



## Rubaga Youth Development Association

- Rubaga Youth Development Association (RYDA) was established in Uganda in 1992 as a Community Based Organisation (CBO).
- In 1996 it was registered with the Non-Government Organisation Registration Board as NGO number S5914/1741 as well as a company limited by guarantee without shares, No. 40130, to enable it to acquire property.



## Aims and Objectives

As a result of upheaval across Uganda from 1978 to 1990, the HIV/AIDS epidemic and continuing isolated strife in the northern part of the country, Uganda has around three million orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). RYDA's major aim is to make an impact on these vulnerable children and out of school youths. Its simple motto is:

**All people have a potential to develop within an enabling environment.**

In overview, their work is:

- advocacy for children's rights through lobbying government
- practical support at village level to prevent children reaching the street in the first place
- provision of vocational and life skills training for street youths willing to work for a better personal future

This work includes:

- activating the rights to education of those marginalised groups of children who are excluded from formal education due to conflict and domestic violence and abuse.
- protecting and rehabilitating those whose lives have been shattered by sexual abuse and neglect.
- providing vocational skills training in areas such as bricklaying, carpentry, catering, hairdressing, agricultural practices, tailoring, motor mechanics and more.
- providing life skill training including sport to maintain good health; and music, dance and drama to develop self-expression and esteem and bring to the surface psychological troubles that have been affecting the children's lives.
- helping children to understand how they can avoid contracting HIV/AIDS and seeking to support those whose lives have already been shattered by it.
- building many community networking structures at local level and building partnerships with national and international donors who share RYDA's objectives
- empowering children/young people to understand, promote and protect their rights.





## St. Margaret's & RYDA

St. Margaret's has supported RYDA's work and shared its struggles since 1996. We testify that every cent raised goes to the organisation by direct transfer from our account and is used entirely to achieve RYDA's aims. We willingly accept the role of co-ordinating Australian support for RYDA, which is one of the most successful on the ground organisations in Africa.

Despite every effort to be self-sustaining, RYDA is very much dependent on first world funding. By the grace of God, through our local efforts and the donations and support of many others who have heard the RYDA story, we have been able to provide a consistent and continuing flow of funds to add to whatever other amounts RYDA can raise.

You are invited to join us in continuing to secure the **core work** of **Rubaga Youth Development Association**, Kampala, Uganda.

Through donation, including donation of land by a member of the board, and short term partnership programs RYDA has grown from a small group serving the street youths of one city district (Rubaga) using rented premises, to a large team serving the whole city and several outlying districts from its own centre on its own land at Buloba, about 8 miles from the city.



We have recorded much of this growth and our commitment to RYDA in the web site we maintain for them at: <http://www.blackdouglas.com.au/ryda>

Up to 300 children from 12-18 years live and learn at Buloba. Running costs include food, health, sanitation and bedding on top of provision of trainers and training materials.

### Joining RYDA in this work *does* make a difference in Africa.

To donate either send a cheque with an appropriate note to our treasurer, or transfer funds directly to our account with the reference 4RYDA and send an email to alert [doug@blackdouglas.com.au](mailto:doug@blackdouglas.com.au).

Bank: Bendigo Bank  
Account: St. Margaret's Uniting Church  
BSB: 633 000  
Account No. 157319310  
Swift Code: BENDAU3B (outside Australia)

**We look forward to you joining our team.**

Yours faithfully,

RYDA Support Co-ordinator

