



BARN OCH KVINNOR ORGANISATION -ACTIVITY REPORT (BED AND MATTRESS DONATION)2026

Project Name	Improved Living Conditions for Children with Special Needs in Kakunyu and Bakka Communities
District	Wakiso
Activity Name (name and number as stated in the project document)	Activity: conduct distribution of essential items for children with special needs
Name(s) of the implementer and Designation	Esther Kitembo (Board member) Kakaire Flavia (Board member) Komuhangi Barbra (Project coordinator) Volunteers Akumu Milly Nahabwe Millia Namatovu Carol Mukisa Jemimah Precious
Activity implementation date (dd/mm/yy)	14/03/ 2026
Activity venue (village, sub/county, district and venue name)	Mende Subcounty headquarters, Mende, Wakiso District.
The outcome and output under which the project belongs	Outcome: Enhanced health, comfort, and dignity of children with special needs Output: Targeted support provided to children with disabilities
Indicator under which the activity contributes to the strategic	30 Children with disabilities in the district of implementation are supported through the provision of food, beds, and mattresses.
Section b (i)	
Target population(s)/ Target audience <i>(State the target population categories for this activity e.g.)</i>	
Text: (As indicated in the concept note for the activity, or project document)	
The target was children with special needs. 30 children with different disabilities	



B (ii) Brief background

Provide introductory information such as the reasons why the activity was conducted and the other contextual information

Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda conducted a community outreach of distribution of beds, mattresses, and bedding to children with special needs in Mende and Kakunyu. The activity was conducted at Mende subcounty headquarters, Wakiso District. The group was selected following a community outcry of a lack of basic needs and abandonment of children with special needs like cerebral palsy, autism, hearing impairment, hydro cephalus in these communities. A follow-up and needs assessment was conducted in January 2026, where it was discovered that the children had parents and guardians who were also very indigent and vulnerable, and so could not afford to take care of these children. The caretakers also needed support, and so there was a need to come up with measures to support the children and the caretakers in order to improve their living conditions, health, and to live in safer places.

The activity was therefore conducted to distribute essential items like beds, mattresses, bedding, and food for weeks for the children with special needs, and provided food for at least two weeks for their households. This was to enhance the well-being of these children and their families through responding to their needs.

B (iii) How does the activity contribute to the Project Outcome stated in section A above.

The community outreach conducted by Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda significantly contributes to the project outcome of enhanced health, dignity, and comfort of children with special needs by directly addressing the critical deprivations identified during the needs assessment. Before the intervention, many of the targeted children were living in unsafe and unhygienic conditions, often sleeping on bare floors without adequate bedding, which exposed them to cold, infections, and heightened health risks—particularly for children with conditions such as cerebral palsy and hydrocephalus.

Through the provision of beds, mattresses, and bedding, the intervention has improved sleeping conditions, thereby reducing exposure to environmental health risks and enhancing physical comfort. Improved living conditions and reduced vulnerability to illness are expected to contribute to better overall health outcomes. Furthermore, the distribution of food supplies sufficient for at least two weeks has addressed immediate household food insecurity, supporting improved nutrition for both the children and their caregivers, which is essential for recovery, immunity, and general well-being.

Beyond physical needs, the intervention plays a critical role in restoring dignity among children with special needs. Access to a proper bed and clean bedding affirms their worth and promotes inclusion, while also enabling caregivers to provide more adequate and respectful care. This has contributed to a more supportive and safer home environment, enhancing both the comfort and psychosocial well-being of the children.



Section C) No of participants/beneficiaries								
Gender	0-14 Years	15-17 Years	18-25 Years	26-32 Years	33-35 Years	36 - 50 Years	51- 65 Years	65 and above
C (i) Physical meeting/ engagement								
M								
F								
Other(s)								
C (ii) PWDs								
Male	18							
Female	12							
Key relevant Quotes from stakeholders (please state some memorable quotes from stake holders including target populations, policy makers, duty bearers, influential actors etc.)								
<p>1. "I never knew that I would have anyone come to our rescue and give us hope. This is not how I was before; my child has really improved Physically and mentally." Tata Peter</p> <p>2. "You have really given hope to people in hopeless situations, you have promised and always fulfilled, we thank you for making a difference." Josephine, VHT Mende</p>								

Provide a brief of the Activity implemented (please describe the activity implemented, methodology, observation, 5WH)

On 14th March 2026 Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda conducted a community outreach initiative in Mende and Kakunyu, Wakiso District, aimed at improving the welfare of children with special needs and their caregivers. The activity, held at Mende Subcounty Headquarters, was undertaken in response to a community outcry highlighting severe deprivation, neglect, and lack



of basic necessities among children living with conditions such as cerebral palsy, autism, hearing impairment, and hydrocephalus.

