



Shaping Success

ANNUAL REPORT

July 2024 – June 2025



Ministry of Education,
Youth and Sports



CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

This certificate is awarded to

Abayisenga Diane

For successfully completing the professional 3 days training on:
BUSINESS GUIDANCE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION SKILLS

Done at Kigali, Date 4th -6th June 2025

Omar Tony Nsengumutemyi
Club Rafiki Coordinator

APPRECIATION

Dear friends, partners, and young people,

Warm greetings!

We are excited to share that the 2024-2025 year has been filled with growth and meaningful progress. At Club Rafiki, we are truly grateful for your support and partnership in empowering youth. Your involvement has been key to every step we have taken. We especially want to recognize the active role of young people in our programs working with them continues to inspire us and reminds us why our mission matters.

We also want to thank the community around us and the Rwandan society at large. Your collaboration has shown us just how powerful it is to invest in the next generation.

With this note, we are also sharing our annual progress report. It highlights what we have achieved, the challenges we have faced, and how we plan to keep growing.

Thank you once again. Together, we are creating a brighter, stronger future.

Warm regards,

Stéphanie ALAMBA
Legal Representative, Club Rafiki

Kigali, June 27, 2024



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ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	: Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
ASRHR	: Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights
CR	: Club Rafiki
GoR	: Government of Rwanda
HIV	: Human Immunodeficiency Virus
KOICA	: Korea International Cooperation Agency
MyCulture	: Ministry of Youth and Culture
NYC	: National Youth Council
RGB	: Rwanda Governance Board
UDS	: Urban Dance School
VCT	: Volunteering, Counseling and Testing
WASH	: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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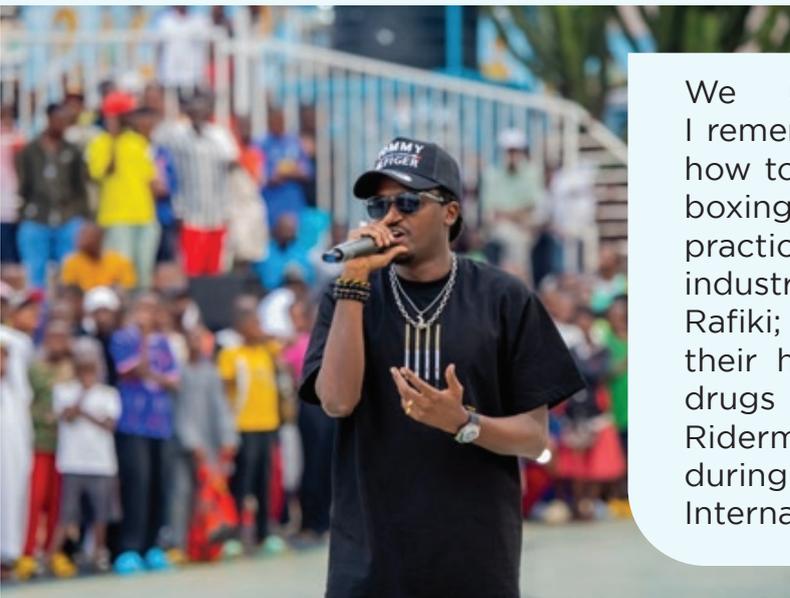
THE VISITORS CORNER

MEANINGFUL EXCHANGES THROUGH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL VISITS

This year, Club Rafiki had the privilege of hosting a diverse kind of visitors, including Rwandans, foreign residents, and international guests. Among them were researchers and students on study visits, all interested in understanding how we work together with youth. These visits offered us a valuable platform to showcase our work while also learning from others' experiences. Such exchanges have enriched our programs, increased our perspectives, and strengthened our commitment to continuous learning and meaningful youth engagement.

CELEBRATING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT:

RIDERMAN'S TRIBUTE TO CLUB RAFIKI



We used to come here and play. I remember this is the place where we learned how to play basketball. Up there, we practiced boxing, and later we watched movies and practiced music as beginners in the music industry. I really appreciate the staff at Club Rafiki; this is a place to protect the youth during their holidays. It helps them stay away from drugs and any kind of bad behavior." said Rideman, a famous singer and songwriter, during his performance at Club Rafiki on International Youth Day 2024.

12 FEB. 2025

DEAR TEAM,
CONGRATULATIONS ON THE GREAT WORK YOU ARE DOING AT CLUB RAFIKI. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO GIVING A PERSPECTIVE TO YOUNG PEOPLE.
ALL THE BEST AND THANK YOU FOR THE TOUR.

H. J. Anam
GERMAN AMBASSADOR



I. INTRODUCTION

Since its founding in October 1974, Club Rafiki has remained committed to working closely with young people every day. Together with our partners, we continue to support youth in following their dreams, understanding the value of giving back and playing an active role in their communities and the country at large.

This annual report, for the fiscal year ending in June 2025, highlights the progress we have made in youth development through our six key focus areas: **health, sports and entertainment, technology, employment and entrepreneurship, culture and civic education, and talent discovery and promotion.**

We are especially grateful to the young volunteers who support us through various programs. Your energy and commitment are a strong foundation for everything we do to benefit your fellow youth. Your involvement truly makes a difference!



**Celebrating YOU this International Youth Day!
Keep dreaming big, breaking barriers and making
your mark on the world!**

II. ACHIEVEMENTS

Club Rafiki is pleased to share with you some of the key achievements, we accomplished this year.

