

# GROWING FUTURES

ANNUAL REPORT / 2025

CULTIVATING RESILIENCE  
AMID CRISIS

ChildVoice)))

*Restoring the Voices of  
Children Silenced by War*





# FROM OUR CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It has often been said that the only constant in life is change. This truism has echoed through ChildVoice's 19 years of walking alongside war-affected and exploited youth, especially as the world faces an ongoing surge in forced displacement. Even as recent severe cuts in international aid have deepened hardships for countless displaced families, ChildVoice has continued to stand faithfully in the gap—steadfast in our calling to bring hope and healing to children whose voices have been silenced by war and exploitation.

The 2025 fiscal year presented ChildVoice with major challenges. At the forefront of these was an extraordinary twofold crisis that unfolded in the second half of the fiscal year: a sharp and sudden decline in international aid, coupled with a new wave of displacement across East Africa—particularly in Sudan, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In Uganda's Imvepi Refugee Settlement, this loss of aid, together with the overwhelming arrival of new refugees, magnified an already worsening hunger crisis. As many partner organizations were forced to scale back or close entirely, we recognized that our response had to be more than endurance—it had to be growth. We committed to stretching our capacity so that even more displaced youth could find safety, nourishment, and hope through our programs.

Our Impact in 2025 centered on meeting these urgent and evolving needs with compassion and creativity. One of our proudest achievements was the continued refinement of our innovative block farming program in Uganda. Our Nigeria team, inspired by lessons from Imvepi, made remarkable progress in strengthening agricultural efforts at the Malkohi Internally Displaced Persons Camp. In Mubi, Nigeria, we celebrated the completion of our unique tailoring apprenticeship program, which not only equipped students with valuable skills but also provided them with shop spaces to begin their own small tailoring ventures. Our reach grew further as we extended our programs to the refugee community of Labondo, continuing our mission of restoration and empowerment.

What Is Next: Growing capacity. As we look ahead, our focus remains on deepening and expanding our ability to serve war-affected and exploited young people with dignity and care. We are committed to strengthening and expanding our agriculture training programs, as well as continuing to provide psychosocial and spiritual counseling and vocational training opportunities. We hold fast to our belief that a brighter future begins with nourishment—because well-fed children can learn, grow, and help shape a hopeful future for their communities.

Thank you so much for your support in 2025!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nathan'.

Nathan Mandsager  
Chief Executive Officer

## TESTIMONIAL

# TEDDY

LUKOME CENTER, UGANDA

When she was a young teenager, the course of Teddy's life took a tragic turn. The lengthy and violent Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) insurgency in Northern Uganda, which disrupted society and displaced families, tore her away from her education in 6th grade. The LRA abducted her, and one of its commanders forced her into becoming one of his "bush wives," effectively robbing her of the right to choose or build her own future. However, Teddy managed to escape those horrific circumstances. She joined ChildVoice's therapeutic program at the Lukome Center in 2013, where she learned the salon/hair styling and vital agricultural skills that would change her life.

Today, Teddy has a loving husband and four happy children. All of her school-age children attend school, planting the seeds for their future success. To pay school fees and provide for the family she was almost denied, Teddy works hard; she runs two shops, leads the savings group in her village, and owns over 5 acres of farmland, while renting an additional 10 acres, which she farms commercially. She also owns a produce store at Lakang Trading Center, where she stores her harvest. She's earned enough money from her business ventures to build a four-bedroom house for her parents.

With continued guidance from ChildVoice on running a successful commercial farm, Teddy can further strengthen her growing agricultural endeavors.

## TESTIMONIAL

# MARY

IMVEPI REFUGEE SETTLEMENT, UGANDA

In 2020, 18-year-old Mary fled South Sudan with her four young children after her husband was killed when rebels attacked the school where he worked. Trekking over 500 miles in two weeks, she arrived at Uganda's Imvepi Refugee Settlement with nothing but her children and the hope of survival. Life as a single mother in the settlement was crushing: food rations were slashed, her shelter leaked during storms, and she was forced to beg from neighbors or take on grueling tasks for just pennies a day. At one point, her family survived on less than one cup of corn per person per day—not even enough to be considered a single meal.

Mary began to see hope for a better future when she came to ChildVoice and enrolled in skills training for agriculture and hairdressing. Through ChildVoice's innovative block farming program, she received land, seeds, and training in modern, sustainable farming practices like vertical gardening and intercropping. She also joined a cooperative village savings group, helping her to develop financial literacy while providing access to small loans. For the first time, Mary began producing enough food to feed her children while selling surplus crops at the market.

