

SEPTEMBER 2026



Jolt Youth Initiative
Empowering Youth

QUARTERLY

NEWSLETTER



INSIDE;

- ★ Message from the E.D
- ★ Insights from the P.M
- ★ Launch of Jolt Media House
- ★ The Education Program
- ★ Technology & Innovation
- ★ Health
- ★ Entrepreneurship
- ★ Charity
- ★ Alumni

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

The third quarter of 2026 has been a season of growth, skills development and new opportunities for Jolt Youth Initiative. We celebrated young people completing practical training and took the next step by establishing youth-led enterprises in woodwork, decoration and events management, creating pathways to income and sustainable livelihoods.

We also launched the Jolt Media House, opening new opportunities for young people to develop digital skills, tell their stories and engage with their communities.

Our Strategic priority is strengthening our programmes, building partnerships and creating sustainable opportunities for young people.

Enjoy the growth



Ms. Mariam Nabukenya Wamala
Executive Director
Jolt Youth Initiative



OUR MISSION



Millions of youth gaining the opportunity to discover, develop and deploy their full potential for individual and societal transformation.

OUR VISION



To cultivate communities where young people's hidden potentials are unlocked through self efficacy, enabling them to be active contributors to individual and societal development.

OUR GOAL



By 2028, empower at least 80% of youth aged 15-24 years in Mpigi and Butambala district with knowledge, skills and positive attitudes for success and development.



The Power of Consistency

develop practical and relevant skills.

Through Educate One, the generosity of our supporters enabled us to raise the fees needed for our students for this term. Our annual charity initiative is also being planned.

Although it has been costly, it is worth the investment, especially as our trained young people are now excited to use their skills to give back to the community.

Our strategy is also opening new pathways for sustainability. The bakery is in its early stages, and plans for an organisation vehicle are taking shape. Each initiative is part of a bigger vision to strengthen JYI and create lasting opportunities for young people.

Most encouraging is the enthusiasm we are seeing among our youth. They are becoming more confident, skilled and ready to contribute.

I sincerely thank our Board, partners, staff, volunteers and supporters for walking this journey with us. We may not move at the same pace every day, but with consistency, every step counts.

We keep building, we keep serving, and we keep moving forward.

DR. MATOVU MOUSA
AG. PROGRAM MANAGER, JYI

As we close another quarter at Jolt Youth Initiative (JYI), I am grateful for the progress we continue to make. This quarter has reminded us that meaningful change is built through consistency.

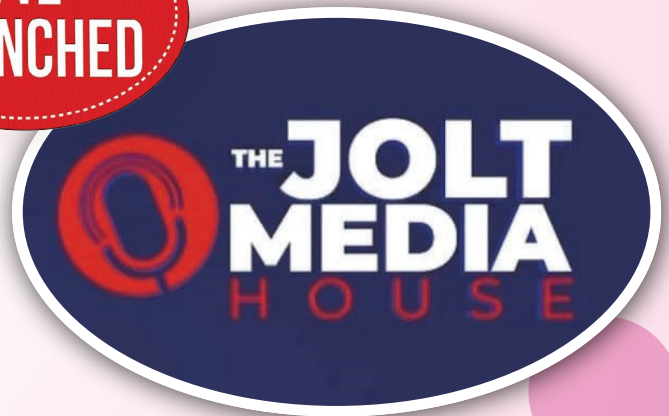
We trained and awarded certificates to seven young people in woodwork, decoration and events management, who have started forming business enterprises that can turn their skills into income.

We also launched the Jolt Media House and unveiled our technology training programme, creating more opportunities for young people to





WE
LAUNCHED



The launch of the **Jolt Media Centre House** marks an exciting new chapter for Jolt Youth Initiative (JYI) creating a space where young people can share their stories, develop digital skills, express their ideas and create opportunities.

JYI is developing the Media Centre into a creative and income-generating platform that can contribute to the organization's long-term sustainability

The studio will provide affordable services for individuals, young people, organisations and businesses, including:

- Video and podcast recording
- Video editing and production

- Social media content creation and promotion
- Live streaming
- Community story telling
- Photography, including passport and event photography
- Training in video editing and other digital skills

We will also explore affordable studio rental packages, allowing individuals and organizations to use the space to produce professional content.

JYI will develop a consistent YouTube and social media content strategy, featuring interviews, discussions, community stories, educational content and creative productions.

