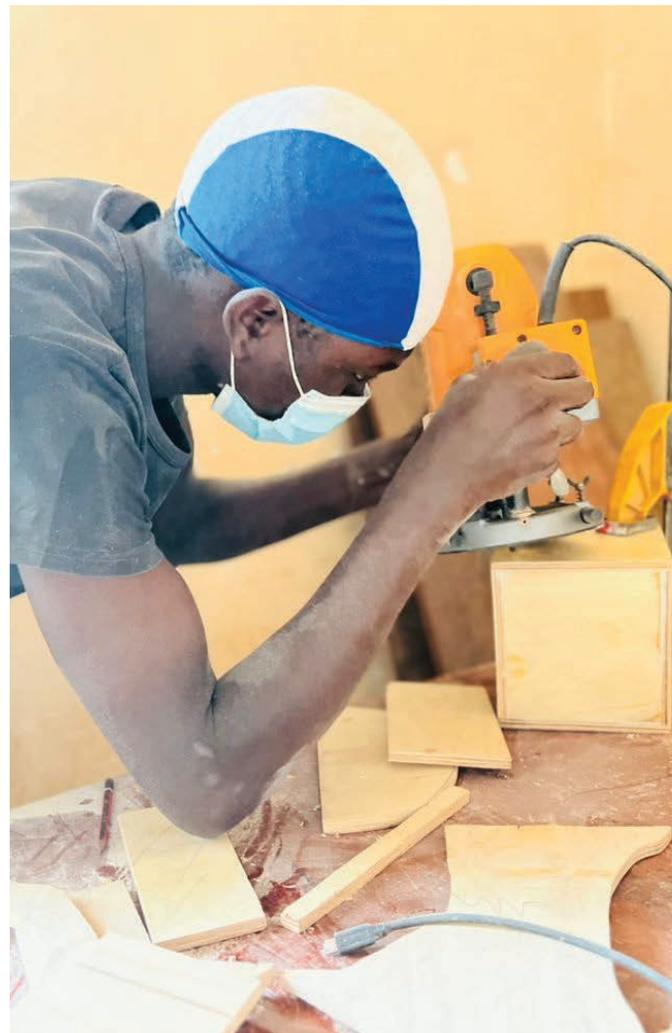


QUARTERLY

# NEWSLETTER

December 2025



## OVERVIEW

- *Message from the E.D*
- *Insights from the Program Manager*
- *Education*
- *Entrepreneuership*
- *Health, Technology and Innovation*
- *Climate Change and Leadership*

*"Unlocking hidden potentials."*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## STAFF LEADERSHIP TEAM



**Mariam N. Wamala**  
Executive Director



**Dr. Mousa Matovu**  
Program Manager



**Bernard Bagenda**  
Communications lead



**Martha Nabulya**  
Coordinator leadership,  
Peace & conflict resolution,  
Gender and human rights



**Cena Kamoga**  
Coordinator Education and  
resource mobilization



**Shafiq Ronald Kivumbi**  
Coordinator Entrepreneurship

## LEADERSHIP NOTE

For more than two years, Jolt Youth Initiative has offered mentorship to over 10,000 students across our partner schools. In this report, we celebrate the young people whose lives have been shaped through our programs, covering health, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, climate change, mindset change, and other important civic topics.

This year, we also introduced EMS training, reaching 180 students so far. By bringing emergency response skills into schools, we are raising a generation of community first responders, young people who can act quickly during crises, especially in rural areas where formal emergency care may take long to arrive.

We also believe in economic mobility and therefore continue to encourage youth as young as 16 to start small income-generating projects and dedicate at least four hours a week to working and saving for their school fees and scholastic needs. But for this change to last, the mindset shift must begin at home and with Parents and guardians. As we protect our young people from disease, early marriage, and crime, we must also teach them how to earn responsibly and build good habits from home.

The stories and successes highlighted in this report are possible because of our dedicated staff, board, partners, donors, and volunteers, people who believe in our shared mission and walk this journey with us.

Thank you for being part of our team.



**Ms. Mariam N. Wamala**  
**Executive Director**

### OUR VISION

Millions of youth gaining the opportunity to discover, develop and deploy their full potential for individual and societal transformation.

### MISSION

To cultivate communities where young people's hidden potentials are unlocked through self efficacy, enabling them to be active contributors to individual and societal development.

### GOAL

By 2028, empower at least 80% of youth aged 15-24 years in Mpigi and Butambala district with knowledge, skills and positive attitudes for success and development.