Today, Mary is thriving. She is providing for her family with dignity. She even mentors other young women, passing on the skills that transformed her own life. Beyond helping Mary, ChildVoice's work fosters cooperation between refugees and host communities, easing tensions through shared agricultural and economic opportunities. With support, young mothers like Mary are building livelihoods, restoring hope, and creating pathways to self-reliance.



## TESTIMONIAL

# HELEN

MUBI, NIGERIA

Helen, a young mother from Madagali in Adamawa State, fled her home after a violent Boko Haram attack displaced her family. Following her father's conversion to Islam and his departure to Cameroon, Helen's mother was left to raise six children alone. At sixteen, while trying to rebuild her life in Mubi, Helen endured a sexual assault that left her pregnant and abandoned.

Having a limited education and no family support, Helen took on menial chores from neighbors to earn what little she could. She had barely enough to feed her infant son, Israel. Nevertheless, she dreamed of learning a vocational skill that could help her build a brighter future and send Israel to school.

Following the completion of ChildVoice's tailoring and agricultural training program in Mubi, Helen's life has changed markedly for the better. She learned tailoring skills and started a small sewing business. She used her earnings to expand into smallholder farming, cultivating corn, peanuts, and rice. As she became more self-reliant, she regained her personal dignity—and her hopes for a better future for herself and Israel.

Today, Helen's business is thriving, her son is attending school, and she has become a role model for other displaced women in her community. Her journey is a powerful example of how, when given the skills and nurturing support they need, war-affected and exploited young people can transform their lives for the better.

---

**HELEN HAS BECOME  
A ROLE MODEL  
FOR OTHER DISPLACED WOMEN  
IN HER COMMUNITY**

## TESTIMONIAL

# DARINA

KAZANKA, UKRAINE

When Russia began its invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Darina didn't even realize it at first. She had just finished dressing for school when her mother told her that classes had been canceled because the war, which had started in 2014 with Russia's invasion of the Crimean Peninsula, had resumed. She assumed it would all be over in a few weeks. Instead, the rumble of bombs falling became a part of her daily life as the front line settled only 40 kilometers away.

During those first several months, her family was wracked with fear. Still, Darina's parents refused to leave their home in Kazanka, even as they urged her to flee to safety. She refused. Schools closed briefly, then shifted to online classes. Food grew scarce, nerves frayed, and everyone hoarded supplies, fearing inflation or government collapse.

"After a while you get used to it," Darina said. "It's a terrible thing to get used to, but you learn how to live with it."

Darina eventually found comfort as a House of Youth volunteer for Kokhana Krayina, a youth club founded by ChildVoice partners in Ukraine. There, she plays board games with younger children, reconnects with friends and fellow volunteers, and helps organize fundraisers to provide food and medical supplies for soldiers and displaced families. She has discovered how helping others has helped her cope with the ongoing trauma of living in a war zone.

"It's not just that you feel better," Darina explained. "You understand you can help other people feel better too."



# UGANDA:

THE LUKOME CENTER



## CENTER-BASED PROGRAM

**YEAR-ROUND SESSIONS** at the Lukome Center included counseling, vocational skills, and life skills training. Individual and group counseling was offered to all students. Vocational and life skills training included agriculture, business, parenting, financial literacy and numeracy, hairdressing, bakery and catering, sweater knitting, and tailoring. Students also enjoyed sports and music activities throughout the year.

Not long after graduating, several students from Class 16 had established small businesses or began smallholder farming. Lukome Center staff learned that the parents of some students were hesitant to let them put their hard-earned skills to use. This prompted staff members to involve parents sooner and more deeply in their children's training programs, long before graduation. In building stronger trust with parents, they will have a better understanding of what their daughters are learning and what our students are capable of when they graduate from their programs.

