



—THE TAALA FOUNDATION

Your wellness partner

WWW.TAALAFUNDATION.ORG

THE TAALA FOUNDATION

About Us



The Taala Foundation, founded in 2017, is a registered entity working to bridge the gap in access to wellness support for gender and sexual diverse persons* on the margins by advancing the right to health and life with dignity.



Mental Health



Healing Through Justice



Education

Health, wellbeing and a life with dignity for marginalised individuals

Our End Goal

Program Areas



Mental Health

Promotes mental health, prevents and treats mental illness among GSD individuals with the aim of improving overall wellbeing. We use the data we collect to improve access to competent health care and push for policy reform for all regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

Continued



Education



Facilitates GSD individuals to have the right tools, knowledge, skills and livelihood opportunities to earn a decent living, contribute and participate meaningfully in the community and nation.

Continued



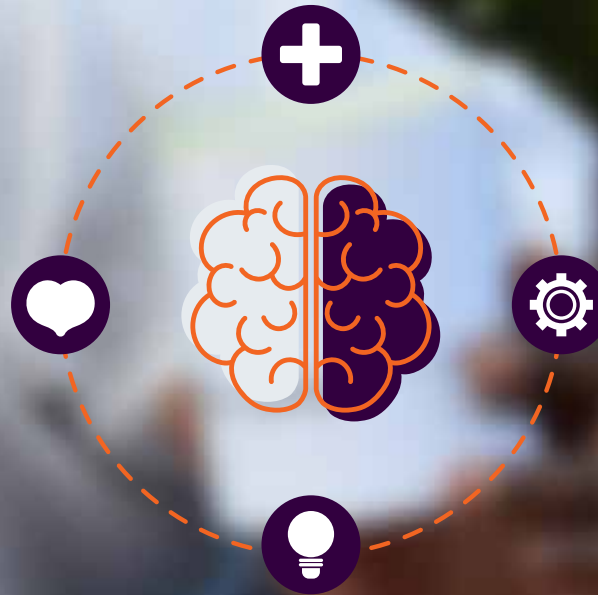
Healing Through Justice

Healing through justice envisions a world where human rights are respected and where, if violations occur, they are documented for the benefit of those who have endured such violations and with the purpose of pursuing accountability.

To us, this means;

- Documenting for litigation. This project aims at strengthening individual and organization's capacity to document incidents and human rights violation with the purpose of litigation in mind.
- Documenting for memory. We document not just for accountability, but to build upon our collective history of the experiences, victories, losses, and movement for equality and justice.

Our Approach



We center mental health and wellbeing of gender and sexual diverse individuals as a point of change that directly empowers such persons to achieve their full potential.

This change is desirable and of value, to GSD persons in Uganda and Africa as a whole because it increases their access to opportunities and shifts the conversation from sexuality and “otherness” to individuality, community and functionality.

Context



We recognize the impact of a hostile socio-legal regime on the mental health of marginalized people. We believe in identifying the most pressing needs of the GSD community as defined by them and investing directly in initiatives that respond to those needs with the aim of improving overall wellbeing.

**Hostile environment
characterised stigma,
discrimination
& violence**

**Low literacy levels,
high unemployment
rates & limited access
to social economic
opportunities**

**Syndemic vulnerability
& health disparities**



Theory of Change

Our theory of change posits that the pivots of change lie within the individuals and social-environmental structures that exist around them such as; our families, workplaces, geographical location and the social spaces that we occupy. By creating a skilled and empowered GSD community, they will be able to advocate for their own recognition and acceptance because of the positions that they hold within those spaces and society at large.



Achievements: 2019-2020



The Taala Foundation obtained a secure office space



We have successfully run organization on less than 50000 USD



Restructured creatively to meet changing needs with a small team of highly skilled personnel.



Broadened partnerships and strengthened programming

Program Developments



223%

40 new requests since 2019: A 223% increment



Since our pilot mental health initiative in 2019, we received over 40 new requests for mental health support, from the GSD community and partner organizations in 2020. This increment is an indicator of the need for competent mental health care services

63%

Service provision: 63% access to mental health support



We were able to provide mental health services to 63% of these requests. More than half of those we were able to give mental health services to, successfully completed treatment



Legal Redress



We filed a suit to join as applicants in a court case (Mukiibi Henry and 20 Others Vs Hajji Abdul Kiyimba, PO Philemon Woniala, Kyengera Town Council and Attorney General, High Court Miscellaneous Cause No.179 of 2020) where we intend to contribute to the evidence and highlight the effects of state sponsored targeted violence on the psychological wellbeing of GSD persons.

Program Developments



5
Requests



We received over 5 requests under our education program for linkages to better social economic opportunities. We were able to respond to only 20% of these requests which played a huge role in improving wellbeing



Publications

We launched report depicting the outcomes of treating depression among lesbian bisexual trans and queer persons entitled curving a new meaning of happiness. Findings from the report can be found here the Taala fireplace intervention. Follow the link: <https://taalafoundation.org/curving-out-a-new-meaning-of-happiness-at-the-taala-fireplace-a-review-of-a-pilot-mental-health-initiative-among-gender-and-sexual-diverse-people-in-uganda/2020/>

Findings from the first ever assessment on impact of state-sponsored violence on health and wellbeing of trans and gay youth will be shared in the public domain in the first quarter of 2021.



We are pushing for change and we need your support

The achievements we have had so far have been monumental to our successes and rapport within the GSD community and our partners. However, we need your support to continue this work.

Built Rapport within the Community, Allies and Partners: We have the capability to mobilize various stakeholders to push for movement building and advocacy but we cannot take this forward due to our constrained finances convening capacity.

Rising need, Limited Resources: We are receiving an influx of requests under our mental health, healing through justice and education programs that we want to respond to. Our legal team is small and we have faced challenges when it comes to meeting the intense requirements of the legal work, i.e. responding to GSD cases as they arise, documenting and pursuing legal recourse.

Get Involved: Having long term partners supporting the Taala Foundation's operations and project related costs will enable us to diligently focus on what we do best, i.e.: maintaining our high standards of deliverables and achieving our long-term goal.

Voice and Visibility Matters: Continue to improve our visibility and credibility within the region by talking about our work in various spaces and sharing our work more broadly.



Our Team



HAMA OWAMPARO SEVERUS.
Co-Founder and Director, Taala Foundation

The Taala Foundation is overseen by a strong a board of 5 directors and staffed with a brilliant team of 4 core team members: - The director and two program associates including a legal associate, mental health associate and an executive officer.

Our Partners



Looking forward!



As we push through 2021 we have much more work to do and very limited resources to push us to the next level. We need your support and resources to maintain our pace and carry this work forward.

FOR MORE UPDATES ON THE TAALA FOUNDATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT AND FOLLOW US ON OUR DIFFERENT SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS:



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