Jolt Youth Initiative  
*Empowering Youth*

# PROGRAM MANAGER

As we conclude this year, we extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who made our journey possible. With more years ahead on our strategic plan, JOLT Youth Initiative continues to grow stronger grounded in community engagement and guided by our data-driven model.

Across all our thematic areas, we've delivered impactful activities demonstrated by inspiring testimonies from students, teachers, and the communities we serve. Our department leads remain highly enthusiastic, energized with bigger and better plans for next year as we continue driving toward the Jolt Youth Initiative mission.

Looking ahead, we are excited to strengthen our empowerment efforts with a packed lineup of transformative initiatives.



Dr. Matovu Mousa  
**Ag. Program manager**  
**Jolt Youth Initiative**

## SUMMARY OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- **10,000** students mentored this year
- **27** Students trained in woodwork fabrication & decoration
- **180** Students trained in emergency medical services
- **5** Youth enterprises created this year
- **12** Students sponsored with school fees
- **6** Students trained in community Journalist
- An alumni of over **200** students created

**Together, we rise.**

**Next year, we go even harder.**

## NEW HOME!!!

“.....The space includes a Tech Hub, a Creative Studio, and a woodwork fabrication workshop nearby...”

**W**e are pleased to announce the opening of Jolt Youth Initiative's new office in Mpigi District.

The space includes a **Tech Hub**, a **Creative Studio**, and a **woodwork fabrication workshop** nearby, allowing us to bring digital skills, storytelling, and practical entrepreneurship training directly to young people.

This new location strengthens our outreach, improves service delivery, and brings our programs closer to the communities we serve.

# EDUCATE 1

## Completing A level and what next???

**W**hat a year! In the department, we saw the commencement of the Educate 1 program.

7 students have had 50% of their school fees paid by Jolt Youth Initiative. All these students were candidates and sat for their final UNEB exams in time. In total, Jolt Youth Initiative managed to pay five million forty thousand Uganda shillings in school fees for all three terms for all the Educate 1 beneficiaries.

After completion of the UNEB exams, we had a lunch with the students to discuss their transition plan.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

### BUKENYA MARTIN

#### A Journey of Growth, Guidance & New Dreams

**B**ukenya Martin is a Senior Four leaver from Wamatovu Secondary School.

Through Jolt Youth Initiative, Martin received full support for his school fees, enabling him to remain in school and complete his studies without the constant burden of financial stress. This support allowed him to fully concentrate on his academics and personal development.

As he enters his short vacation, Martin plans to engage in rabbit and poultry rearing to generate income as he prepares for the next stage of his education.



### NAKALEMBE JOAN

#### Lifted, Inspired & Ready to Inspire

**M**y name is Nakalembe Joan, a Senior Six leaver from Mt. St. Catherine Bujjuko and I am grateful to share how Jolt Youth Initiative Uganda has shaped my life.

Through Jolt Youth Initiative, my school fees were fully paid, allowing me to stay in school and complete my A-Level education without worry. This support played a vital role in keeping my dreams alive and giving me the confidence to focus on my studies.

### NAKAYIWA SHADIA

#### Focused, Skilled & Ready for the Future

**M**y name is Nakayiwa Shadia, a Senior Six leaver from Lumuza High School, and I am proud to share how Jolt Youth Initiative Uganda has shaped my journey.

Jolt Youth Initiative supported me by paying my school fees, which made it possible for me to remain in school and complete my A-Level education. Without this support, continuing my studies would have been extremely challenging.

Through Jolt's mentorship programs, particularly the Ignite the Mind, Inspire Excellence sessions, I gained confidence, discipline, and clarity. These sessions helped me stay focused on my goals and strengthened my belief in my ability to succeed.



### NATUKUNDA JOYCE

#### Confident, Empowered & Ready to Lead

**M**y name is Natukunda Joyce, a Senior Six leaver from Kibuuka Memorial Secondary School and I am honored to share how Jolt Youth Initiative Uganda has transformed my journey.

Jolt Youth Initiative supported me by paying my school fees, which enabled me to remain in school and complete my A-Level education successfully. This support gave me peace of mind and the ability to focus fully on my studies and future aspirations.



# ENTREPRENEURSHIP

## OUR FIVE STUDENT ENTREPRISES

Under a hands-on training programme coordinated by Mr. Kivumbi Ronald, 26 passionate students were skilled in modern woodwork techniques, furniture design and professional decoration by the trainers.

Five enterprises were formed, each of the five groups is professionally organized with elected leaders; a Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer.