## 2025 LUKOME CENTER PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

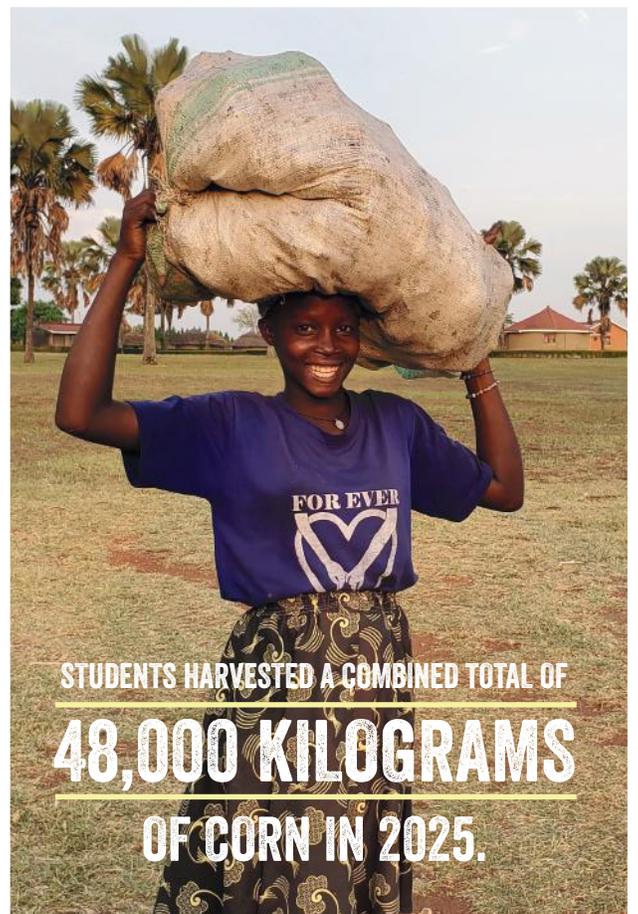
**CLASS 16** graduated in September 2024, and had 27 girls with 25 children in total. The students took their DIT exams in the spring of 2025. All students passed their exams, most with high scores.

**CLASS 17** started in August 2024, and has 15 girls and 14 children. Of these, 4 girls are South Sudanese, 9 are Ugandan, and 2 are Congolese. Their ages range from 13 to 19. Following their baseline assessments, students have already exhibited improvement in areas like emotional wellbeing, physical wellbeing, and financial literacy.

**CLASS 18** started in January 2025, and has 15 girls and 15 children. Students range in age from 14 to 18; 11 of them are age 17. Of these, 11 are Ugandan, 4 South Sudanese.

## POST-RESIDENTIAL AFTERCARE

A total of 235 students were in the post residential program in 2025. Of these, 125 have completed the post-residential phase, while 110 remain active in aftercare. Along with these students, 269 children benefitted from the program while their mothers were beneficiaries. Agriculture continues to be a viable employment opportunity for many of the beneficiaries in post-residential aftercare. Most of these aftercare beneficiaries have been able to send their children to school.



STUDENTS HARVESTED A COMBINED TOTAL OF  
**48,000 KILOGRAMS**  
OF CORN IN 2025.

# UGANDA:

## IMVEPI REFUGEE SETTLEMENT

# COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM

**CHILDVOICE STAFF** and beneficiaries in Imvepi continued to contend with sharply reduced food aid in 2025 as the UN World Food Programme cut back on relief distribution and smaller organizations began pulling back or shutting down altogether. Concurrently, Uganda experienced a massive surge of incoming refugees starting in January that has continued unabated, stretching the country's refugee management systems to the breaking point.

ChildVoice continued to focus and improve on our smallholder farm training program as developing long-term solutions to persistent hunger became the most pressing need. Students planted and harvested ground nuts, corn, onions, rice, sorghum, and cassava, using what they needed for their own families and selling surplus in local markets. Our breakfast program, which we started during the COVID-19 pandemic, remained especially popular and was an attendance driver. Imvepi staff continued to offer counseling and other skills training sessions as well. (See below.)

## 2025 IMVEPI PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

Because beneficiaries were distributed widely throughout Imvepi, ChildVoice ran 46 empowerment groups in four zones within the camp. As in previous years, most of the refugee students were South Sudanese. Vocational training focused primarily on agriculture, tailoring, hair dressing, catering and bakery, and soap making. Due largely to ongoing food relief cutbacks, agriculture was especially popular. Of the 258 girls who participated in agriculture, 140 were able to lease their own land, while 118 planted their own block "kitchen" gardens.

Of the two most recently graduated classes, 102 students were in aftercare.

The breakfast program was a reliable attendance driver at Imvepi Girl Empowerment Centers. An average of 55 breakfasts per day were served.

Marking a milestone for our six-year-old Girl Empowerment Centers, 46 students of Imvepi Class 6 celebrated the completion of their programs with a festive graduation ceremony.



