

ReachOut™  
YOUTH SOLUTIONS



**Country Leader  
Asher Kalema**

2023 UPDATE

**UGANDA**



# A world in need of a Savior...

## Reach Out's global impact in 2023



Reach Out Global Map

God moved mightily through our Reach Out team in 2023, more than we ever could have imagined! Investing into the training and equipping of youth leaders is crucial in spreading the message of the gospel to the younger generation. Our Country Leaders witnessed God's hand in allowing our team to train and equip more than **5,000 youth leaders** this past year who are now implementing the six essential characteristics taught through Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry into local churches in countries all over the world. Accounts were received about the impact of our JFYM Forums that brought newly certified Eagle Leaders (leaders who are now equipped to train other leaders), churches planted, and onlookers saved. Over **18,000 students were saved** through the ministries of those trained in **Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry**. And thousands more are currently being disciplined into disciple-makers for their generation!

JFYM Forums have sparked the establishment of **85 new churches in just one year**. These churches addressed crucial needs in areas where JFYM Forums were held. Thousands of students also participated in biblical training when our teams were allowed to enter schools in certain countries. Students were given the opportunity to participate in activities that impacted their spiritual, emotional, and relational growth. One of our Country Leaders has even been invited by their government officials to create such a program in their nation!

New opportunities were plentiful in 2023. Youth leader training started in **Pakistan** and **Belize**. Translations were completed in **Hindi** (India) and **Kirundi** (Burundi). And, we were able to add **Ukrainian** as an additional language to our JFYM online training platform! We also trained Links International missionaries from multiple countries in JFYM.

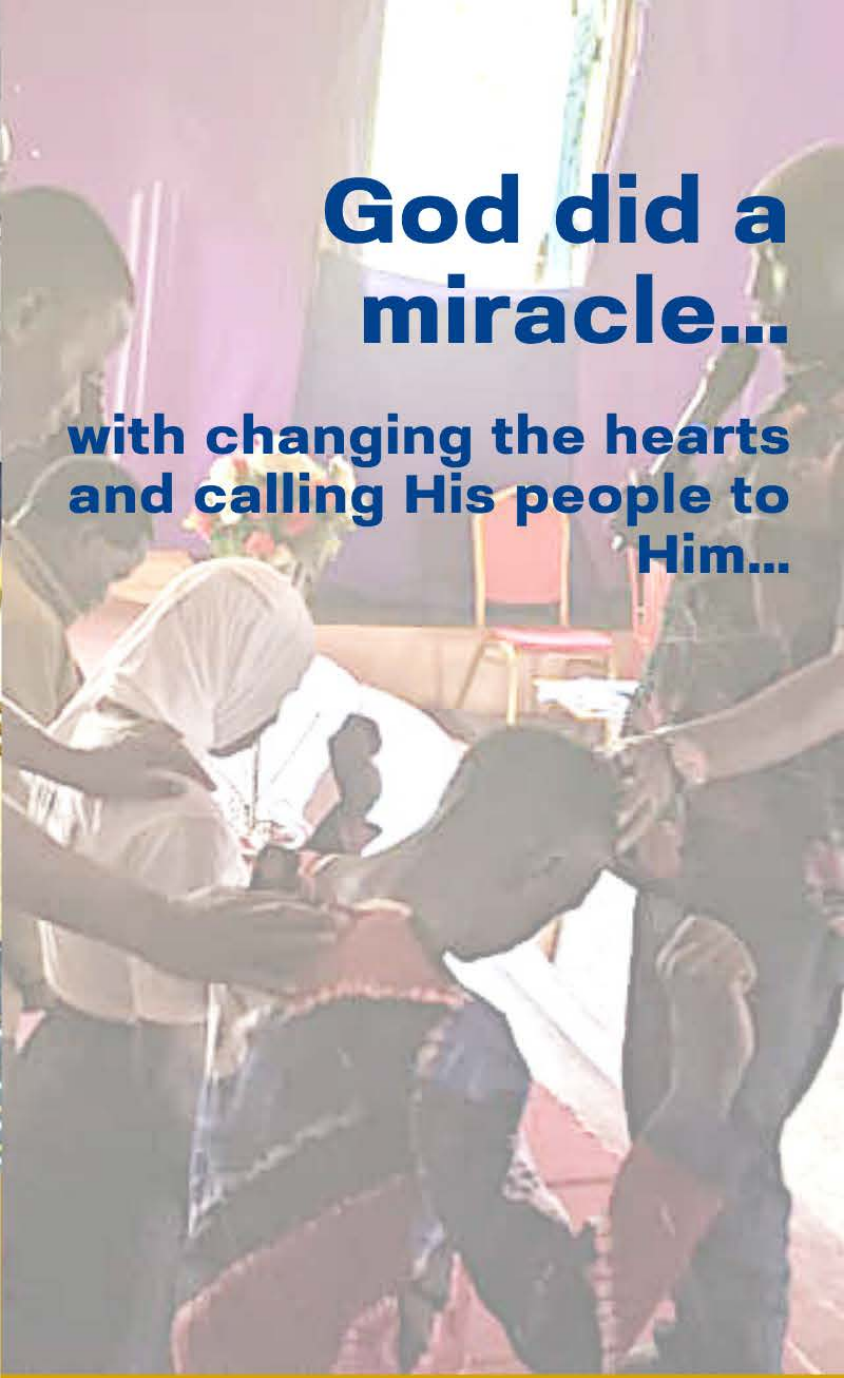
Reach Out hosted its First Annual Golf Tournament early in 2023, which was a great success and was enjoyed by all who participated. We were also able to highlight Reach Out Youth Solutions and Jesus-Focused Youth Ministry at the Southern Baptist Convention, the Texas Baptist General Convention, and Movement Day at Dallas Baptist University.

