

2025 Annual Report



**CENTER FOR REHABILITATION OF
SURVIVORS OF ACID AND BURNS
VIOLENCE**

1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As we reflect on the progress made in 2025, we extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported CERESAV's mission. The milestones highlighted in this report would not have been possible without the continued support of our partners, donors, volunteers, and the resilience of the survivors we serve.

We are deeply grateful to our dedicated team and board members whose commitment has strengthened our programs and partnerships. To our partners and supporters, your generosity has enabled us to provide medical care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, education support, and economic empowerment opportunities for survivors and their families.

We also extend our heartfelt appreciation to the survivors who continue to trust CERESAV and allow us to walk alongside them in their recovery journey. Your courage and resilience remain the driving force behind our work.

As we move forward, we remain committed to strengthening our impact and working together to create a safer and more just society free from acid and burn violence. Thank you for being an essential part of this mission.

2 LIST OF ACCRONYMS

CERESAV	Center for Rehabilitation of Survivors of Acid Burns Violence
CSO's	Civil Society Organizations
WPI	Women Probono Initiative
NAC	Network for Active Citizens
KDF	Kampala Disability Festival

3 TABLE OF FIGURES

Fig. 1: CERESAV BOARD MEMBERS	5
Fig. 2: Press conference and media engagements during the 16 Days of activism campaign.....	8
Fig. 3: International Human Rights Day at Eureka Place Hotel.....	9
Fig. 4: Left: Offering psychosocial support to a new victim; right: Survivor Charles Kalanzi in hospital.....	9
Fig. 5: Giving Tuesday	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Fig. 6: My Christmas gift outreach.....	14
Fig. 7: Survivor Nakitto Rashida while at the press conference.....	15
Fig. 8: Left: Executive Director, Kibirango Sharifah; right: Outreach coordinator, Nalumansi Margaret	19
Fig. 9: Volunteer, Charles Kalanzi	19

4 FOREWORD FROM THE BOARD



Fig. 1: CERESAV BOARD MEMBERS

It is my pleasure to present CERESAV's 2025 Annual Report, highlighting the important progress made in supporting survivors of acid and burn violence. Over the past year, CERESAV continued to strengthen its survivor-centered programs by providing medical and psychosocial support, advancing access to justice, supporting children through the Education Fund, and promoting economic empowerment opportunities for survivors.

Through strong partnerships and community engagement, CERESAV has continued to raise awareness about acid violence while supporting survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity and resilience. The organization also made important strides in strengthening its governance, partnerships, and operational capacity, positioning it for greater impact.

These achievements would not have been possible without the dedication of the CERESAV team, the courage and leadership of survivors, and the continued support of our partners and donors. As we move into 2026, we remain committed to expanding survivor support, strengthening advocacy efforts, and working collectively toward a society free from acid and burn violence.

On behalf of the Board, I extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who continues to stand with CERESAV in advancing justice, healing, and hope for survivors.

TIM ABBOTT
Board Chairperson

Table of Contents

1	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	2
2	LIST OF ACCRONYMS	3
3	TABLE OF FIGURES.....	4
4	FOREWORD FROM THE BOARD.....	5
5	INTRODUCTION	7
6	OUR VISION AND MISSION	7
6.1	VISION.....	7
6.2	MISSION.....	7
7	PROGRAM DELIVERY AND ACHIEVEMENT	8
7.1	Medical Support, Surgical Care, Psychosocial Support	8
7.2	Organizational Development	9
7.2.1	Full Registration of CERESAV:.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.2.2	Financial Expansion:	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.3	Programmatic Impact	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.3.1	Education Fund Program:	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.3.2	Awareness and Advocacy:.....	8
7.3.3	Partnerships and Outreach	13
7.3.4	Success Stories from Our Clients.	15
8	2024 IN NUMBERS.....	17
9	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	17

5 INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report highlights the key milestones and activities of the Center for Rehabilitation of Survivors of Acid and Burns Violence (CERESAV) in 2025. At CERESAV, we continue to support acid attack survivors through awareness and public sensitization initiatives, the Education Fund for survivors and their children, GBV trainings, and follow-up engagements to monitor and support survivors as they rebuild their lives after the attack. These initiatives reflect our strategic commitment to providing holistic support to the survivors and communities we serve as we move forward into 2026.

