



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Dear Friends and Partners,

As Chair of the Board, it is my honor to reflect on the tremendous strides our team made in 2024. This year has been defined by growth, focus, and an unwavering commitment to health equity for women and youth across Uganda. At the heart of these achievements is a deep belief in the power of community-based solutions—and the extraordinary strength of those we serve.

Most notably, 2024 marked a pivotal milestone in the expansion of our Obstetric Fistula program. For the first time, UVP brought life-changing surgical repair services to western Uganda, hosting two camps at Kiryandongo Hospital. These efforts were part of a record-breaking year in which we supported six total fistula repair camps. This expansion is not only a logistical success—it is a bold step toward national impact, driven by our partnership with the Fistula Foundation. Together, we are ensuring that no woman suffering from fistula is beyond reach.

Our Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) program also flourished, reaching more than 1,300 young people through school sessions, pad-making workshops, and community events. We saw meaningful shifts in menstrual health, contraceptive knowledge, and gender norms—results driven by our responsive, data-informed approach.

In 2024, our Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) program continued to make a meaningful impact, improving sanitation and hygiene behaviors in the communities we serve. As we celebrate its success, the UVP Board and leadership team made the strategic decision to transition out of WASH programming in order to focus our resources on our core strengths. This was not a decision we took lightly, but one grounded in our commitment to long-term impact. By concentrating our efforts on a holistic fistula-centered approach, we can deepen our reach, enhance quality, and respond more effectively to evolving needs.

None of this would be possible without the passionate team in Uganda, our generous donors and partners, and the communities who invite us into their lives and trust us with their care. On behalf of the Board, thank you for your belief in UVP's mission. Together, we are making health equity not just a goal, but a reality.

With gratitude,



MARISSA WATKINS

Board Chair

EXPANDING OUR REACH, EVOLVING OUR MODEL



As we phased out WASH programming at the end of 2024, we also moved away from the Healthy Villages model we have employed since our inception. As part of this shift, the remaining Healthy Villages in our program have now graduated:

- Bubeeko
- Busimba
- Butubaala
- Buwasa
- Buyubu
- Kalungami A
- Nabinoni
- Nasuti South

Our fistula program, which reaches women from a wide range of communities, is better suited to a broader, more flexible approach than a village-based model. Similarly, our ARH program is primarily anchored in schools, with communities selected based on school locations to create a harmonized approach.

In 2024, UVP also expanded its fistula program to Kiryandongo, a growing district in western Uganda that hosts one of the country's largest refugee settlements and consists primarily of a broad, underserved rural population. We are equally aiming to bring our ARH program to the district in the near term.

ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ARH)



1,392
Youths reached with reproductive health education.



Sanitary pad workshop at Nabitende Secondary School



Handwashing at Victory Primary School

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)



2,633
Primary school students participated in handwashing education sessions.

OBSTETRIC FISTULA



171
Fistula, 3rd or 4th degree tear surgeries supported.
93
Women participated in a reintegration program.



Learning beadwork during summer reintegration program



Borehole repair in Nabinoni village



Suzan - fistula survivor and reintegration participant



Sanitary pad making workshop at Nabitende Secondary School



Cement borehole protection in Nabinoni village

WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)



UVP INSTALLED RAINWATER HARVESTING TANKS IN 5 SCHOOLS, GIVING 3,516 STUDENTS IMPROVED ACCESS TO WATER AND SUPPORTING BETTER HYGIENE, HEALTH, AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE.



Unclean water and poor sanitation contribute to waterborne illnesses that can financially cripple families for months or even years. However, consistent and correct implementation of lifesaving interventions—such as wells, latrines, and handwashing facilities—has been proven to reduce illness and preventable deaths.

UVP's WASH program, with vital support from **RHODE ISLAND HOSPITAL** and **SOWING SOLIDARITY**, continued to prioritize community-based education and targeted interventions including:

- **Handwashing training** in primary schools, coupled with the provision of sturdy **handwashing stations** to encourage consistent hygiene practices.
- **Rainwater harvesting tanks**, installed to provide reliable, safe water sources for schools and communities.
- **Borehole repair and fencing**, ensuring sustainable access to clean water.
- **House-to-house sensitizations**, where our team educates families on the safe water chain, handwashing practices, and household sanitation improvements.



