



UGANDA CHRISTIAN
LAWYERS' FRATERNITY

Speak up and judge for us, defend the rights of the poor and needy. Prov 31:9



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**UCLF ANNUAL
REPORT
2019/2020**



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UCLF President, Dr. Ruhweza Daniel.

Dear Family of UCLF

I welcome you to the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF) where we have the honor to present to you, a report of our activities for the last financial year. As you are all aware, this AGM has taken a unique 'scientific' method in keeping with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that have been issued by the Government of Uganda. This is because of the COVID-19 pandemic that has disrupted all our activities as an organization, as a nation and as the world. We therefore have a limited number of you in physical attendance, while the rest of you are hopefully able to follow the proceedings online.

In spite of the pandemic, and having received wisdom last year that we do live in a Volatile, Uncertain, Complex and Ambiguous (VUCA) world, we have still continued to commit ourselves to our vision which is - **a world where justice and human dignity is a reality for all**. Our mission has also continued to be - **sharing our faith in Christ, promoting access to justice and respect for human dignity through speaking up, fellowship, mentorship and defending the rights of the vulnerable**. Our methodology has certainly changed in many aspects and we remain aware that the *only constant thing is change*. In the words of futurist, Alvin Toffler *"the illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn."* This pandemic has therefore given us the uncanny duty to do exactly that.

It is therefore my distinguished honor to share with you

A word from the Uclf **PRESIDENT**

the **UCLF Annual Report for the period June 2019 to July 2020**. In this report, we detail what we have achieved in the past financial year, thanks to the support we have received from the membership, the partners, and well-wishers. Key amongst these was the establishment of the UCLF the UCLF Annual Report for the period June 2019 to July 2020. In this report, we detail what we have achieved in the past financial year, thanks to the support we have received from the membership, the partners, and well-wishers. Key amongst these was the establishment of the **UCLF Pro bono Fund** that helped us navigate through the season of scarcity, the lobbying for the National Legal Aid policy in conjunction with LASPNET, the drafting of the SOPs for reopening of churches during COVID 19 pandemic, supporting the work (and rights of inmates in) Ntenjeru Prison in Kayunga in conjunction with the YOLO Missional Community of Worship Harvest Ministries, as well as training the Uganda Police on various matters of civil and public law. We certainly could not have achieved this without the immense support from our esteemed donors like **Baptist Mission Society (BMS), Law Christian Law Fellowship (LCF)-UK** and you, our very generous members. Special appreciation also goes to BMS who have continued to support us financially since 2008.

Members, you will find in these pages, unique ways we have maintained our mission to fellowship, pray and share the word. You will read about our work with mentorship of our law students, legal rep-

resentation of indigent persons, community outreaches and sensitizations, radio and television talk shows, prison outreach and offering psychosocial support to our clients. This has been achieved in spite of the limited funding, the reduction in our subscription payments, and the lockdown ordered by the Government of Uganda due to the COVID 19 pandemic. We truly appreciate our Patron, **His Lordship Justice Mr. Mike Chibita** for the advice he has given us in this period. We are also grateful to the staff at the Secretariat and members of UCLF who have continually supported our activities (some of them anonymously). Their invaluable support has especially managed to keep us relevant to the indigent persons of Uganda by enabling our Paralegal Services (PAS) Department to continue serving especially during the lockdown. Nonetheless, Like Oliver Twist, we continue to ask for more.

We are happy to announce that our long search for a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) was finally concluded via scientific interviews and Mr. John Osapiri was returned as the successful candidate. We wish him all the best. We also appointed Mrs. Norah Matovu Winyi as Chair of the UCLF Electoral Commission to conduct the elections for the new Board of directors. She will report on how this was scientifically done. We thank you all for your participation in this important event. We also congratulate all our members who participated in the 'scientific' campaigns to fill the key vacant positions in the Uganda Law Society Council which saw Mrs. Phiona Wall and Ms. Diana Angwech elected as President and Vice President of Uganda Law Society. We congratulate them and other UCLF members of the Council. We are also proud of those members like Emmanuel Candia and Bernard Oundo who are standing for elective positions in the National Parliament of Uganda, and the East African Law Society respectively. We wish them well because we believe in 'no-excuse leadership.' John Maxwell says that everything rises and falls with leadership. May all these leaders do well.

As I mentioned at the last AGM, and now accentuated by the current state of the world, *'UCLF needs your support – both financial and in kind- now more than ever before. It is the only sustainable way to achieve our mission and vision. That however is not going to be enough by itself. Rather, we beseech members who have given their time, dime or talent to not only continue to do so, but also stretch themselves even further and give a little bit more. Our call to the membership remains one that seeks your help in handling case files, paying our membership and subscription fees, and encouraging more Christian law-*

yers to join and support the fraternity activities.' As noted last financial year, while we may have managed to sail over the storm like the Biblical Eagle, we still have a lot of work to do especially in reaching the lost for the Lord and ensuring access to justice for all. Indeed, the VUCA world has shown us that we must remain innovative and always amenable to change.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I take this opportunity to thank all of us for these year 2019/2020 achievements. This being my last address to you as Chair and President, allow me to unreservedly wish the new team that will take the reins from us today, the very best and pledge to continually support them in the years to come.

For God and My Country

Towards a world where justice and human dignity are a reality for all

God bless you all



Daniel R. Ruhweza PhD
President & Chair, Board of Directors



Ap. John Osapiri

Remarks by the CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I joined UCLF on 1st July 2020, at the time that the government had just opened up partially due the Corona virus pandemic. I thank the Board of Directors, for giving me an opportunity to serve UCLF as the Chief Executive Officer. I am certain that by the help of the Holy Spirit, the support of the Secretariat, the incoming Board of Directors and UCLF members, we shall make UCLF an organization that every Christian lawyer is desirous of being part. We are going to innovate and ensure that everyone is reached, served and involved. The Secretariat will reach out to members consistently to understand their needs. We shall identify strategic partnerships for trainings, accreditations, commendations and growth of our members.

The Secretariat is working tirelessly to identify funding opportunities, consultancies and strategic partnerships to help facilitate UCLF's work. I thank the members for their support to UCLF especially through the pro bono fund, membership subscriptions and participation in the so many activities we have contacted you about.

The year 2010/2019 has been a year that requires faith to live, this Annual Report comes in at a time when Uganda and the world is faced with the COVID 19 Pandemic. God has enabled us an organization and a ministry to reach out to the communities in Uganda sharing our faith in Christ, providing legal aid to the indigents inform of legal representation for indigents, engaging in alternative dispute resolution, plea bargain interventions, prison and police awareness outreaches, offering counselling services, engaging in fellowships and law student professional development

engagement among other interventions.

All the interventions we have heard as UCLF has been possible through our committed staff at the Secretariat; these tirelessly committee to implementing the UCLF agenda. We are indebted to our esteemed UCLF members for the the enormous moral and financial support they have dispensed to UCLF through the 2019/2020 amidst several hardships, to the Board of Directors, your voluntary service to UCLF is adorable and something to reckon about. Thank you for the tireless guidance you have provided to the secretariat to effectively deliver. We are thankful to our donors specifically the Baptist Mission Society, UK and the Lawyers Christian Fellowship of UK for mobilizing resources for UCLF. I must say that sometimes the simplest things mean a lot. We are indebted to the UCLF Members and other well-wishers for supporting UCLF through the UCLF Probono Fund. We are reminded that our finger prints do not fade from the lives we touch.

