

# Annual Review 2024



## **Our Purpose**

A world where every woman and girl lives free from gender based violence and is empowered to live with dignity



# We achieve our purpose;

#### **Economic Empowerment**

Our Economic Empowerment Program is designed to uplift vulnerable women, girls and their families by providing the financial resources and mentorship needed to create sustainable livelihoods. We deliver microfinance to the underprivileged women and communities, offer livelihood development as well as Mentorship.

#### **Health and Nutrition**

SustainMe aims at empowering families towards better healthcare, nutrition and education. Through this program, families learn about practical health practices and the way to live healthier within their families. The health and nutrition program significantly enhanced the well-being of over 3,000 women and families by providing better medical care, timely diagnoses, and improved nutrition, resulting in transformative changes in their lives.

#### **Education and Skills**

Our Education and Skills Program empowers vulnerable women, girls, and families to access quality learning opportunities, improve literacy, and acquire practical business and vocational skills. We believe that education is a powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty and protecting women and girls from gender-based violence.

Through this program, we provide business, entrepreneurship, and vocational skills training, literacy and reading support, education sponsorship, and manage the Elsom Community Library.

#### Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Our Women's Rights and Gender Equality Program is dedicated to advocating for and protecting their rights, ensuring they have the opportunity to live free from discrimination, violence, and inequality. Through this program, we raise awareness about women's rights, promote gender equality, and provide support to women and girls facing injustice while working with communities, policymakers, and stakeholders.

### **CEO's message: Reflection on 2024**



As I look back on 2024, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude. This year has been nothing short of remarkable, as we witnessed countless lives transformed and empowered through our collective efforts. SustainMe has successfully impacted the lives of 11,010 women, children, and their

families—helping them rise out of poverty and unlock new opportunities for a brighter future.

None of this would have been possible without the unwavering support of our generous donors and partners. Your belief in our mission and your contributions have been the backbone of our success. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for enabling us to extend our reach and continue transforming lives.

With gratitude,

Samuel Wanyagira, CEO

# Message from the Chair of the Board

As we reflect on 2024, I am proud of the incredible progress SustainMe has made, transforming the lives of 11,010 women, children, and families. This success is a testament to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, donors, and partners.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment to our mission. Together, we are building stronger communities and brighter futures.

With gratitude,

Edward Magumba, Chair of the Board

### **Our Impact Highlights**

 195 women accessed business and vocational Skills

205 women financed

 350 women and children access health and nutrition

455 lives Shared a Meal

 54 women participated in vegetable gardening

 576 women and girls mentored

 195 women and girls graduated in business and vocational skills

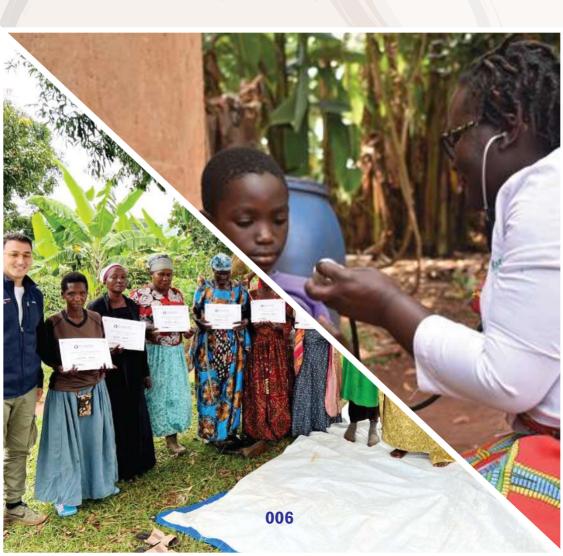


# **About SustainMe**

SustainMe is a non-profit organization committed to empowering vulnerable women, girls, and families to escape poverty and gender based violence through providing health and nutrition to families, skills and education, rescuing and protection of women's rights and providing start up finance for livelihoods.

Our mission is to build the capacities of women, girls, and families, enabling them to lead fulfilling and dignified lives. Through our comprehensive programs—spanning economic empowerment, health and nutrition, women's rights advocacy and gender equality, and family strengthening—we empower women and girls to reclaim their dignity and create lasting change in their communities.