In November 2024, UVP installed a rainwater harvesting tank at St. Margaret's Secondary School in Kalungami B Village. The tank has significantly improved daily life for the school's 245 students and staff, providing additional water for handwashing, cooking, and hygiene.

Since installation, the school has seen reduced student absenteeism, particularly among girls during menstruation, and fewer disruptions caused by students leaving campus to fetch water. The water tank has become a vital resource—especially during the rainy season—supporting both academic performance and student well-being.

"BEFORE THE WATER TANK WAS INSTALLED, OUR COOK WOULD SPEND A LONG TIME PREPARING MEALS DUE TO THE LACK OF WATER. NOW, EVERYTHING RUNS MUCH MORE SMOOTHLY IN THE KITCHEN." — MR. WAKUYA, HEAD TEACHER

ADOLESCENT REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH (ARH)



ARH education session, Pragmatic Secondary School

AFTER PARTICIPATING IN OUR PROGRAM, ADOLESCENTS DEMONSTRATED A 46% INCREASE IN FAMILY PLANNING KNOWLEDGE, A 39% INCREASE IN UNDERSTANDING OF MENSTRUAL HYGIENE, AND A 35% INCREASE IN HIV PREVENTION. CRUCIALLY, THE PROGRAM ALSO DROVE A POSITIVE SHIFT TOWARDS GREATER GENDER EQUALITY.

With generous support from the **BUSHROD H. CAMPBELL AND ADAH F. HALL CHARITY FUND**, UVP advanced our adolescent reproductive health (ARH) program in **10** secondary schools – onboarding **2** new schools and continuing with **8** – and remaining in the **5** communities of **Bukalange, Bulumwaki, Kalungami A, Nabitende B, and Naguwa.**

In-depth monitoring and evaluation (MEL) enabled us to adapt our programming accordingly; including the addition of a family planning session led by a health worker which improved students' understanding and strengthened links between schools and health facilities.

Our education sessions covered menstruation, safe sex practices, HIV prevention, and family planning.

The program reached **1,392** adolescents—**920** students through in-school reproductive health education and **472** youth through community outreach events.

A total of **941** adolescents participated in reusable sanitary pad workshops, promoting both practical skills and gender equity. One head teacher noted that boys' participation created a more supportive environment for girls during menstruation.



We trained **10 Youth Champions** and hosted capacity-building workshops to strengthen their leadership and community mobilization skills.

We are thrilled to continue this program in 2025 with the Fund's ongoing support!

ROSE - STUDENT AT ST. MARGARET'S

Rose has been part of UVP's Adolescent Reproductive Health (ARH) program for the past two years. She especially enjoyed the sanitary pad-making workshops, which helped her gain confidence to stay in school during her menstrual cycle. The sessions have also strengthened her motivation to complete her education.

Beyond personal growth, she has become a source of support and encouragement for girls in her community, helping to teach them how to sew reusable pads themselves.



"THE ARH PROGRAM HAS HELPED ME AND MY FRIENDS TO MAKE HEALTHY CHOICES, LIKE ABSTAINING FROM SEX AND AVOIDING RISKY RELATIONSHIPS WITH BODA-BODA RIDERS AND 'SUGAR DADDIES'." - ROSE

OBSTETRIC FISTULA: SURGICAL CAMPS



Alayisa - Namalembe Village

2024 MARKED A MAJOR MILESTONE AS UVP SUCCESSFULLY EXTENDED ITS REACH INTO WESTERN UGANDA, CONTRIBUTING TO A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR IN WHICH WE SUPPORTED **SIX TOTAL FISTULA REPAIR CAMPS.**

Obstetric fistula is a devastating childbirth injury that leaves women incontinent and often isolated from their communities; surgery is the only cure.

Expanding UVP's fistula program to western Uganda through establishing a partnership with Kiryandongo General Hospital was a strategic and necessary step, further strengthening our commitment to ending fistula nationwide. With no other organizations providing fistula repair services in the region—and transportation to distant hospitals posing a major barrier to treatment—UVP stepped in to fill a critical gap. The need is especially urgent among women living in and around the district's large refugee settlement, where access to specialized care is extremely limited.