STUDENTS HARVESTED A COMBINED TOTAL OF

**57,530 KILOGRAMS**

OF SORGHUM, RICE, CORN, SESAME,  
AND PEANUT CROPS IN 2025.

# NIGERIA:



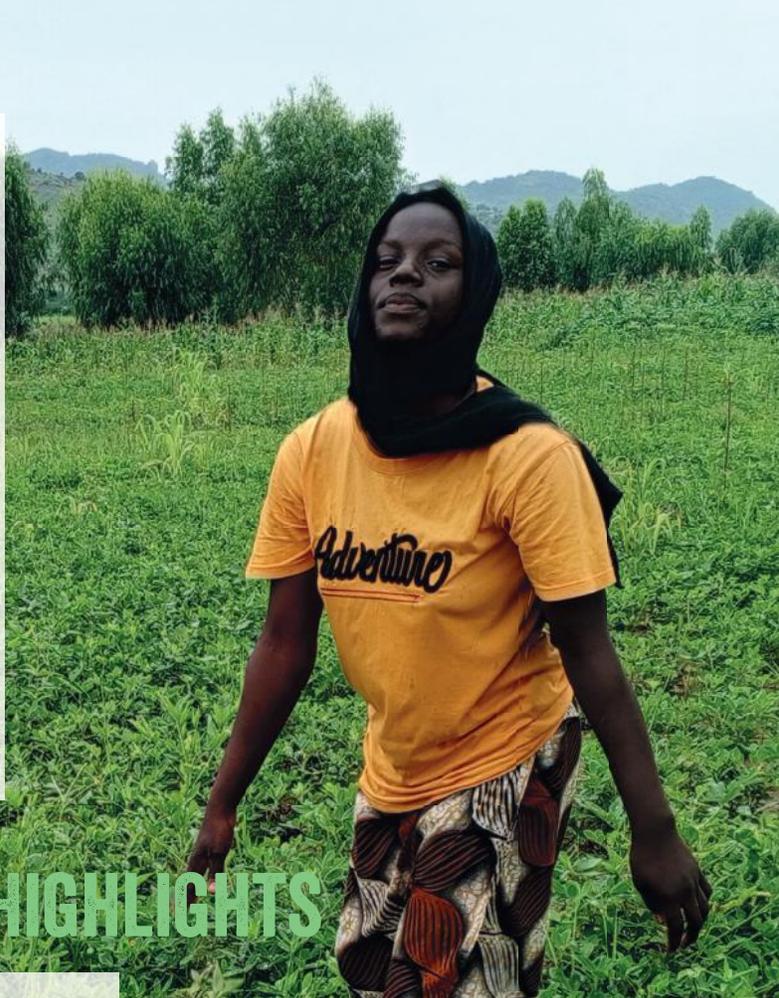
# COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAM

MALKOHI, LABONDO, MUBI

**IN 2025**, the ChildVoice Nigeria team continued to serve beneficiaries in three operational locations in Adamawa State: Malkohi Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp; Labondo Community; and Mubi. At the very end of the fiscal year, the team also prepared to conduct a needs assessment in a fourth location—Dauchi, in Adamawa State.

In Mubi, tailoring remained a highly popular skill to acquire. The 100 students who completed their tailoring apprenticeship program were afforded workshop space as part of our small business incubator initiative. Students also trained in agriculture and poultry farming.

Some Mubi students found they were not earning enough in tailoring and pivoted to agriculture to supplement their incomes—showcasing both their resilience and the importance of providing them with farming skills.



## 2025 NIGERIA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

By the end of the 2025 fiscal year, the Nigeria team had **A TOTAL OF 937 REGISTERED BENEFICIARIES** (both boys and girls) across our programs in Malkohi, Mubi, and Labondo. While obtaining sufficient farmland proved challenging in Labondo initially, students in all three locations were involved in agriculture training by the end of the fiscal year.

**570+58** Malkohi IDP Camp participants: 570 girls and 58 boys

**100** Mubi participants: 100 girls

**153+47** Labondo participants: 153 girls and 47 boys

In January 2024, the Nigeria team initiated a new program focusing on music, dance and drama, literacy/numeracy, and hygiene for children aged 7 to 12. **A TOTAL OF 108 YOUNG LEARNERS** were active in the program through the 2025 fiscal year.

STUDENTS HARVESTED A COMBINED TOTAL OF

**11,450 KILOGRAMS**

OF GRAIN & VEGETABLE CROPS IN 2025.



