



BARN OCH KVINNOR ORGANISATION

Children & Women Community Based Organisation

Faith – Action – Results

Swedish Registration No : 802511-3658

Ugandan Registration No : 800200003906032

District Registration No: WCBO/26/454

P.O.BOX 7218 Wakiso District, Uganda

PROJECT IMPACT REPORT AUGUST 2026

Integrated Community-Based Support and Inclusion for Children with Cerebral Palsy, Autism, Spina Bifida, Deafness, Kyphosis impairment Down Syndrome and Other Disabilities

Children with Disabilities & Special Needs Project

Wakiso District, Uganda



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Established Partnerships:

Mende & Kakunyu Local Communities Uganda

Likoni AIDS Orphanage Center Mombasa Kenya



A child with cerebral palsy being carefully fitted into a new CP wheelchair by Barn och Kvinnor's physiotherapist and Team.

<https://barnochkvinnor.org>

Executive Summary

Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation's Children with Disabilities & Special Needs Project provides physiotherapy, mobility equipment, caregiver training and ongoing monitoring to children living with cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, deafness, Down syndrome and other disabilities across Wakiso District, Uganda. The project is delivered alongside a Family Relief component that provides food and clothing to the most vulnerable households, in recognition that a child's health and development cannot be separated from their family's basic wellbeing.

This report presents the project's model, partnerships, and impact, illustrated through its most recent major community outreach, held on 4 August 2026, which reached 37 children with disabilities and 100 families in a single day. That outreach was made possible in significant part by a gift of 20,000 SEK from the Dahlstromska Foundation in Sweden, together with further private donations from friends and family who gave alongside them.

The report also documents one of the project's clearest evidence points to date: a child with cerebral palsy who, over a year of sustained support, progressed from being unable to hold his head steady to independent, normal head and neck control — a result of the project's combined equipment, caregiver-training and follow-up model.

About Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation

Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation is a fully registered Community Based Organisation (CBO) operating in Wakiso District, Uganda, guided by the principle of Faith – Action – Results. Our mission is to restore, renew, and rebuild the lives of vulnerable children with disabilities, orphans, with HIV and marginalised women in local communities, in line with UN Sustainable Development Goals 1 (No Poverty), 3 (Good Health & Well-Being), 4 (Quality Education), and 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

Project Overview & Objectives

The Children with Disabilities & Special Needs Project is led by Babra Komuhangi, our Project Lead for Children with Disabilities, working alongside qualified physiotherapists and a network of trained volunteers. The project's objectives are to:

- Identify children living with physical and developmental disabilities in local communities who lack access to mobility aids, medical care, or educational support
- Provide hands-on physiotherapy assessment and treatment for conditions including cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, deafness and Down syndrome
- Provide mobility and supportive equipment — wheelchairs, walking and standing frames, and neck holders — fitted individually to each child
- Train parents and caregivers to continue therapeutic exercises and correct positioning at home, between outreach visits
- Provide consistent follow-up and monitoring so that each child's progress is tracked and support adjusted as they grow

- Reduce barriers to care by providing food and clothing relief to the families of children with disabilities, many of whom are single mothers

Our Approach: A Sustainable Model, Not a One-Off Distribution

Equipment alone does not change a child's development — it is one part of a three-part model that Barn och Kvinnor applies consistently across the project:

- Equipment — wheelchairs, walking frames, standing frames and other aids, fitted individually to each child's needs
- Caregiver training — hands-on guidance for parents and caregivers on how and when to use each piece of equipment, and which supportive exercises to continue at home
- Ongoing monitoring — follow-up between outreach events to check progress, correct technique, and adjust support as the child grows

This model is what allows the project's impact to be lasting rather than temporary, and it is illustrated concretely in the case study presented later in this report.

Featured Outreach: 4 August 2026

On 4 August 2026, the project's model was delivered at scale through a single-day community outreach, held in close collaboration with local government and community leadership. This partnership ensured that the children reached were those identified by district structures as most in need, and that the day's impact was formally recognised. Present and signing acknowledgment of their attendance were:

- The Community District Officer
- The District Community Development Officer
- The Sub County Chief Administrative Officer
- The District Representative for People with Disabilities
- Local community chairmen and councillors from the Mende and Kakunyu communities in Wakiso District

Barn Och Kvinnor's own board was fully represented on the ground: Daphine Leeser (Founder & President), Flavia Kakaire (Co-Founder & Vice President), Esther Kisembo (Co-Founder & Impact Director), Suzanna Brandsen (Co-Founder & Project Advisor), and Jane Kakande (Board Member) — together with the organisation's full team of volunteers.