In 2024, we provided **171** women with surgical treatment for fistulas and 3rd & 4th degree tears across six camps. Two camps were co-hosted with Uganda Childbirth Injury Fund (UCIF) at Kamuli Mission Hospital and four were fully hosted by UVP, including one at St. James Hospital in Jinja, one at St. Francis Buluba Hospital, and two in western Uganda at Kiryandongo Hospital.

UVP's continued ability to lead and expand these efforts is made possible through the steadfast support of the **FISTULA FOUNDATION**.

ROSE - IGANGA VILLAGE

After enduring a 38-hour labor where her child was stillborn, Rose developed both a rectovaginal fistula (RVF) and a vesicovaginal fistula (VVF).

Surgeons treated the RVF in 2023 at our camp at Kamuli Mission Hospital and she returned in 2024 for the repair of the VVF at St. James' Hospital in Jinja.



"I AM SO HAPPY TO HAVE REGAINED MY FULL HEALTH, BUT I AM MOST EXCITED TO ONCE AGAIN BE SLEEPING IN A DRY BED!" - ROSE

OBSTETRIC FISTULA: SOCIAL REINTEGRATION



UVP'S PATIENTS HAVE, ON AVERAGE, LIVED WITH OBSTETRIC FISTULA FOR NEARLY 11 YEARS BEFORE RECEIVING TREATMENT. WHILE SURGERY ADDRESSES THE PHYSICAL INJURY, THE EMOTIONAL TRAUMA, ISOLATION, AND STIGMA DO NOT DISAPPEAR OVERNIGHT.



Reintegration participants learning to make bar soap

To support each woman's full recovery, UVP offers reintegration programming designed to foster both physical healing and psychological resilience. Our standard 8-week program provides hands-on skills training—such as basket weaving or tailoring—paired with microbusiness training to help women regain independence and stability.

In 2024, with support from **UNFPA** and **ACORD**, UVP also introduced a condensed, two-week reintegration model to serve women unable to commit to longer stays, ensuring that as many women as possible can benefit from time to heal and economic empowerment.

JACKLINE - KYINAMPERE VILLAGE

Jackline lived with a fistula for 16 years. She learned about UVP and our obstetric fistula camps on the radio. She connected with us and was able to attend camp in October 2023 at Kamuli Mission Hospital.

When we followed-up with Jackline in March of this year, she proudly showed off her tailoring shop—modest, but full of potential. She is now earning an income, helping to support her family and excited for her future.



"I NEVER IMAGINED I COULD REBUILD MY LIFE LIKE THIS!" - JACKLINE

93
REINTEGRATION
PARTICIPANTS

41%
LEARNED TO
TAILOR

76%
LEARNED TO MAKE
SOAP &
SHAMPOO



Handwashing at Busulumba Primary School



July reintegration program graduates



2024 Fistula Ambassador training and debrief



Child from Kalungami A using a plate stand

FINANCIALS

BALANCE SHEET (USD)

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

49,907

50,832

Prepaid Expenses

3,154

1,556

Undeposited Checks

7,700

11,362

Total Current Assets

60,761

63,750

Fixed Assets

Accumulated Depreciation

(11,715)

(6,938)

Original Cost

14,159

11,135

Total Fixed Assets

2,444

4,197

Total Assets

63,205

67,947

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

4,000

0

Payroll Liabilities

484

Withholding Tax

558

151

Total Current Liabilities

5,042

151

Total Liabilities

5,042

151

Equity

Net Assets

67,796

53,026

Net Income

(9,633)

