

STORIES OF PROGRESS AND TRANSFORMATION.

OCTOBER 2026

THE YFC SPOTLIGHT



THE CHANGE HAPPENING BECAUSE WE ARE ACTING

What does it take to create a future where every child has the opportunity to learn, every girl is heard and every community takes responsibility for protecting its children? It takes commitment, collective action and the courage to challenge what holds young people back.

This edition highlights our continued commitment to advancing child protection, promoting education and amplifying the voices of girls. Through the Girl Education Programme, we supported children to return to school, reaffirming the importance of education in creating brighter futures. Our engagement with community stakeholders through the follow-up on the Ending Child Marriage and Promoting Education By-law 2025 strengthened our efforts to translate policy commitments into meaningful action.

We also took our advocacy beyond the community through the ***Her Future. Her Voice. Her Choice***. campaign drive towards the ***International Day of the Girl Child 2026***, bringing girls and boys together to speak up for girls' rights, choices and aspirations.

These milestones represent collective action, growing awareness and continued progress towards communities where every child is protected, every girl has a voice and every young person has the opportunity to thrive.

As you explore this edition, join us in celebrating the progress, recognising the people behind the change and strengthening our shared commitment to a better future for children and young people.



STORIES OF CHANGE IN OUR COMMUNITIES.



FROM POLICY TO PROTECTION: LEADERS TAKING ACTION

YFC is celebrating an important milestone in the collective effort to end child marriage and promote girls' education in Rubindi Sub-County, Mbarara District.
Through sustained advocacy, lobbying, collaboration and community engagement, the Rubindi Sub-County Council passed the Ending Child Marriage and Promoting Education By-law, 2025. This achievement marks a significant step towards building a community where every girl is protected from child marriage and supported to remain in school.

A COMMUNITY-LED JOURNEY TOWARDS CHANGE

The development and passage of the by-law was not a one-time activity. It was the result of sustained engagement involving local council leaders, community members and key stakeholders committed to protecting children and promoting girls' education.
The process brought together the Sub-County Chief, Community Development Officer, Local Council chairpersons, women councillors, police representatives and legal advisors. Their participation ensured that the proposed legislation reflected the realities faced by girls and families in Rubindi.
The process was guided by Uganda's legal framework, including Article 176(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda and Section 41(1) of the Local Governments Act, Cap 138, which provides for the enactment of by-laws by local government councils.
Community feedback was incorporated into the discussions, with the proposed by-law undergoing council debates and further review before successfully proceeding to the third debate, where it was passed.
This achievement demonstrates what sustained advocacy, meaningful community participation and collaboration with local authorities can accomplish.

LOCAL LEADERS
LEADING CHANGE

A MILESTONE TOWARDS PROTECTING EVERY GIRL.



PREPARING LEADERS TO CARRY THE WORK FORWARD

Passing the by-law was a major achievement, but its impact will depend on continued leadership and effective implementation.

Following changes in the Sub-County Council's leadership, YFC supported an orientation meeting to familiarize incoming leaders with the by-law, its objectives, the progress made and their responsibilities in supporting its implementation.

This engagement is important in maintaining momentum and ensuring that the commitment to ending child marriage continues beyond changes in leadership.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

The next steps include certification by the relevant district authorities, community sensitization and preparation for implementation at district, sub-county and community levels.

Youth Fraternity for Change will continue working with local authorities and community stakeholders to ensure that the by-law moves from a legislative achievement to meaningful protection for girls.

HER FUTURE. HER VOICE. HER CHOICE



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD 2026

After weeks of advocacy, storytelling and engagement, Youth Fraternity for Change (YFC) finally brought the campaign to life through the celebration of International Day of the Girl Child 2026 under the theme Her Future. Her Voice. Her Choice.

The gathering brought girls and boys together for meaningful conversations about girls' agency, access to education, child marriage and the importance of creating an environment where every girl can realise her full potential.

Beyond the celebration, the event created an important platform for young people to express themselves, share perspectives and reflect on the future they want to see. Girls had the opportunity to speak about their aspirations while boys were encouraged to recognize their role in promoting equality and challenging harmful practices.

The celebration reinforced an important message: girls must not only be included in conversations about their lives but must also have the power to influence the decisions that shape their futures.

At YFC, we believe every girl deserves the opportunity to dream, learn and shape her own future. Ending child marriage requires more than awareness. It demands collective responsibility, meaningful action and sustained commitment from families, communities and leaders.

Her future matters. Her voice deserves to be heard. Her choice must be respected.

GIRLS HAVE A VOICE. GIRLS HAVE AGENCY.

During the IDG 2026 campaign, girls demonstrated that they were not merely recipients of support. They were active voices capable of influencing their own futures and inspiring change within their communities.

Meet Tricia, a pupil at Buyenje Primary School and a beneficiary of Youth Fraternity for Change's Girl Education Programme.

For Tricia, education goes beyond staying in school. It is a pathway to avoiding early marriage, contributing to community development and extending the same support and opportunities to others.

She encouraged fellow girls to remain in school and urged them to build relationships with senior women teachers who could guide them and offer support whenever they faced challenges or felt unsafe.

Her message is a reminder that when girls are empowered with education and the right support, they can become advocates for themselves and positive change within their communities.



YouTube

Hear it from Tricia! Click the photo below to watch her share why education matters and her message to fellow girls.





YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Get Involved Today



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