

KiBO Foundation Youth Donate to People with Disabilities

Written By: **Stella Nakakande**



Donations Presentation at Deaf Link Uganda premises in Bukoto (Kampala)

Students of Information Computing and Technology at KiBO foundation (a non-profit NGO) on Saturday donated to the deaf youth under the umbrella of Deaf Link Uganda, a local CBO based in Bukoto. Seventeen KiBO students handed over several items including a sewing machine, a television, a white board, and over ten packs of writing paper. *These items are going to help us in our Community Education Programmes aimed at educating deaf youth; we also support them to improve their skills in sewing,* said Ms Nassozi Kiyaga the Executive Director of Deaf Link Uganda. The KiBO youth also handed over Shs200, 000 to their deaf counterparts.

The function marked the beginning of a partnership between the deaf and hearing youth meant to identify the challenges faced by the former. Just as well. It was said that there exist enormous barriers between the two parties and in a way, the deaf needed confidence that people will recognise them in whatever field they choose to conquer. The interaction showed that this was possible.

Individual presenters at the donation hand over ceremony at Deaf Link Uganda premises pointed out that the deaf are overlooked when it comes to education and often denied jobs with a view that they are incapacitated. *We do not want sympathy, we need people to believe in us: that we can make it because we work to perfection,* Richard Okwele, who is deaf and is also the director of Deaf Link Uganda, says.

The donations were as a result of fundraising undertaken by the KiBO youth as part of a mandatory programme to give back to society. Their learning programme which goes for over four months is free and is meant to teach them to use their skill and knowledge to help other people. It is this spirit of making life better for perhaps the less privileged that had them making numerous sacrifices to be able to achieve their goal.

STELLA NAKAKANDE *is a News reporter with the New Vision newspaper. She attended the fundraising events by **KiBO Foundation** and **Deaf Link Uganda Youth**, and here she wrote about the initiative at the presentation of donations to Deaf Link Uganda – an outcome of an effective partnership between the two organisations. Fundraising events included a **Car Wash** and **Concert** by deaf and hearing youth.*

