengthening linkages and referrals by VHTs within their communities, which contributed to improved facility performance, particularly in meeting targets for Maternal and Child Health (MCH) incentivized indicators. This initiative reinforced the critical role of VHTs in enhancing community health outcomes and service delivery.

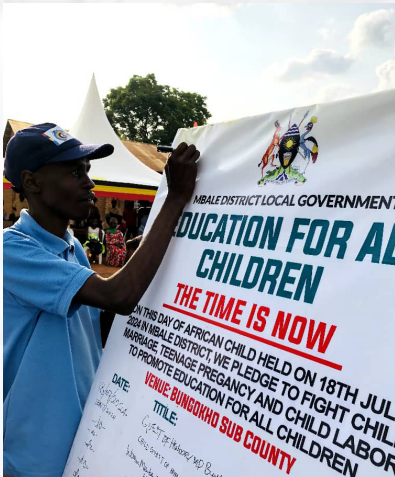




Quarterly Health Unit Management Committee (HUMC) meetings

HUMC meetings were held in Mbale City and District with support from HEROES4GTA, covering 7 supported facilities, including Makhai HCII, Lwangoli HCII, Namatala HCIII, Namakwekwe HCIII, Bukiende HCIII, Makhonje HCIII, and Kolonyi HCII. Each meeting engaged 9 committee members per facility, with their performance assessed to ensure alignment with facility goals. Key findings revealed that 80% of HUMC members lacked Terms of Reference (ToRs) as stipulated in the 2019 Ministry of Health guidelines, and there was no rotation of the HUMC Chairperson as required. Additionally, HUMC members demonstrated limited understanding of their role in resource mobilization, particularly through incentivized indicators. These gaps highlighted the need for capacity building and adherence to guidelines to strengthen governance, accountability, and resource mobilization efforts within the health facilities.

An inception meeting was held with local stakeholders under the Upstream Plus Uganda initiative to strengthen knowledge and skills among movements advocating for the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women and girls living with HIV. The meeting, attended by 24 participants, including representatives from the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), Secretary for Health, and various stakeholders and partners, focused on mapping local SRHR services and development partners for referrals. A total of 22 SRHR service providers offering youth-friendly services to girls and women were identified and mapped. Key outcomes included the joint development of an action plan with stakeholders and the District Health Team to address barriers young people face in accessing SRHR services. The meeting also strengthened collaboration among stakeholders and allies, fostering a more coordinated and effective approach to advancing SRHR advocacy.



Commemoration of Day of the African Child 2024

The Day of the African Child was commemorated in collaboration with Mbale District Local Government, reaching a total of 66 adolescents (25 males and 41 females). Participants were equipped with essential information on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and provided with gender-based violence (GBV) screening services. This initiative aimed to enhance the uptake, demand, and utilization of youth-friendly SRHR services. As a result, awareness of SRHR, GBV, and HIV significantly increased among adolescent girls and boys, leading to a noticeable rise in demand for health services by young people in the community.

In addition, Steppingstone Community facilitators conducted life skills and menstrual hygiene sessions for children, equipping them with essential knowledge and practical skills to navigate adolescence confidently. These sessions focused on promoting self-awareness, personal hygiene, and effective communication, while also addressing the unique challenges girls face during menstruation.

TREATMENT LITERACY WORKSHOPS

With support from TASO/Global Fund through Uganda Development Health Associates, 4 Treatment Literacy workshops were conducted in 2024 across four selected health facilities: Namawanga HCIII, Niko HCIII, Busano HCIII, and Bumandada HCIII in Mbale District. These workshops aimed to improve ART adherence and viral load suppression among adolescents and young people living with HIV through the Stepping Stone initiative. A total of 29 adolescents and young people (13 males and 16 females) were selected as beneficiaries, gaining a deeper understanding of HIV treatment, including the importance of adherence and viral load suppression. The workshops increased awareness and knowledge of HIV treatment among young people, empowering them to take charge of their health and improve treatment outcomes.