6 OUR VISION AND MISSION

6.1 VISION

A Ugandan society where survivors of acid attacks heal, thrive and live dignified lives.

6.2 MISSION

To improve the livelihood and well-being of survivors of acid attacks, burns and other forms of gender-based violence through treatment and rehabilitation, education, economic empowerment, promoting the rights and interests of survivors and institutional development.

7 PROGRAM DELIVERY AND ACHIEVEMENT

7.1 Awareness and Advocacy:

- i. Successfully participated in the 6th edition of the gathering of givers and the philanthropy week. We were also part of gathering (She's empowered) organized by the Ugandan North American Association. This gave us the opportunity to create awareness on Acid attacks, what we do and how to fight it.



Fig. 2: Hanifa during the She's Empowered gathering and Sharifah at the gathering of givers and CSO market and youth connect event.

- ii. Revamped our quarterly newsletters and gave updates on operations on the our website [here](#)
- iii. Together with FemmeForte, participated in the 16 days of activism through podcast discussion on how traditional and non-traditional organizations can co-exist.



Fig. 3: The Kimeeza Edition podcast at FemmeForte Uganda

7.2 Medical Support, Surgical Care, Psychosocial Support

CERESAV provided critical medical and recovery support to survivors of acid violence. Survivors Lillian, Babirye Martha, Fred, and Charles received medical care at Kiruddu Hospital, where CERESAV supported their surgical procedures, hospital bills, and nutritional needs to aid their recovery.

Beyond hospital care, CERESAV conducted home and hospital visits to provide psychosocial support to survivors and their families while also supplying nutritional supplements to support healing and wellbeing.

CERESAV also secured a home doctor to continue treating survivor Lillian from her home, ensuring consistent monitoring and care during her recovery. In addition, survivor Margret was supported to secure a visa to access specialized medical treatment in Europe.

These efforts reflect CERESAV's continued commitment to ensuring survivors receive comprehensive care that supports both their physical healing and emotional recovery.



Fig. 4: Offering Medical, Psychosocial support, nutrition support and Survivor Margret's send off to Europe for her surgical treatment

7.3 Education Fund

CERESAV supported 21 students through its Education Fund by providing annual school fees and essential scholastic materials. This support enabled children of acid attack survivors to remain in school and access quality education without disruption.

By easing the financial burden on survivor families, the Education Fund helps ensure that children can continue learning in a stable environment while their parents focus on recovery and rebuilding their livelihoods. To ensure transparency and accountability, CERESAV conducted a verification exercise to confirm that all supported children were enrolled in the listed schools and that the support was reaching the intended beneficiaries.

Through this initiative, CERESAV continues to invest in the future of survivor families by promoting education, stability, and opportunity for the next generation.



Fig 1: Some of the children CERESAV supports under the Education fund

7.4 Advocacy and Legal Aid

CERESAV supported survivor **Lillian Adiru** by facilitating court representation and providing logistical support to enable court witnesses to attend hearings. Working closely with the Women Probono Initiative, CERESAV received legal guidance and follow-up to ensure the case progressed in a timely manner. The perpetrator remains behind bars as the legal process continues.

CERESAV also supported **Fred**, a survivor from Mpigi, by facilitating investigations to identify and apprehend the perpetrator responsible for the acid attack against him. Through this support, the suspect was successfully arrested and is now behind bars.

Throughout these processes, CERESAV used media platforms to raise awareness about acid violence and keep the public informed, recognizing the strong public interest in such cases. CERESAV also extends appreciation to the **CERESAV UK team** for their financial support during these efforts.