CELEBRATING GLOBAL YOUTH DAY 2024:

A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT FOR EMPOWERMENT

KOICA Rwanda in collaboration with Club Rafiki celebrated International Youth Day at Club Rafiki on August 12 and 13, 2024 alongside 3,000 young people in Kigali, coinciding with Club Rafiki's 50th anniversary. The two-day event addressed teen pregnancy and drug abuse through educational booths, competitions, and workshops. Partners included UNFPA, SFH Rwanda, and various youth centers. Country Director Kim Jinhwa emphasized youth empowerment as a priority. Activities featured drama, dance, and art competitions, with Ikibatsi group winning drama and Urban Dance Mageragere taking dance. Police and health coordinators delivered lectures on drug abuse and reproductive health. Exhibitors provided guidance on health education and self-reliance, equipping youth with knowledge for informed decision-making.



"We call for collective action to combat drug abuse, teen pregnancy, and other challenges affecting the youth. stated Mrs. Kim Jinhwa, Country Director of KOICA Rwanda

01. THE CENTER'S PARTICIPANTS

These services ensure that youth feel safe, supported, empowered, and fully engaged in activities that promote their well-being and development.

Table 1

The number of youth visited the center

Male	Female	Total	Male %	Female %
409,538	213,353	622,891	66%	34%

The number of young people attending our inclusive, youth-friendly services at the center decreased from 777,244 in the fiscal year 2023/24 to 622,891 in the current fiscal year ending in June 2025. Some of the reasons for this decrease

include the reduction in community events and mobilization activities due to the renovation of club's sports courts, which lasted nine months starting in September 2024.



Youth participation is essential to achieving our mission and creating sustainable impact.

02. VOLUNTARY COUNSELING AND TESTING (VCT) SERVICES

Through Club Rafiki’s VCT program, young people can access services such as counseling, family planning, pregnancy testing, blood type testing, and voluntary HIV counseling and testing (VCT). They also receive information and support on how to prevent and treat sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and get other important health services.

Table 2 The number of youth accessed HIV Voluntary Counseling and Testing services

# Counseled and Tested (VCT)				# HIV Positive			HIV Prevalence		Condom distribution		
M	F	Couple	Total	M	F	Total	M%	F%	F	M	Total
1,836	1,439	422	3,275	7	28	35	0%	2%	34,899	25,614	60,513

The table 2 indicates that 3,275 youth received counseling and HIV testing, of whom 1,439 (46%) were female. This total includes 422 couples. Among those tested, 35 individuals were HIV positive, with the majority being female. Compared to the previous year, the number of HIV-positive cases decreased from 53 to 35. However, the HIV prevalence rate rose slightly to 2%. A total of 60,513 condoms were distributed, an increase compared to last year when 57,928 were given to youth. These figures highlight the continued need for increased awareness campaigns and educational programs targeting young people.



Chantal, a VCT counselor at Club Rafiki shared valuable insights during a sexual and reproductive health (SRH) community session at one of the youth clubs. Her guidance emphasized the importance of understanding health issues and making informed decisions, helping young people navigate their choices with confidence and knowledge.



ELIA'S JOURNEY

WITH HIV



Elia (not his real name), a 23-year-old young man, went for a regular HIV test and was shocked to find out he was HIV positive. The news was very hard for him.

He felt hopeless and even thought of taking his own life. He could not imagine telling his parents, as they were already struggling with many problems.

He told the Club's Nurse that a young woman might have infected him in his neighborhood who had a child. After she passed away from an unknown illness, Elia became worried and decided to be tested at Club Rafiki Youth Center.

The Nurse tried to comfort and talk to him, but Elia was still not ready to accept help. Later, the Nurse kept calling him and encouraging him. After some time, Elia finally changed his mind. He agreed to take his medication and follow the Nurse's advice.

This was a big step forward, but another problem remained; Elia was drinking too much alcohol and smoking heavily. Eventually, he decided to talk to his mother about everything. It was a difficult conversation, but his mother listened and understood him. She decided to support him and even came with him again to the youth center.

They met with the Nurse together. His mother promised to help him in any way she could. Now, Elia is doing much better.

He takes his medicine properly and is hopeful about his future. The good news is that he has also reduced his smoking and drinking, which gives hope that he may stop completely one day. Elia always wishes that no one else goes through the kind of problems he faced. So, are we ready to help him achieve this wish?



03. PREGNANCY TESTING

Youth faces various sexual and reproductive health problems in developing countries. The major health problems like unintended pregnancy, unsafe abortion, and sexually transmitted infections are common among youth in Rwanda. Club Rafiki tested and counselled girls and young women as highlighted above.

Table 3 The number of young women and girls tested Pregnancy

Results	AGE CATEGORIES					Total	%
	-16	16 -20	21-25	26 -30	+ 30		
Total Negative	0	2	170	154	107	433	66%
Total Positive	0	0	101	81	45	227	34%
General Total	0	2	271	235	152	660	100

The Table 3 shows that 66% of the 660 young women tested for pregnancy were negative, while 34% were positive. Although the number tested increased from 540 to 660 compared to the previous year, the pregnancy rate remains high. Most positive cases (227) are among girls aged 21–30, highlighting ongoing vulnerability.



At GS Kanyinya:

Youth, led by a peer educator who received specialized training, are actively exchanging knowledge on sexual and reproductive health. This initiative is proving to be an effective path toward addressing challenges caused by limited awareness in this area.



GIRLS' DAY 2024:

GIRLS' VISION FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE



The celebration inspired the entire community to come together.

On October 11, 2024, Club Rafiki organized International Girls' Day at GS Kanyinya under the theme "Girls' Vision for a Bright Future." The event brought together 800 children, youth, teachers, parents, and leaders. UDS Kanyinya captivated the audience with vibrant music and dance performances. Attendees received motivational messages from girls and young women, including Fatimah, 18, who urged her peers to make wise choices and focus on their goals, using the celebration as inspiration for growth.