Families, children in newly donated wheelchairs and walking frames, Barn Och Kvinnor staff and community leaders gathered together on 4 August 2026.

Local Government Partnership

Barn Och Kvinnor's outreach model depends on close, respectful partnership with district and local government structures, who help identify the children and families most in need and lend their formal support to each event.



Founder & President Daphne Leaser shakes hands with the Community Development Officer, thanking her for the collaboration and participation of Wakiso District local government in the outreach.

Impact at a Glance — 4 August 2026 Outreach

37 Children with disabilities treated	100 Families gathered & supported	2 Qualified physiotherapists on site	20,000 SEK Grant from Dahlstromska Foundation (Swedish Foundation)	5 BOK board members present
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Figures reflect official attendance and distribution records from the 4 August 2026 outreach.

Community Engagement

Before physiotherapy and distribution began, mothers, caregivers and children gathered together for orientation and community discussion, Oa chance for our team to explain the day's programme, hear directly from families about their needs, and build the trust that this work depends on.



Left: Barn Och Kvinnor staff and volunteers meeting with mothers and caregivers ahead of the outreach. Right: Families and children gathered together, engaging directly with our team.



Left: A boy breaks into a joyful dance with a member of our team. Right: A little girl with Down syndrome shares a warm smile during the outreach — moments of joy that sit alongside the day's clinical work.



A quiet moment: a child with kyphosis impairment sits among the community gathered for the outreach, surrounded by family and volunteers.

Health & Physiotherapy Services

Under the leadership of Babra Komuhangi, two qualified physiotherapists worked through the day assessing and treating the 37 children present, whose conditions included cerebral palsy, autism, spina bifida, deafness, Down syndrome and other physical and developmental disabilities. Each child received a hands-on assessment, targeted physiotherapy, and guidance for their caregiver on how to continue supportive exercises and correct positioning at home because lasting improvement depends on what happens after the outreach team leaves, not only on the day itself.



Left: A child receiving hands-on physiotherapy treatment. Right: Case notes being recorded for every child so that progress can be tracked outreach to outreach.



Left: A physiotherapist gently stretches and assesses a child's leg on the treatment bed. Right: A hands-on limb assessment being carried out as part of an individual treatment plan.



Left: An infant receives a gentle physiotherapy assessment on the treatment table. Right: Our physiotherapy team works with a child and caregivers together on a mat, part of a hands-on group therapy session.



Left: Staff supporting a child through guided movement exercises on a mat. Right: A child works with a therapy ball, a technique used to build core strength and balance.

Equipment & Family Relief Essentials Distributed

Funds and in-kind support were converted directly into the equipment and essentials children with disabilities — and the families who care for them — in Wakiso District need most, but rarely have access to:

Mobility & Physiotherapy Equipment

- Cerebral palsy wheelchairs, fitted individually to each child
- Walking frames and standing frames
- A physiotherapy treatment bed
- Massage oils used in physiotherapy sessions
- Autism play balls and other sensory and mobility equipment
- Neck holders, for children needing head and neck support

Food & Household Essentials

- Rice, sugar, posho (maize meal), and cooking oil
- Special soya porridge formulated for children with special needs
- Bread and other household essentials

Clothing

- Donated clothing and shoes for children and single mothers, sorted and distributed by size and need



Left: Staff reviewing therapy equipment and supplies — gloves, sanitiser and a therapy ball — ahead of the day's sessions. Right: A team member adjusts and prepares a wheelchair for fitting.



Barn Och Kvinnor team with food packages — rice, sugar, posho, cooking oil, bread and soya porridge — prepared for distribution to families.



Left: Volunteers sorting donated clothing ahead of distribution. Right: Donated shoes and clothing laid out and sorted by size for children and single mothers.



Left: A young woman carries an armful of donated clothing distributed at the outreach. Right: A boy sorts through donated clothing to find items that fit.



Left: A mother receiving a food parcel, diapers and clothing for her family. Right: Barn Och Kvinnor staff distributing bread and food packages directly to mothers and children.



Mothers and children leave the outreach with mobility equipment, clothing and food essentials in hand.

Mobility Equipment in Action

Wheelchairs, walking frames, and adaptive seating were fitted to children with physical disabilities, giving them independence and access to movement that many had never had before. Fitting a young child into new equipment for the first time can be an unfamiliar and sometimes unsettling experience our physiotherapy team works patiently and gently with each child and caregiver until the child is comfortable and correctly supported.



Left: Children fitted with cerebral palsy wheelchairs and walking frames, together with their families and our team. Right: Our team gently comforts and settles a young child during his first wheelchair fitting.