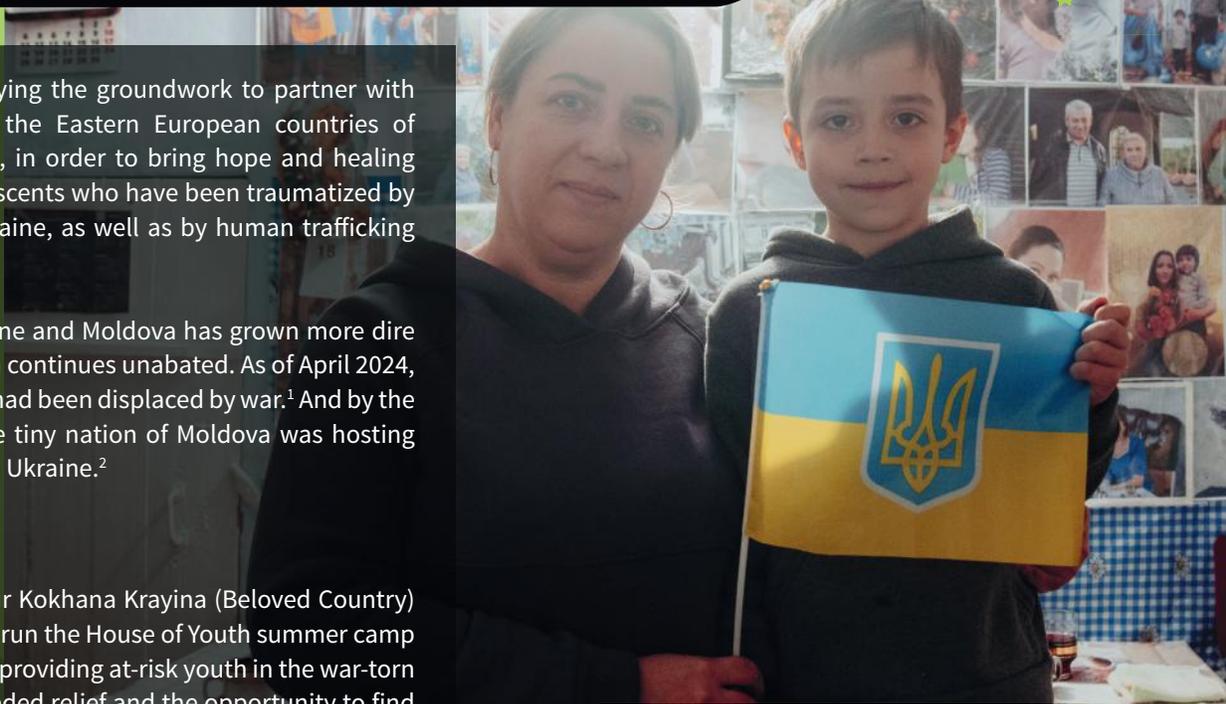
# UKRAINE & MOLDOVA

In 2024, we began laying the groundwork to partner with organizations within the Eastern European countries of Ukraine and Moldova, in order to bring hope and healing to children and adolescents who have been traumatized by Russia's war with Ukraine, as well as by human trafficking and exploitation.

The situation in Ukraine and Moldova has grown more dire as the war with Russia continues unabated. As of April 2024, 3,548,000 Ukrainians had been displaced by war.<sup>1</sup> And by the end of June 2024, the tiny nation of Moldova was hosting 123,297 refugees from Ukraine.<sup>2</sup>

**IN UKRAINE,** our Kokhana Krayina (Beloved Country) partners continued to run the House of Youth summer camp programs in Kazanka, providing at-risk youth in the war-torn country the much-needed relief and the opportunity to find a sense of community and purpose.

**MEANWHILE IN MOLDOVA,** development work progressed in conjunction with our PATH Network partners on training and management materials for two planned transition houses for youths who are at risk of exploitation and trafficking in the small Eastern European country.





# A TWOFOLD CRISIS

DWINDLING INTERNATIONAL AID AMID A SURGE IN DISPLACEMENT

**THE WORLD'S POPULATION OF FORCIBLY DISPLACED PEOPLE CONTINUED TO GROW THROUGH 2025, AND STANDS NOW AT OVER 123,000,000.<sup>3</sup>**

Uganda's refugee reception system became heavily strained in 2025. Between January and July of 2025, the small East African nation received 124,214 new refugees and asylum seekers. But cutbacks at the UN World Food Programme and the loss of other international support meant that Uganda struggled to provide basic relief. As many organizations in East Africa began cutting back or shutting down altogether, those that remained—including ChildVoice—were forced to step up and work hard to increase capacity to serve.