Youth are aware that drugs are their greatest enemy

04. BEHAVIOUR CHANGE COMMUNICATION (BCC) ACTIVITIES

Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) helps young people and communities talk, learn, and share ideas that encourage healthier habits, making it easier to deal with everyday health challenges together.

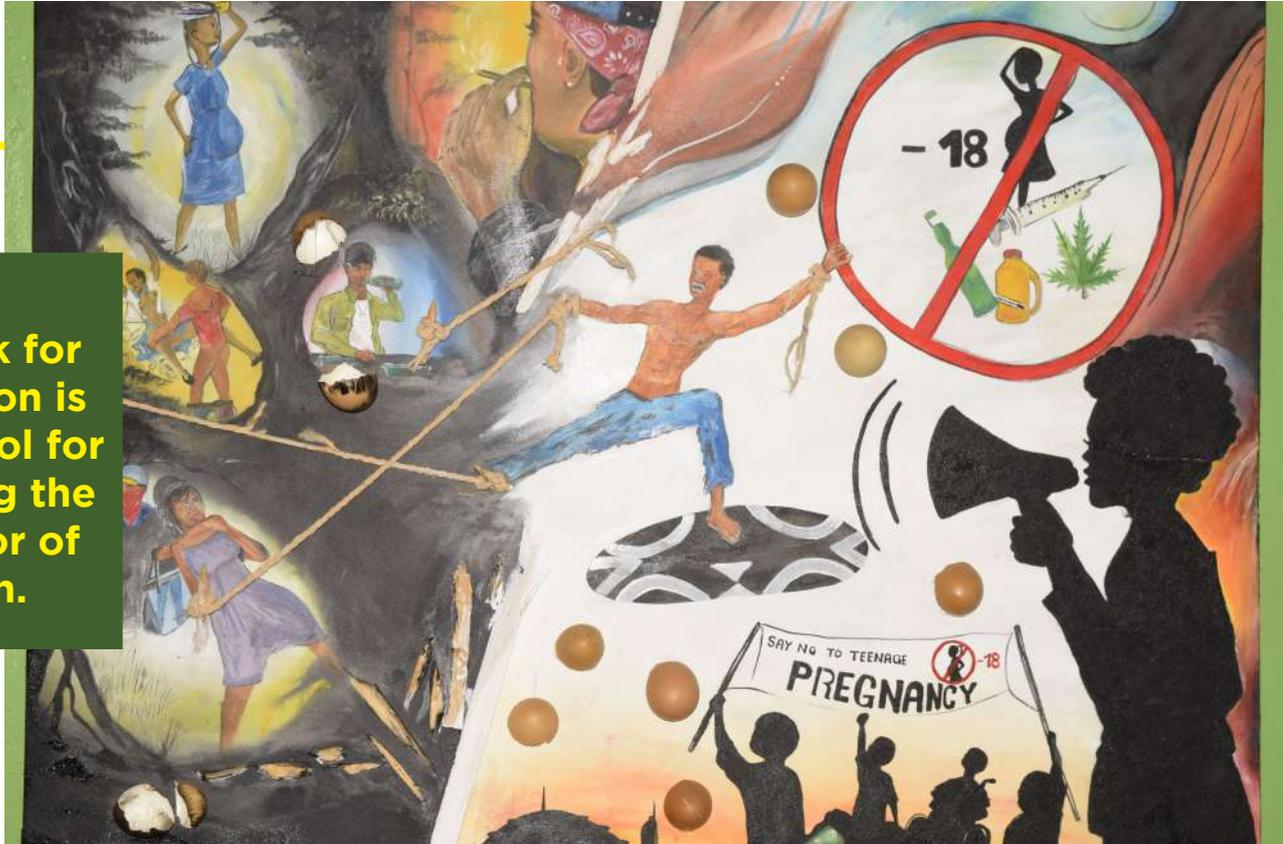
Table 4

The number of youth benefited the outreach communication' activities

IPC & Peer Education			Education video Screening			Community outreach activities (special events)		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
8,038	4,430	12,468	10,564	6,853	17,417	47,100	19,950	67,050

These three components all have one thing in common: they serve as a platform to educate young people with the aim of changing their mindset, reminding them that health comes first and that protecting it is their responsibility.

Artwork for education is also a tool for changing the behavior of youth.



05. YOUTH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

Club Rafiki’s youth empowerment services strategically support young people in navigating employment pathways by offering innovative career guidance, digital job application tools, CV/interview coaching, and entrepreneurial support to unlock business growth and job opportunities.

Table 5

The number of youth benefited this program

Trainings on entrepreneurship and job creation			Job desk beneficiaries			Saving groups creation and follow-up			Amount saved by youth/FRW
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
398	434	832	10,969	7,578	18,547	265	265	530	747,000

The data highlights strong youth engagement in economic empowerment at Club Rafiki. Over 18,000 accessed job desk services, 832 trained in entrepreneurship and 530 joined saving groups, demonstrating effective support in job readiness and business development pathways.



On January 7, 2025, Club Rafiki and CCI trained 14 youth, including 8 girls, in creativity and innovation, inspiring confidence and equipping them to pursue impactful community-driven ideas.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT TRAINING ACROSS 4 SECTORS OF NYARUGENGE DISTRICT

In partnership with the City of Kigali, specifically Nyarugenge District and with earmarked funds from the Ministry of Youth and Arts (MoYA), Club Rafiki and Centers for Creativity and Innovation organized a series of training sessions for 178 youth, including 96 girls. These trainings took place in Rwezamenyo (April 23-24, 2025), Mageragere (June 4-6, 2025), Kigali Sector (June 9-11, 2025), and Kanyinya (June 12-14, 2025). The youth were empowered with skills in career guidance, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and how to generate profitable business ideas.



