



**ASSOCIATION OF REFUGEES OF THE LAST
HOPE**

**VISION: WE WANT TO CREATE A BETTER AND INCLUSIVE FUTURE IN WHICH THE
Social justice, human rights, human dignity, peace, and environmental
protection are promoted and supported in a manner**

SUSTAINABLE.

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ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

1. INTRODUCTION

The Last Hope Refugee Association (LHRA) successfully completed its 2022-2023 fiscal year despite numerous challenges, including the end of the global pandemic, which made its operations even more difficult as it was accompanied by an unprecedented wave of discrimination and rejection within our community. One of our staff members was beaten to death in the Nakivale refugee camp while raising awareness among the camp's trans and sex-worker community. Despite these difficulties, LHRA Uganda distinguished itself and achieved remarkable milestones thanks to the support of its members, board members, staff, beneficiaries, and donors.

2. ACHIEVEMENTS

As noted above, the LHRA began the year with the death of a staff member, killed as a result of its activities, and with the arrest of some staff members and beneficiaries, but it ended it with many achievements that make it proud of its resilience and hard work.

And that includes:

- (i) The Last Hope Refugee Association successfully relocated from the village of New Hope to its new base camp in Sangano, Isingiro, Uganda, in September 2022, following its registration as a community-based organization (CBO). After this relocation, LHRA was able to immediately resume the implementation of its thematic programs due to the needs expressed by its beneficiaries.
- (ii) The Last Hope Refugee Association (LHRA), in partnership with Rainbow Shadow, provides food and hygiene products to trans and sex-worker people evicted from their homes because of their sexual orientation, as well as those who have lost their jobs due to COVID-19-related layoffs, among other things, such as identity and expression.

type of victims. This initiative proved essential in the face of the serious financial difficulties that have severely affected the LGBTQI+ community.

- (iii) We held a meeting with RWC3 from the Nakivale camp during which we discussed the various challenges we face in the camp.
- (iv) We successfully implemented the WAKE UP project. Through this project, we empowered the transgender community in the production of Nakivale charcoal bricks and bar soap. The project's aim was to support the trans community in developing these skills and to contribute to a fair income for trans-gender and sex worker community members, helping them achieve financial independence.



Soap making training



***Strategic meeting with village chiefs on personal security
with transgender and sex worker refugees members of LHRA***

- (v) The Last Hope Refugee Association and Freedom in Harmony carried out a joint tree-planting and weeding project in the Nakivale camp. This initiative strengthened the Nakivale transgender community's commitment to the environment and its fight against climate change. Following the tree planting and cleanup, the goal of this activity was to demonstrate to the Nakivale camp community that Transgender and sex worker people are essential to society and can contribute to the camp's development.



Trans-gender and sex worker - Village Cleanup Day in Nakivale



Transgender and sex workers Fighting climate change in Nakivale



Graduation of members on Safe Place International's leadership training program

(vi)A member of the LHRA staff and some of its members participated in a 27-hour training course on leadership, social-emotional skills, and employability. This training was supported by SAFE PLACE INTERNATIONAL.

(vii)LHRA and FH successfully conducted a training session raising awareness of the fundamental rights of transgender and sex worker refugees. This activity was supported by HRAPF (Human Rights Awareness and Promotion Form).



Crossroads work during personal safety training



Family photo after the capacity building on personal security by our national partner HRAPF.

- (viii) To strengthen the capacity and empowerment of its staff, LHRA organized a five-day digital training course to improve their digital skills and cybersecurity. It also trained its employees in resource mobilization, advocacy, and the integration of social issues.
- (ix) The Last Hope Refugee association successfully organized two COVID-19 awareness sessions for all its staff. These sessions aimed to provide them with the necessary information so that they could serve the targeted communities without being infected by the virus or contaminating the beneficiaries.



Strategic meeting of LHRA leadership members a few days before the publication of the anti-homosexuality law in Uganda

- (x) In August 2022, LHRA launched its Differentiated Service Delivery Module (DSDM), designed to improve the quality and accessibility of services offered to beneficiaries. This module aims to support patients on treatment for better adherence, strengthen the support network, provide psychological support to the trans and sex worker community on ART during the post-COVID-19 pandemic period, ensure the continued fight against HIV/AIDS and other infections, raise awareness about COVID-19 within the trans community, and provide health products while raising awareness within this community. This innovation has enabled LHRA to improve the quality of services offered to the transgender community, address the shortcomings of previous modules and mechanisms, and enhance their availability and accessibility, even in challenging contexts.
- (IX) LHRA The organization continued to connect expert clients with treatments antiretroviral therapy (ART) and, as a result, some were referred to the LHRA Community Drug Distribution Point (CDCM). The CDCM continues to support 28 HIV-positive members who are all on their ART.
- (xi) LHRA successfully conducted five outreach campaigns, offering HIV/AIDS testing and counseling, PrEP enrollment, and STI testing and treatment. These campaigns were carried out in partnership with Rainbow Shadow and the Trans Youth Initiative, which implemented the TUJIKINGE NA UKIMWI project. Through these activities, 109 trans sex worker individuals received HIV/AIDS and STI testing and counseling. Of these, 10 tested positive and were referred for antiretroviral therapy (ART). According to reports from the hospitals to which they were referred, 80% of them are adhering to their treatment. Vaccination campaign during which 42 members of the trans community and some of their relatives were vaccinated.