**IN THE 2025 FISCAL YEAR:** Uganda was host to 1,927,593 refugees as of June 30, 2025. The vast majority (1,474,253, or 89 percent of all refugees in Uganda) were from South Sudan and Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>4</sup> Children under the age of 18 account for 55 percent of the total refugee population in Uganda.<sup>5</sup>

Nigeria officially had a total of 3,397,531 internally displaced persons by the end of June 2024. That number continues to grow.<sup>6</sup> As in Uganda, children under the age of 18 account for over half of the total refugee population.<sup>7</sup>

## SOURCES

1. UNHCR. (n.d.) Country - Ukraine. UNHCR Data Portal. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/ukr>
2. UNHCR. (n.d.) Country - Republic of Moldova. UNHCR Data Portal. (n.d.). <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/mda>
3. UNHCR publications, M. reports and. (n.d.). Global trends. UNHCR. <https://www.unhcr.org/global-trends-report-2024>
4. UNHCR. (n.d.) Country - Uganda. UNHCR Operational Data Portal. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/uga>
5. Uganda Office of Prime Minister. Refugee Management. <https://opm.go.ug/refugees/>
6. UNHCR. (n.d.) Country - Nigeria. UNHCR Operational Data Portal. <https://data.unhcr.org/en/country/nga>
7. IOM, UN Migration. (2025, March). IOM NIGERIA DISPLACEMENT REPORT MARCH 2025. [https://reliefweb.int/attachments/a14743a2-76c5-4b10-a231-e0644b01c97b/DTM%20Nigeria%20-%20Round%2049%20-%20Needs%20Monitoring%20Report\\_final.pdf](https://reliefweb.int/attachments/a14743a2-76c5-4b10-a231-e0644b01c97b/DTM%20Nigeria%20-%20Round%2049%20-%20Needs%20Monitoring%20Report_final.pdf)



# FISCAL YEAR 2025 GIVING REPORT

(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

## 2022-2023

REVENUE: \$ 946,690

EXPENSES: \$1,182,989

## 2023-2024

REVENUE: \$1,139,703

EXPENSES: \$1,290,493

## 2024-2025

TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,255,211

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,314,632

86.2%

PROGRAM EXPENSES: \$1,133,026

8.1%

MANAGEMENT & GENERAL: \$106,951

5.7%

FUNDRAISING: \$74,655

ChildVoice's historical IRS Form 990 filings can be obtained at [childvoice.org/financials](http://childvoice.org/financials).

To request a copy of ChildVoice's most recent audit statement, please email us at [info@childvoice.org](mailto:info@childvoice.org) or call (603) 842-0132.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

It's hard to believe at times that the seeds we planted in 2006—a small initiative to serve young LRA victims in Lukodi, Uganda—have spread and borne fruit year after year to become a mission that now serves war-affected and exploited Nigerian, East African, and Eastern European children.

None of this would have been possible without the ongoing support of everyone who puts their hearts, their efforts, and their resources into keeping ChildVoice's mission going strong. Thank you so much for your support in 2025!

Conrad Mandsager  
ChildVoice Founder and President



# A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE & COMMITMENT

**AS I REFLECT** on this past year on behalf of the ChildVoice Board of Directors, my heart overflows with gratitude. Having been part of the Board for two years now, I have witnessed the steadfast faithfulness of all who give and serve alongside us. Together, we are witnessing lives transformed for the better.

In Uganda, Nigeria, and around the world, ChildVoice continues to restore the voices of children who have been silenced by war. Visiting the Nigerian campuses recently with our CEO, meeting and listening to the testimonies of both our field representatives, program heads, and the beneficiaries, gave me a deeper sense of meaning as to what we are doing. Where fear and silence once prevailed, we now see transformation and hope.

This year, the Board has taken time to listen, to pray, and to renew our commitment to ChildVoice's mission and vision. We remain steadfast in our calling to lead with compassion, accountability, and faithfulness.

We give thanks to God and to you, our partners, donors, volunteers, and friends, whose generosity and prayers make this work possible. Your faithfulness continues to be a living testimony.

May our hands be strengthened for the work ahead, and may every child whose voice is restored through ChildVoice be transformed.



Reuben Shenei  
*Board Member, ChildVoice*