



Our Mission

MindLeaps creates educational paths for the most vulnerable children in the world through a creative arts program that is built on data-driven metrics.





MindLeaps operates two programs in Uganda, one in Kampala and the other in Oruchinga Refugee Settlement. The programs served 525 students in FY2020.

Since 2017, MindLeaps has operated programs in the capital, Kampala, in order to help kids in extreme poverty, street children and refugee children, get on a path to education, positive life decisions, and community integration. In Kampala, MindLeaps works in partnership with Save Street Children Uganda, M-LISADA, Agape World Mission, and Agape World Ministries. At each of these partnership locations, MindLeaps operates dance classes five times per week. MindLeaps employs six local Ugandan young adults as dance trainers to teach all the dance classes.

Uganda has accepted 1.4 million refugees - the third highest refugee population in the entire world. Refugee children are among the most vulnerable, having been through trauma, forced relocation, and interrupted schooling. In partnership with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), MindLeaps launched a program at Oruchinga Refugee Settlement. MindLeaps trained and hired eight local youth from the settlement to become MindLeaps dance teachers. Every three months, 150 new children were enrolled in the program. At the end of 2019, the program reached 450 children. In addition, MindLeaps sponsors 280 of these children to attend formal school inside Oruchinga Refugee Settlement.



UGANDA COVID-19 RESPONSE

The pandemic closed all MindLeaps dance classes at our partner locations in Kampala and in Oruchinga Refugee Settlement. At the same time, the pandemic forced the UN's World Food Programme to make a 30% budget cut in its regular food relief for refugees. MindLeaps stepped in to help its students and their families by providing \$5,000 in food supplies to the Oruchinga Refugee Settlement.

UGANDA VIRTUAL ACADEMY

16 dance trainers from both the Kampala program and Oruchinga Refugee Settlementare currently enrolled in the Virtual Academy. Yves, a MindLeaps dance trainer in Oruchinga Refugee Settlement, said he has learned most of his dance skills, and now digital skills, through MindLeaps. He believes "the goal of the Virtual Academy is to help us become self-reliant in our lives and to make our communities better places."



Yves participating in the Virtual Academy at Oruchinga Refugee Settlement



MindLeaps Uganda trainers in Kampala participating in the Virtual Academy



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