

Thematic Areas

- 1. Training:** To train, support, empower and mentor young Africans into responsible leaders and productive members of the Australian society and to Africa.
- 2. Leadership & Participation:** To lobby and advocate for active participation of young African-Australians in Africa's leadership and improved inclusion in leadership in Australia
- 3. African child's rights:** To advocate, protect and defend the rights of African children both in Africa and in Australia; preserving and protecting their human dignity.
- 4. Socio-economic Development:** To empower and support child-headed families, victims of sexual gender violence; and to contribute towards the eradication of extreme poverty.
- 5. Psycho-social support:** To establish and build a culturally appropriate drop-in café (All Colour Café) to provide support and counseling to young people struggling with social problems within a safe environment.
- 6. Networking & Partnership:** We seek to work in collaboration with organizations/bodies working in line with our mission.



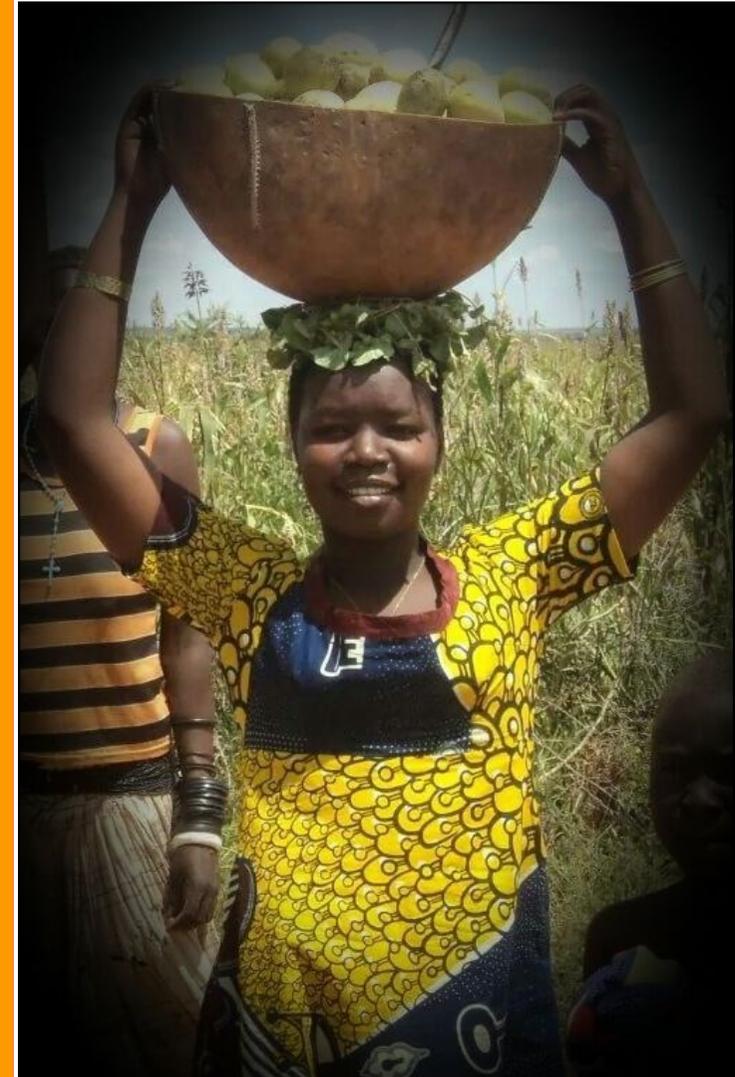
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Educate Empower Engage

This Life Foundation



Our Values

Compassion: Welcoming and supporting all with kindness, and understanding without prejudice or judgment.

Integrity: We strive to promote, maintain and uphold the mission, vision and the values of the foundation. We hold ourselves to a high standard of integrity within the foundation and seek to instill this same commitment to those we work with.

Courage: We believe one has to be disciplined to become a true leader and to stand up for what is right at all times. We are self-reflective, thoughtful and committed to sustainability and accountability.

Advocacy: Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.

Transformation: We believe change begins with you and we are committed to this through empowerment, social change to foster self growth at personal, community, national and international level.

Sisterhood & Brotherhood: We are committed to growing a strong network of solidarity and support among African women and men by providing a space to safely share experiences and to empower each other to be able to adapt and live productively in Australia without losing their values and norms as Africans.

Empathy: Establishing and maintaining relationships based on respect, trust, and friendship.

About Us

This Life Foundation is a non-governmental body founded to support child-headed families but also to draw young African-Australians to issues affecting the development of Africa; through empowerment, training and mentorship of potential young people into responsible leaders. Young African-Australians' roles is vital in the development of Africa but they do not have the opportunities and channels to participate in what is taking place in the continent.

This Life Foundation seeks to support and to facilitate collaboration between young people in the Diaspora and those in Africa in order to shape and influence effective leadership and good governance in the continent. Africa is a rich continent yet the majority of its population still lives in fear and engulfed in extreme poverty with millions dying from preventable diseases. This is as a result of lack of education and lack of a democratic space for citizens' participation in the development process.

This Life Foundation was founded by Mercy Akongo following her personal journey of loss and pain as a child after losing her mother twice. During her pain and grief, Mercy looked up to God and told Him, "I hate this life God". Seven (7) years after losing her mother, Mercy worked with child-headed families in Internally Displaced Persons' Camps and in the rural Northern Uganda. During her work, she encountered a number of orphaned children living under difficult circumstances and she repeatedly had children telling her; "I hate this life". This reminded Mercy of her own experiences of loss and pain, and she decided to start up "This Life Foundation" to support child-headed families and to involve young people in the development processes; to ensure the world is a better place for children.

Mission

To support, empower and mentor African-Australians into responsible contributors to the development of Africa and Australia; and to support vulnerable young people lacking role models in their lives.

This Life Foundation will support child-headed families in Eastern Africa, and young people directly affected by social injustice.

Our Vision

Africa free from corruption, poverty, political persecution, diseases and a continent with equal opportunities; a future where Africans no longer seek asylum away from their own land but a continent that is able to provide economic, social and political security to all its people. We mirror a generation that is free from sexual gender based violence, a world where no child is exposed to pain and Africa without child-headed families. We dream of a world where women and men work together for the development of their families and society, and a generation where there is no involvement by African-Australian in anti-social behaviors in Australia.