On September 23, 2023, Last Hope Refugee Association organized a 3-month capacity-building training course in sandal making. 30 members of the trans community benefited from this training.

OUR ACTIONS IN PICTURES



Figure: Distribution of soap, sugar and cornmeal to members



Photo taken during a workshop on the artisanal production of sandals



Photo taken during a workshop on the artisanal production of sandals



Photo taken during a workshop on the artisanal production of sandals



Photo taken during a workshop on the artisanal production of sandals



Photo taken during a workshop on the artisanal production of sandals

In November 2023, a 2-day training course in charcoal production from wood charcoal residue was organised by LHRA to equip transgender and sex workers in their income-generating activities in the sale of charcoal.



Family photo taken during the charcoal-making training session



Photo taken during the training session on making charcoal.

(xii) Over the months, LHRA distributed condoms to limit the spread of HIV/AIDS within the trans community. This action was carried out independently by LHRA. but also in collaboration with partners such as Makerere's Water Reed project, TASO Mulago and MTI.



(xiii)

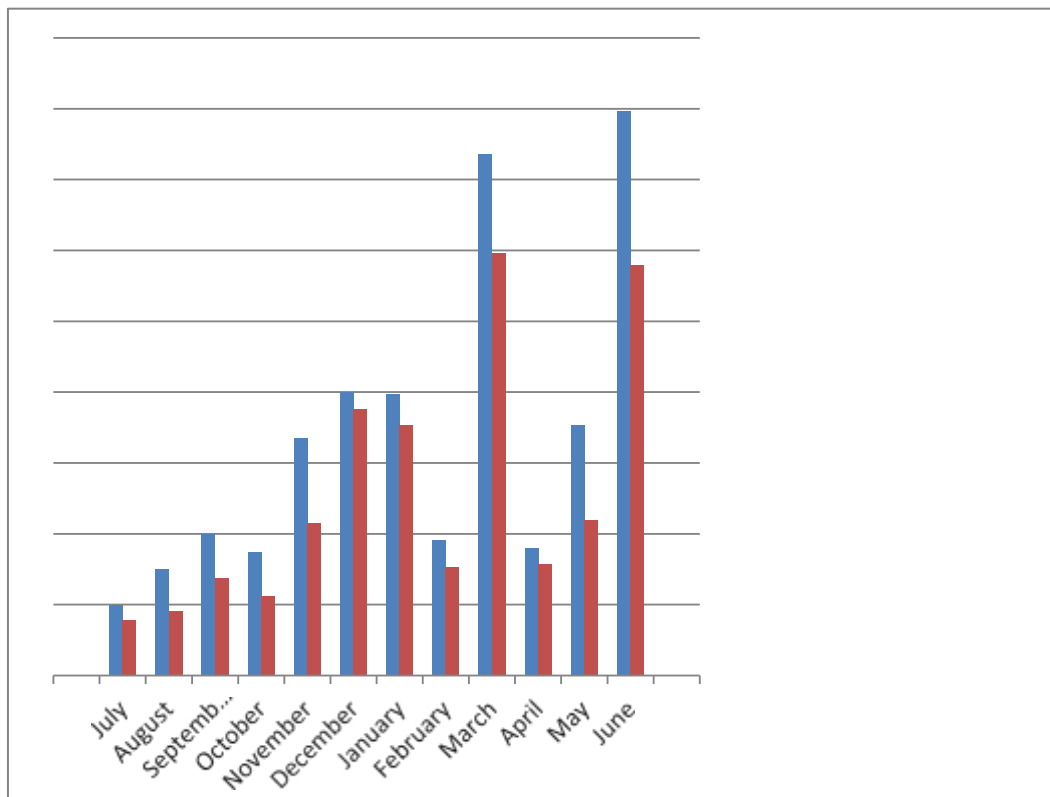
Raising awareness about voluntary HIV testing for trans sex worker members



Raising awareness about voluntary HIV testing for trans and sex work members

The table below shows the distribution of condoms and lubricants in 2022-2023.

