

Empowering Lives Through Education

February 2025 Edition.

Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends,

I am honored to share a significant milestone in our journey toward inclusive education. Action of Love International has successfully enrolled its first cohort of students with disabilities into secondary education. This achievement marks a new chapter in our commitment to providing quality learning opportunities and vocational skills for children who have historically faced barriers to education.

A few weeks ago, seven students with disabilities officially joined secondary education—one at St. Francis School of the Blind and six at Mbale School of the Deaf and disability. This momentous occasion was not only a triumph for the children with disabilities but also a testament to the power of collective effort and unwavering commitment to education for all.

Since its establishment in 2008, Mbale School of the Deaf and disability has been a beacon of hope for children with hearing impairments and disabilities. In 2013, the school expanded to introduce a vocational training program under the Uganda Business and Technical Examinations Board (UBTEB). This initiative ensures that students, regardless of their academic trajectory, acquire essential skills that enable them to lead independent and fulfilling lives.

The enrollment ceremony was deeply emotional as students—many of whom had faced years of uncertainty—took their first steps toward a brighter future. Their parents and caretakers, overwhelmed with gratitude, shared their heartfelt appreciation. One mother, with tears in her eyes, said, “I never imagined my child would one day wear a school uniform and walk into a classroom like other children.” Another parent added, “This organization has not only changed my child's life but has also given our family a renewed sense of hope.”

During the ceremony, Wamono Vincent, Deputy Head Teacher at Mbale School of the Deaf and disability, assured parents and caretakers that the institution prioritizes both academic and vocational education. He emphasized that students receive training beyond traditional academics to equip them with lifelong skills.

"Every child who comes through our doors is a blessing, not a burden. Society often misunderstands children with disabilities, but we see their potential. Many of our former students have returned as teachers, proving that disability is not inability."

Additionally, he reassured parents of the school's commitment to student safety and well-being, highlighting the presence of professional educators, caretakers, and security personnel dedicated to creating a nurturing learning environment.

For these students, education represents more than just classroom learning—it is a pathway to opportunity and dignity. Many of them, who previously faced rejection and stigma in their communities, expressed their determination to excel. One student shared, “I will study hard so that one day I can take care of my family and help other children like me.”

At Action of Love International, we believe that education is a fundamental right, not a privilege. This success would not have been possible without the generosity of our donors (PBF). As we look ahead, our goal is to expand this program to reach more children with disabilities, ensuring that no child is left behind.

I invite you to join us in making a lasting impact. Your support—whether through financial contributions, material donations, or advocacy—helps transform lives. With every child who gains access to education, we move closer to a world where disability is not a limitation but a stepping stone to success.

Together, we can break the barriers of exclusion and build a future where every child, regardless of their abilities, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

Thank you for your unwavering support.

With gratitude,

Jefferson Kandi

Executive Director

Action of Love International