COVID 19 is still a global threat with no confirmed vaccine yet or even trusted curative treatment. COVID 19 still presents a global threat to Human Rights world over. As an institution we have ably responded to such threats poised through adjusting our program interventions to fit within the COVID 19 situation. We intend to further counter the global human rights challenges presented by Covid 19 especially those evident in Uganda, particularly Gender Based Violence, continued rampant arrests resulting from violations of Directives, violation of personal liberty and torture by of suspects by security organs. We welcome every kind of support to enable us intervene.

Ap. John Osapiri
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SECTION III

ABOUT UCLF

Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF) is a membership based Non-Governmental Organisation seeking justice for all in Uganda through the provision of legal aid, legal education and research and policy advocacy on behalf of vulnerable people. The UCLF was founded in 1987 by Christian law students at Makerere University. In 2005 was registered as a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO).

The UCLF is comprised of over 400 member Advocates, Lawyers, Judges and Law Students across the different Universities of Uganda, with established Legal Aid Clinics and offices spread across the Northern, Western and Central regions of Uganda. The UCLF seeks to utilize skills endowed in its members and associates to impact the most vulnerable in society, irrespective of age, gender, religion or ethnicity following a Biblical mandate to defend the rights of the poor and needy.

VISION

As an association of Christian Lawyers, we seek to share Christ through fellowship, in outreach to the lost, and in seeking justice for all our society, in a spirit of love and compassion.

MISSION

Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. (Proverbs 31:9).

CORE VALUES AND DISTINCTIVE IDENTITY.

We are committed to upholding the Christian faith and its principles of.

a. *Christian ethics and integrity.*

UCLF shall demonstrate the highest standards of spiritual, ethical and professional integrity and practice in its operations and to develop Godly character among the members and staff, by being the salt and light in the legal profession and society as a whole. (Proverbs 13:6; John 14:23)

b. *Justice.*

UCLF believes that while primarily the message of the Gospel is one of forgiveness of sins and divine reconciliation, God's people are to reflect his character in their attitudes and relationships. As God revealed himself to Israel and then fully and perfectly through Christ he established his character of justice at the heart of Christian living. This will necessarily relate to five essential com-

ponents.

i. **Holiness:** Straight and righteous living, a commitment to God's holy moral order in both private and public life.

ii. *Procedural justice:*

Truth is part of justice therefore an appropriate forum for the truth to be told is essential. This also mandates the need for universal access to justice.

iii. *Substantive justice:*

Punishment and compensation should be correctly directed in a proportional manner.

iv. *Human rights:*

God made people in his own image therefore conveying basic dignity. Human dignity is most clearly protected in human rights and therefore UCLF claims a Biblical preference for the upholding of human rights. Biblical human rights is best embodied by Kingdom principles which will inevitably seek for the restoration of the whole person, including their freedom, their access to basic amenities, the imputed influence of their gender, their bodily and spiritual well-being.

v. *Community relationships:*

Justice can only be understood within the context of right living within a series of inter-personal relations, therefore UCLF values relationships over and above projects as being demonstrative of God's character of justice.

OBJECTIVES OF UCLF.

a) To inform and educate people from whatever section of society, and especially those who have no access to legal information, about the law and their rights.

b) To advocate for, represent and advise the voiceless and disadvantaged.

c) To advocate for the enactment and implementation of fair laws and policies that are in harmony with Christian principles.

d) To encourage member participation in ethical legal practice and community involvement by providing pro-bono services

STATEMENT OF FAITH

UCLF aims within its Christian context to demonstrate the highest standards of spiritual, ethical and professional integrity and practice in its operations and life. It is assumed and expected that all members, employees and volunteers of the UCLF will exhibit this ethos and aspiration in their personal, public, and private conduct and discourse. The UCLF statement of faith as provided for in the Schedule to this Constitution shall help the members, staff and volunteers to develop Godly character, professional integrity to the glory of Christ and His Kingdom.

UCLF STRUCTURE.

UCLF has four main organs, the Annual General Assembly, the Board of Directors, Select Committees and the Secretariat. The General Assembly is the supreme authority of the Organization and is mandated to elect the members of the Board of Directors every two years. Whereas the Board is responsible for the policy formulation and strategic direction of the organization, the Select Committees handle specific issues in the Organization and the Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the Organization.

REGISTRATION STATUS.

Uganda Christian Lawyers' Fraternity (UCLF) is a professional faith based registered Non-Government Organization (NGO), S.5914/5536. UCLF was granted with a permit to operate as an NGO from 05th of February 2019 for the next 60 months. We were also issued with a Certificate of approval of legal chambers by Uganda Law Council for the year 2019/2020.

ADDRESSES .

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4. UCLF ACTIVITIES.

The Uganda Christian Lawyers Fraternity (UCLF) Constitution provides that the Secretariat shall be responsible for the day-to-day affairs of the Organization. UCLF had seven programme areas implemented in 2019/2020 that is Legal Education, Criminal Public defense, Paralegal Advisory Services, Civil Legal Aid, Students and Library Department, Environmental Justice and Counselling. Under this section an account of the activities that transpired between July 2019 and June 2020 relate to projects that were implemented. Some of the programs are not only implemented at the Secretariat but also at UCLF field offices namely Gulu, Masaka, Kasese and Kayunga.

STUDENTS' AND LIBRARY PROGRAMME

The general objective of the students' Programme is to contribute to the spiritual and legal growth of Christian law students in Uganda. Specifically this programme promotes research and study among students and further engages students in intellectual and spiritual development activities. The following activities were accomplished over the past year under this department.

1. Through different activities, we have realised promotion of research among students. UCLF has witnessed gradual increase in students' membership and library use. In the first 6 months of 2019 the number of student members was at 71 and currently has risen to 120. 20 new students have registered excluding those that renew their membership. Approximately 10-15 students access the library on a daily basis. This has contributed to the boosting of Students' legal knowledge and research skills

2. Through conducting orientation meetings to 1st year law students, we have informed new university students about UCLF Specifically the Students' department on the services and activities entailed there in. This is evidenced through the increased attendance of the activities held after the orientation activities such as fellowships. And the number of students that worked in to pay membership after orientation. 7 students within a period of two- four months (August to October 2019) would be such a great achievement considering the fact that few orientations were conducted due to lack of activity funds caused by law exchange rate.

3. There has been capacity and spiritual maturity amongst students. This is validated by the testimonies from students and also increased numbers in University Law Fellowships attendance.

4. The department successfully conducted the Annual Students' Retreat which took place from the 27th September to the 29th Sept 2019 at FOCUS prayer center. This retreat was conducted under the Theme:

***"Walk before me and be perfect....
Gen 17:1.***



With Fellowship leaders after orientation at Cavendish University

Seven Universities Including Uganda Christian University, Uganda Christian University-Kampala campus, Kampala International University, Makerere University, Gulu University, Cavendish and Uganda Pentecostal University turned up. The retreat was a joint one with the September members' monthly fellowship that took place on the Saturday of 28th September 2019 and the total number of Students in attendance was 85 members exclusive.



One of the students in the UCLF Library.

5. We have continued to visit University Law School fellowships; this has enabled new Law fellowships growth from time to time. These fellowships have been conducted and attended regularly due to UCLF influence in these fellowships.

For example UCU-Kampala Campus Law ffellowship was launched on 16th October 2019 with the help of the UCLF students' department and we continue to support it as it grows.