A prior needs assessment established that while most of the children had caregivers, these households were characterized by extreme vulnerability and limited capacity to provide adequate care, particularly in terms of proper bedding, safe sleeping conditions, and consistent access to food. In response, Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda implemented a targeted intervention focused on addressing these immediate needs.

The outreach session brought together children with special needs and their caregivers, who were present to receive the donated items. The activity was attended by Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda volunteers, the LC1 Chairperson, and community mobilisers, ensuring strong community participation and coordination

The session commenced with a welcome from the community mobiliser, who introduced the team and guided the gathering through prayers, words of encouragement, and messages of hope. This component was particularly important in addressing the emotional and psychological strain experienced by caregivers, many of whom had expressed feelings of isolation and hopelessness. The engagement fostered a renewed sense of community support and helped restore hope among the caregivers.

As part of the intervention, the Program Coordinator, who is also a trained therapist, facilitated an interactive session on basic physiotherapy practices for children with special needs. The session aimed at equipping caregivers—particularly mothers—with practical skills to support the physical development and mobility of their children at home. It addressed challenges previously identified, including the inability of families to afford professional physiotherapy services. Caregivers were guided on simple, safe exercises and handling techniques that could be incorporated into daily routines.

Following the knowledge-sharing session, the team proceeded with the distribution of essential items, including beds, mattresses, bedsheets, and blankets, alongside food supplies sufficient to support each household for at least two weeks. The intervention was carried out in coordination with local leaders to ensure appropriate beneficiary identification and transparent distribution processes. This marked the culmination of the activity, combining both psychosocial support and practical assistance. Overall, the session not only met immediate material needs but also strengthened caregiver capacity and emotional resilience, contributing to improved care and well-being for children with special needs.

The activity resulted in immediate improvements in the living conditions of beneficiary households. 30 (12F:18M) Children who previously slept on the floor gained access to safe and comfortable sleeping arrangements, reducing exposure to cold and hygiene-related health risks. Caregivers reported relief and an improved ability to provide care, while the provision of food enhanced short-term household food security. Overall, the intervention contributed to enhanced health, dignity, and comfort of children with special needs, while underscoring the continued need for sustained support to vulnerable families within the community.



Key Achievements *(clearly state the accomplishments of the project activity).*

- Targeted support delivered to the most vulnerable: Successfully identified and reached highly vulnerable households caring for children with special needs in Mende and Kakunyu through a structured needs assessment and community-led verification process.
- Immediate improvement in living conditions: Provision of beds, mattresses, and bedding transitioned children from sleeping on bare floors to safe, elevated, and hygienic sleeping arrangements, significantly improving comfort and reducing exposure to cold and infection risks.
- Enhanced short-term food security: Distribution of food supplies ensured that beneficiary households met their basic nutritional needs for at least two weeks, stabilizing vulnerable families and supporting the health of both children and caregivers.
- Strengthened caregiver capacity with practical skills: Caregivers were equipped with basic, low-cost physiotherapy techniques through an interactive session led by a trained therapist, enabling continued at-home support for children's physical development despite limited access to formal health services.
- Integrated psychosocial support delivered: Through structured engagement, including prayers and encouragement, caregivers experiencing distress and fatigue reported renewed hope, emotional relief, and a strengthened sense of community support.
- Holistic intervention achieved: The activity went beyond relief distribution by combining essential item provision, skills transfer, and psychosocial care—resulting in more sustainable and meaningful impact at the household level.
- Improved dignity and social inclusion: Access to proper bedding and direct engagement affirmed the value and rights of children with special needs, reducing stigma and promoting more dignified care within households and the community.
- Strengthened community structures and trust: Active involvement of the LC1 Chairperson and community mobilisers enhanced transparency, accountability, and local ownership of the intervention.
- Foundation established for sustained programming: The outreach generated critical data, strengthened community relationships, and highlighted priority needs, positioning the organization for scaled and longer-term interventions.
- Inclusive Participation: The session registered 60 people (36F:24M), including 30 children with disabilities (12F:18M), ensuring that all benefited from the session.
- Support to Institutional Strengthening: The DCDO, DISO requested the Barn Orch Kvinnor team to gain ground by having a physical office in Uganda for visibility and easier collaboration, as well as implementation.
- Strengthened spiritual and emotional well-being: The session included moments of prayer and encouragement, which were meaningful to participants and contributed to a sense of spiritual upliftment and emotional support among caregivers and children.



