

2023

Annual Report



kwa waZee



Table Of

Content

1 Foreword

++

2 About Us

++

3 2023 Snapshot

++

4 Our Work in 2023

++

5 Looking forward in
2024

6 Acknowledgement

7 Contact Us

FOREWORD

Dear partners, stakeholders, and friends,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support and dedication of our team, board, partners, and donors. The impact of our collective efforts is evident in the achievements highlighted in this annual report.

Amidst the challenges, we have also witnessed remarkable achievements and reached significant milestones. A few of them are distributing 5000 kilograms of corn to households affected by heavy wind, reaching 933 older people with a monthly pension, distributing 122 goats to older people, supporting 89 older people to access eye services, providing psychosocial and health-friendly services to 320 youths and supporting 2958 students with uniforms, exercise books, and dictionaries. These successes would not have been possible without the generous support of our donors and the tireless efforts of our team.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all partners who have contributed to our cause. Your belief in our mission has fueled our determination to create lasting change. I also want to express my appreciation to our dedicated staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly to bring about meaningful impact. Your passion and commitment inspire us all.

As we embark on a new year, we are filled with hope and optimism for the opportunities that lie ahead. We remain committed to addressing the pressing issues facing our communities and advancing our vision of a more dignified, healthy, and secure world. With your continued support, I am confident that we will achieve an even greater impact in the years to come.

In closing, I invite you to explore this annual report and witness the tangible outcomes of your support. Together, we have made a difference, and together, we will continue to drive positive change.

With heartfelt appreciation,
Lydia P. Lugazia
Executive Director
KWA WAZEE



About Us

Kwa wazee is an NGO registered under the Tanzania NGO Act of 2002 with registration No.

OONGO/R1/OO975. It was established in 2003 by Dr. Kurt Madoerin as voluntary support to the elderly who are the main carers of orphan children as a result of HIV/AIDS impacts in Muleba-Kagera Tanzania.

Kwa Wazee works towards sustainable development goals through social protection for the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups of the elderly, young people, and people living with HIV. The organization offers the learning process and disseminates findings to other stakeholders through a minimum cash transfer to the elderly, empowering young and old people through self-help groups and economic support, building resilience, accountability, mobility, health, preventing violence against young and older people, and advocating for the rights of the targeted groups.

Vision

A community where older and young people are capable of living dignified, healthy and secure lives.

Mission

Empowerment of older and young people through the advancement of policies and practices in Tanzania.

Programs



Economic Empowerment



Advocacy and Rights



Gender and Protection



Health and Wellbeing



2023 Impact Snapshot



Cash transfer

933

Older people



Eye clinic and operation

89

Older people



Food for emergency support

5000

Kilogram



Revolving scheme

122

Goats distributed



HIV Prevention

320

Youth



Education Support

2598

Children

Our work

1 Cash transfer



The cash transfer program reached 933 older people in 2023. The Pension fund intervention targeting extremely poor older people reached 750 older people (109 male and 641 female) older people and 52 children, and the Universal Pension targeting all older people above 70 years old reached 183 older people (122 female and 61 male).

Also, quarterly monitoring was done to ensure effectiveness, efficiency, and target objectives of the program were met. The cash transfer program for older people has meant access to food security, shelter, improved mobility, improved social connection with community members, and improved psychosocial well-being of older people.

We have gathered our beneficiaries' stories and testimonies which can be seen via this below link.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_iV1QV5u8p0

2 Climatic changes mitigation

The long dry season from May to September 2023 affected many households in Ngenge, Kishuro, and Mubunda. On the 15th of October 2023, heavy rain accompanied by strong wind hit the Karambi ward resulting in significant damage to more than 150 households, banana trees were swept down leaving food insecurity among people especially older people households, and the need for relief support. In response to that Kwa Wazee sees the need to build older people's resilience in this era of climatic change.