Students and Uclf staff after MUK Fellowship

to instruments of office and In Uganda, Makerere University, Nkumba, Cavendish and Bishop Stuart University and Uganda Pentecostal Gulu University.



Planning meeting with student leaders.



Students joined members for the monthly fellowship

6. For better planning purposes, we deemed it fit that planning meetings be adjusted from December to January of every year. This year on 27th of February, we therefore held the annual students' representative meeting that took place at the secretariat. In this meeting, we were able to plan for the year 2020's activities as well as receiving new students' representatives who was handed over

7. The department held the annual student Leaders' seminar and this took place on 21st February, 2020 at UCLF secretariat. This seminar's theme was "Christian Leaders in the market place". It is so important that Christians learn to occupy offices of public influence and that is why such a topic would come up at a time like this where the circular world seems to be taking up the Christian world.

To cover up the gap and increase the circumference of Christians in the outside world, we have chosen to encourage and enlighten the future Christian leaders through the student leaders' seminar. Seven universities that is to say Bishop Stuart University Mbarara, Makerere University, Cavendish, Nkumba, Kampala International University, Uganda Pentecostal University, and Uganda Christian University. The total number of Students in attendance was 40.



Above are some students engaging their colleagues in a discussion on one of the seminar topics.

8. This year's Annual students' Symposium was conducted virtually on 7th June 2020 under the theme "Manoeuvring through COVID-19 crisis as a Christian Law Student" with different topic facilitated by UCLF members, It was attended by 40 students and above from various universities.



Zoom participants of the online symposium.

Departmental Challenges.

- As a department, we have been challenged operating with-in a constrained budget. This in away affects the students attendance of activities. It should actually be noted that some of the second last phase of bi annual activities were not conducted. It was so unfortunate that the departments' costs dropped low like never before.
- The biggest barrier for this year has been the Covid-19 crisis that we are sure has also affected the rest of the world. This could not enable us accomplish out targeted goals since our biggest beneficiaries were under Lock-down.

Reasons for Departmental success.

- BMS funding; The Baptist Mission Society has been the biggest funder to our activities and we are thankful to God for their support.
- Commitment of departmental staff.
- Cooperation between UCLF and UCLF students' representatives
- Support from Law school Faculty Deans.

PARALEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES PROJECT

The UCLF PAS is a nationwide programme implemented by UCLF and funded by Baptist Mission Society UK (BMS). UCLF Paralegals are stationed in Police Stations, Magistrates' Courts, in Kampala, Gulu and Kasese with the aim of contributing to the process of physical and case file decongestion in the criminal justice system.

The Paralegal advisory services project in Kampala operates under four objectives ; To educate suspects, prisoners, complainants/ victims and the community on the basics of law and procedures of the criminal justice system for improved access to justice; To increase access to justice for detainees charged with petty and capital offences; To contribute to the process of decongestion in the criminal justice and To contribute to change of practices within the criminal justice system through advocacy and civic engagement. Below are the results under their respective objectives;

1. They managed to advocate for police bond. A total of 887 suspects, 675 males, 212 being females at Wandegaya police station and at Central Police station received police bond.
2. They managed to advocate for Court bail for 30 (29 males, 01female) inmates at Buganda Road Court and LDC Court.
3. They made several follow ups on 2210 suspects' files with the respective investigating Police officers together with the Resident State Attorneys(RSA) of



Mr. Anania Twinomujuni above, a paralegal at UCLF Kampala office, handing over police bond form to a suspect who benefited after paralegals intervention.

4. which, 2110 being male suspects and 100 female suspects. They Sensitized 6623 (5856 males, 395 females) suspects / inmates on their rights for example right to bond and bail, right to freedom of recording a statement, right to fair hearing.



UCLF Paralegals and other members conducting a rights awareness and court process procedure training at Ntejeru Prison in Kayunga

5. Despite the outbreak of COVID 19 pandemic, paralegals made follow ups at some police stations so that the vulnerable persons would access police bond. This was possible when UCLF secured a movement card from Uganda Law Society, as legal services were declared essential.



Paralegals Duncan Kijambu and Anania with the Officer in Charge of Kanyanya Police Station.



Mr Kijambu Duncan a Paralegal leads a suspect who had benefited from police bond to Christ.

- They linked 2962 sureties (2724 males and 238) such as relatives, friends to suspects/inmates at Police/Court physically and by phone calls.
- They managed to mediate 07 cases at Police/Court of which 06 being for males, 01 for a female suspect and cases they have been successfully settled.
- They carried out spiritual counselling to both Suspects/Inmates and many gave their lives to Jesus and a total of 247(197 males,50 females) persons gave their lives to Jesus Christ.
- They managed to carry out community sensitization programs in different places like schools, churches in addition to training local leaders.

What has helped or been a barrier/ challenges to your success?

- The suspects over stay in the Police cells especially those that are arrested by flying squad department and other security organs. This is contrary to the 48-hour rule of the constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995).
- Lack of Law knowledge and its procedures by the people in the community.
- Corruption at some police stations where police bond is still paid for, whereas at court inmates pay for cash bail, it's written as none cash bail.
- The juveniles have no funds to transport them to court in time and this calls for their cases be adjourned hence keeping them in the Adult cells.
- Most people arrested found it hard to identify themselves since the police officers confiscated their documents at the time of their arrest like National identity cards.
- Physical tracing of sureties in town was not an easy task because people kept on changing their residences and some of them feared coming to Police/ court.
- Some suspects arrested by Kampala City Council Authority officers were brought, dumped in the police custody without accountability. Rampant and unnecessarily arrests have congested the police cells and this has been caused by the newly introduced security organ of Local Defence Unit (LDU).
- Some suspects were arrested on orders from the president's office and when tried to follow up on their files, the OC. CIID his power was limited especially with those suspects of illegal fishing and wildlife activities.

What are the main lessons learned through your ministry this year?

- We learnt that suspects/inmates who seemed habitual offenders needed spiritual healing and many had to confess Christ Jesus as their Lord and personal Saviour.
- We learnt that whenever we executed our activities faithfully God opened up new doors to other police stations outside the city like Kanyanya Police station.
- We learnt that with the blood of Jesus, we managed to go to police cells in time of "COVID 19 pandemic" and we were protected by blood of Jesus so that innocent victims of injustices access Justice.
- We learnt that some police officers are corrupt it's through prayer that their corrupt acts are discouraged.

How might you use these lessons to change or improve the work?

- The lessons learnt help us preach the good news to both suspects/inmates and their relatives.
- The department learnt to lobby for more funds to facilitate in accessing out - police posts since most suspects are tortured in those police posts without UCLF's knowledge .

ACTIVITIES	TOTAL BENEFICIARIES	MEN	WOMEN	JEVUNILES
LEGAL AWARENESS	6,623	5856	395	00
SURETY TRACING	2962	2724	238	00
FOLLOW UPS.	2210	2110	100	05
COURT BAIL	30	29	01	00
POLICE BOND.	887	675	212	00
MEDIATION	07	06	01	00
EVANGELISM	247	197	50	00
SET FREE	53	43	10	00

What, from your ministry, can we pray for or praise God for?

- Protection as we interface with the suspects/inmates whose health status is unknown.
- Provision in this trying moment COVID 19 in the world.
- More courage as we visit and talk to suspects/inmates because some of them are violent. Good report with the Judicial officer's/Police officers.



Duncan sensitizing the community on their legal rights.



Duncan with a walking in client at UCLF office after having offered basic legal advice.