The young people have also named their enterprises; *Next generation wood work and decoration events, Sparkle Events Ug, Twin Events Ug, Rise & shine Deco Enterprises and Classic Deco Events \$ wood work fabrication.*

We now plan to partner with corporate organizations, NGOs, government youth funds, private financial institution such as banks and well-wishers to make this dream come true.



**Kivumbi Ronald**  
**Coordinator- Entrepreneurship (JYI)**



## Empowering the Next Generation in community Journalism and story telling

This December, Jolt Youth Initiative proudly trained **six young students**, 5 males and 1 female in community journalism, an experience that lit up them up. This showed us exactly why investing in youth is powerful. These students expressed their need to us and we organized to train them so that they can grow their niche

Under the guidance of **Mrs. Nasaka Flavia**, (National Journalist) our lead trainer, the students explored reporting, interviewing, storytelling, and digital media.

To keep this momentum alive, we created a **WhatsApp learning group** where Mrs. Flavia will continue to groom, mentor, and guide them. Beyond training, we have also connected them to **a community radio and**

**TV correspondent**, opening real doors to real opportunities.

This is what true empowerment looks like skills that don't stop at the classroom door, but spill over into community influence, career growth, and even income potential. Imagine these young people producing stories, hosting youth segments, or becoming local correspondents themselves. Their journey has just begun, and the future ahead is bright.

At JYI, we believe that when you give young people a skill and a platform, you give them the world.

**Discover, Develop & Deploy.**  
*Empowering one voice at a time.*



# HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**H**ealth goes beyond simply being free from illness it is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being. It is a fundamental human right and a core requirement for achieving the SDGs, especially those tied to sustainable development and economic growth.

This year, the JOLT Youth Initiative Health Department dedicated its efforts to empowering young people through Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) mentorship, Mental Health awareness, and Emergency Medical Skilling (EMS). Our focus was clear: *equip students with knowledge, confidence, and life-saving skills that stay with them long after the school ends.*



## KEY HIGHLIGHTS

### Sexual And Reproductive Health

Adolescents face increasing SRH challenges, particularly girls who must navigate menstrual health, stigma, and limited access to reliable information. Our SRH sessions created safe spaces for open conversations, where learners could ask questions, share experiences, and gain accurate, practical knowledge. These engagements helped build confidence and promote informed choices an essential step in protecting their health and dignity. We mentored 1800 students in third term. We covered puberty, reproductive anatomy, menstrual health, contraception, STI/HIV prevention, consent, healthy relationships, gender-based violence, teenage pregnancy prevention, mental well-being, and digital safety.

### Mental Health Awareness

Mental health remains one of the most misunderstood challenges in our schools and communities, and yet it affects thousands of young people every day. This year, Jolt Youth Initiative reached over **1,800 students**, many of whom admitted to silently struggling with stress, pressure, and emotional difficulties they did not know how to express. During our mental health drives, we created a safe space for learners to open up and understand that their feelings are valid and that help is available. We walked students through common issues such as stress, depression, peer pressure, and substance abuse, and taught them practical coping strategies they can use in their daily lives. A special focus was placed on the dangers of drug use highlighting how early involvement in substance use can affect education, health, and future opportunities. We encouraged students to look out for early warning signs in themselves and their peers, and to become supportive allies for one another.

## Emergency Medical Skilling



A major milestone this year was the launch of our Emergency Medical Skilling program in October 2025, in partnership with JEFRAAT Health Hub. Schools face countless emergencies from injuries during sports to asthma attacks and having trained students on the ground can save lives. Our Trainings covered patient assessment, CPR, Fracture immobilization and splinting, safe patient transfer, burns management and epileptic and burns first aid. The sessions were hands-on, energetic, and deeply inspiring. Students showed remarkable enthusiasm and quickly mastered skills that many adults struggle with. Students were given first aid kits to help with handling emergencies.

By the close of the year, JOLT had reached 6 schools and trained 180 students, each earning a certificate of participation. More importantly, these learners left with the confidence to act in emergencies and the knowledge to contribute positively to their communities.