Follow us on our Joltyouthinitiative youtube platform



Launch Speeches



Encouragement from the Youth Councillor

The Youth Councilor of Mpigi Town Council Mr. Buyondo Muzafaru, encouraged the young people to embrace knowledge, keep learning and put their skills into practice. He urged them not to be discouraged by challenges or low participation, but to keep learning & gaining more experience while encouraging others too. He stressed the need for young people to use social media to share their work, connect with others and create more opportunities.

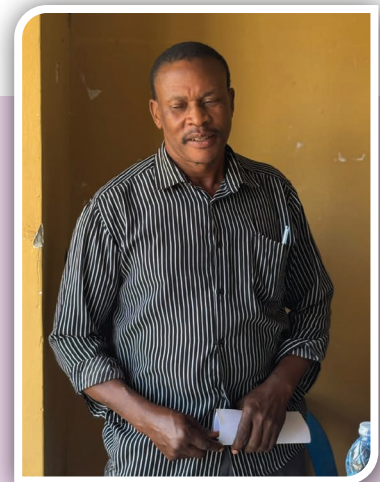
The Deputy Mayor Wasswa Hassan, who was the Guest of Honour at the launch, commended Jolt Youth Initiative (JYI) for investing in young people and pledged the support of their office. He assured JYI that

whenever support is needed within their office's capacity, they would be happy to assist. 'Whatever you may need within our powers, our office will be happy to support you.' Said the Mayor



Speaking to the trainees, Mr. Kasirye Muhammad, the Lead of the Jolt Youth Initiative Entrepreneurship Committee on the board, encouraged the graduating youth to take their newly acquired skills seriously and see them as a pathway to self-reliance.

He encouraged the trainees to embrace hands-on learning, entrepreneurship and continuous personal development, reminding them that skills can open doors to both employment and enterprise.



KEYNOTE SPEECH BY MR. BUSUULWA RONALD, Mpigi District

In his speech, the key note speaker Mr. Busuulwa Ronald, a seasoned carpenter said "My message to you is simple: **embrace modern technology, be creative and turn your skills into opportunities.**"



WE HAVE GRADUATED!!!

After three months of practical training, **seven young people** have successfully completed their training in **woodwork, decoration and events management** and were awarded Certificates of Completion by Jolt Youth Initiative.



Educate One

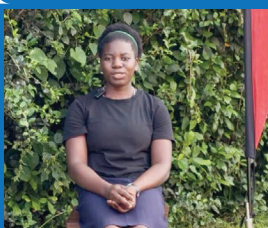
Through **Educate One**, we recently supported a student who had dropped out of school in Senior Five due to lack of school fees. She reached out to the JYI office seeking help. Following a home visit, we confirmed that financial challenges were the reason she had been unable to continue her education.

We are grateful that we have been able to support her return to school to complete **Senior five**. JYI provided a bursary that covered half of her outstanding school fees, enabling her to resume her studies and continue working towards completing her education.

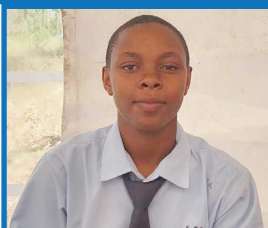
The Educate 1 program has 4 other students continuing students and 2 are now at university.

Hindu's story shows that sometimes a young person needs only a little help to get back on track with someone to listen, believe in them, and offer an opportunity.

The continuing students on the Educate One program



Alirwa Kevina
S.5 Sciences



Namubiru Noor
S.4 Candidate



Bukenya Martin
S.5 Sciences



Hindu

KEYNOTE SPEAKER MR. BUSUULWA RONALD, Mpigi District

JYI Trainees' Graduation Ceremony

As a carpenter, I know that to become a good carpenter, you must keep practising, be patient, use your hands well, and be ready to learn. Today, you have finished your training. This is a big achievement and the beginning of a new journey.

My message to you is simple: **embrace modern technology, be creative and turn your skills into opportunities.**

The world of woodwork and events management is changing. Modern tools, digital designs and social media can help you improve your work and reach more customers. Do not be afraid to learn new things. For us we never had this chance, he said

Do not only look for jobs. Think about how you can start your own business and one day employ others. Start small, do good work, respect your customers and use your money well. When challenges come, do not give up. Keep learning and working hard.