Anania attending to a walk in client who had come for Legal advice and was referred to Labour KCCA for further actions.



Compiled by Kijjambu Duncan and Twinomujuni Ananias.

CIVIL LEGAL AID DEPARTMENT.

Civil legal aid department is grateful to God for the financial Support Baptist Mission Society (BMS), the Lawyers' Christian Fellowship (LCF) and the UCLF Pro bono Fund that has enabled them to facilitate a series of engagements enabling implementing of the project.

The civil legal aid department operates under two objectives; to increase Court representation for the indigent and to ensure justice for the poor by encouraging reconciliation through mediation and counseling.

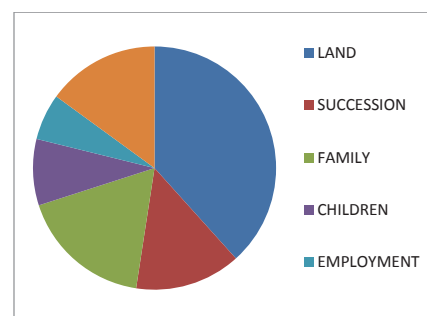
NATURE OF CASES HANDLED.

MATTER	NO. OF CLIENTS
LAND (ADVISED/REFERRED)	57
SUCCESSION	22
FAMILY	10
CHILDREN	14
EMPLOYMENT	2
BREACH OF CONTRACT	2
OTHERS	1
TOTAL	108

CIVIL LITIGATION DEPARTMENT REPORT JUNE 2019 TO JULY 2020

The department handles mainly civil matters and those include matters to do with Land, Employment, Breach of Contract, and Administration of estates, Family, Children, NGOs and companies.

The department is headed by an Advocate stationed at Kampala Head office, assisted by one legal officer and three volunteers. It is currently funded by BMS World Mission and Lawyers' Christian Fellowship of the UK. The department has reached 108 beneficiaries during the period between January 2019- 2020.



NATURE OF CLIENTS HANDLED

Nature of clients	Number
Males	45
Females	63
Children	14
New	61
Returning	47

CHANGES:

The department welcomes the new CEO and appreciates his effort to stream line matters at UCLF. The department has also taken on new volunteers Lynda, Samuel and Christine.

NETWORKING:

The department has networked with several projects handling similar work like the Legal Aid Clinic of the Uganda Law Society where we have referred several clients, The Legal Aid Service Providers' Network, International Justice Mission, and Foundation for Human Rights Initiative among others.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

In pursuance of its mandate the department handles several cases as shown above. Much attention was paid to giving legal advice and mediation considering the fact that litigation is costly in terms of finances and time. Mediation has proved also to be very effective in as much as it is quicker and it promotes reconciliation and the parties remain peaceful after resolving the conflict. We have had successful mediation, judgments in our favor and effective

counseling. Below is just one of the successful stories.

Our department was approached by a one Juliet Nanziri who had issues with her young brother of about 17 years old.

Nanziri and the brother inherited a main house which has three boys' quarters which all are found on one plot. All this property belonged to their late mother. They had a contention as to who takes the main house and then the boys' quarters. Both of them wanted the main house so they involved relatives who also could not help until Joan came to our office. We wrote a letter inviting her brother together with other family members and we had two sittings and at the third sitting we agreed that the brother to our client takes the main house and our client takes the three boys' quarters.

An MOU was executed to reflect the consent by both parties.



Figure 1 photo showing our client, family members and counsel for our client's brother

CHALLENGES FACED

- Finances which limit our legal assistance to the indigent.
- Corruption which has polluted the Justice system slows delivery of justice.
- Some clients despise legal Aid Advocates believing that such lawyers are the ones who have failed to make it in life.
- Uncooperative clients sometimes don't give all the necessary information.
- Some advocates do not want to settle matters amicably they prefer to go to court

LESSONS LEARNT

- Many peoples' rights are being infringed on for lack of knowledge and assistance from proper lawyers.
- Corruption is a huge hindrance in attainment of justice.
- Need to fundraise for the legal aid service providers to be able to serve the needy in society better.

SUPPORT TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The Head Civil Litigation and the Legal Officer have handled criminal cases in Makindye, Mityana, Luwero and other courts; the department has also given support to the Students' Department, Environmental Justice and the office of Administration.

APPRECIATION:

The department wishes to appreciate all those who have made it possible for this work to be done. Special thanks go to BMS World Mission and the Lawyers Christian Fellowship of the UK

9. UCLF GULU OFFICE

The Gulu office has several legal interventions, as shall be seen in the table below. The activities are implemented by a Paralegal, and a Missionary Lawyer plus a Volunteer Advocate who was contracted at the beginning of this year to handle cases in Court. The Gulu office has accomplished the following tasks.

1. Attended to legal aid clients; Attended to legal aid clients that visited the office for legal advice and follow up of cases. The office attended to 27 clients from office and gave legal advice to 39 clients.

2. Followed up of cases at police, local councils, in the field and court. The office made 201 follow ups at police station, courts, with local Councils (the LCs) and in the field, out of which, 159 follow ups were successful.

3. Land Rights Legal Education Training; UCLF conducted 9 Land Rights Legal Education Trainings. 138 men and 163 women were trained, making a total of 301 people who were trained over the period.

4. Legal advices was dispensed; up to 178 people were legally advised, out of which 71 were men and 107 were women.

5. Devotions attended; the office participated in staff devotion every Monday from 10 to 11am.

6. Legal awareness through radio talk shows were conducted; the office conducted 2 radio talk shows. In these shows 23 listeners called in and we anticipate that 1,000,000 people listened to the radio shows. The radios in use have a frequency beyond Northern Uganda.

7. Coordinated and network with the resident state attorney-Gulu and court clerk for legal aid interventions. Once in a while the staff meet with the resident state attorney at his chamber and discussed matters registered at Gulu office.

8. Reviewed and updated both hard and soft copy files for clients; The office updated and reviewed all the clients files both hard and soft copies.

9. Mediation conducted; over the period, the office conducted 4 mediations, out of which 3 were successful and 1 is still pending.

10. Referrals made; over the period, the office made 3 referrals and one of the clients was a woman while the other 2 were men. All the cases were referred to legal aid project of Uganda Law Society.

11. Participated in training at a school on child protection. The meetings were aimed at boosting regional stakeholders' capacity to deliver effectively.

12. The officers at UCLF Gulu also effectively wrote field reports and prepared books of accounts for Gulu office.



The above photograph shows 3 personalities addressing students of faculty of law, at Gulu University. On the right is Linda dressed in dark blue T-shirt, Daphine in the center dressed in light blue shirt and a lecturer of the faculty dressed in a white long sleep shirt



Abalo Harriet PID also does land rights awareness trainings and therefore, it networks with UCLF Gulu office on any land related matter. Both PID and UCLF Gulu are affiliates of Gulu NGO forum as you know. As usual however, most women felt more enlightened than men. We told them of the need for mediation whenever needed. Together with Sharon an intern student doing law at Mukono Christian University, we also encouraged them to come to UCLF Gulu office so that we may advise

Photograph above shows Mr. Amos standing in front of the gathering with the village's secretary Mr. Ocira Single Winston. As one can see here in the photograph, Mr. Ocira is helping to hold the flip chart as Mr. Amos educate the community members. The man dressed in a black coat and a gray trouser is one of the trainees who is untying soda from the motorbike. Amos emphasized that land conflicts and violence within the sub region was criminal, unity unity and development and that the land belongs to God and therefore, we are only the stakeholders. For that matter, we should keep it well for the owner who is God. The capacity of the of local leaders in the provision of alternative dispute resolutions to the community was therefore, seriously built.