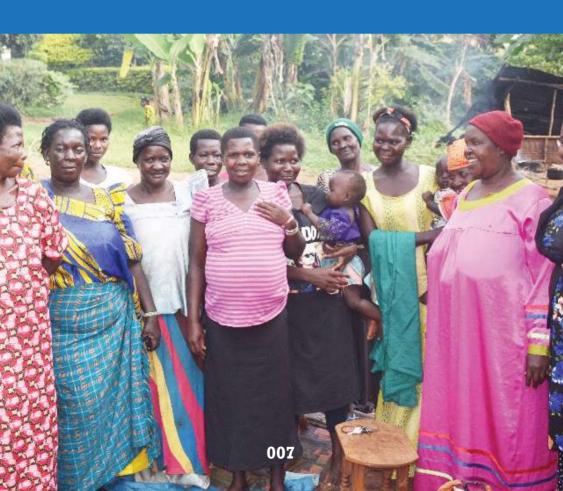
We prioritize support for women and girls facing significant challenges, including widows, single and young mothers, grandmothers, women impacted by HIV/AIDS, survivors of domestic violence, women and girls living with disabilities and those living in extreme poverty, with a special focus on rural communities. At SustainMe, we believe in the power of resilience and the transformative impact of empowerment.



# Our Journey, Action and Impact!

#### **Financial Access for Women**

205 vulnerable women accessed finances to start up income generating activities. The inability to access finances is a very big challenge to many poor women especially those living in the rural communities since financial institutions require collateral which they do not have. SustainMe has made it possible for the women to access small startup capital through the women's groups which help in starting up and or boost their livelihoods.



# Inspiring Gifts for women and Families



411 Inspiring Gifts benefited women and families. Majority of the women and families living in the rural area live below the poverty line. The families struggle to find opportunities to thrive since they have no income, no asset and no skills.

SustainMe supported such women at the grassroots with inspiring gifts of goats, mosquito nets, seed grants among others. Access to inspiring gifts by the poor women and families enables them to create sustainable livelihood which allows them to jump the poverty line.

# Women's Rights Advocacy and Gender Equality

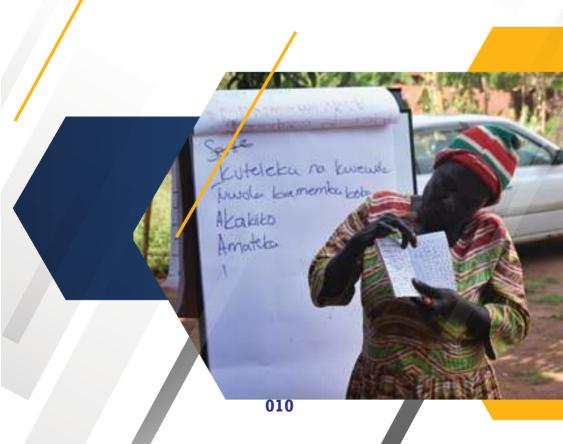
SustainMe, we are committed to upholding and defending the rights of every woman. Our work has focused on advocating for, protecting, and empowering women and girls against gender-based abuses such as domestic violence, rape, defilement, physical assault, healthcare discrimination, and property rights violations. Through awareness campaigns, 16 Days of Activism participation, community dialogue sessions, research initiatives, and direct support, the SustainMe team has provided victims with the tools, skills, and resources to rebuild their lives. In addition, we have empowered survivors to start small businesses, enabling them to achieve economic independence and regain their dianity.



# Village banking for rural women

350 women and girls Bankable through 4 Village Banks. Village banking is a community based microfinance model that was used to empower women and girls in rural and marginalized communities to improve their economic situation. Members were able to make regular contributions to a collective saving fund.

Village banks helped women and girls to access small loans through self-raised funds, access saving opportunities and emergency funds. These loans serve purposes such as starting or expanding small businesses, paying for education or healthcare or meeting other urgent needs.