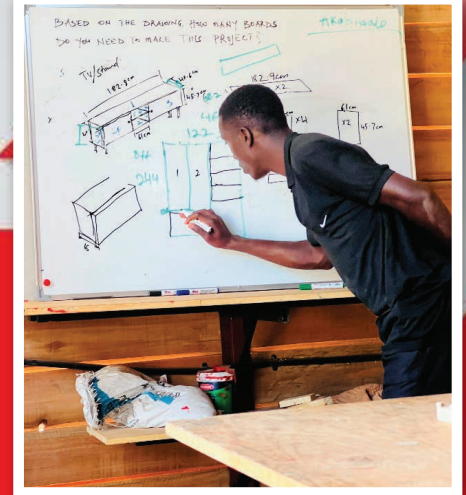


Congratulations to all seven graduates. Go out, make money and transform your community!

Thank you!!!

THE EDUCATION PROGRAM; Vocational Training

In woodworking, participants have progressed from workshop safety and tool and machine handling to **concept development, sketching, technical drawing, material planning, cutting, joinery, assembly and finishing.** Practical production assignments have enabled trainees to translate ideas into functional and aesthetically appealing products, while also contributing to larger projects such as furniture production and installation works at the Jolt Studio and Tech Hub.



Some of the small woodworking projects done by the group in teams and individually to promote skills like conservation, team working, creativity among others.

The current training cycle has had seven out-of-school young people three females and four males have participating in a three-month modular programme in woodworking, decoration and events management. The programme also integrated leadership, financial literacy, digital skills and entrepreneurship trainings

reinforced through our practical learning and mentorship initiative of Ignite the Mind for Excellence.

The decoration component has equipped participants with competencies in event design and layout, tent decoration, stage and table décor, floral arrangements, ribbon artistry and gift wrapping.

Importantly, trainees have also benefited from experiential field learning through exposure to live events, enabling them to connect classroom-based knowledge with professional event environments, including activities associated with Little Miss Uganda at the National Theatre.



Decoration training session with trainer exploring on topics like photo booth deco, floral decoration, ribbon and gift wrapping, embracing creativity & team work.

THE EDUCATION PROGRAM; Vocational Training



The training group executing various wood working skills in custom production of small woodworking projects, and installation of the jolt studio/Tech hub gypsum partition wall.



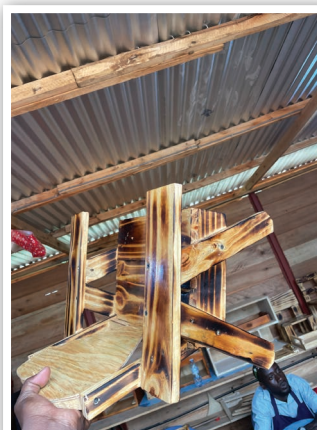
A group of trainees both ladies and gentlemen working together to design and make a visual-audio studio setup from design to craftsmanship to a fully designed customized JOLT studio built by themselves



“

A stunning image of one of the trainees, Mukasa Geoffrey spraying one of his small wooden product, a customized wooden humper.

”



The Mock trainings showing trainees in phases of individual production for certification.

IT TRAINING

We are also working towards completing the **Jolt Technology Hub**, which will provide young people with access to computers, internet connectivity and technology-based learning opportunities. We currently have **five computers**, with a goal of reaching **10 computers by December 2026**. The hub will support digital literacy, access to information and practical technology training for young people and community members. Beyond providing access to equipment, the hub will create opportunities for expert-led trainings and short

courses, enabling community members to acquire practical digital skills relevant to education, employment, entrepreneurship and innovation.

As we enter the fourth quarter, the Health, Technology and Innovation Department remains focused on one goal, creating practical opportunities that enable young people to gain knowledge, develop skills and apply them to improve their lives and communities.



Tech Hub Computers

JYI WOODWORK TRAINEES GAIN BASIC IT SKILLS

The training introduced the young people to the importance of computers and technology in modern woodwork. They learnt how digital skills can help them design furniture, calculate costs, keep business records, find customers and advertise their products online.



The Computer and Tech training showing trainers, Mr. Kwezi Bashir and Mr. Ddungu Taliq delivering a comprehensive training on computer literacy and digital access.

HEALTH

Health and wellbeing remain fundamental to youth empowerment and sustainable development. During the third quarter, the Health Department continued to strengthen its focus on issues affecting young people, particularly adolescent mental health.