The photograph above shows Jolly dressed in a white blouse and seated down as she writes down questions being asked by the trainees. The photographer did not take photograph of Mr. Amos who was on another background standing and training the community members.



The photograph above shows Mr. Amos dressed in a black coat and a grey pair of trousers as he educates the community members of Paromo village, Paduny parish, Awac Sub County, Aswa County, Gulu district.



The photograph above shows a lady dressed in black skirt and red blouse giving out sodas and bread to the participants.

Challenges.

- Budget limitation/constraints.
- Poor state of the road given the heavy rain falling in northern Uganda.
- Guidelines restrictions as far as coronavirus pandemic is concern.

This curtailed a number of the planned interventions from being handled.

Lessons:

- 1) Follow ups are one of the best activities that has greatly helped the most vulnerable marginalized clients to attain justice within the time frame required. Furthermore, it is one intervention that has built vast amount of confidence and has restored peace among the community.
- 2) The team has also been flexible and innovative at this pandemic period using other methods to reach communities such as radio. The radio shows for child protection have reached several districts and enhanced child safety amongst communities.
- 3) The project aimed at enhancing access to land and legal understanding to the marginalized people particularly the women, child headed families, elderly and HIV infected people within Acholi Sub region. I thus recommend that we should also intervened in the areas of child headed families which is a grave condition for many children in Northern Uganda, especially in Acholi Sub region.
- 4) During this pandemic period, it is not easy to travel from one place to the other because of the high cost of living that has gone up and yet this is not matched by increase in income level. I therefore, request that if there is any training for paralegal, it should be organized at regional level in order to avoid the challenge of inadequate facilitation.

10. MASAKA OFFICE

The UCLF Masaka is currently being funded by the UCLF Probono fund. The office has a volunteer Coordinator/Paralegal and an advocate who is employed on a consultancy basis to handle legal aid matters as they arise. The office engages in a range of activities including but not limited to conducting mediations, community legal awareness, and representation of indigents in both Civil and Criminal matters. The activities are implemented in Masaka and the surrounding districts of Bukomansibi, Lwengo, Rakai, Kyotera and Mpigi. The Masaka UCLF office operates on the objectives of coordinating representation of indigent persons and capital offenders in civil and criminal cases and also aims at ensuring access to justice for all through creating legal awareness and trainings.

Outputs for 2019/2020.

13. We received 44 legal aid clients who came for legal advice 29 male 15 females.
14. We registered 47 civil and criminal disputes of which there were 46 concluded through legal advice and counseling in office, one case is currently ongoing in court at Kasaali Grade 1 Magistrates Court in Kyotera District.
15. We successfully conducted mediation of 04 of the civil cases we received.
16. We took on representation in one case still which is still ongoing and 02 of our clients secured police bond.
17. We conducted 02 community legal awareness trainings in partnership with Masaka Baptist Church. This was conducted on the 19th day of July 2019 for 64 School going Children, of whom 38 were male and 26 were female. On the 15th day of August 2019 we trained 49 community members in Masaka town of whom 08 were male and 41 were female. We also conducted one training in Bukomansimbi on the 26th day of July 2019, where 19 community members that is 10 male and 09 female did benefit from the trainings. In all the trainings conducted at least a total number of 2000 dependents were indirect beneficiaries.

Success Stories for the Masaka UCLF Office.

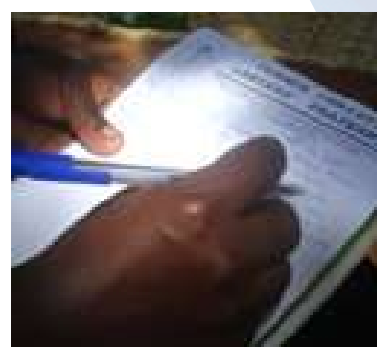
UCLF Masaka Office intervened in a family dispute which was brought to our attention by a one Michael Kibuuka against his wife a one Nakalanzi Winifred all of Kisekka Sub-county, Kaboyo village, Lwengo District

The two who have co-habited for over 30 years and are blessed with 5 children; developed an irreconcilable dispute which begun when Michael Kibuuka brought in another woman and evicted Nakalanzi Winifred from the family house placing her with her children in a smaller room just adjacent to the family house.

Our intervention which was first sought for in 2017 by Michael Kibuuka was to have Nakalanzi Winifred evicted. However during our intervention, we managed to reconcile the two.

However in 2020, another dispute arose again and both parties sought our intervention. UCLF staff advised that since Michael Kibuuka had lost affection to Nakalanzi Winifred, he had to provide her with the following;

1. Land in a place of her choice to live with the children.
2. Construct a house for her.
3. Continue to provide financially aid until Nakalanzi heard her first harvest.



2017 photos as seen above taken at the parties' place of Residence.



2020 photos as seen above taken at UCLF Offices Masaka

Additionally the Masaka office was renovated to meet students and client needs. Below are the photos for the successful community trainings.





Some Photos of some of the Clients



Challenges/Lessons Learnt

1. There is need to create more awareness on land rights
2. Illiteracy and poverty are still leading causes of most of the offences

Future prospects

1. The UCLF office in Masaka with the continuous interaction with stakeholders and engaging in collaborative networks will strengthen its activities and impact.

MEMBERSHIP AFFAIRS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

The UCLF department of Membership, Grants and Professional was formed to establish a linkage between members and the organization, support in resource mobilization and engage in professional development of members. The Department is involved in the following activities;

1. The department mobilized members to participate in Advocates Africa Conference which was held in Mombasa Kenya from 22 – 27th August 2019. Uganda was represented by 23 delegates. We also had a representation of three delegates for CLEAR Conference in Nairobi Kenya.

2. The department supported in organizing the UCLF Fundraising dinner on 1st November 2019.

3. Conducted Six (6) Continuing Legal Education Trainings. About 200 Judicial officers, advocates and students were reached too.

4. The department organized and mobilized members to attend both monthly fellowships and weekly fellowships. There were 12 end of month's fellowship and 48 weekly fellowships. At least 600 members attended these fellowships through the year.

5. The department organized successful pastoral visits to some of the UCLF members' offices and homes for spiritual support. We had at least 12 pastoral visits to law firms, courts and members' homes.

6. We visited and donated food stuffs to Bless a child foundation which looks after children infected with Cancer. At least 70 cancer children patients were reached too.

7. The department supported in mobilization of resources to support an advocate who is ailing with Cancer. This was done during the COVID 19 lockdown. At least UGX 6,300,000/= was raised locally.

8. The Department mobilized resources to stand with members who were going through challenging times for example those who lost their loved ones or had patients.

9. We managed to deposit UGX 69,000,000/= on the UCLF account between 1st June 2019 to 31st July 2020.

10. The department mobilised UCLF members to visit Luzira Women Prison. They donated food stuffs and preached Christ and several of them got saved. Legal awareness and represented were provided to the prisoners. About 200 women inmates were reached too.

11. The department also conducted work place pastoral visits to different law firms and offices through the year. The department organized a visit to the office of the DPP at the Anti-Corruption Court, visited and prayed with some Justices of Appeal/Constitutional Court and visited several law firms for fellowships with members.



Photos of Participants of Advocates African Conference.



Attendants of the Advocates Africa Conference wave their flags showing the countries represented.



Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, the UCLF Patron addresses the Africa Advocates conference in Nairobi.



UCLF members of staff and Board visits Bless a Child foundation.



Members pose for a photo after the prayer altar at Roots Restaurant



Pastoral visit to the Court of Appeal



UCLF prayed with the Engineers' Association of Uganda.



UCLF Prayer altar held to pray for the Commission of Inquiry into land matters.



Sharing bread at the members' end of months fellowships.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION.

UCLF was accredited by the Law Council in April 2019 to offer CLE training programs. The program is coordinated by Ms. Lilian Athaire the UCLF Grants and membership Coordinator. In the year 2019/2020 at least 6 CLE trainings were conducted. CLE trainings are important due to a number of reasons but briefly they are;

- CLE trainings are aimed at empowering members to get equipped with the latest knowledge

in various emerging areas or topics for continued career growth.

- Training sessions also help give young lawyers career insights on areas to specialize in order to grow their skills.
- Advocates are motivated into becoming change agents in their different areas of influence and to positively contribute to shaping policy changes for progressive development.

- Carryout continued CLE trainings to demystify seemingly complex practice areas/ topics and motivate research.

The UCLF CLE Trainings organized during the year 2019 are briefly highlighted below;

1. NGO Religious Policy & the Law.

The State through the Minister of Ethics is desirous of enacting a policy regulating religious matters in the country. There were mixed feelings about this move among Christians and scholars in the country hence UCLF's interest in organizing a CLE in this area.

At the CLE training the merits and demerits of the proposed policy were looked at and Christians were encouraged to step up and take on leadership positions to ensure the right laws are passed pursuant to Proverbs 29:2.

2. Health Law & Mental Issues.

Mental disability and persons with disability are currently on the rise due to various factors like unemployment, high crime rate, expensive treatments, depression, and poverty among others. At the CLE organized focusing on this area Ms. Sarah Tushemereirwe shared her testimony about how to cope with stress, suicide tendencies and members were challenged to take more interest in mental health law.

3. Crypto currency & the Law

Block chain is an emerging area due to technology advancement with an eco-system comprising mining, exchange, storage and payments. A number of industries were projected to face disruption due to block chain namely; real estate, global stock trading, global remittance, music streaming, startup businesses, health care, banking, insurance, crypto currency exchange and cloud storage.

The current enabling legal framework is inadequate however Bank of Uganda is being lobbied by various stakeholders to put in

place adequate legislation.

4. Public Private Partnership and Public Procurement

At the CLE trainings PPPs were defined and key attributes as provided for under section 4 of the Public Private Partnerships Act. The dispute resolution mechanisms analyzed under PPP's were also discussed. Merits and demerits, processes of this form of project financing were covered. Various opportunities for PR actioners as Independent transaction advisors in the PPPs cycle were highlighted some of which are entailed in areas of Government agency, Lenders, ESP Contractor, Equity providers, consultancy services, Facility management services etc.

Various types of procurement under PPPs were analyzed namely; Open competitive bidding, restricted bidding, direct procurement, unsolicited proposals among others.

5. Latest conversations in Commercial Practice

During the CLE training emerging areas in employment law were highlighted to include questions on jurisdiction of the industrial court, contract of employment, sexual harassment, social media usage and privacy, Data protection and privacy Act 2019, Right to fair hearing and constructive dismissal principles, work permits, leave entitlement and remedies some of which comprise the Employment Act Amendment Bill, Intellectual property and a focus on other emerging areas which included sports law, artificial intelligence, employee IP, fashion industry, Mergers & acquisitions IP among others. Latest trends in insolvency and combating money laundering.

6. Water Law and Environmental Law

7. Construction Law

8. Latest trends in Transitional justice;

This is a key area for Uganda which was previously characterized by conflict in a bid to seek healing and reconciliation in the communities. Types of transitional justice include reparation, truth and tell among others.

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED DURING CLE TRAINING'S.

- Some facilitators were unreliable leading to some topics not being exhaustively covered by substitute facilitators.
- Participant's failure to send confirmation of attendance on time which affected bookings and preparations with hotel management.
- Low awareness among stakeholders on various topics handled through CLE trainings.

CLE TRAINING RECOMMENDATIONS.

- UCLF should form working groups that can conduct further research about proposed new laws like the Employment (Amendment) Bill 2019, the Labour Dispute (Arbitration & Settlement)(Amendment) Bill 2019, Consumer protection Bill 2017 and Persons with Disabilities Bill 2018 among others.
- The UCLF Members that attend the CLE trainings should research and read on the areas trained on.
- UCLF should advocate for amendment of laws by issuing statements and engaging key stake holders.
- UCLF should lobby legal reforms through public interest litigation and revised education curriculums.



Members pose for a photo after some of the CLE trainings.



Counsel Kirunda facilitating one of the CLE trainings.

UCLF Counselling Department.

The counseling project is intended to empower UCLF staff and beneficiaries to manage difficult times both at work and their personal lives. The project also supports the psychosocial needs of staff and clients for positive response when dealing with issues. The project is housed at the UCLF Secretariat in Kampala.

Departmental Achievements

1. Maintained counselling based communication through emails. In the months of July 2019 to June 2020, the department shared specific counselling messages with the UCLF Staff and members on social media and on emails. UCLF Staff and members received teachings on behavior change and these included, How to work with others, ways to stay strong and what sup tips on COVID 19 and behavior tips. The emails were intended to improve the capacity of UCLF staff to manage their domestic and personal issues. Feedback emails from some of them indicated that the messages were appreciated and have contributed to their life style.

2. Conducting of individual counselling sessions, these were conducted with staff and UCLF members. This involved face to face meetings with UCLF staff, walk in clients and the members. This also involved pre-arranged counselling sessions and group counselling meetings. The Department had 10 individual counselling sessions with staff and 6 individual counselling sessions with the clients. Issues in individual counselling raised include worry about unemployment, dating issues, marriage issues and marital counselling. As a result of the counselling sessions, there has been increased self-esteem among staff members. The continuous interaction has also increased the relationship between the counsellor and the staff members where they have been able to cope and handle some issues without stress, we have prayed and shared and shared Christ together.

3. Group counselling. This was conducted with staff. The Department had group counselling with staff of UCLF on how to work with others, discussed about annoying habits that put others at risk and also frustrated and some e of these

include indecent dressing, shouting at people, shouting on phone, hygiene etc. The session was so interactive, time was the limit and after we prayed together.

4. Community sensitization; the department reached out to the youth of Masoli zone in Kampala. They had group counselling with 20 youth on how to prevent COVID 19, this included a talk on social distancing, wearing of masks, and hand washing. The department also trained on abstinence from sex to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. After the trainings the team shared Christ with the youth, to which some of them gave their lives to Christ.

5. Women Empowerment Conference; the department had women conference organized by True Disciples Church in Kasangati, under the theme 'a wise woman.' 80 women attended the conference. Women were encouraged to pray at all time in order to be wise women and also they were told to take care of their families and there was time to pray together.

6. Remand Home Visits; the department had also one group counselling sessions with the children of Naguru remand home, who are 250 in number on behavioral change. Most of these children are in the remand home for criminal offences like theft, defilement, fighting etc. Most of the children are in the age bracket of 13 to 18 years. The group session were participatory where the children were given an opportunity to ask questions. After the sessions, most of the children looked excited and ready to change. After the sessions the counsellor prayed and shared eats but also UCLF donated 30

bibles to remand home.