The youth who participated in the program shared their reflections:

"These trainings boosted my confidence, taught me how to innovate and solve societal problems. I gained knowledge in marketing, networking, and made friends who will help me expand my electronic devices business."

Youth participant from Rwezamenyo Sector



"I always had the dream of starting a business but lacked confidence. This training taught me that the first capital is an idea, and that I must set a clear starting time, believe in myself, be goal-oriented, and innovate to succeed."

Youth participant from Mageragere Sector

"The training helped me understand that no matter where you come from near or far. You have the potential to succeed. Prosperity is not reserved for a few; anyone can thrive with self-belief."

Youth participant from Kigali Sector



"This training helped me analyze my business idea, identify my strengths and weaknesses before launching. It strengthened my confidence, pushed me to act on my ideas, and choose one profitable venture. No capital is too small to grow a business."

Youth participant from Kanyinya Sector

III.

ICT AND COMPUTER SKILLS

Youth visiting the center value ICT services for enhancing their lives in today’s digital world. Club Rafiki’s ICT lab serves as a key hub for strengthening youth digital skills.

Table 6 The number of youth advanced the ICT activities

Male	Female	Total	%M	%F	Computers with Good condition
13,467	6,883	20,350	66%	34%	30

The number of youth served dropped from 24,643 to 20,350, mainly due to limited internet and outdated equipment. Upgrading computers is essential to maintain impact and meet growing digital demands.

CLUB RAFIKI EQUIPS YOUTH WITH DIGITAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS FOR SELF-RELIANCE

On Friday, May 9, 2025, Club Rafiki in Nyamirambo awarded certificates to over 50 young people who completed a digital skills-based course aimed at self-employment and mindset transformation. The ceremony, which was also attended by parents and various local leaders, served as a moment of pride and encouragement for the graduates.

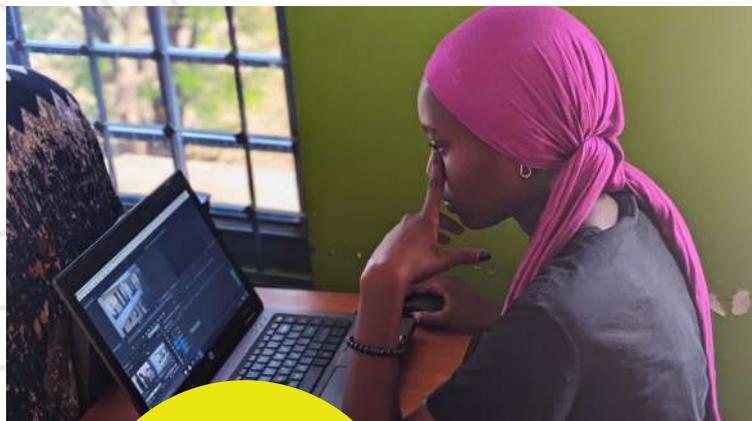


“ Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the world of today; having knowledge about it is like holding the entire world in your hands.” Hwang, AI skills trainer at Club Rafiki.

EMPOWERING GIRLS IN CREATIVE MEDIA CAREERS



In partnership with Ibigwi Creative Academy, Club Rafiki supported 15 young girls through a six-month intensive training in cinematography, photography, and scriptwriting. The training equipped them with both technical and creative skills, and the girls are now pursuing professional internships to prepare for careers in the media industry.



Salua, one of the participants, shared her excitement: “Before this program, I had never touched a professional camera. Now, I can film, edit, and even direct a short documentary.” She added, *“This opportunity has opened doors for me. I see myself one day working in a production company or even starting my own.”*

This initiative reflects Club Rafiki’s commitment to empowering girls through practical, career-building experiences in the creative sector.