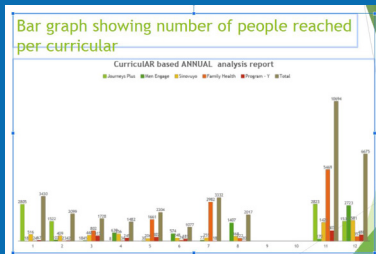
COMMUNITY SAFE SPACES

Community Safe Spaces were convened in 2024 to discuss SRHR issues in Namatala HCIV and hard-to-reach areas of Budwale HCIII and Jewa Sub-county. A total of 171 young people (104 females and 67 males) from marginalized communities were reached with information on SRHR, GBV, and HIV, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to make informed decisions when accessing SRHR-related health services. During these sessions, an action plan was developed, and commitments were made to address the challenges young people face in accessing SRHR, GBV, and HIV services. As a result, awareness of SRHR, GBV, and HIV significantly increased among adolescents and young people, enhancing their capacity to demand, access, and utilize SRHR services within their communities. This empowered young people to take charge of their health.

SUPPORT SUPERVISION FOR 5 SRH CURRICULUM-BASED COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS

Monthly support supervision and data collection were conducted for five curriculum-based community interventions—Family Health Group, Sinovuyo, Men Engage, Program Y, and Journeys Plus—across Bukiende, Busiu, and Industrial Division, supported by the Heroes Program. During the reporting period, a total of 17,369 individuals (10,694 females and 6,675 males) were reached through these interventions. The activities led to increased awareness of SRHR services, including family planning, within the communities. Young people, both in and out of school, gained essential life planning skills such as assertiveness and practical skills like making reusable pads. Additionally, the interventions strengthened GBV referral pathways in the community, ensuring better support for survivors. These efforts contributed to improved SRHR outcomes, enhanced life skills, and a safer environment for young people.

SUMMARY



16 Days of Activism and World AIDS Day Youth-led Advocacy Event

During the 16 Days of Activism and World AIDS Day Youth-led Advocacy Event, our Mr. and Miss Y+ presented a statement on behalf of young people living with HIV in Mbale District, drawing attention to the concerning rise in the number of children and adolescents with non-suppressed viral loads. They emphasized the urgent need for targeted interventions, including improved access to treatment literacy,

adherence support, and youth-friendly health services. The statement called for stronger collaboration among stakeholders, including the District Health Team, political leaders, religious leaders, and community members, to address barriers such as stigma, discrimination, and inadequate resources. This advocacy effort underscored the importance of prioritizing the health and well-being of children and adolescents living with HIV, aligning with the UNAIDS 95-95-95 targets to end HIV by 2030 and ensuring better health outcomes for this vulnerable group.

Y+ Beauty Pageant Campaign Eastern Region Audition.

At the Y+ Beauty Pageant Campaign Eastern Region Audition held in Mayuge District, organized by the Uganda Network of Young People Living with HIV (UNYPA), Mbale District proudly won the crown for Mr. and Ms. Y+ Eastern Region. This achievement celebrated their outstanding advocacy efforts and leadership in addressing the challenges faced by young people living with HIV. The victory not only brought recognition to Mbale's young advocates but also highlighted their dedication to combating stigma and discrimination. This milestone strengthened their platform to inspire and mobilize communities, further amplifying the voices of young people living with HIV and advancing the fight against stigma.



MNYPA Community Voices

1. Secretary for Health to District Council- James Masaba

"I have seen firsthand how MNYPA is changing lives. Young people are now more informed, confident, and actively seeking health services. We must stand with them, support them, and ensure no one is left behind."



2. District Health Educator- Masagwayi Agnes

"When I meet young people who have been empowered by MNYPA, I see hope. They are taking charge of their health, asking the right questions, and making informed choices. This is the kind of change we need to sustain!"



3. Clerk to District Council- Mutuwa Reginah Mabonga

"MNYPA is more than just an organization—it's a movement. They have fought for young people to be heard and included in decision-making. We must work together to turn their advocacy into real action and lasting change."