7. Kigo Prison and Kasanganti Police Outreach; The counselling project reached out to Kigo prisons and had group counselling with 160 inmates on how to manage anger and stress and the inmates brainstormed things like going to church, having exercises, having a walk, by accepting Christ as their personal savior; the workshop was so participatory in a sense that every woman had time to ask a question. By the end of the session, everyone wanted the discussion to continue. After the counselling session we shared about the love of Christ and prayed together and shared prayer requests. Also reached out to Kasangati police and shared Christ with in suspects.

8. Reception Centre Visits; the Reception Centre is a place where children who have been abandoned on the streets, mistreated by parents, sexually abused and those lost from their homes are kept. Since these children come from different families, some are rough to others, there are always in-fighting among which puts the risks of others to risk. Teaching them how to interact was important to improve their social behaviors. 90 children attended the session. After the session there was time to pray with the children and lead them to Christ.



The UCLF Counselor having behavioral session with the youth.



UCLF Counselor having an Abstinence session with the youth.



UCLF counsellor reaches out to children at the reception, teaching them how to read and write.



Counselling session with staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CLUSTER.

1. From the month march to December 2019 the project , was able to successfully organize environmental sustainability awareness campaigns in eight schools in the districts of Wakiso Kampala , these schools included Trinity Academy , Dream High School , St Kizito Secondary School , Lubiri Secondary School , Kololo Secondary School , FNC Academy Kisubi High School and Ntake High School .
2. The project also contributed to the green growth strategy for healthy environment for all through distribution of trees in schools the department organized tree planting campaigns of fruit trees in schools.



Figure One; 2nd November 2019 the environmental justice implementing team carrying out tree planting with the students of Kisubi High School Kampala

UCLF environmental justice team after a successfully waste management campaign to community and schools neighboring dream land high school.

The project was able to successfully conduct and hold (03) sustainable agricultural trainings in the districts Buikwe Busia, and specifically farmers from the communities of Masooli Tongolo Buikwe District benefited from the training.



Figure Three; UCLF farmers training in Busia on chemical fertilizers and rotational crop planting as a means of enhancing sustainable agriculture.



Figure 04; Group photo at the end of the farmers training in Busia aimed enhancing sustainable agriculture.

Figure five (05) 2nd February 2020



St Kizito Senior Secondary School, group photo at the end of the environmental conservation training conducted and organized by Uganda Christian lawyers' fraternity.

However in March 2020 the global pandemic hit and the whole country went into lockdown for four months until a phased opening was started, the project implementing team started with office work /desk work including, research, drafting of departmental work plan proposals development etc. the team started up daily market vendors waste management and disposal campaign targeting market places with in Kampala metropolitan area with a pilot campaign of three markets namely Nakawa , Wandegeya and Kasubi Markets.

The team started with carrying out market survey tours aimed at identifying key stakeholders like market leaders , security officials around the market places and assessing the major activities of the markets and identifying the strategies' of waste management in place to see how they can be improved.



Figure 06: Department Coordinator and his Assistant in Nakawa market

The survey was a success and indeed all key stakeholders were met, permission was granted to UCLF to sensitize the market vendors on proper waste management and disposal as many market leaders indeed observed that the only efforts of KCCA are not sufficient especially when the market vendors are not sensitized about their duty and obligation they tend to leave everything to Kampala capital city authority.

From the survey the department was able to identify the need to purchase mega phones as they would be the only easy means of transmitting information to a wide coverage and audible enough best compete with the noisy market environment.



UCLF environmental justice implementing team after discussing with the staff of Nakawa market

KASESE UCLF OFFICES.

The major objective of the Paralegal project is to enhance access to justice for the vulnerable and the poor people both in and out of detention in Kasese district. This project is proudly supported BMS World Mission.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 83 People (68males, 15 females) walk-in clients, clients in the field and those who call for advice were helped on a number of issues.
 - 35 legal documents were drafted for the needy clients ranging from sale agreements, written statements of defence, memorandum of understanding and tenancy agreements.
 - 26 accused persons were given skills of self-representation and also of these 3 female convicts were talked to at Katwe prison on their rights while in prison.
 - 2 clients (females) have been helped in writing their Wills.
 - 3 radio programmes were conducted on messiah radio under BMS project. Information on domestic violence, child rights abuses with emphasis on child labour and child marriages has been disseminated and the districts of Rubirizi, Kabarole, Bunyangabo, parts of the Bushenyi, Bundibugyo, Kasese, kamwenge and others have benefited of the program.
- This radio programs approximately reached out to over 1,000,000 people looking at the coverage.
- One community and religious training was conducted in Muhokya sub county local leaders on Land Law and Domestic Violence in partnership with Muhokya Farmers Network where 22 people were trained (2females & 20 males).



UCLF legal Assistant taking through the clients in will writing (picture one the client passed on and Will was read to the family members on the 27th December 2019)



Discussing the Domestic violence looking at the provisions of the law and the causes and solutions



UCLF legal assistant during the sensitisation outside Kirembe church of Uganda and standing is the chairperson Kahokya highlighting the challenges that local council courts get in handling cases

- One Community policing was conducted in Kilembe sub county at Kyambogho parish that has high land cases, Domestic Violence and Theft as a crime, officer in charge Kilembe helped in doing the policing together with the UPDF Commander. 80 participants with 52 females and 28 males) attended the exercise.



UCLF legal Assistant during the community policing at Kyambogho Village in Kilembe sub county

Engagements out of created Partnerships with other Organisations.

- Three Legal sensitization trainings and meetings in partnership with other likeminded partners like RPBR (RWENZORI PEACE BRIDGE OF RECONCILIATION) has been conducted in three 4 sub counties of LAKE Katwe (focus on Child Marriages), Ihandiro, Kyarumba and bugoye sub counties (focus on Human rights and legal framework on land laws reaching 450 participants (207 males, 243 females)



Participants pose for a group photo outside st Johns Anglican church in Kyarumba sub county.

What has helped or been a barrier to achievements

- Community willingness of legal information especially on land issues and domestic violence
- The availability of skilled human resource with passion for justice ready to serve and help the communities that are facing injustice more specially the most hard to reach areas where legal information is a myth to the leaders and the community members themselves.
- The availability of funds from BMS which has sustained the project and from other donors to our partners who have engaged UCLF in their organised trainings using their funds.
- Partnerships long established with other organisations have taken UCLF to greater heights that even UCLF has been well known as a partner to Rwenzori Peace Bridge in areas of engaging communities on child marriages which is also another vice in the district.

CHALLENGES

- Absence of an Advocate at the Kasese office has been a barrier in our work in Kasese in that the legal Aid department has not done well because most of the cases have required the expertise of the advocate and it has always been a disappointment to clients.
- The unwillingness of the Local leaders rooted in their bad practices in their work, to accept the provisions of the law and implement the provisions has been a barrier in our work. This has made dissemination difficult and the legal information reaching to the last person since they want the community to be in ignorance.
- The COVID 19 outbreak has been a big barrier in that it affected the way of operation because after the lockdown most of the already organised trainings like community policing and community leaders training have been put to a halt reason.
- Understaffing of the Kasese office where one staff runs the office and reaching out to close to 40 sub counties and working in all departments which is tiresome and makes output in some area not satisfactory.