IV. COMMUNITY LIBRARY, CULTURE AND ARTS

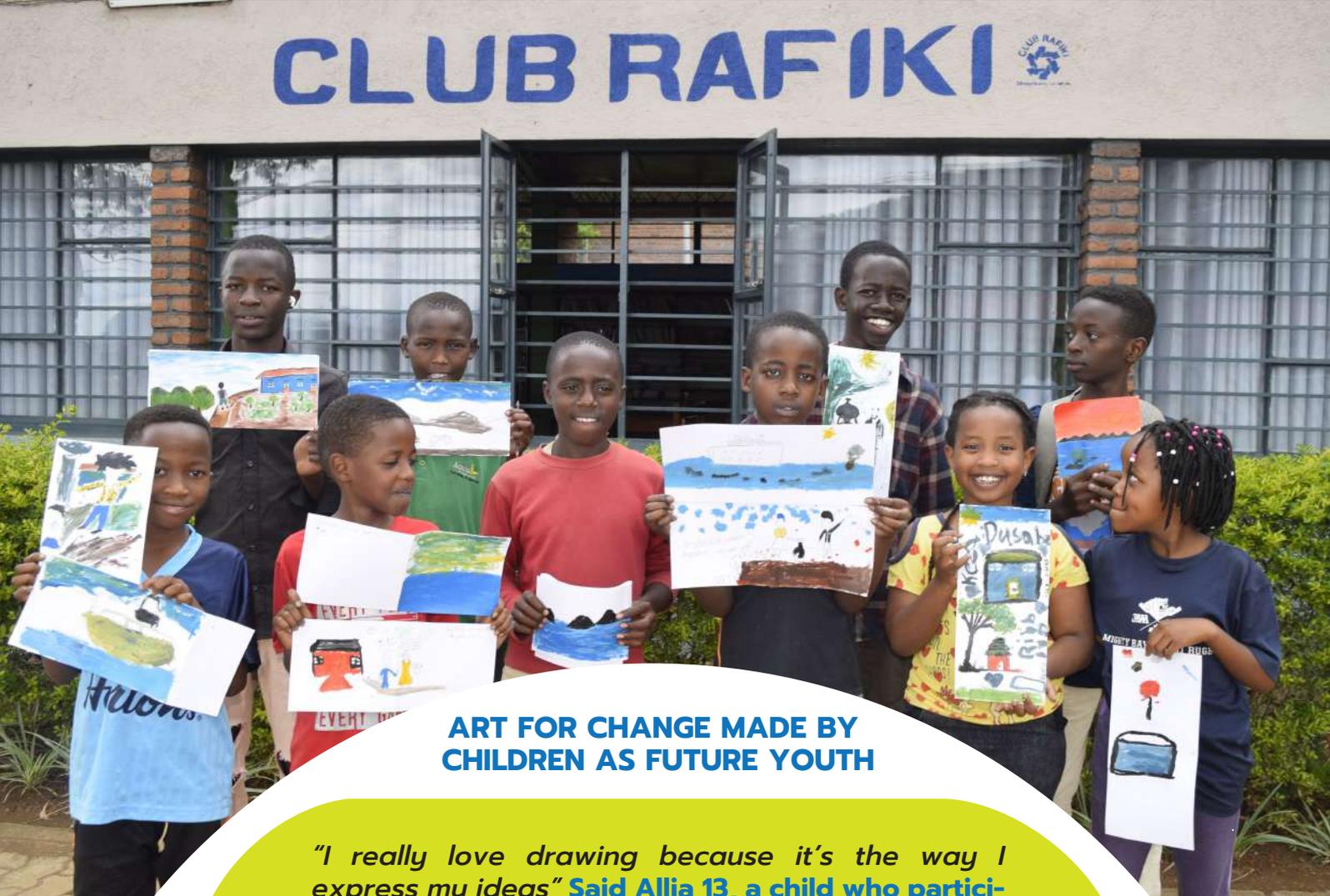
Our community library is a source for promoting the culture of reading and writing stories that make up books about Rwanda. This space helps young people review their lessons and connect with peers who share the same vision.

Table 7

The number of youth attended the community library

Library services, Culture and Arts				
M	F	Total	M%	F%
7,661	10,042	17,703	57%	43%

The number of female participants significantly increased due to targeted initiatives promoting girls' engagement, especially in arts and culture. Inclusive programs and mobile outreach have expanded access, encouraging more girls to benefit from library services and creative activities.



ART FOR CHANGE MADE BY CHILDREN AS FUTURE YOUTH

"I really love drawing because it's the way I express my ideas" Said Allia 13, a child who participates in the art activities at Club Rafiki.



V VOCATIONAL TRAININGS

Vocational training refers to instructional programs or courses that focus on the skills required for a particular job function or trade. In vocational training, education prepares youth/trainees for specific careers, disregarding traditional, unrelated practical subjects.

Table 8 The number of youth benefited the activities of the vocational trainings

Handcraft/Tailoring			Guitar and Music Class			knitting and crocheting		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
497	1,529	2,026	2,738	1,185	3,923	20	180	190

The handcrafts, tailoring, music classes, and knitting and crocheting training programs continue to draw various young individuals, particularly girls and young women, who view them as a chance to acquire skills for establishing their own businesses or trades, enabling them to achieve self-sufficiency.



The students who have been learning the tailoring profession for some time have showcased the clothes they made while learning the sewing. The outfits they wore were the ones they sewed themselves.



“I am very happy to be wearing clothes that I made myself. I feel more elegant than ever before. This is a reflection of the work I will be doing once I complete this training,”

— *said Vestine, a 19-year-old girl.*

TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH LIFE SKILLS

55 girls aged 14 to 20 attended a four-week training at Club Rafiki from August 5 to 29, 2024. The program provided practical skills like hair braiding, tailoring, cooking, and reproductive health education, empowering participants for personal development and career growth. High school students praised the training, with one sharing how she earned income by braiding hair. Local leaders highlighted its positive impact, keeping girls engaged during school holidays and shielding them from negative influences while fostering self-reliance.



Hair-braiding: empowering girls during school holidays



Cooking skills earn top appreciation from girls



Manicure and Pedicure sessions amaze girls



Inspiring Words from Dr. Shirley Randell

During the closing session, Dr. Shirley Randell, a former member of the Indigo Foundation, encouraged the girls to equip themselves with skills and knowledge to become solutions in their communities.



During this period, we trained 26 youth, including 20 females, in handcraft as a way of supporting them in creating small income-generating activities by making jewelry for themselves and for sale.



Learning a musical instrument is a rewarding journey that enhances creativity, discipline, and emotional expression.



Artwork and painting are growing well, and this activity is transforming the lives of youth economically.



The tailoring program is going well this month. The students are in their internship as the final stage of this six-month professional training.



SPOTLIGHT

OLIVIA'S JOURNEY

FROM WELDING GRADUATE TO SKILLED PROFESSIONAL



At just 21 years old, Olivia has transformed her life through determination and hard work. After completing her welding training in Kamonyi District, she received a toolkit to help her start her career. Determined to find opportunities, she decided to move to Kigali in search of a job.

With confidence in her skills, Olivia approached Club Rafiki, where she applied for a position in metalwork. Her dedication and expertise earned her a job, and she now specializes in repairing metal materials such as doors and windows. Grateful for the support she received, Olivia acknowledges the role of youth centers in empowering young people like her. She advises fellow youth to remain disciplined and committed to their craft, believing that with the right mindset, success is always within reach. Her story is an inspiration to many, proving that with skill, determination, and support, young people can build a bright future.