Fig 2: CERESAV at the Lugazi Chief Magistrate Court during Survivor Lillian's case hearing

7.5 Strengthening Governance and Organizational Growth

7.5.1 On boarding new Board Members and Securing Office Space and member with Network for Active Citizens.

CERESAV strengthened its governance and institutional capacity by recruiting three new board members: Gloria Akakunda, Moses Fridrick Opio, and Melissa Deehring. Their addition brings diverse expertise and leadership to support the organization's strategic direction and growth.

During the year, CERESAV also successfully completed its membership registration with the Network for Active Citizens (NAC) and paid its annual subscription, further strengthening partnerships and opportunities for collaboration within the civil society sector.

In addition, 2025 marked an important milestone for the organization as CERESAV secured a shared office space at a friendly cost to support its day-to-day operations. This step enabled the organization to establish an official address: P.O. Box 173380, Kampala, Uganda, strengthening its institutional presence and accessibility.

7.6 Economic Empowerment

CERESAV continued to promote the economic empowerment of acid attack survivors by creating opportunities for skills development and income generation. Through our membership and partnership with the Network for Active Citizens, CERESAV participated in the Civil Society Market, which brings together civil society organizations and community actors. During the event, survivors showcased and sold their handmade woven baskets and mats, generating approximately **\$290 in sales** and gaining exposure for their products.

During the Easter season, CERESAV supported survivors **Yasin** and **Sylvia** with **\$200** to boost their small businesses and take advantage of increased market activity during the festive period. This support enabled them to stock their businesses, increase sales, and generate additional income. The initiative contributed to improving their wellbeing while strengthening their financial stability and business growth. We also supported Survivor Shamim in Lugazi with starting a Mobile money business in her community to help with sustaining herself and taking care of her baby.

Additionally, through our partnership with the Kampala Disability Foundation and connections with the Stanbic Incubator, survivors participated in a digital entrepreneurship training program organized by the Mastercard Foundation in partnership with the Stanbic Incubator. The training equipped survivors with skills on how to market their businesses online and leverage opportunities within the growing digital economy.

These initiatives strengthened survivors' ability to generate income, build confidence, and improve their financial independence as they rebuild their lives.



Fig 4: CERESAV at the CSO market,



Fig 3: Survivors during the digital literacy training and Survivor Shamim at her mobile money business

7.7 Community Engagements and Outreach

Through CERESAV's partnership and membership with the Network for Active Citizens (NAC), survivors participated in a community clean-up outreach in Nakawa Division. The activity was supported by the Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) and DreamTown, one of NAC's partners.

The outreach provided survivors with an opportunity to actively engage with the community while promoting environmental responsibility. It also created a valuable platform for CERESAV to raise awareness about acid violence and expand its reach within the Nakawa community.



Fig. 5: Survivor Margret and Charles at the Nakawa Community Clean up

8 SUCCESS STORIES



" This is the first time I have removed my glasses and mask in a public setting ever since I came out of hospital. I feel so confident and free because people love me here and see me as a normal person just like them. Everyone has been hugging and socializing with me freely without fear. I must acknowledge that I have had the greatest experience of my life in this CSO market. Please organize more events like this one so that we can come and live freely with people out here ". Survivor Margret at the CSO Market

Fig. 6: Survivor Margret Nalumansi while at the CSO market



"I never allowed my daughter to come to the hospital when I got this acid attack because I was scared of how she would react and I thought I was going to die. It has taken me a lot of courage and confidence from the support I receive from CERESAV to face my daughter today for the first time ever since the attack. I know she was scared of me at first because of my new appearance but after interacting with Madam Sharifah, she has gotten out the fear in her and I was able to hold and carry on my laps. Thank you so much CERESAV" Survivor Charles

Fig 1: Survivor Charles during his daughter's school visit



"Before CERESAV came to me, I was struggling with paying school fees for my daughter Namusoke Brenda because of my disability and I don't know who her father for that fact that I was raped. I am happy now that I believe my she will be able to complete her primary Education without being chased from school because of fees. Now I can focus on looking for money for my surgery". Survivor Catherine

Fig 2: Survivor Nalwoga Catherine while we had visited for the Education Verification Exercise

12 Death Announcement

The CERESAV community sadly lost members of the survivor community whose lives and stories touched us deeply.