4. Community Development Officer- Nekesa Harriet

"MNYPA is proof that when you invest in young people, you invest in the future. I've seen them transform lives—giving skills, confidence, and opportunities to those who once felt invisible. We need to keep this momentum going!"



5. HIV District Focal Person- Wandwasi Robert

"Every time I see a young person thriving because of MNYPA's work, I know we are on the right path. They are helping us bridge gaps in HIV care, and together, we can achieve an HIV-free generation."



6. SRHR Alliance Uganda Country Youth Coordinator- Sheirat Namayanja

"MNYPA has shown us that inclusion isn't just a word—it's action. Their work ensures that no young person, no matter their background, is left behind. This is the future of development, and I am proud to support them."



7. Heroes Project Representative

"I've met young people who, because of MNYPA, now believe in themselves again. They've found purpose, leadership, and strength. This is why we need to keep supporting initiatives that empower and uplift!"

8. Chairperson MNYPA Young Mothers Forum-Kakayi Annitah

"Before MNYPA, I felt lost. Now, I know my worth, I have a support system, and I can dream bigger. They didn't just give me hope—they gave me the tools to change my life."



Advocacy Wins in 2024

Menstrual Hygiene Management-6 primary schools committed a total of \$1,500 for menstrual hygiene products following engagements with School Senior Management Committees, ensuring girls have access to essential supplies and reducing barriers to education.

Increased SRHR Budget-MNYPA and partners successfully advocated for a rise in the SRHR commodities budget from 36 million UGX in FY 2022/2023 to 201 million UGX in FY 2024/2025, significantly improving access to sexual and reproductive health services for young people.



STAFF OF THE YEAR

We are proud to celebrate Nangoli Derrick, our Staff of the Year, who serves as the dedicated Finance Manager. Derrick's exceptional commitment, professionalism, and meticulous attention to detail have been instrumental in ensuring the financial integrity and sustainability of our programs. His innovative approach to financial management and support for the team have significantly contributed to our success in 2024. Derrick's hard work and dedication inspire us all, and we are honored to recognize his outstanding contributions to MNYPA. Congratulations, Derrick!

Congratulations

Your hard work, dedication, and positive attitude have truly set you apart. We are so grateful for everything you do, and this recognition is well-deserved. Keep up the amazing work!



2024
MNYPA
Staff of the year

Nangoli
Derrick

NANGOLI DERRICK

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our partners and donors who supported us in 2024. Your unwavering commitment has been the driving force behind our achievements, enabling us to empower young people, advance SRHR, combat HIV stigma, and address gender-based violence. Together, we have created meaningful change and fostered healthier, more resilient communities. As we look ahead to 2025, we are excited to continue these impactful partnerships and call on you to join us once again in this transformative journey. Your continued support will inspire hope, drive innovation, and amplify impact, ensuring a brighter future for young people and marginalized communities.

To all our donors and Stakeholders



*your support makes it possible
for Mbale Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS - MNYPYA
to achieve on its mandate*



HEROES FOR GENDER
TRANSFORMATIVE
ACTION



POWER
TO YOUTH
CHANGE STARTS WITH YOU/US



Embracing
Intersectionality
for Health Equity
& Justice



UGANET



WE ARE

MNYPA

Mbale Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS

ABOUT US

Mbale Network of Young People Living with HIV/AIDS (MNYPA) is a regional network which exists to improve the quality of life for young people living with and affected by HIV in Eastern Uganda and it's driven by the needs of young people and implements an evidence based advocacy.

We are Located at Uganda Red Cross Mbale Branch, Plot 35/39 Maluku Drive, Mbale City Division, Mbale City. MNYPA was established in 2017 to respond to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights needs of young people living with and affected by HIV, Teenage Pregnancy, Gender inequality, Sexual Gender Based Violations and health problems against marginalized Groups of young people.

MNYPA has 6 programmatic areas namely; Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights, HIV related stigma and discrimination, Evidence based advocacy, Gender based Violence, Teenage pregnancy and socio-economic empowerment.



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