SUCCESS
STORY

EMPOWERING YOUTH IN FINANCE

The financial mastery program has successfully equipped young individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in the finance sector. Through rigorous training, interactive workshops, and mock exams, participants have gained invaluable experience in financial assessments, preparing them for their future careers. The program has provided a supportive space where aspiring finance professionals can refine their expertise and build confidence in their abilities. Many graduates have gone on to secure prestigious positions in the industry, demonstrating the program's impact. By fostering a deep understanding of financial principles and exam techniques, the initiative has helped bridge the gap between academic knowledge and practical application. Participants have expressed their gratitude for this opportunity, recognizing its role in shaping their career paths.



Justine, a University Finance graduate, shares *"Youth exercising financial exams with the aim to gain knowledge for their careers appreciate the contribution of this space for learning. It has truly helped us understand how we can improve our careers in finance."*

VI. SPORT, LEISURE, TALENT DETECTION AND PROMOTION

When working with youth, sports, games, and entertainment come first. Successfully organizing these activities provides a great opportunity to discover the talents of children and youth advocate for them, and help them grow to benefit their owners and uplift national pride.

Table 9

The number of youth benefited this youth friendly services

Sports and Leisure			Talent detection and promotion		
M	F	Total	M	F	Total
247,313	123,447	370,760	44,882	26,903	71,785

The data shows strong youth participation in sports and talent development. In sports and leisure, 370,760 youths engaged, with males at 67% (247,313) and females at 33% (123,447). Talent promotion involved 71,785 youth, 63% male (44,882) and 37% female (26,903). Female participation remains low, highlighting the need to increase girls’ involvement in competitions and talent-boosting opportunities. Total youth engagement in sports dropped from 747,443 to 370,760 this year due to a nine-month refurbishment of basketball courts starting September 2024. This underscores progress and the need for focused efforts on female talent development.



Sport, leisure, talent detection, and promotion play a vital role in shaping well-rounded, empowered youth. Through engaging in sports and recreational activities, young people build confidence, discipline, and teamwork. Identifying and nurturing talents not only boosts self-esteem but also opens doors to future opportunities. Investing in youth potential through these areas fosters healthier, more dynamic communities.



GIRLS IN SPORT:

CNN VISITS CLUB RAFIKIT

On August 9, 2024, journalists from CNN visited Club Rafiki Youth Center to explore its impact on young beneficiaries. They interviewed boys, girls, and the center's legal representative at the basketball court to understand how basketball benefits youth and the broader role Club Rafiki plays in transforming lives. "It was amazing to see the fantastic work being done here; it's truly making an impact in the community," said Victoria, a CNN journalist. "Great to see such talented youth playing a good game. Thanks for allowing us to visit," added Bethlehem, another CNN journalist.



CLUB RAFIKI JOINED RWANDA'S **KIGALI CARFREE DAY** AGAINST NCDS

Rwanda's Car-Free Day encourages physical activity to fight non-communicable diseases. As part of this effort, Club Rafiki inspired youth to stay active and build a healthier future. During the event, Urban Dance School Kanyinya led a dance session.

VII. YOUTH AND GLOBAL VOLUNTEERS: A YEAR OF IMPACT

This year, in all the achievements we have made, the contribution of volunteers has been essential and impactful. In particular, we appreciate the outstanding efforts of Rwandan youth volunteers who served their fellow youth with dedication. We also extend our gratitude to international volunteers for embracing this noble culture and taking time to support others.

“My school holiday was very good through the Art and Culture Promotion program. As young people, we benefited a lot in understanding our culture and values,” said one beneficiary who learned a lot about Rwandan culture.



In the photo, one of the youth volunteers is teaching traditional dance.



“Being a volunteer here, where I teach music, has been a great learning experience for me. I realized that beyond contributing by sharing my knowledge, I also learned that young people are excellent teachers who willingly share what they know and find joy in engaging in activities that help others,”

said Miyoung Hee (Zuba), a KOICA volunteer at Club Rafiki, in an interview with RBA journalist Luck.

There is no small act of volunteerism

YOUTH FROM CLUB RAFIKI JOINED YOUTH IN THE SPECIAL YOUTH UMUGANDA



On Saturday, 15 November 2024, youth from Club Rafiki participated in a special youth Umuganda alongside other youth groups and community members in Rwezamenyo Sector, Nyarugenge District. The event focused on environmental cleanliness, with participants collecting unusable plastics, such as bottles and other waste, which are harmful to the environment. After the cleaning activities, the youth took the opportunity to educate the community on the importance of environmental protection and the need for collective action in preserving their surroundings. This initiative highlighted the youth's commitment to both improving their community and raising awareness about sustainable practices.

ART WORK FOR COMMUNITY EDUCATION



From 21 to 22 December 2024, we joined hands with the Creative Action Institute through its program, Girls' Voice (Sauti ya Dada), to empower girls. As part of this initiative, we created artwork aimed at educating the community about ending violence against women and girls. This collaborative effort highlights the importance of artistic expression in raising awareness and fostering positive change in society.



“YOUTH TALENTS CAN CHANGE THEIR LIVES NOT ONLY SOCIALLY BUT ALSO ECONOMICALLY” said Digidigi.

Early in March 2025, famous film producer and actor Norbert Regero, known as Digidigi, inspired young people on the importance of film in the journey of changing the lives of youth both socially and economically



VIII. CAPACITY BUILDING

Programs aimed at building the capacity of youth representatives from various groups help ensure that young people continue educating and supporting their peers whenever they face any issue related to sexual and reproductive health. In this picture, Club Rafiki was providing 3 day training (10 to 12 May 2025) of youth from Rwezamenyo, Nyarugenge, Mageragere and Kanyinya Sectors of Nyarugenge District on how to lead discussions and implement other activities related to sexual and reproductive health and its services in youth friendly way.