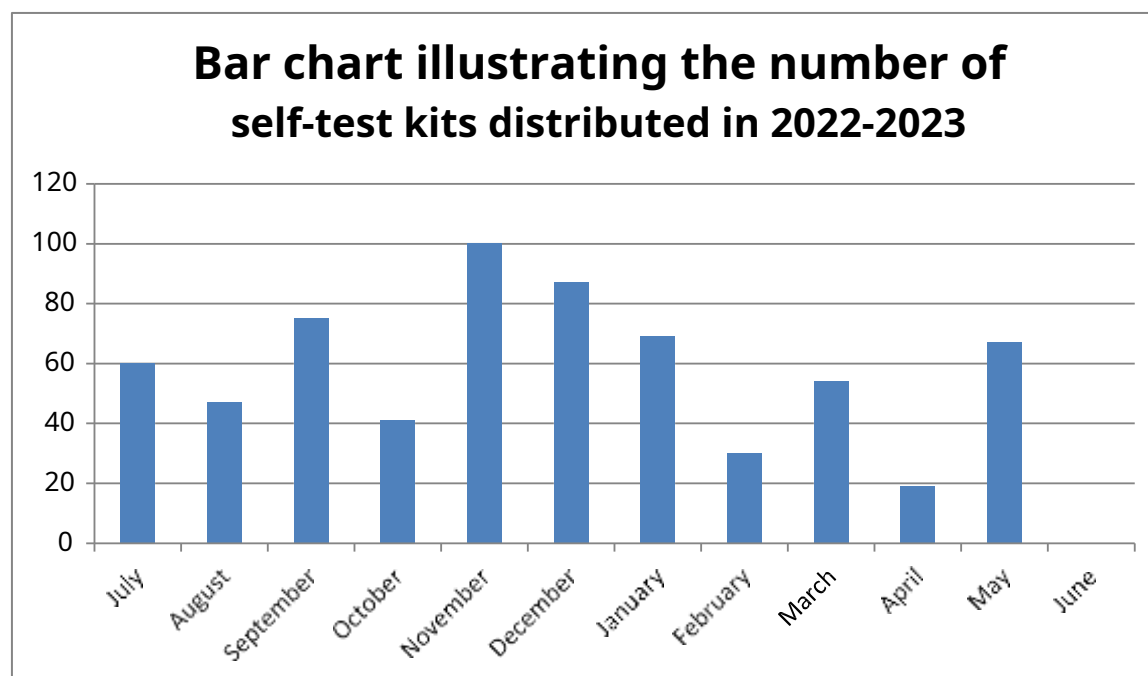
Month	Condoms	Lubricants
August 2022-November 2023	750	456
April 2022-November 2023	900	786
December 2022-November 2023	2000	1879
February 2022-November 2023	954	768
January 2022-November 2023	1987	1765
July 2022-November 2023	500	389
June 2022-November 2023	3985	2897
May 2022-Nov 2023	1768	1097
March 2022-November 2023	3678	2980
November 2022-November 2023	1675	1076
October 2022-November 2023	875	564
September 2022-November 2023	1000	687



LHRA, through its strengthened peer network of 6 peer leaders, distributed self-testing kits to the key population, namely the trans community and commercial sex workers, to enable the community to know its status.

The table below shows the self-test kits distributed during the year 2022-2023 (Table 2.3).

Month	Number of self-test kits
July 2022-November 2023	60
August 2022-November 2023	47
September 2022-November 2023	75
October 2022-November 2023	41
November 2022-November 2023	100
December 2022-November 2023	87
January 2022-November 2023	69
February 2022-November 2023	30
March 2022-November 2023	54
April 2022-November 2023	19
May 2022-Nov 2023	67
June 2022-November 2023	102



(xiv) LHRA has established partnerships with local organisations (sister organisations) such as Happy Family Uganda, Taala Foundation, RHU, Lets Walk Uganda and Kuchu Shiner's Uganda.

implementation of various activities. It exists within certain LGBT consortia such as the Uganda Key Populations Consortium (UKPC) and the Uganda Minority Shelter Consortium.

(xv) LHRA has been able to attract support and funding from organizations around the world that have contributed to the implementation of its activities and administrative tasks. These organizations include: Freedom House, SAFE PLACE INTERNATIONAL, LAC, FREEDOM IN HARMONY, RAINBOW SUNRISE and MAPAMBAZUKO.

LHRA received the following donations:

Table 1.1

PROJECT	GIVER	STATUS
AWAKENING PROJECT	SAFE PLACE INTERNATIONAL	Successful
Emergency assistance was needed for a member who was in danger.	HOUSE OF FREEDOM	Successful
Covid Aid	rainbow shadow	Successful

3. CHALLENGES

Our colleagues MOISE SAFARI DODO, MICAH ZIHALIRHA, SOLANGE SAKINA and ROSETTE ABASE have died as a result of mistreatment. ROSETTE also died as a result of this mistreatment.

Insecurities in the colony

Lack of core support

4. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

Employment agency: This will help to properly prepare educated trans and sex worker members for employment, to connect employees with competent employers and to create manual labor opportunities for unskilled people.

Increased defense of sexual and reproductive health rights

Free STI treatment for all trans and sex worker members via the medical center

LHRA. Strengthening staff skills and motivation.

More peer support workers need to be hired.

and advisors. Home visits are planned for the training of experts.

Cybersecurity/security training

digital; peer-to-peer training

Community dialogues and awareness-raising activities (HIV testing and counseling) PrEP awareness-raising

Monitoring of support and advisory groups for expert clients.

Partnerships with other organizations.

Projects that generate additional income

PREPARED BY:

Name: Laurent Shabombo



Position: Founder and CEO

Approved by:



Name: Ntaundi Amuli

Position: Chairman of the Board of Directors