- 100 older people's households were supported with 50 kilograms of maize per household.
- 100 older people's households were supported with cash of 15,000/- per household.
- 916 older people were supported with short-time growing food crops' seedlings- maize, beans, and cassava seedlings.

The beneficiaries stories can be accessed here-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bvTOno2i59s>



Our work

3 Advocacy for older people

For 2023, Our focus was advocating for **1. older people universal pensions, 2. enactment of the Older People's Act, and 3. the provision of quality and free healthcare services for the elderly.** Below is what was done.



- Facilitation of follow-up meetings in 32 wards of highlands and 3 wards of islands in Muleba district involving older people and community leaders which increased cooperation among community leaders in dealing with older people's challenges. 78 leaders (19 female and 59 male) of OPF from 43 wards of Muleba district were capacitated to collect and report different cases that affect them to get legal reconciliation and authority responses. During the session, 53% of participants reported easily accessing free health services however, 47% of participants reported gaps in accessing free health care services from government-owned facilities and 39% reported being not involved in different official meetings at various levels.
- From cases reported by older people representatives, 34 older people were supported to attend and follow up on cases at different legal institutes.

- Conducted an awareness campaign in 5 wards of Biharamulo district on protecting older people against witchcraft accusations. Also, we fixed 3 posters in Biharamulo, Ngara, and Muleba Districts with an educative message of protecting older people against violence related to climatic changes. Below is feedback from the field.

"Where I live in KITWECHEMBOGO village is where the incident of cutting old people's banana plantations and burning his house occurred," Said the Councilor of Ruziba Ward - B'Mulo DC

"Most Elders, who are victims of abuse, are elders facing economic challenges" OPC Leaders B'Mulo DC

- You may also have a watch on the video via the link here below: [-https://youtu.be/K4RJPLDEyg?si=D89HmSOPidvyGeOa](https://youtu.be/K4RJPLDEyg?si=D89HmSOPidvyGeOa)
- Facilitation of advocacy sessions on the rights of older people against witchcraft accusations related to climate change at Muleba and Biharamulo districts. The sessions reached 63 (24 female and 39 male), leaders of older people forums, community leaders, and faith leaders.

"We, as government leaders, our offices are open. Just provide us with information so that we can serve you."

**WARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER –
KARAMBI WARD**



Our work

4

Psychosocial support

Participating in older people's mutual groups offers numerous benefits for the elderly, including a sense of community and belonging, reducing feelings of isolation and loneliness commonly experienced by older individuals. In 2023, witnessed an increase of groups from 162 to 182 groups dealing with income-generating activities where all groups' leaders were trained on leadership and increased saving and mutual support- 1,685,000/= were used to support members who had problems in the groups such as sickness. Also,



- 122 older people were supported with goats and 265 older people keeping goats were monitored to see their progress among them 34 paid back goats for revolving. The goats distributed to the older people have been increased from 595 last year to 717. Click the link below to see the beneficiaries stories-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KONMgfIijOY>

- 96 members from 36 groups were trained on accountability and resiliency. Below are participants feedbacks-***“I am happy that I got the training on accountability and resilience, this training has helped to assess myself ability, resources available, vulnerability to poverty, problem and become accountable for them. It was soon after the training I changed certain attitudes towards my children. They are now helping and supportive. They cleaned my farm, gifted me with soaps and sugar”***. Said Leorpard Mbakileki, Buhangaza village.

- 1856 avocado seedlings were distributed to older people for farming to increase income. Kwa Wazee will sustain this project to reach many older people and farmers.
- 10 older people were supported with manure for food production. They fertilized their land and increased banana, maize and beans production. ***“I have been feeling difficulties to earn money for the family, but after receiving loans for manure, I produced more banana, beans, and maize. I sold some of them and gains cash.***
- 80 Older people households were supported with improved cooking stoves, 8 older people households were supported with rainwater harvesting tanks, and 10 tanks were repaired. The link below provide more information on impact of this intervention to beneficiaries-
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=84877Ru7ocE>



Our work

5

Protection of older people against violence

The elderly becomes a different kind of violence such as sexual harassment, witchcraft accusations, land conflict, and rights abuse. Kwa Wazee has done the following to protect older people against violence.

