ENGAGING FUNDERS FOR GLOBAL ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING RESEARCH FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

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Vision, Mission & Goal

**Vision**: A world where society invests well in children as a key element of sustainable development

**Mission**: The AfriChild Centre generates research that contributes to the evidence base to improve on the lives and wellbeing of the African child. It does this in collaboration with the public and private sectors, academia and civil society.

**Goal**: AfriChild will be a multidisciplinary research centre that contributes to evidence based knowledge building, skills development and influences policy, programming and practice concerning the wellbeing of the African child.
Core Program Areas

1. Interdisciplinary Research and Demonstration Projects
2. Policy and Practice Discourse
3. Training the Next Generation of Researchers and Practitioners
4. Knowledge Management and Expert Network
VACS Study Context and Rationale

- Household influences on children’s early development are core to influencing later adult life.

- Day to day care and protection for the majority of infants and young children takes place at the household level.

- Parent-child interactions are determiners of brain health/ intellectual capacity/social and emotional stability and social behavior.

- Parenting is not a uniform concept, it is shaped by culture, economic and social contexts etc.

- Adverse childhood events have long-term effects on social, cognitive and emotional development of a child - manifesting in youthful and adult life.

- Household Risk and resilience therefore must be examine contextually to inform more pragmatic prevention/response pathways.
VACS Objectives

1. Estimate the prevalence of physical, emotional, and sexual violence against female and male children and youth aged 13-24 in Uganda

2. Provide data for evidence-based programming for children and adolescents’ health, protection, education, skills development, and economic empowerment
Funding Strategy

• Develop a shared research agenda with donors, academia, government and civil society
• Co-design research and pursue them together with government ministries, academia, civil society and donors
• Ensure relevancy of research to country context
• Share learnings and innovations relevant to existing policy & programs
Funding Strategy

- Publish research, use policy and program briefs, disseminate widely to gain reputation and build past performance
- Be responsive to donor request, inform them of any anticipated delays
- Align donor interest with institutional strategy
Funding Strategy

• Build strong internal capacity for donor compliance
• Strengthen program quality, ensure cost effectiveness
• Cultivate relationship with stakeholders for research uptake
• Build networks of technical people for proposal development and implementation
Funding Strategy

• Integrate capacity development of Universities and practitioners with implementation of research activities

• Embed learning into programs (Implementation science) as key approach to combing doing and learning simultaneously
Conclusion

• The purpose of research cannot be more research or another journal article or academic tenure.
• It must be to immediately guide programs and policies.