



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



## *“A Possibility to Try Again”: Helen’s Story*

*Through her involvement with a youth group, a seventeen year-old girl realizes that there is always a second chance.*

After giving birth and dropping out of school, Helen joined a youth club where she learned that she had a second chance. Today, she is back in school and practicing secondary abstinence. She wants to help other girls in similar situations and does so as a peer educator.

In Wakiso district alone, there are 40 other clubs reaching out to youth. With between 30 and 40 members in each club, there are countless stories of hope like Helen’s.



*Youth sensitize with songs in the community.*

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### Helen’s Story

I left school after realizing I was pregnant. To me, my future was shattered and I lost all hopes of ever going back to school. My mother helped in nursing my child because I didn’t know how to do it. I had plans of looking for a job, but that was very hard because of the pressure of caring for a child. I started to mess up with boys despite my bad experience.

Fortunately, I got to learn from my friend about a training with DSW. I was only motivated to attend this training because they would be feeding us and giving a small transport refund. I didn’t expect any other benefit. But as this experience was my first of this kind, I learned a lot of things. I was revived and realized I had an opportunity to reorganize my life and start again. This is what I desperately needed.

I decided to abstain until I am in a steady relationship and ready for marriage. This project for the young people has helped me to know that there is always a possibility to try again, even after you have made bad decisions. My community now respects me and believes in me.