- Renewed hope among caregivers: Caregivers who had previously expressed feelings of hopelessness reported increased optimism and motivation to continue caring for their children, following both the psychosocial engagement and practical support provided.
- Improved child mobility and physical progress: Some caregivers reported noticeable improvements in their children's mobility, including early signs of independent movement such as standing or walking, attributed to continued care practices and physiotherapy guidance.
- Reported reduction in distressing symptoms: Caregivers shared observations of reduced episodes of distress (e.g., spasms or discomfort) among some children, which they associated with the combined support received during the intervention.
- Enhanced community attitudes and inclusion: The outreach contributed to a more positive perception of children with special needs within the community, fostering great empathy, acceptance, and willingness to support affected households.

Challenges faced while implementing the activity

- Limited coordination and prior stakeholder engagement: The activity experienced gaps in coordination at the ground level, which affected the smooth execution of certain logistical arrangements during implementation.
- Insufficient formal communication with local leadership: Some resistance was encountered from area leaders due to the absence of formal written communication prior to the activity, which affected initial acceptance and coordination.
- Weak documentation systems during implementation: There was inadequate real-time documentation of key processes and activities, which limited the ease of tracking implementation details and reporting accuracy.
- Absence of a physical office structure and operational license: The organization currently lacks a dedicated physical office space, which was noted as a limitation in strengthening coordination, planning, and stakeholder engagement.
- Lack of designated local focal person: The absence of a local representative or focal person affected coordination efficiency and responsiveness during the field activity.
- Missing consent procedures for media use: There were no standardized consent forms for photography and videography, creating a gap in safeguarding and ethical documentation practices.
- Transport and logistical constraints for beneficiaries: Beneficiaries faced challenges in transportation due to the bulk of distributed items (mattresses, food packages, bedding) alongside children with special needs, raising concerns about safe and comfortable movement from the distribution point to their homes.
- Limited visibility and branding materials: The activity was implemented without banners or branded materials, which reduced visibility, recognition, and structured communication of the intervention.



<p>How were the challenges mentioned in section above addressed</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held a meeting with the district official to harmonize the position of the organization and gave a brief to be granted permission to operate. • Extra cost was provided to enable the caretaker to transport the material received to their places of residence. • Team members held a recess meeting to harmonize and prepare the program of the day. •
<p>Risks identified during the activity implementation</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholder resistance and reputational risk: Limited prior engagement with local leaders created resistance, which could undermine community trust and affect acceptance of future interventions. • Weak coordination risk: Absence of a clearly defined on-ground coordination structure increased the likelihood of miscommunication, delays, and inefficiencies during implementation. • Accountability and reporting risk: Inadequate documentation exposed the activity to risks of weak accountability, difficulty in tracking beneficiaries, and limited evidence for donor reporting and audit purposes. • Safeguarding and ethical risk: Lack of consent forms for photography and videography posed risks related to violation of beneficiary rights, particularly for children with special needs, and potential reputational damage. • Logistical and safety risk for beneficiaries: Transport challenges, especially for caregivers carrying bulky items and children with special needs, posed safety risks and may have limited equitable access to the support provided. • Equity and inclusion risk: Centralized distribution without adequate transport arrangements risked excluding or disadvantaging the most vulnerable households, unable to travel. • Operational sustainability risk: The absence of a physical office and structured local presence limited continuity, follow-up, and effective coordination of future activities. • Visibility and donor recognition risk: Lack of branding and visibility materials reduced the organization's visibility and could affect donor confidence, recognition, and future funding opportunities. • Dependency risk: Provision of material support without a structured long-term support plan may create expectations or reliance on external aid among beneficiary households.
<p>How were the risks identified during the activity implementation mitigated or will be mitigation</p> <p>nil</p>



Provide the key lessons learned *(Please mention any project learnings during this activity and how the team has utilized or plans to utilize these learnings for improved activity implementation)*