# Health and Nutrition For Women and Families



350 lived transformed with health and nutrition. Our Health and Nutrition Program was a lifeline for many in the rural communities we serve, especially women and children who couldn't afford medical care. Through this program, we have facilitated access to medical services, including diagnosis, treatment, and nutritional support for malnourished children. Every day, we encountered malnourished children and sick women who, without our intervention, would remain ill for extended periods or, tragically, lose their lives. We are proud to see this program restoring hope and dignity, ensuring that women and children can lead healthier and more fulfilling lives

#### **Skilled Women and Girls**

95 Women and Girls Skilled. At SustainMe, our goal is to empower women and girls to create sustainable livelihoods and become employable. To achieve this, we provided training in a variety of skills, including business, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and vocational skills. This programs laid a solid foundation for participants to build independence and achieve self-sufficiency. Our business, finance, and entrepreneurship training covered critical areas such as sales and marketina. customer care, record-keeping, business positioning, and money management. Vocational training focused on practical skills like hairdressing, farming, and sewing. To celebrate their achievements, all participants received certificates and recognition upon completing the training. affirming their readiness to take the next step towards economic empowerment.





## Women engage in vegetable gardening

54 families participated in Vegetable Gardening. One of the major problems faced by our local communities is food insecurities. These insecurities are crucial contributors of malnutrition in communities hence causing nutritional related illnesses. Through our family strengthening program, rural women were economically empowered through vegetable gardening to improve their nutrition as well as earn an extra income.

Throughout the season, families planted and harvested their vegetables leading to food security, better nutrition and increase in household incomes.



## **International Women's Day activities**

10 Families received Goats to celebrate the International Women's Day. The International Women's Day was a global day dedicated at honouring the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women and advocating for gender equality.

Each year, International Women's Day focuses on a specific theme that reflects the current issues and challenges faced by women worldwide. These themes aim to inspire action and promote gender parity. The theme for International Women's Day varies from year to year and is determined by governments, organizations and activists.

In commemoration of this year's international day celebrations held on 8th March, SustainMe was honoured to give out 10 goats to vulnerable women for their remarkable contribution towards transforming their lives and that of their families. An agreement was signed between the recipients and the organization.



#### **Volunteering**

lasting, meaningful impact.

10 Volunteers and Interns Hosted. We were privileged to collaborate with extraordinary volunteers and interns from around the globe. Their expertise and skills were instrumental in amplifying SustainMe's impact, enabling us to achieve even greater success in our mission. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these dedicated individuals for their invaluable contributions and sacrifices to uplift women and girls from poverty and gender based violence. A special thank you goes to Bridget, Monaco, Antonio, Ernesto, Justin, Kisaa, Shermeen, and Wasay,

whose pivotal roles made this project a reality and left a



# **Our Future**

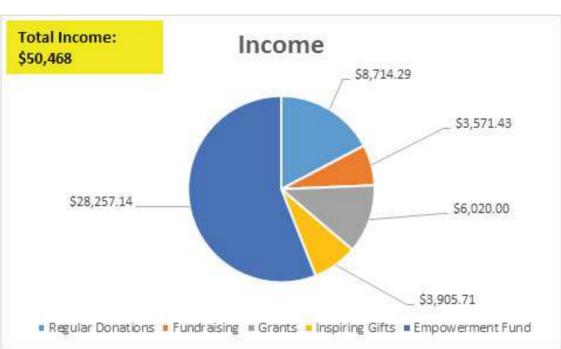
SustainMe remains a beacon of hope and empowerment for women, tirelessly advocating for a better future for underprivileged women and their families. Our primary focus is the establishment of the Women's Life Center—a transformative space where women can access a wide array of empowerment skills to build sustainable livelihoods and provide for their children.

The Women's Life Center will feature:

- A state-of-the-art training facility offering skills in business, finance, and hands-on vocational training.
- A medical facility providing affordable healthcare services for women and children.
- A children's learning space to foster education and development.
- A dedicated meeting place for women to connect, share, and collaborate.

We are thrilled to announce that we've secured land for this visionary project and are now seeking funding to bring the Women's Life Center to life. If you are passionate about creating a brighter future for vulnerable women, we invite you to support our construction project.

# **Financial Overview 2024**





# How you can help

**Donate**Your gift helps create a lasting impact in the lives of women and their families

Partner with us Get your community involved with us

Volunteer
Use your skills and time to support SustainMe to reach out to more vulnerable women.

Fundraise Get creative and come up with fundraising ideas and events that can help us raise resources to support our work

#### Become a Global Ambassador

Lead the way, create a community and raise support and represent our charity in your local community.

#### THANK YOU

We take this opportunity to thank everyone and organizations that supported us to empower and give hope to vulnerable women and their families. We couldn't have achieved such an impact without your involvement.



#### **Our Partners**























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#### Follow us

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