One of the key engagements during the quarter was a training and mentorship session on adolescent mental health, facilitated by **Ms. Linda from Mind Wellbeing Africa**. The session equipped the Jolt team with knowledge and practical approaches that will support the delivery of adolescent mental health mentorships in schools. We look forward to piloting this mentorship programme at Quality High School during the first week of October, with lessons from the pilot informing future school-based interventions.



Photos of JVI Last Medical Camp



Strengthening Partnerships for Adolescent Health

Jolt also continued to explore strategic partnerships that can strengthen its health programming. An upcoming collaboration with **Health Access Connect** will support joint adolescent health mentorships, with a particular focus on mental health and sexual and reproductive health. The partnership reflects Jolt's commitment to bringing relevant expertise and resources together to address issues affecting young people and to create safe, informative and supportive spaces for adolescent health education.

Resource Mobilization for Education

Educate One is a half-bursary scholarship that helps young people stay in school despite financial challenges.

Through our fundraising appeal, friends and well-wishers helped us raise funds to support five students for the third term.

Thank you to everyone who gave and shared our appeal. Your generosity is keeping young people in school and their dreams alive. May God richly bless you!

The Jolt Enterprises

JYI has established two youth-led enterprises to generate income, contribute towards the organization's operational costs and create opportunities for young people to apply their skills in a real business environment.

Jolt Woodwork Centre specializes in custom-made home and office furniture, combining quality woodwork, skilled craftsmanship and bespoke designs tailored to clients' needs.

Jolt Decoration & Events Management provides creative decoration and event management services for weddings, parties, corporate events, celebrations and other occasions.

Through these enterprises, JYI is creating a sustainable model that connects youth skills, income generation and organizational sustainability.

Located in Mpigi District, Uganda
Mobile: 0783 254 136



The cohort chairperson, Kasozzi Deogratious practicing saving by a saving box during a financial literacy and business training.

Financial literacy and business management have further complemented the technical training. Participants are developing competencies in personal financial management, product pricing, customer care, negotiation and basic business record keeping. A significant milestone has been the formation of the **Jolt Youth Initiative Savings Group**, comprising eight members who are actively saving and working towards formalizing the group and establishing a dedicated bank account.

As Project Sente transitions from skills development towards enterprise development, Jolt Youth Initiative is working to establish **youth-led production teams and enterprises** linked to the Jolt 3D Woodwork Center. This approach is intended to strengthen continued practice, production, market access, employment creation and income-generating opportunities for programme graduates.

FROM SKILLS TO SERVICE: YOUNG PEOPLE GIVING BACK

JYI recently completed a three-month practical skills programme with young people in woodwork, decoration and events management. As the Charity Department, we asked ourselves: What if these young people could use the skills they have gained to serve their own community?

That question has shaped this year's charity initiative. We decided to use their skills to repair furniture and provide simple solutions for the health centre this contributes to solving challenges around them.

Last month, we returned to the Health centre IV for an needs assessment, we met with the health centre team and listened to some of the challenges they continue to face. Among the immediate needs are five tables requiring repair, two medicine cabinets, a file shelf and about 50 blankets.

There are also wider needs, including equipment for emergencies, maternity and theatre services, patient monitors, laboratory support and improvements to the general ward.

We know we cannot solve everything at once. But we also believe that doing what is within our means is better than doing nothing. We can be part of the solution.

This is what "Discover, Develop and Deploy" means to us discovering potential, developing that potential through practical skills, and deploying it to create meaningful change in society

Our next step is to mobilize the resources needed to respond to the identified needs at Mpigi Health Centre IV.

We are calling on JYI friends, partners, businesses, organizations and young people to join us. You can contribute materials, equipment, finance, professional expertise, or your time and skills.

Agono Julian
Head, Charity Department
Jolt Youth Initiative Uganda

JYI ALUMNI NETWORK

The JYI Alumni Network now brings together more than 300 young people who have participated in our programmes. Our alumni cohorts include young people through EMS training in six schools, with 30 students per school, 26 Woodwork trainees, and beneficiaries of the Educate One programme. This quarter, we also welcomed seven new members from the Woodwork, Decoration and Events Management cohort.

The Alumni is led by Joy Natukunda, Chairperson, with each cohort having a leader supported by Joy to keep members connected and engaged. We plan to hold our Annual Alumni Meeting in June 2027, creating space to reconnect, share opportunities and strengthen the network.

Joy Natukunda





Jolt Youth Initiative
Empowering Youth



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