



## REPORT FOR THE DIWODE MEDICAL SCREENING CAMP FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES AT OLD KAMPALA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL



**VENUE:** OLD KAMPALA SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL SPORTS GROUNDS.

**DATE:** 14<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025.

**THEME:** “EMPOWERING ABILITY THROUGH INCLUSIVE HEALTHCARE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT”

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## BACKGROUND

There are over 90,000 people with Disabilities in Kampala, 28.6% of whom live in Kampala Division (UBOS, 2016). DIWODE has done Medical Screening for the past 4 years with approximately a turn up of 400+ People with disabilities: 280 women and 140 men from slum areas of Kampala District. The annual event also attracts 300+ nondisabled persons. Majority of these are women and girls, which shows that disability prevalence is more among women than men at 15% higher by comparison. The likelihood of living with disability increases with age; one quarter (26.9%) of people aged 60-64 years are living with disability. The 66<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly resolution on disability has urged member states to implement the recommendations of the United Nation's Convention of the Rights of PWDs (CRPD). It calls on these states to work towards the inclusion of all PWDs in healthcare and to promote rehabilitation services across the life course and for a range of different health conditions with the goal of attaining good health for all PWDs. The health care system in Uganda is mostly private and government owned hospitals do not provide free health care. There is no short of hospitals and medical personnel in Kampala and today, you will find a health care facility in almost every village in Kampala.

The 2025 medical screening was held on 14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at Old Kampala Senior Secondary School Play Ground. It was conducted by Disabled Women in Development (DIWODE) in partnership with its partners in development. The activities started at 9:00am with persons with disabilities registering inside the reception tents as service providers were also organizing their tents. There were approximately 450 persons with different forms of disabilities in attendance and about 50 health service providers from five (5) hospitals and medical service organizations who gave a variety of services as highlighted below:-

## OBJECTIVES

- To provide affordable or free health care services to indigent people with disabilities.
- To increase awareness on the health care challenges faced by people with disabilities.
- To improve the health status of people with disabilities by bringing health care services closer to PWDs.

## SERVICES OFFERED AT THE MEDICAL CAMP

No.	Service Category	Service Provider
1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Wellness solutions</li><li>● Sickle cell screening &amp; Treatment</li><li>● Medical assessments, education, counselling and management</li><li>● Issuing of supplements such as multi vitamins and vitamin B complex needed by sickle cell patients.</li></ul>	ZeRed Foundation
2.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Lab Tests</li><li>● Treatment, Care &amp; Support</li><li>● Food supplements</li><li>● Pressure</li><li>● Diabetes</li><li>● Arthritis</li><li>● Referrals</li><li>● Optical services</li></ul>	Hospitals i.e. Mengo Hospital, Lubaga Hospital, Dr. Argarwal's Eye Hospital

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● HIV Counseling &amp; Testing</li> </ul>	
3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chicken,</li> <li>● Fish,</li> <li>● Rice,</li> <li>● Water,</li> <li>● Cooking Oil,</li> <li>● Spices &amp; Greens (Nakati).</li> <li>● Pledged support for the construction of the DIWODE Recreation center</li> </ul>	Indian Women Association (Lead sponsor)
4.	Financial support, treatment & Screening equipment	<p><b>Other Sponsors:</b></p> <p>Zered Foundation, Centenary Bank, Touch the Heart international, Sight Savers, Gaz petroleum, church life ministries, Author of joy foundation, Mobile eye clinic Hon Ssewagude Robert, Councilor Ssenabulya Maurice Councilor Hanifa Nansubuga,</p>

### SPONSORS & PARTNERS

The activity was sponsored by Indian Women Association as the main sponsor, who provided chicken, fish, rice, water, cooking oil, spices and Greens (Nakati). The other sponsors included Centenary Bank, Hon Ssewagude Robert, Councilor Ssenabulya Maurice, Council Hanifa Nansubuga, Sight Savers, Gaz petroleum, Dr. Argarwal's Eye Hospital, Zered Foundation; Touch the Heart international, church life ministries, Author of joy foundation and the mobile eye clinic and Lubaga Hospital.

On behalf of all people with disabilities in Kampala and the surrounding areas, we offer our sincere thanks. Your support has made a tangible difference by enabling inclusive programs and services. Because of your generosity, women and persons with disabilities have gained access to health screenings and opportunities for growth. We celebrate this achievement and invite you to continue partnering with us to build a more inclusive community.



*Left: The DIWODE ED, Ms. Zzawedde Harriet, Ms. Nanyanzi Annet (Zered Foundation) & Mrs Jasmin (Indian Women Association) at the event; Right: Hon. Ssewagudde Robert, after the launch of the fundraising drive for the DIWODE Recreation Center.*

## **OBSERVATIONS**

- There is dire need for free health care for persons with disabilities.
- There was need to provide assistive devices to indigent people with disabilities.
- We need to coordinate better so that the participating service providers complement each other better.
- There is need to work with the ministry of health for more and better services.
- There is an urgent need to expedite the process of mobilizing funds for the construction of the rehabilitation center for persons with disabilities if we are to meet the planned timeline of 2025.

## **CHALLENGES**

- Last minute confirmations of participation and support by event sponsors and partners making it difficult to stick to the original plan.
- Financial limitations which limit the participation of some partners, service providers that needed some minimal facilitation to participate at the event
- Mobility of members (persons with disabilities) was hard due to the nature of their different disabilities even when there was availability of modest transport facilitation, which delayed their arrival for the event activities.

## **CONCLUSION**

The medical screening exercise was a great service to the community of persons with disabilities in Kampala who turned up in large numbers. The most common conditions screened were blood pressure, diabetes, bone and muscle related conditions (Arthritis). There were also cases of malaria, typhoid, urinary tract infections, ulcers, HIV counseling & testing, fibroids etc. This community exercise remains an important annual event that needs the support of all stakeholders to amplify access to and utilization of requisite health services to improve the health and wellbeing of persons with disabilities.



*Ms. Annet Nyanzi from Zered Foundation after preparing the plan to be launched.*



*Guests admiring DIWODE handcrafts*



*standby*

*The Ambulance on  
at the event*



*An optician screening an old man*



*Prayer was part of Screening & Healing at the DIWODE Medical  
Camp 2025*



*Disability is not Inability; a DIWODE member taking water for use to the event*



*A PWD in a counseling session at the event*