SRH PEER EDUCATION TRAINING FOR YOUTH FROM FOUR SECTORS OF NYARUGENGE DISTRICT



Boosting Youth tech skills through STEM

On April 19, 2025, Club Rafiki, in partnership with the U.S. Embassy and APACOPE, held a STEM focused English Corner Workshop. Eighty youth (50 females, 30 males) aged 15-25 took part in hands-on activities, building circuits and programming microcontrollers. The session boosted STEM skills and highlighted youth interest in tech and innovation.



STRENGTHENING RURAL COMMUNITIES

Through the activities of Club Rafiki, in collaboration with local authorities, Indigo Foundation, Creative Action Institute, and Friends of Rafiki, we carried out various initiatives this year in the rural sectors of Mageragere and Kanyinya. What's even more exciting is that we launched a new project called the **"Kanyinya Community Project (KCP)."** Here is a brief summary of some of the achievements we made:



"As girls, we can do everything that our brothers can do. The only support we need from you is your 'yes.' Girls can do it too." said **Yvonne, a participant in the event.**

Empowering GIRLS Through Handcraft Skills

As part of the Kanyinya Community Project (KCP), Club Rafiki organized handcraft sessions designed to equip girls with practical skills that can open pathways to employment and self-reliance. These sessions focused on creating handmade jewelry and other craft items, giving the girls both creative expression and income-generating potential.

One of the participants, Aline, shared her experience: ***"Before this training, I never thought I could make something with my hands and sell it. Now, I've made earrings and bracelets that people actually want to buy. I feel confident and hopeful about my future."***

The handcraft program continues to empower young women by turning talent into opportunity.

Girls enjoy the handcraft sessions, which help prepare them for future jobs and allow them to create their own jewelry.



EMPOWERING YOUTH THROUGH CINEMATOGRAPHY TRAINING

A group of 20 youth, including 16 girls and 4 boys, are making a significant impact in cinematography after completing a six-month filmmaking training provided by IBIGWI Film Production youth company at Club Rafiki. Many are now creating their own short films and earning income, while others make money by filming events such as weddings and parties. This training has provided them with job opportunities and a path to self-sufficiency.



“

Aisha, a 23-year-old trainee from Gasabo, shared, *“I feel fortunate to earn money making videos at weddings and parties. Photography and videography are my passion, and I believe this is the right path for me to become a valuable asset.”*

”

FILM SCREENING AS A DRIVING FORCE OF EDUCATION



Youth engaged in film watching during the Festival

On November 15th and 16th, 2024, Club Rafiki youth center, in collaboration with the European Film Festival, hosted a film screening event as part of the festival's initiative to promote European films across the city. The screenings, which took place at various venues from November 15th to 17th, aimed to introduce audiences to European cinematic

artistry and foster cultural exchange. During the event at Club Rafiki, the European Union Ambassador highlighted the significance of collaboration in promoting artistic expression, stating, *“We are looking forward to collaborating with this center to promote artistic work using theatre and drama.”* This partnership underscored the transformative role of film and the arts in education and youth development.

IX. STRENGTHS

Youth contributions remain at the heart of Club Rafiki's success. Their ongoing involvement through volunteerism and community initiatives has strengthened our daily impact. This year, as in the past, our achievements were sustained by strong collaboration with government institutions, together with Local and International NGOs, Friends, benefactor, embassies and partners whose financial and technical support drives our mission.

X. CHALLENGES

Despite the many achievements recorded by Club Rafiki, we encountered several challenges that limited our ability to fully meet our annual goals. Key issues included:

1. Community educational outreach activities did not reach the desired scale.
2. Youth engagement through youth clubs, especially in rural areas, focused mainly on discussions around sexual and reproductive health, drug abuse prevention, and talent development, but the reach and impact remain limited.
3. Economic empowerment programs targeting youth need to be expanded and made more inclusive.
4. Digital access initiatives, including free internet and access to computers, require more investment, especially for youth in underserved areas.
5. More peer trainers and youth-friendly competitions are needed to help young people develop their talents, gain exposure and access sports and creative materials.
6. Club Rafiki's infrastructure requires urgent upgrades to accommodate the growing number of youth and to improve the quality of youth-centered services.
7. A rising number of young people face mental health challenges, often due to drug use and family issues.
8. Environmental protection efforts are still limited; we need to educate more youth on their role in preserving the environment, starting at the community level.
9. Vocational training opportunities for youth remain insufficient; we must enhance them as a pathway to economic resilience.
10. Stronger national and international partnerships are needed to sustain and expand the impact of Club Rafiki's work.
11. A dedicated budget is needed to follow up with youth who participated in the center's activities and to advocate for them, ensuring the skills gained are effectively put into practice.

XI. RECOMMENDATION

1. Invest in infrastructure upgrades to support service expansion and safety improvements.
2. Increase funding for youth outreach programs, particularly in rural and underserved communities.
3. Develop comprehensive mental health support systems tailored to youth needs.
4. Scale up vocational training and digital literacy programs to promote youth self-reliance.
5. Support talent promotion and sports initiatives by organizing competitions and providing equipment.
6. Strengthen environmental education and youth-led green actions in local communities.
7. Expand collaboration with national and international partners to mobilize resources and share best practices.
8. Empower peer educators and trainers to sustain youth-led programs and mentoring.