Thank you for your generosity, support and prayers throughout 2023 to help us extend God's love to the countries we serve. We would not be able to do it without you and your faithfulness in coming alongside us. **Thank you!**



**God did a miracle...**

**with changing the hearts and calling His people to Him...**



**God kicked off the year with unexpected guests giving their lives to Christ (see p. 4)**



At our February JFYM training in primarily Muslim **Mbale**, something truly remarkable happened. The atmosphere in the room was charged with anticipation as the training session began. Youth leaders from different backgrounds had gathered to learn how to better reach young people with the message of Jesus. Among the participants were two Muslim women, who had come out of curiosity and a desire to understand more about the Christian Faith. ***The two Muslim women made the decision to embrace Christianity and gave their lives to Christ!***

# We never know...

## what God wants to do through us...





**praying for the  
unsaved youth  
(see p. 8)...**

**They hit the  
floor...**



## God continued moving...

through our team and equipping more leaders...

At the point the Nile River and Lake Victoria meet lies the town of **Jinja** in Southeastern Uganda. This town played host to a JFYM Forum at the Nakabango Faith Fellowship Church in August, bringing together over 40 youth leaders from different backgrounds to learn the teaching ways of Jesus.



# More workers...

were trained to expand God's kingdom...

At the November Forum, more than 45 youth leaders from different churches gathered at the Deeper Life Church in the **Wakiso District**. One of the highlights was "**Building Leaders**," with insights and practical strategies for effective youth ministry. The impact is expected to be far-reaching, as these youth leaders returned to their churches with renewed, inspired passion, and a stronger sense of purpose in reaching the younger generation for Jesus.



Our May JFYM Forum (p. 5) was held at Calvary Temple Church in the **Lwengo District**, where 28 leaders dedicated their time to training, worshiping, and praying. Prayer is a powerful tool that can bring about transformation and change. These leaders understood the importance of seeking divine intervention for the unsaved youth. Through fervent prayers and supplications, they are laying a spiritual foundation for a brighter tomorrow.



Uganda, like many developing countries, has been grappling with significant hurdles in its education system. Limited resources, inadequate infrastructure, and socio-economic disparities have created barriers for many of its children to pursue their educational dreams beyond primary school. Only 15% of Uganda's teens attend secondary school. Despite these challenges, there are stories of triumph that defy the odds and showcase the power of faith and perseverance.

Country Leader Asher Kalema shared this photo of **his son's graduation**. This is an amazing accomplishment that we celebrate and give all glory to God for helping him to beat the odds in victory.

We appreciate your kindness, support, prayers and gifts in helping the impossible happen in a nation that is facing tremendous economic and educational challenges. Thank you for being a part of this journey with us and for all that God is going to do through our team in Uganda as we follow His lead.



# COUNTRY STATISTICS UGANDA

POPULATION = 48.5 million

42.2% live in extreme poverty of under \$2.15/day, 71.9% live under \$3.65/day, 91.1% live under \$6.85/day

Human Development Index = health, education, income rankings in the world

POVERTY  
42.2%

HDI  
159 OUT OF  
193

EDUCATION

TEEN PREGNANCY  
11.1%

AIDS/HIV  
5.1%

women much higher at 6.5%  
than men at 3.6%

85% attend primary school, 19% attend lower secondary school, 8% attend upper secondary school, 41% complete primary school

of girls ages 15-19

## Challenges

- 55% of the population is under 18 years old, 2nd highest in the world
- Increased terrorist attacks, including at a school which killed 37 students
- Funding shortfalls reduced food provided to the 1.5 million refugees, with 24% not receiving any assistance
- 41% of youth are not employed, educated or trained, and Uganda does not provide 21st Century life skills
- Violence against children is extremely high at 85%, and closure of the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) significantly impacted the human rights environment
- 47,000 people impacted from the El Nino-induced floods
- Marburg virus disease, cholera, measles and anthrax outbreaks
- High risk of online child sexual exploitation and gender inequality continues to impact women and girls
- 18% have access to safe sanitation, 8% have access to basic sanitation,
- 19% have access to safe drinking water, 41% have access to basic water
- Only 8% of youth attend high school due to high costs of education

## Reach Out

- A gift of \$1,000 helps indigenous leaders train 50 youth pastors through an "in-person" forum in their country.
- A gift of \$500 helps provide scholarships to train and mentor 20 youth pastors online.
- A gift of \$200 (\$3.85 per week) helps us equip 1 leader for 1 year, with the goal of that leader moving from being introduced to JFYM to implementing and multiplying JFYM. As a result, that new leader will begin training 3 additional leaders, so that from those 4 new leaders, there are a total of 12 young people disciplined and praying for opportunities to influence 36 of their friends to follow Jesus.
- A monthly gift of \$100 helps us continue current ministry to leaders around the world who are trained and resourced through Reach Out.

### Sources:

Human Development Index at: <https://hdr.unep.org/data-center/country-insights/ranks>

UNAids at: <https://www.unaids.org/en/regionscountries/countries/uganda>

UNICEF at: <https://data.unicef.org/country/uganda/AND>

<https://www.unicef.org/media/152301/file/uganda-2023-coar.pdf>

WHO at: <https://www.who.int/dms/jstor/data/indicator/indicator-cleello?locations=UG>

World Atlas at: <https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-youngest-populations-in-the-world.html>

World Bank at: <https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/099622004132322246/pdf/IDU0c978d300065ef04604091f0405b3565644.pdf>