

**D**ear friends, am pleased to share with you the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of our Newsletters. It is exciting to be part Angel's Center's mission "being a voice and to break the silence of disability in communities and in the same way integrating children with special needs to fully realize their potentials". Kindly take a moment to know what has transpired in the period of last six months (April to September).

*Please enjoy this edition!*

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## Angel's Center organizes a mega physiotherapy camp

**A**ngel's Center organized and conducted a 3 days physiotherapy camp at Wakiso Health Center IV with the purpose of reaching out to ever growing population of vulnerable children with disabilities. The major goal of the camp was to provide parents and caregivers of children with disability with practical skills and knowledge (at home based interventions) on how to handle their children. The main activities of the camp included; appropriate assessments of children, guidance and counseling, awareness creation on disability, maternal services and immunization, physiotherapy and appropriate referrals for CWDs in need of medical assistance. Over 200 people from 24 different villages of Wakiso district attended and benefited from the camp. A total of 182 children with disability were reached, with different services of speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, guidance & counseling and physiotherapy.



*"Parents participating in lip and throat exercises during speech therapy trainings".*



*"Parents participating in physical exercises with their children under the guidance of the physiotherapists".*

**"Every Child Matters"**

## Angel's Center starts building

We officially started the building project with the ground breaking ceremony. Apparently, the construction is ongoing from the foundation level to wall plate level. We bring special thanks to all partners, friends and well-wishers of Angel's Center for your generosity and support towards making children with special needs to live a dignified life. More support is needed in terms of contributing a brick, a bag of cement and building a wall. ([www.angelscentre.org](http://www.angelscentre.org))



*The building project at the foundation level*



## Community based rehabilitation (Home visits)



In August, our CBR team conducted home visits to five (5) different families. The major aim of the home visits was to make a follow up on children's wellbeing with their families, how parents manage to cope up with challenges these children face in their home environment.

Our team made interventions for the 5 children and particularly encouraged and created awareness about the intention of the home visits to parents. They were also encouraged to make basic physical exercises with their children in a more friendly way to avoid drawbacks. The other purpose of the home visits was to keep parents informed about the progress of their children at the center and identifying goals of their children.

## Board meeting

A board meeting was held in the August with the purpose of informing the Board members on the progress Angel's Center has made in this year in terms of activities conducted and coordinated including the building project and Angel's Center being the lead organizer of the World Down syndrome day 2018 in Uganda. A total number of five (5) members attended and actively participated during the meeting. The other purpose of the meeting was to find out more strategies of fundraising to ensure that the building project is complete by the end of 2019. Members were also informed about the community outreach programs Angel's Center has started to organize with the aim of creating awareness about disability and reaching more vulnerable children with disability in the communities.

## National Disability Sports Gala 2018

Angel's Center together with other organizations under the umbrella of Special Children Trust (SCT) participated in the 6th Disability awareness sports gala. The theme for 2018 was "LEAVE NO CHILD BEHIND". An awareness match was held on the streets of Kampala with the purpose of removing barriers associated with disability in the communities through raising awareness and to celebrate the different abilities of the children. The guest of hour was the vice president of Uganda His Excellence Edward Ssekandi. During the match, different organizations carried banners and posters with different key messages concerning disability as a way of breaking of the silence of disability in the community as well as creating a unified voice and engaging people in positions of power to be part of us and collectively advocate for the human rights of CWDs. Children from the different organizations actively participated and showed their talents through sports like football, songs and presenting skits with key messages about disability.



## Angel's Center early learning activities

At Angel's Center, children are involved in different activities that reflect more of their learning experience with the guidance from their teachers. During term 2, we conducted a parents meeting at the same time organized an exhibition where children displayed the locally learning materials they use in classes. The exhibition provided children a platform to show their parents what they have learned and what they are good at as well.

We work closely with parents or guardians to ensure acceptance and appreciation in the first place and for the society to change for their perception. Together with parents and teachers, individualized education plans were developed to ensure that goals identified for each individual child are achieved through a specified period of time.





## Staff Capacity Building

One way of increasing knowledge and empowering our staff members with skills is through capacity building. 2018 has been a year of empowerment at Angel's Center. 3 staff members have undergone different trainings from Children at Risk Action Network (CRANE) to ensure that organization achieves its goal and objectives. CRANE organized the following trainings;

- Child protection training was conducted to enable organizations have skills and capacity to identify and develop appropriate child protection measures and policies to govern them.
- The financial management training was organized with the purpose of providing an overview of the financial and accounting policies and procedures for each organization.
- The human resource training (people care) was also organized with the aim of providing overviews of human resource policies to set standards and ensure consistency in and equal and fair treatment of all staff.

With knowledge gained from these trainings, we have been able to develop functional child protection policy, financial manual and the Human resource manual to ensure effective operation of the organization. All these policies were evaluated by CRANE as standard documents to be used by the organization and were approved by the Board members.

## Intern Students

In September, Angel's Center received students from two universities of UC Leuven and HoGent in Belgium to carry out their internship. As part of their study program, internship allows students to transfer real life experiences into learning experiences that make it possible to apply knowledge, skills and attitudes in changing situations. As a knowledge facility, Angel's Center allows and expects students to actively participate in different professional activities for children with special needs such as early learning of children with special needs, inclusive education, integrated therapy programs and community based rehabilitation.



### Next plans

- Making assessment reports for children.
- Preparing Christmas party for the children.
- Home visits.
- Parents trainings.
- Holiday speech training program.
- Workforce development training for parents of and children with Down syndrome.
- Capacity building for primary teachers on inclusive practices.

### Our physical location

The center is located at Nansana along Hoima road, block 203 next to Nexus Hotel. Please contact us on [mutumbarose3@gmail.com](mailto:mutumbarose3@gmail.com) website: [www.angelscenter.org](http://www.angelscenter.org) Follow us on face book/ angels center for children with special needs Tel: +256 759 000 991, +256 772 717 245

In support