### Quote

*"My experience with Jolt Youth Initiative has been life-changing. Through the EMS training, I learned why first aid is important and gained real skills, like how to help a drowning person and how to give back slaps to someone who is choking, which was my favorite moment. I encourage all fellow youth to attend Jolt trainings, stay careful, and stay safe. I also request Jolt Youth Initiative to keep visiting our schools and communities so we can continue learning these important skills."*

**Akanyijuka Julius, S.5, Quality High School**

### Quote

*"Through the Jolt Youth Initiative EMS training, I learned how to help someone with a fracture and how to assess consciousness. My favorite moments were practicing fracture management, doing chest compressions, and learning how to prevent choking. I have gained important skills, especially the correct steps to follow when giving first aid. I encourage all youth and students in our school to actively participate in Jolt trainings because they help us gain knowledge and skills we can use in our daily lives. I request Jolt Youth Initiative to keep visiting our school and others nearby, and even set up training centers in the country so more young people can learn. I am truly grateful for the chance to be part of this First Aid training."*

**Kabakurunji Ronah, S.3, Quality High School**

# TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

This year has been one of discovery, learning, and strategic planning as we shaped our technology agenda for the future. Through a comprehensive mixed-methods Technology Needs Assessment conducted in four schools across Mpigi, we gained a clear picture of the digital landscape and the real challenges young people face.

Our findings revealed several barriers including limited access to devices, unstable internet connectivity, unreliable power supply, and the high cost of digital tools. Added to this is the need for practical digital skills, especially among learners who are eager but under-resourced.

The youth interest in technology is incredibly high. Students understand the role technology plays in the modern world, and their excitement for digital learning particularly Artificial Intelligence shows just how ready they are for the future.

In response, JOLT is laying the foundation for something transformative:

A fully equipped Technology Hub, a space where young people can access devices, reliable internet, and hands-on training from a dedicated IT specialist. This hub will serve as the engine for digital skilling, innovation, and creativity.

We also envision establishing a **recording and production studio** next year to nurture

creative talent and support young innovators in content creation, music, communication, and storytelling.

Together, we can turn Mpigi into the Silicon Valley of Uganda not by copying the world, but by empowering our youth to build their own.

## The JYI Alumni Network Takes Shape

In 2026, Jolt Youth Initiative (JYI) officially launched its Alumni Network—a major milestone in our journey to ensure that youth empowerment does not end at program completion but grows into lifelong impact.

Today, the JYI Alumni Network brings together **219** young people who have successfully completed JYI programs and are now stepping forward as mentors, advocates, and community leaders. The network is composed of:

- **Health (EMS / First Responders): 180 alumni**
- **Entrepreneurship (Project Sente): 26 alumni**
- **Education (Educate 1): 7 alumni**
- **Communication & Advocacy: 6 alumni**

These alumni represent a powerful shift from beneficiaries of JYI programs to active contributors to JYI's mission of Discover, Develop & Deploy.

Through the Alumni Network, former students remain connected to JYI, support younger cohorts through mentorship, share testimonies that amplify JYI's visibility, and contribute skills, time, and resources to strengthen sustainability. The network also creates a safe space for peer learning, leadership development, and collective action across education, health, entrepreneurship, and community engagement.

For many alumni, this platform marks their first opportunity to lead beyond school-coordinating activities, representing peers, and giving back to the communities that shaped them.

# CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change remains the greatest global threat to humanity, with countless climate-linked events unfolding every year. Now more than ever, young people must be empowered with knowledge, awareness, and practical skills to take climate action and build a resilient generation.

Next year, JOLT will be ramping up its climate initiatives through ambitious, transformative projects. Launching of the green house farm and agroforestry in partnership with the agriculture department, for production and demonstration to promote sustainable agriculture, hands-on learning and climate smart practices.

We also plan to work with youth to creating a plastic recycling and Transformation Unit converting the growing plastic burden into useful products for income generation and environmental conservation.

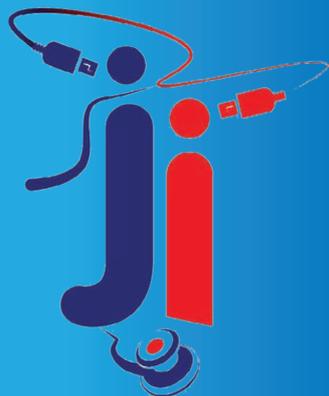


## Empowering Youth Voices for Climate Action

At Jolt Youth Initiative Uganda, we are using community journalism, storytelling, and digital media to equip youth with the skills to report real issues and drive climate awareness in their communities.

Recently, we trained students at Wamatovu Secondary School in digital storytelling and climate reporting. Many produced their first climate stories, highlighted challenges around their school, and shared practical solutions. The training built confidence, creativity, and a sense of responsibility among the students.

JYI remains committed to growing this digital climate movement and empowering more youth to use their voices and creativity to build a sustainable future.



**Jolt Youth Initiative**  
*Empowering Youth*

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