- 2868 older people were trained on self-protection techniques and skills in 21 wards through 218 trainers who got training to train other members in 175 groups. The training has empowered older people to fight against any form of violence and increased the courage to report the cases to the government authorities. The below testimonies from one of the participants reveal the impacts of this intervention.

" It took many years until last year when I attended self-protection and defense. I got confidence in reporting to the village authorities and making follow-ups to get a solution to our land conflict lasted for 4 years. Now the case has been resolved and our land borders have properly settled." Mwajabu Kasimu-Karambi ward

- Self-protection trainings were expanded to 2 wards (Nyakatanga and Kabirizi) and 55 assistant trainers were trained to facilitate group formation and lead weekly or monthly training sessions in groups. The trained assistant trainers have formed 20 groups with 275 members.



Health Promotion

6

The process of aging can be a challenging time for many older people, as it often brings about a decline in physical and mental health. However, it is crucial to recognize that health promotion among older people is essential for their well-being and quality of life. The core of our health promotion for older adults is to increase capacity, or improve self-care, stimulate one's social network, and improve and maintain a longer, independent, and self-sufficient quality of life. Here are 2023 work,

- 89 older people were supported to access eye services.
- 70 older people supported with spectacles.
- 85 older people supported with eye drops and medication.
- 7 older people got cataract surgery two weeks after mobile clinic through an organized mobile eye clinic.
- 101 group's leaders of Rulanda, Kabirizi, and Ijumbi wards were capacitated on body exercise, nutrition, immunity, communicable and non-communicable diseases, and oriented on other different diseases like prostate gland, cervical cancer, and Tuberculosis.

Our work

7 Youth Empowerment

The issue of climate change has been a big agenda in the meetings of TatuTano clusters for the year 2023. In order to deal with the effects of climate change, we have focused on starting agricultural and livestock projects where three facilitators of agricultural and livestock training have been attending sustainable agriculture training (SAT) in Morogoro and teaching in groups. In support groups for 2023, we have-

- Distributed 1214 kgs of beans, 8 kgs of sorghum, 148 kgs of maize seeds, 362 kg of nuts, 68 kg of NYOTA beans and vegetable seeds for 238 groups.
- Distributed 19 goats, 33 sheep, 63 rabbits, 31 pigs, 30 chickens, 15 ducks, and 20 lives of bees and we constructed their sheds for groups on our animal revolving scheme.
- Due to the different situations of climate change, 2 agro-facilitators attended training on agriculture on the topic of sustainable waste management and composting. Through Cluster meetings, facilitators have visited groups and have taught about field preparation, planting and transplanting of seeds and seedlings, and how to make organic fertilizers and natural medicines for spraying livestock and plants as a means of avoiding the effects of climatic changes.



Education support 8

Kwa Wazee contributes to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals by supporting access to education for vulnerable children. The following was done in 2023.

- Distributed school materials to 2598 vulnerable children.
- Paid fees of 73 students of Advanced Secondary Education schools and 32 students in vocational training (VETA) and Teachers Training Colleges. Among the students supported by Tatu Tano, 17 have passed their form six (6) exam and have been selected to join different universities.
- 852 secondary school students accessed bikes under the Bike to School program to enhance girls' protection against violence, and prevent school dropouts and early pregnancy at the same time enhancing academic performance.



Our work

9 Child protection

The child protection programs aim at empowering girls and boys to end violence against children while creating safe and secure communities.

- We have facilitated training for 122 girls making a total of 2239 groups' members organized in 42 groups. During self-defense group visits, our beneficiaries reported that violent acts at schools are also exacerbated by poor menstrual health and hygiene and family conflicts. In 2024, we will be working on increasing students' knowledge of menstrual while piloting positive parenting interventions.
- 150 boys were trained which makes it 2155 members in 60 groups. The most mentioned impact from beneficiaries is behavior change to non-violence which leads to good cooperation with girls and increased academic performance.
- 60 community members trained as child protection committee and we organized a violence prevention campaign including more than 800 secondary schools.



