

SOMERO UGANDA

COMMUNITY LIBRARY

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The Somero Community Library takes pride in boosting learning possibilities for slum young women in the community of Bwaise, to enable them reconstruct their livelihoods, start new lives free from ignorance and stigma.

Somero Uganda
Supporting education for Vulnerable young People
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With evident need to strengthen education for women in Uganda as the only way to change communities, Somero Uganda remains focused on providing quality education for slum young women as an important way to realize this dream in the societies in which we live. Women still faced many challenges in making it beyond secondary level of education due to different reasons, of which, early pregnancies dominated their reasons for being kicked out of the normal secondary schools without key level results. Others especially in slum areas, failed to attain certificates after failing in final exam due to limited reading materials, among other reasons. It is also true that many Parents branded education as very expensive and some even neglected the effort to help their girl children complete school after getting pregnant in school. They therefore ended up dropping out without the required certificates and that left them very vulnerable to adopting vices like early sex and drug abuse making them prone to all kinds of exploitation in the society.

In response to the problems faced by the young women in Kawempe slums, Somero Uganda needed to create a conducive environment for self rediscovery, and reconstruction of new livelihoods that would amount to the attainment of an educational dream, for each of the girls and young women who still had hope to continue with school. As we searched for measures to help these young girls and women materialize their dreams as far as education is concerned, through our home based schooling program that caters for young mothers with busy schedules, the slum girls and young women in Kawempe requested for a fully stocked library to help them achieve their lost educational dreams. Somero Uganda with Stichting 10% partnered to avail the girls and young women with a well stocked library in the month of April. Funds were provided for the purchase of library furniture, over 250 resourceful books were delivered and a wireless internet connection installed with two desktop computers for students' researches in the library, provided.

This dream wouldn't have been realized without the joint effort of each one of our well wishers, partners and friends whose desire to create new livelihoods for the vulnerable young people remains indispensable. The young people from around the community, can now freely

access the library services, as one of the ways to give back for your continued support. The library now hosts students from all over the community and with the plan to improve the resourcefulness of this library; we believe that it will become a first class asset to the young people and educators within the community of Kawempe.

Somero Uganda is heartily grateful for your continued effort to change more endangered lives and create new livelihoods for the young people living in the slums of Kawempe. Now, the young girls and women have a chance to pursue their educational dreams and finally can change their lives, thanks to Stichting 10% that dreamt with us to make this dream a reality. For, when we dreamt individually, it remained just a dream, but when we dream together it became a reality. That is what we now have, thanks to you!



The new library furniture in place ready to be stocked with the books purchased (above), and the installation process of a wireless internet in progress, in the proposed library (below).



The wireless internet was installed and now fully in use by Somero staff, the home based schooling class, as well as the visiting students and educationists from within the community of Kawempe.



The Young women were very helpful in preparing the shelves and the books for public use. They spent hours cleaning up the shelves, recording and placing the books into their shelves. This showed personal dedication towards responsibility for the community library.



After many hours of turning a former classroom into a well stocked library, the ladies took time to try out the internet and do some research, it was one of the moments to remember for them, because they felt like their dreams had come to pass. They are now looking forward to accomplishing their dreams to achieve UACE Certificates to qualify to the University and take on completely different lives from what they face in the slums.



The ladies quietly studying and making researches in the Somero community library (Above). And, the art mural about the library (Below).



Now, the young women can start new lives through education and developing a culture of reading, courtesy of Stichting 10%.