Left: Staff helping a boy settle into a new wheelchair, watched over by family. Right: An older child takes guided steps with a walking frame, supported by our team.



A young girl takes her first steps with a walking frame, supported by a Barn Och Kvinnor volunteer — one of many mobility milestones made possible on the day.

Case Study — A Story of Change: What One Neck Holder Made Possible

Among the most powerful evidence of the project's impact is the story of a child living with cerebral palsy who received a neck holder from Barn Och Kvinnor almost exactly one year ago.

Cerebral palsy commonly affects a child's muscle tone and control, and head and neck control is often one of the very first and most fundamental physical milestones it disrupts. Without the strength to hold the head steady, a child cannot safely feed, cannot track and engage visually with the world around them, and cannot progress toward sitting, reaching, or eventually standing. When this child first came to us, their neck could not stand still on its own.

At last year's outreach, our physiotherapy team fitted the child with a neck holder and, critically, spent time directly with the child's mother showing her exactly how to use the device, when to use it, and which simple supportive exercises she could safely continue at home between our visits. This caregiver training is the part of our model that is easy to overlook, but it is what makes the equipment work: a neck holder left unused, or used incorrectly, changes nothing. A neck holder used consistently, alongside guided exercise and a caregiver who understands why it matters, gradually helps strengthen the neck muscles and reinforces the correct neural and postural patterns needed for independent head control.



The cerebral palsy success story: a mother and her son, supported by his neck holder, at a Barn Och Kvinnor outreach — the equipment and caregiver training that changed his development.



This year, we are proud to report that this child's neck now stands on its own, and rotates normally — a milestone that opens the door to the next stages of development, from safer feeding to improved engagement with family and community.

This outcome did not happen by chance. It is the direct result of the project's three-part model working together: the right equipment, a caregiver equipped with the knowledge to use it correctly, and consistent monitoring from Barn Och Kvinnor's team between outreach events to check progress, correct technique, and adjust support as the child grows. We do not simply distribute equipment and leave. We build the caregiver's capacity to continue the work, and we return, outreach after outreach, to follow each child's progress over time.

This same model was extended to many of the 37 children seen on 4 August 2026, several of whom received neck holders and other mobility aids for the first time. We expect to be able to report similar stories of progress from this year's outreach at future check-ins.

Governance, Partnership & Community Leadership

We believe donors deserve full visibility into how their funds are used and who stands behind that work. The 4 August 2026 outreach was formally supported by district government officials, and by community leaders from the Mende and Kakonyu local communities of Wakiso District, alongside our full board of directors — Daphine Leeser, Flavia Kakaire, Esther Kisembo, Suzanna Brandsen and Jane Kakande. This reflects the seriousness and accountability with which Barn Och Kvinnor

Organisation carries out every programme, and the trust that local authorities and communities place in our work.



Daphine Leaser, President and Founder of Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation, holding photos from past projects together with community leaders of the Mende and Kakunyu local communities in Wakiso District, Uganda.



Barn Och Kvinnor's board members, and volunteers at the 4 August 2026 outreach.

Community & Team



The 100 families, 37 children, staff, volunteers, board members and district officials who came together on 4 August 2026.



One of the many children of Wakiso District whose lives Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation walks alongside, outreach after outreach.

Sustainability & Way Forward

The project's model — equipment paired with caregiver training and ongoing monitoring is designed to produce lasting change rather than one-off relief, and to build local capacity that endures beyond any single outreach. Looking ahead, Barn Och Kvinnor intends to expand the project's reach further across Wakiso District, deepen follow-up monitoring for children already receiving equipment, and strengthen partnerships with district government structures and community leadership in Mende, Kakunyu and neighbouring communities.

Conclusion — Our Proposal for Partnership

This report demonstrates what disciplined, well-partnered programming can achieve: children with disabilities treated by qualified physiotherapists, families supported with food and essentials, mobility equipment fitted and followed up over time, and in at least one documented case a child's physical development measurably transformed through a model built on equipment, caregiver training, and sustained monitoring rather than one-off distribution.

The Dahlstromska Foundation's gift of 20,000 SEK, combined with private donations from friends and family, was stretched across the entire 4 August 2026 outreach through the volunteer time, government partnership, and organisational infrastructure Barn Och Kvinnor has built in Wakiso District. We hope this evidence of impact, transparency and sustainability gives prospective partners confidence in supporting our work, and we welcome the opportunity to discuss how further funding could expand this model to reach more of the many children in our district still waiting for care.

Impact Report Prepared by:

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Signature: 

Founder & President

Barn Och Kvinnor Organisation

Faith – Action – Results



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