

# RWENZORI ASSOCIATION OF PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES (RAP-CD)



**Mission:**  
To empower the parents/guardians of children with disabilities to be able to promote and advocate for equality of rights and opportunities for children with disabilities.

**Vision:**  
A society where children with disabilities have and enjoy equal rights and opportunities in their livelihood

## HISTORY

The organization was started by parents of children with disabilities mobilized and led by Rev. Maali Wilson and his wife Masika Defrose in 2007. They were convicted to start the organization having been through the challenges of raising one of their children who was also disabled. They realized that a family which has a child or children with disabilities did not feel well when every parent in the district was struggling alone without any network of parents who would together encourage and consult each other on the care and support of children with disabilities. The organization has a network of 10 parents support groups established in 25 sub-county levels in Kasese district. RAP-CD works closely with parents / guardians and families of children with disabilities with the aim of creating a unified voice of the children with special needs and attention.

## PROGRAMS

Economic Empowerment of parents of children with disabilities: Support parents of CWDs in group formation, group savings, household and group income generating projects development

Medical and Rehabilitation: Assessment of disability in children, medical rehabilitation referrals, basic sanitation and hygiene sensitization for CWDs, and community based rehabilitation

Education: School fees support, vocational skills training, and deaf-blind education

## CHALLENGES

Lacks the knowledge and skills in networking for fundraising and resource mobilization

Limited funds to implement it lucrative programs for children with disabilities

Limited funds to motivate the work of staffs

Limited knowledge on policy advocacy and networking among staffs



[www.fcde-isla.org](http://www.fcde-isla.org)

General lack of transport means to ease transporting of disabled children and those with special interest for referrals and rehabilitation.

Limited awareness among the general public on issues of disability and especially care and handling of children with disabilities

Limited opportunities to tap in and link parents groups to it for funding of their income generating activities

## ACHIEVEMENTS

Mobilized parents with children with disabilities and enable them to form 10 parent groups

Maintained effective groups and organizational meetings

Provided 6 bicycle to 6 parents groups for activity mobilization

Established credit and saving / cash revolving schemes among parents groups.

Initiated and supported parents groups with income generating activities like piggery, poultry, goat keeping and cultivation of vegetables

Has identified a specialists from OURS Mbarara who makes quarterly visits

Regular local home visitations and assessments

Conducted early identification and referral on over 268 children with disabilities

Establishment of a rehabilitation unit with child training sessions

Established a school for children with disabilities enrolled in formal training