READY Project 8

READY project comprehensively addresses the social and health needs of adolescents and young people through peer-to-peer support, health system strengthening, economic empowerment through skills on saving and lending model, sexual and reproductive health and rights, life skills, and HIV services among others. The program has enrolled 320 young people aged 10-24 living with HIV/AIDS and by December, almost 97% of beneficiaries had suppressed their HIV viral loads.

- The number of AYPLHIV reached with comprehensive, correct information on sexuality, HIV/AIDS, STIs, pregnancy and contraception through group safe spaces has increased from 213 of last 2022 to 317 by december 2023 due to disintegration of beneficiaries as per age group and reached them in nearby facilities.
- 460 community members and 1200 students reached through community actions on preventing stigma towards AYPLHIV and have created plans of influencing discussions on HIV, violence prevention and SRH among AYPLHIV while ensuring mutual action.

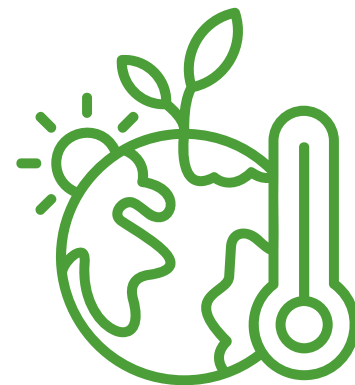


Looking forward

As we take the next step in our growth as an NGO, we hope to reach more people in community, improve our existing interventions, and develop new projects. We have mapped out an action plan that will help us achieve these goals.

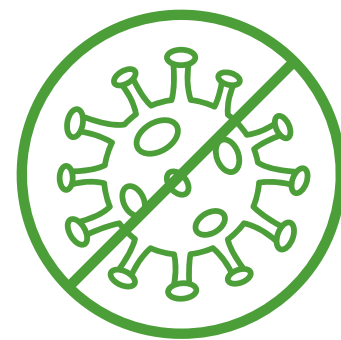
Building Older People`s Resilience in Climatic Changes

As the world continues to experience an aging population, it is essential to understand the potential impacts of climatic changes on older people and develop adaptation and mitigation strategies that are tailored to the needs of older individuals.



Protecting older people against epidemic diseases

In current years, we have been experiencing various epidemic diseases such as influenza, cholera, Marburg, and COVID-19, which have severe consequences for older individuals. Older people with weakened immune systems or chronic health conditions are particularly vulnerable, as they may not be able to mount an effective immune response against pathogens. They are more likely to experience complications, prolonged recovery periods, and even death. In future we will be looking to encouraging older people to attend regular health check-ups and maintain a healthy lifestyle can help identify and manage chronic health conditions that may increase their risk of infection



Exploring new partnership

In 2024, we will be looking for more partnerships with the cause of improving the lives of older and young people.





Acknowledgements

Looking back at 2023, we see numerous people who have supported us in many ways, big and small. There is a lot of work to do to make Tanzania a more equitable place for older and young people, but thanks to this support we have made important progress. We know that we are headed for another exciting year in 2024.

We would like to express our gratitude for the generous support of our donors and volunteers below.

- **Kwa Wazee Switzerland**
- **HealAge Germany**
- **HelpAge Tanzania**
- **Egmont Trust**
- **REPSSI Tanzania**
- **VelAfrica**
- **Tanzania Development Trust**
- **COA**
- **TatuTano Switzerland**
- **Individuals and friends**

We remain committed to addressing the pressing issues facing our communities and advancing our vision of a more dignified, healthy and secure world. With your continued support, we are confident that we will achieve an even greater impact in the years to come.

Contact Us



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kwawazee-org

Empowering Generations, Enriching Lives in 2024!

