



A family participating in one of CRS' projects in Kayunga district poses for a portrait. Photo by Martin Jjumba for CRS.

# Uganda Family Care for Children

## OVERVIEW

The Uganda Family Care for Children (UFCC) seeks to provide a framework for cooperation between organizations to catalyze care reform at scale in Uganda. This initiative will leverage synergies and existing relationships with the Ministry of Gender, Labour, and Social Development (MGLSD) and other actors in the sector to promote a shared vision for care reform, and foster collaboration to ensure a more coordinated and coherent approach to achieve care reform at scale in Uganda.

## PROGRAM GOAL

To support Uganda's care reform system in ensuring children thrive in safe and nurturing families.

## Strategic Objectives

1. Government of Uganda leads the implementation of a national care reform strategy.

## QUICK FACTS

<b>Sector</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Health and Social Services System Strengthening</li> </ul>
<b>Funding/Funder</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.25 million/SCP5</li> </ul>
<b>Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Child's I Foundation</li> <li>Association of the Religious Uganda</li> </ul>
<b>Project Location</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Level</li> <li>Sub-National Level: - Mbale City, Wakiso, Lwengo Districts</li> </ul>
<b>Target Participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>83 Social Service Workforce</li> <li>400 Families</li> <li>150 Children</li> </ul>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2023 – 2025</li> </ul>



A social worker takes members of a parenting group through a Child Optimized Financial Education (COFE) session in Wakiso District. Photo by Brian Musanje for CRS.

2. Improved wellbeing of children engaged in care reform systems in Mbale, Wakiso & Lwengo districts.

## ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

### National level social service capacity building

- Trained **23** social workers from all the sub-regions of Uganda as Trainers of Trainees (ToTs) in Alternative Care Framework.
- Trained **18** Probation & Social Welfare Officers and implementing partner staff on the National Parenting Manual.

### Coordination and leadership

- Set up **2** Alternative Care Panels in Mbale City and Wakiso district.
- Set up **2** Child Wellbeing Committees in Mbale City and Wakiso district.

### Family strengthening and community engagement

- **79** Foster Parents have been approved by the Alternative Care Panel.
- **38** families have been trained on Income Generating Activities (IGAs).
- **11** children have been reunified with their families of origin.

## FAMILY-BASED CARE

For decades, CRS and our partners have supported vulnerable children and families. CRS builds upon our expertise in community and family strengthening activities—and our strong

partnerships with the Catholic Church, governments, and local organizations to ensure nurturing care for their children. By empowering families to meet their own needs, we can address the root causes of family separation, create more resilient communities, and help break the cycle of poverty. To strengthen families, we empower caregivers to learn and practice positive parenting, connect families with supportive communities, help children—especially young children, adolescent girls and children with disabilities — access early childhood development, education, health and social services, and build families’ resources through savings groups, cash grants, school vouchers and financial education.

## ABOUT CRS

CRS has been working in Uganda since 1965 in partnership with the local Catholic Church and the Caritas network in support of CRS Uganda’s vision that “Empowered families reach their full potential and are resilient to external shocks in safe, just and inclusive communities, supported by effective local systems.” Strategic Priority Areas include Health and Social Services Systems Strengthening, Resilient Food Systems, Emergency Preparedness and Management, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, and Local Leadership. Between October 2022 and September 2023, CRS supported over 1.6 million Ugandans and refugees residing across the country.