UCLF legal assistant taking on participants in a public awareness training at Katunguru in lake Katwe sub county on legal frame work on child marriages in November 2019

CRIMINAL PUBLIC DEFENSE PROGRAM IN KAYUNGA. INTRODUCTION

UCLF has for over 5 years been representing the indigent members of the community in criminal matters in the police stations, the courts and prisons in Kayunga District and the neighboring communities. The project is aimed at creating community legal awareness so as to contribute to the process of decongestion in the criminal Justice System, change practices through practice advocacy and civic engagement. The goal of the project is engaging access to justice for the Vulnerable particularly the poor people both in and out of detention in kayunga District. As part of the decongestion of prisons program UCLF with support from the UCLF Pro bono Fund contracted a consultant to repre-

sent the suspects in Ntenjeru prisons on plea bargain. These activities directly contributed to decongesting of Kayunga prisons, access to justice and creating legal awareness on the law and civic rights among the vulnerable people in communities in Kayunga District.

ACTIVITIES AND SUCCESSES.

1. Legal Sensitization of inmates, over 70 inmates were sensitized on prisoners' rights and in 2019.
2. Plea bargain representation, over 50 prisoners were represented on plea bargain between July 2019 and June 2020. We handled 50 accused persons with different counts from Ntenjeru Prison appearing in kayunga chief magistrate court.

Those represented were on the following counts;

- a. 8 counts of simple defilement
- b. 2 counts of attempted defilement
- c. 2 counts of defilement
- d. 8 counts of stealing motor vehicle to wit a motorcycle
- e. 3 counts of conspiracy to commit a felony.
- f. 5 counts of stealing cattle
- g. 1 count of shop breaking
- h. 3 counts of attempted Murder
- i. 1 count of unlawful possession of Narcotic.
- j. 2 counts of appropriation of power
- k. 1 count of Burglary
- l. 2 counts of Assault
- m. 1 count of malicious damage to property
- n. 4 counts of arson.
- o. 2 counts of threatening violence
- p. 7 counts of theft
- q. 2 counts of possessing suspected stolen property
- r. 2 counts of obtaining money through false pretense
- s. 1 count of attempted rape.

The following sentences were passed

- a. 35 suspects were convicted and given a custodian sentence.
- b. 17 suspects had their matters dismissed for want of prosecution.
- c. 2 suspects were acquitted
- d. 3 suspects were cautioned

Though there are 50 suspects; 49 males and 1 female. There were 57 counts and 57 sentences passed because some suspects had 2 or more counts. Over 70 suspects .

3. Distribution of personal effects to prisoners. With the support from the UCLF Members and support from other religious institutions like Kati Kati Worship Harvest, UCLF was able to bring the bible to life through distribution of food items, personal effects for male and female prisoners among others.



Photo shows the Ag. ED Mr. Mutonerwa Vincent sensitizing prisoners on their rights.



Photo: items delivered by UCLF to Kayunga Prisons.

SECTION V

UCLF Events

through the year.....

(a) PROBONO FUNDRAISING.

The Probono Fundraising Diner was held at SKYZ hotel. The event was attended by lawyer members and other invited guests including the Deputy Speaker of Parliament of Uganda, Rt. Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, the Learned Attorney General Hon. William Byaruhanga, His Lordship Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, Her Lordship Hon. Dr. Catherine Bamugemereire and Dr. Goerge Bamugemereire among other dignitaries.

The members in attendance pledged to support UCLF through the Probono Fund. The UCLF probono fund has been allocated to supporting Public Criminal Defense program at UCLF. Using the said Fund UCLF is currently representing prisoners on plea bargain in Kayunga using the Pro bono Fund. The Fund has also been allocated to supporting the Environmental Justice and Gender Justice Cluster commenced at UCLF. Additionally the fund is also used to support volunteers, since UCLF largely depends on volunteers.



The UCLF President Dr. Daniel Ruhweza, Attorney General of Uganda SC William Byaruhanga, the Rt. Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Uganda and the UCLF Board member Ms. Ann Muhairwe having a photo moment at the UCLF Probono Fund dinner.



NBS' Samson Kasumba leading the Fundraising drive at the Dinner.



Dr. Patrick Bitature, Mrs Prof. Chibita Monica, Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, Hon. Lady Justice Dr. Catherine Bamugemereire and Dr. George Bamugemereire the Deputy IGG at the UCLF Dinner.



The Photos show some of the participants who attended the fundraising drive.

(b)Uclf Annual General Meeting 2019

The AGM took place at SKYZ in the morning before the UCLF Fund-raising dinner. There was a presentation of the UCLF successes and challenges for the year 2019 by the Ag. Executive Director. There was also a communication from the URA Commissioner about the tax amendments and the requirement for organizations to comply with such amendments for tax compliance. There was a presentation by the auditor for the audited books of accounts by the auditors. Members were then invited to make reactions. It was decided that UCLF will commence the UCLF life Membership, it was agreed that UCLF would appoint a substantive Chief Executive Officer.



Ag. Executive Director Mr. Mutonerwa Vincent giving a report on UCLF's performance to the UCLF members at the AGM.



A presentation on tax compliance from Uganda Revenue Authority.



Participants at the AGM.



(C) The Extra Ordinary General Meeting 2020

UCLF conducted the Extra Ordinary General to conclude the business that was never concluded at the AGM. The EAGM was held on zoom, and at least over 70 members attended the same.

The audited books of accounts for 2018/2019 were presented the members. The budget was then adopted and passed by the members in attendance.

It was also agreed that UCLF would open an investment account with Xeno.

The members as well discussed issues of fund management and raising support for UCLF. it was advised by the members that UCLF could enter partnerships with religious institutions, engage in local sales and consultancies to raise finances locally, so that the organization does not solely depend on local donations.

UCLF STAFF AND POSITIONS

NAME	TITLES
Osapiri John	Chief Executive Officer
Kasozi Suzan Nambi	Head Civil Legal Aid
Linda Darby Wanjiru	Legal Manager UCLF Gulu Office
Nyakoojo Francis	Legal Officer
Niwamanya Daphine	Students Coordinator and Library
Atuhaire Lilian	Membership and Professional Development Coordinator.
Atimango Jolly	Legal officer
Twinomujuni Anania	Head Paralegal Kampala
Kijjambu Duncan	Paralegal Kampala
Amos Ogwang	Paralegal Gulu
Isaac Bwalhuma	Paralegal/Legal Assistant
Enotu Robert	Accountant
Babirye Dorothy-Kayanja	Counsellor
Tumwine Mpuuga Enock	Volunteer Coordinator Environmental Justice
Rembo Florence	Volunteer Assistant Coordinator Environmental Justice
Nalukenge Sandra	Front t Desk Officer
Wanamama Khakholere Stella	Volunteer Coordinator Gender Justice.
Omita Jerry Charles	Volunteer Coordinator Masaka UCLF office
Marunga Christine	Volunteer Legal Assistant Civil Legal Aid
Baluka Doreen Linda	Volunteer Process Server
Rachael Naleba	Volunteer Accounts Assistant
Wangwa Joel Andrew	Volunteer Legal Assistant Criminal Public Defense
Arthur Mwesigwa	IT Officer
Arija Ariniwe	Volunteer Assistant Membership and Grants Officer
Mwesigwa Sam Tulinomubez	Volunteer Legal Assistant Civil Legal Aid
Achieng Irene	Office attendant
Nambusi Joyce	Volunteer – Students and Library Department



UGANDA CHRISTIAN LAWYERS' FRATERNITY

Speak up and judge fairly, defend the rights of the poor and needy. Prov 31:9