XII. CONCLUSION

The achievements of Club Rafiki this year demonstrate the strength of strategic partnerships in advancing youth empowerment. We are particularly proud to report that 34% of the youth we served this year were girls and young women, marking a significant increase from 30% in the previous year. We also strengthened our inclusion of youth with disabilities, ensuring their active participation across multiple programs. Continued collaboration with partners remains essential. It is through these strong relationships that we can find sustainable solutions to the challenges outlined above. With your support, we believe that youth will remain a powerful driving force, lifting our country, continent, and the world toward inclusive and sustainable development.



**WATER
IS
LIFE.**

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS – 2024/25

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all partners who supported Club Rafiki throughout this impactful year. Your collaboration has enabled us to serve more youth with purpose and vision. While we deeply appreciate each one of you, we would like to highlight some of the key partnerships that made a lasting difference:



1. City of Kigali & Nyarugenge District

With earmarked funding from the Ministry of Youth and Arts (MoYA), our partnership with the City of Kigali and Nyarugenge District enabled hundreds of youth to access training on employment, entrepreneurship, and self-development opportunities through Club Rafiki's youth-focused programs.



2. Indigo Foundation – 25 Years of Impact

Since 2012, indigo foundation has been an invaluable partner. This 13-year collaboration has transformed our community, particularly for girls and young women. Programs such as the Urban Dance School, Our Girl Program, and English Corners have boosted youth confidence and participation. Female involvement grew from 15% in 2012 to 34% in 2024/25. Significant milestone in gender empowerment.



3. Friends of Rafiki

This initiative of individual supporters continues to elevate our mission. In April 2024, through this partnership, we launched the Kanyinya Community Project, focused on amplifying the role of girls and young women in building solution-oriented communities.



4. Giants of Africa

More than a partner, truly part of us. Since 2017, they've built and upgraded modern basketball courts. In 2024/25, they renovated our courts with new rubber flooring, further enabling youth talent development.

To all our partners; thank you. Your continued support fuels youth transformation.

Special Thanks to



Youth thank **GIANTS OF AFRICA** for their continued support of our **BASKETBALL TALENTS**.



INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT JULY 2024 TO JUNE 2025

INCOME	USD	FRW	%
- Monetary			
Opening balance FY 2024/2025	8,467.48	12,222,050	7%
Earmarked transfer from Ministry of Youth and Arts, City of Kigali - Nyarugenge District	8,913.89	12,866,392	8%
Indigo Foundation	24,603.92	35,513,544	21%
Creative Action institute/Sauti ya Dada program	4,389.80	6,336,279	4%
Friends of Rafiki	28,627.56	41,321,309	25%
Rental Income	1,662.73	2,400,000	1%
TOTAL INCOME	76,665.38	110,659,574	66%
- The following in kind donations were received with estimated values shown:			
Ministry of Youth and Arts (MoYA)	16,009.15	23,107,764	14%
Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)	3,082.15	4,448,800	3%
Giants of Africa	20,000.00	28,868,200	17%
Total	39,091.29	56,424,764	34%
Total income and the estimated value of 'in kind' donations	115,756.67	167,084,338	
EXPENDITURE			%
Human resources	26,466.80	38,202,445	23%
Rehabilitation and Maintenance	3,073.61	4,436,480	3%
Youth empowerment, employment and promotion	14,057.48	20,290,701	12%
SRHR education and VCT services	6,398.36	9,235,450	6%
Empowering adolescent girls and young women	16,514.93	23,837,810	14%
Sports, recreation and leisure activities	3,428.34	4,948,500	3%
Utilities and office materials	2,069.27	2,986,800	2%
Bank fees	184.63	266,500	0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	72,193.41	104,204,686	62%
Closing balance at 30 June (2024-2025)	4,471.97	6,454,888	4%
Estimated value of 'in kind' donations	39,091.29	56,424,764	34%
Total Expenditure including closing balance and the estimated value of 'in kind' donations	115,756.67	167,084,338	
Exchange rate on 29/06/2025	1 USD = FRW	1,443.41	
	General Burn rate		96%

THREE- YEAR COMPARISON REPORT

SERVICES	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
1 Attendance	523,177 Male 68% Female 32%	777,244 Male 69% Female 31%	622,891 Male 66% Female 34%
2 HIV testing	4,041 Positive cases 72 % 2%	4,406 Positive cases 53 % 1%	3,275 Positive cases 35 % 1%
3 Pregnancy testing	490 Positive 33% Negative 67%	540 Positive 32% Negative 68%	660 Positive 34% Negative 66%
4 Outreach activities/SRH	59,832 Male 64% Female 36%	102,200 Male 68% Female 32%	96,935 Male 68% Female 32%
5 Condoms distributed	50,238 Male 66% Female 34%	57,928 Male 54% Female 36%	60,513 Male 58% Female 42%
6 ICT skills	2,568 Male 70% Female 30%	24,643 Male 67% Female 33%	20,350 Male 66% Female 34%
7 Employment services / Job Desk	11,852 Male 64% Female 36%	16,397 Male 64% Female 36%	18,547 Male 59% Female 41%
8 Vocational Trainings	1,898 Male 31% Female 69%	2,896 Male 41% Female 59%	5,538 Male 55% Female 45%
9 Library services, Culture and Arts	24,148 Male 72% Female 28%	16,467 Male 70% Female 30%	17,703 Male 57% Female 43%
10 Sports, leisure & Talent promotion	410,970 Male 68% Female 32%	747,443 Male 70% Female 30%	370,760 Male 67% Female 33%
11 Culture promotion	12,688 Male 71% Female 29%	16,548 Male 69% Female 31%	20,918 Male 65% Female 35%



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Club Rafiki Youth Friendly Center