14,770

Total Equity

58,163

67,796

Total Liabilities & Equity

63,205

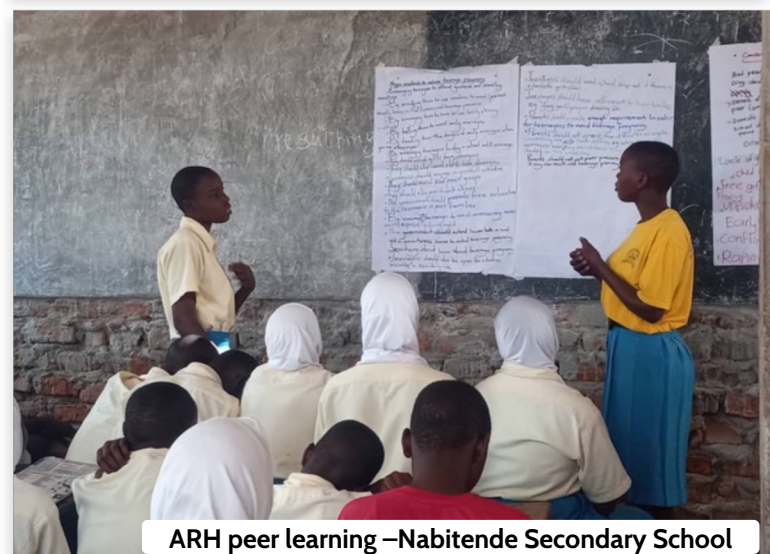
67,947



Fistula survivor, Bibian and child



Adolescent bike race in Bulumwaki Village



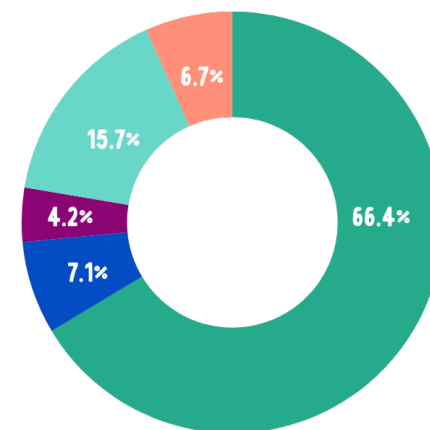
ARH peer learning –Nabitende Secondary School

FINANCIALS, CONTINUED

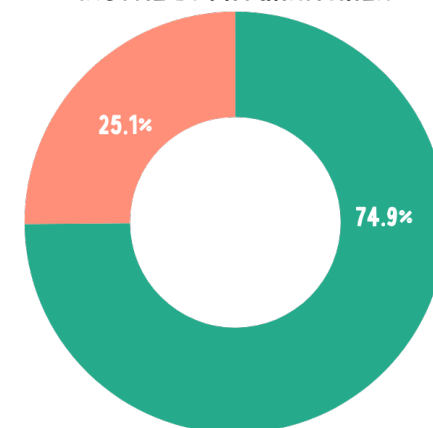
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (USD)

	2024	2024	2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
INCOME				
Program Grants		149,726	149,726	122,129
Individual Giving				
One Time	40,283		40,283	19,187
Regular	7,283	658	7,941	9,842
Earned Income			0	882
Corporate	2,500		2,500	3,686
Foundations & Trusts			0	1,000
Other	431	8	439	48
Total	50,497	150,392	200,889	156,773
EXPENDITURE				
Admin	19,942	13,030	32,972	30,881
Fundraising	14,074		14,074	12,491
Programming	47	163,429	163,476	98,632
Total	34,063	176,459	210,522	142,004
Net	16,434	(26,067)	(9,633)	14,770
Fund balance as of 01 Jan	38,401	29,395	67,796	53,026
Fund balance as of 31 Dec	54,835	3,328	58,163	67,796

EXPENSE BY PROGRAM AREA



INCOME BY PROGRAM AREA



TEAM



STEPHANIE KAYE,
MBA
Executive Director



LOY TUMUSIIME
Assistant Director



JUDITH ALABA
Program Assistant



ALEX BASALIRWA
Program Coordinator



ROBERT MUKHOLI
Program Coordinator



EVELYN NABWIIRE
Program Coordinator



HARRIET NAKAYIZA
Program Manager
ME&L Officer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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ELISE DAVIS,
MPH
Development &
Communications



HELLEN HIPSAGH,
MSC
Member-at-Large
(joined 2024)



KRISTINA MANI,
MBA
Development &
Communications
(resigned 2024)



BRIAN OURIEN
Member-at-Large



ASTRID POUSSEL
Member-at-Large
(joined 2025)



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Member-at-Large



STEPHANIE ULLRICH,
MPA
Member-at-Large



CAREY WALOVICH,
MPH
Member-at-Large



EMILY WITTLINGER,
ESQ.
Member-at-Large
(resigned 2025)

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