- Early stakeholder engagement is critical: The activity demonstrated that timely and formal engagement with local leaders significantly improves acceptance, coordination, and community ownership. Lack of prior communication created avoidable resistance and delays in smooth implementation.
- Strong coordination structures enhance efficiency: The absence of a designated local focal person affected coordination at the community level, highlighting the importance of establishing clear roles and communication channels before field activities.
- Effective documentation is essential for accountability: Weak documentation during implementation limited real-time tracking and reporting. This reinforced the need for standardized data collection tools and assigned documentation responsibility during all activities.
- Institutional presence strengthens credibility: The lack of a physical office was noted as a gap in organizational visibility and coordination capacity, emphasizing the importance of establishing a recognizable operational base or coordination point.
- Safeguarding protocols must be integrated into all activities: The absence of consent forms for photography and videography highlighted the need for clear safeguarding and ethical documentation procedures to protect beneficiaries, especially children with special needs.
- Logistical planning must consider beneficiary vulnerability: Transport challenges experienced by caregivers carrying children and bulky items revealed the need for prior logistical planning, including transport support or decentralized distribution approaches.
- Visibility strengthens legitimacy and donor confidence: The absence of branding and visibility materials reduced public awareness and recognition of the intervention, underscoring the importance of communication and branding in field activities

Recommendations

- Strengthen stakeholder coordination: Ensure all activities are preceded by formal written communication to local leaders, including introduction letters and activity briefs to improve cooperation and reduce resistance.
- Establish local coordination structures: Appoint a community focal person or representative to support mobilization, coordination, and real-time issue resolution during implementation.
- Improve documentation systems: Develop and adopt standardized tools such as attendance registers, distribution lists, activity checklists, and reporting templates to enhance accountability and reporting quality.
- Develop safeguarding and consent procedures: Introduce mandatory consent forms for photography and videography, especially when working with children and vulnerable groups, in line with safeguarding standards.
- Enhance logistical planning: Incorporate transport planning into future activities, including consideration of home delivery options or transport support for beneficiaries with mobility challenges and bulky items.



- Invest in organizational visibility: Provide branding materials such as banners, t-shirts, and identification materials to improve visibility, legitimacy, and professional presentation of activities.
- Strengthen institutional presence: Work towards establishing a physical office or formal coordination space to improve planning, partner engagement, and operational efficiency.
- Plan for transport logistics or conduct activities closer to beneficiaries.
- Strengthen collaboration among team members
- Clearly define roles for volunteers, mobilisers, and technical staff before field deployment

Conclusions

Present a summary clearly drawing the connections between the achievements/findings, lessons learned and constraints and the subsequent recommendations observed from the activity. Particularly mention should be made of the outputs, outcome and impact the activity is bound to bring. The case for supporting strategies for implementation of recommendations should be made clear to highlight

The community outreach implemented by Barn Orch Kvinnor Uganda in Mende and Kakunyu, Wakiso District, successfully addressed critical and immediate needs of children with special needs and their caregivers. By combining the provision of essential items—beds, mattresses, bedding, and food—with caregiver capacity building and psychosocial support, the intervention delivered a holistic response that improved health, restored dignity, and enhanced the comfort of beneficiaries.

The activity demonstrated that integrated approaches, which go beyond material support to include skills transfer and emotional support, yield more meaningful and sustainable outcomes. Caregivers were not only supported with necessities but were also empowered with practical knowledge to better care for their children, contributing to improved well-being at the household level.

At the same time, the implementation process highlighted important operational gaps, including the need for stronger stakeholder engagement, improved coordination structures, robust documentation systems, and enhanced safeguarding and logistical planning. These lessons provide valuable guidance for strengthening future interventions and ensuring greater efficiency, accountability, and impact.

Overall, the outreach laid a strong foundation for continued engagement within the community and underscored the importance of sustained, well-coordinated support for vulnerable households caring for children with special needs.



Addressing the identified challenges and risks will be critical in scaling up similar interventions and achieving long-term, transformative outcomes for beneficiaries.

Next steps/ Actions to be taken (*mention some of the follow up action for issues arising from this activity*)

Action	Responsible Person	Timeline	Status
Procure office space	Board members		pending
Procurement of operation license	Board members		pending

Activity Pictures (*insert at least two activity photos here*)



Caregiver and children during and after receiving the bed donated during the outreach in Bakka-Mende on 14/03/2026



Distribution of items: beds, mattresses, and essential supplies are ready for the beneficiaries.



Barn Orch team during the distribution of mattresses and bedding for the children with special needs in Bakka-Mende



Barn orch Kvinnor Team during the donations of beddings and beds in Wakiso(Mende and Kakunyu)

Means of Verification annexed to the report (mention any other MOVs/ M&E Tools used while implementing the activity)

- Attendance lists signed by the participants.
- Pictures from the session

Compiled by: Project Coordinator	Barbra Komuhangi	Date:	20/03/2026	Sign	
Submitted to: Board Member	Kakaire Flavia	Date:	23/03/2026	Sign	



Approved organisation's Founder	by: Daphine Leeser	Date	26/03/2026	Sign	
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End of report