2025

IMPACT NOTE

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LEARNERS ENGAGE IN PARTNER READING DURING A COMMUNITY CAMP IN MITYANA DISTRICT, CENTRAL UGANDA.

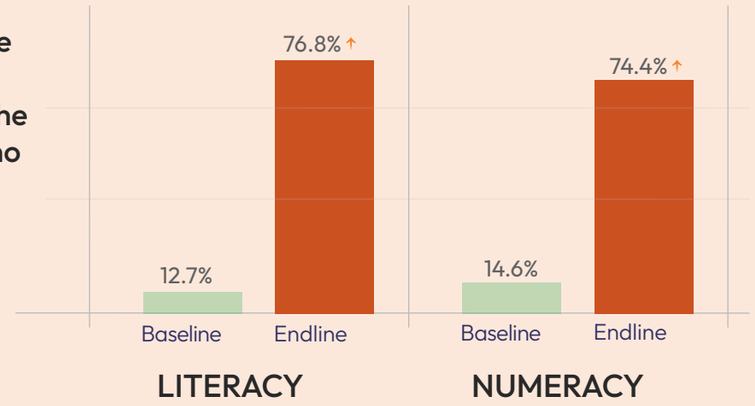
REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN 2025

2025 was a year of remarkable growth and impact for Building Tomorrow (BT). Powered by the relentless determination of our Community Education Teams (CETs), partners, and staff, BT reached a record number of learners through Roots to Rise, bringing us closer to our vision of literacy and numeracy for all children. Our signature literacy and numeracy program, Roots to Rise, helps children in rural East Africa build the foundational skills they need to achieve grade-level competencies through targeted instruction and structured pedagogy.

2025 by the Numbers: A Snapshot

Minimum Proficiency Level (MPL)

MPL denotes the percentage of learners who have achieved the minimum skills needed to attend to their grade-level learning, effectively indicating the percentage of learners for whom remediation is no longer required.



84.5%
of learners improved at least one level in literacy

80.2%
of learners improved at least one level in numeracy

401,966
learners enrolled in a Roots to Rise (R2R) camp

3,692
children with disabilities enrolled in R2R

54,415
total out-of-school children (OOSC) were enrolled in school

2,010
OOSC with disabilities were enrolled in school

6,526
new Community Education Volunteers (CEVs) recruited

1,230,908
volunteer hours committed by CEVs

BT STAFF AND COHORT 1 FELLOWS PAUSE FOR A PHOTO AFTER COMPLETING FELLOWS' PRE-SERVICE TRAINING IN RWANDA.

BUILDING MOMENTUM IN RWANDA

In 2025, rooted in the practical knowledge and deep impact achieved throughout rural Uganda since 2006, BT partnered with the government of Rwanda to begin implementing Roots to Rise through our community-powered model. Thus began the next chapter of BT.

Launching our programs with 10 inaugural Fellows–young Rwandan university graduates committed to improving literacy and numeracy outcomes–we began our work in Ngororero District in September by training and skilling 200 CEVs as key implementers of R2R. By the end of 2025, these CEVs reached 3,603 learners with R2R. Of those learners, 45% advanced at least one level in literacy and 43% advanced at least one level in numeracy. These early improvements illustrate the potential of BT's impact in Rwanda and the efficacy of the community-powered model.

PARTNERING FOR SCALE IN UGANDA

In addition to formalizing its partnership with the Government of Rwanda in 2025, BT deepened its relationships with national and local government stakeholders in Uganda, supporting government strategies to improve literacy and numeracy across East Africa. In Uganda, BT kick-started discussions with the Ministry of Education and Sports to co-create a tailored R2R teacher training model. Further, BT engaged senior ministry officials to build up the case for national adoption and integration into government education systems.

In Jinja and Kamuli Districts in Eastern Uganda, BT deepened our Education Systems Strengthening (ESS) work through a co-creation workshop. Together, these efforts moved BT closer to its goal of government-led scale and long-term sustainability.

A STUDENT USES THE LADDER METHOD FOR MULTIPLICATION DURING A SCHOOL-BASED R2R CAMP.

RECOGNITION ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

In 2025, BT was honored to receive the **Library of Congress Literacy Awards International Prize**! The International Prize recognizes one organization per year that significantly contributes to raising literacy levels in a country outside of the United States. The Library of Congress honored BT with this award in recognition of our community-powered impact on literacy outcomes in East Africa.

Additionally, in 2025, BT strengthened its leadership role in promoting community-powered education solutions. In September, on the sidelines of the **80th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**, BT hosted an energizing panel titled "Co-Creating Capacity: Aligning Community and Government for Scalable Foundational Learning" as part of Education House. The panel and workshop participants discussed the importance of community-based solutions in tackling learning poverty, how these solutions can be scaled, and how to best integrate community volunteers into government education systems.

BT was also honored to have a publication championing our community-powered model through a publication in the **Stanford Social Innovation Review**. The article outlines how CEVs have reduced learning poverty for nearly three-quarters of the learners enrolled in R2R, as well as BT's vision for scaling the community-based approach in East Africa.



BUILDING TOMORROW STAFF, FELLOWS, AND PARTNERS GATHER IN KAMPALA TO CELEBRATE WINNING THE 2025 U.S. LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LITERACY AWARDS INTERNATIONAL PRIZE.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LITERACY AWARD WINNER 2025 INTERNATIONAL PRIZE

“In my village, most parents never had the chance to go to school, so they didn't see why their children should either. Kids stayed home to help with chores or simply because no one expected otherwise. I started visiting families one by one, and slowly, children began showing up to class.”

SARAH KAGOYA | COMMUNITY EDUCATION VOLUNTEER

Sarah Kagoya has been a Building Tomorrow Community Education Volunteer for almost three years in Iganga District, Eastern Uganda.



FINANCIALS

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	$3,141,065
Contributions receivable - net	$3,223,322
Prepaid and other assets	$26,135
Property and equipment - net	$811,394
Total assets	$7,201,916

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	$170,879
Refundable advance	$62,338
Total liabilities	$233,217
Net assets	
Without donor restrictions	$3,274,283
With donor restrictions	$3,694,416
Total net assets	$6,968,699
Total liabilities and net assets	$7,201,916

SUPPORT AND REVENUE

	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
Support			
Contributions of financial assets	$835,342	$5,357,584	$6,192,926
Construction revenue	$387,095	-	$387,095
Other income	$83,495	-	$83,495
Total support and revenue	$1,305,932	$5,565,549	$6,871,481

RECLASSIFICATION

Net assets released from restrictions			
Satisfaction of purpose or time restrictions	$6,706,251	($6,706,251)	-
Total reclassification	$6,706,251	($6,706,251)	-

EXPENSES

Program services	$5,536,991	-	$5,536,991
Supporting activities			
General and administrative	$788,500	-	$788,500
Fundraising activities	$278,194	-	$278,194
Total Expenses	$6,603,685	-	$6,603,685
Change in net assets before translation adjustment	$1,408,498	($1,140,702)	$267,796
Translation adjustment	($17,450)	-	($17,450)
Change in net assets	$1,391,048	($1,140,702)	$250,346
Net assets, beginning of year	$1,883,235	$4,835,118	$6,718,353
Net assets, end of year	$3,274,283	$3,694,416	$6,968,699

Uganda

Plot 679 Wamala Rd.
(off Entebbe Rd)
AMFIU House,
Najjanankumbi,
Kampala

Rwanda

Fairview House
Westerwelle Start Up
Haus Kigali
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