We mourn the passing of Naigaga Joyce, who died of a heart failure and left behind 3 children. We also lost Catherine, a survivor from Kisoro District, who sadly did not survive the acid attack due to severe burn injuries, and lastly we remember John Adong, who also passed away following petrol burns.

Their passing is a great loss to their families, communities, and to the CERESAV family. We extended our heartfelt condolences to their loved ones during that time.

May their souls rest in eternal peace.

Dear CERESAV Sponsors and supporters,

In 2025, CERESAV made meaningful progress in supporting survivors through medical care, psychosocial support, legal assistance, education, and economic empowerment initiatives. These achievements were made possible because of the generosity and commitment of our partners, donors, and supporters.

Your support enabled survivors to access treatment, children to remain in school through the Education Fund, and communities to become more aware of the fight against acid violence. It also helped CERESAV strengthen its partnerships and operational capacity.

As we move into 2026, we reaffirm our commitment to standing with survivors and advancing efforts to prevent acid and burn violence. We look forward to your continued support as we work together to restore hope, dignity, and opportunity for survivors and their families.

9 2024 IN NUMBERS

In 2025, CERESAV reached over 100,000 people through the following engagements

Details	Numbers
Survivors supported	40
Children of Survivors under the Education fund	21
Femmeforte podcast	2 hosts, over 10,000 views and impressions
Number of views on CERESAV YouTube Channel and other Media channels	Over 40k
Number of Participants for the Psychosocial support sessions	20
Partners and CSOs	WOLI, NAC, SYRADO, Women Probono Initiative, Action for Youth Development, Path for Health, Climate Smart Youth Action Network, Ugandan Supreme Court, Access Plus, Femme Forte, Soroti University, etc.
Media Houses CERESAV worked with	Nation Media (NBS) Over 50k views (Impact Uganda Program)
Blog posts (Lawrence Technological Institute	1
Facebook posts	Over 300 views and likes

10 IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Face Forward International	An international organization that was founded on the principle that Survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and cruel acts should have access to surgical care and emotional counseling regardless of their level of income.
Without Exception Films	An independent filmmaker and production company whose aim is to create films that highlight social issues and injustices with a call to action.
SHUG!	A clothing Line that has supported CERESAV in implementing its programs whenever there's need
Network for Active Citizens	a Community-Driven Development and Advocacy organization working to amplify their voices to influence governance and Democratic issues.
Women's Love Initiative	WOLI is an effective human rights-based organization, empowering girls, youth and women to attain their full potential through community sensitizations.
Slum Youth Rehabilitation and Development Organization	A young women-led NGO that improves the livelihood of youth, women and girls with different programs.
Kampala Disability Foundation	A community based organization that supports and celebrates person with special needs in Uganda.

11 FINANCE

Items	Income (\$)	Activities	Expenditure (\$)
Fundraising Efforts	31,499	Education Fund	8167
		Education Verification Exercise	3502
		Salaries	11,600
		Rent	2,400
		Audit fees	500
		Utilities	1,440
		NAC membership and registration	150
		Jalia's case legal fees	2,500
		Survivor Charles and Fred's Surgery, their medical and nutritional care	740
		Survivor Margret's Visa cost and logistics	500
Donations from Sharitah's UK Ramadan Fundraiser	200	Survivor Yasin and Sylvia's Business boost	200
Funds from the auction Night in the Uk	1,500	Survivors Legal and Medical and Nutritional support (Lillian Adiru and Fred Mutagubya)	1,000
Sales from the Civil Society Organization Market	260	Survivor Jamida Support and business income	160
		Survivor Shamira mobile money Business startup	100
Total	32,839		32,839

Our Team



Fig. 7: Left: Executive Director, Kibirango Sharifah, Middle: Outreach coordinator, Nalumansi Margaret, Right: Psychosocial support coordinator, Charles Kalanzi



Fig. 8: Left: Advocacy Lead, Sharitah Kyomuhendo Right: Board Technical Advisor, Matovu J Isa