



MEET OUR PARTNER: **Kadoth Reproductive Health and Child Initiative**

Location: Rukungiri, Uganda

Year Established: 2010

FCDE Partner Since: 2015

Kadoth's Mission is to provide holistic health care to women, the elderly, and orphans and vulnerable children.

OUR PARTNERSHIP

Annette has more than 23 years of experience working as a community midwife in Rukungiri District. After witnessing first-hand many of the challenges to access and delivery of compassionate health care in rural Uganda, she founded Kadoth Reproductive Health and Child Initiative in 2010 to serve the needs of pregnant women, the elderly, and orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs). Today, Kadoth is a certified Health Center III that provides high-quality sought-after reproductive, geriatric, antenatal, and obstetrical care (including ultrasounds), as well as family planning, delivery, lab, and ambulatory services to vulnerable men, women, and children in Rukungiri. Kadoth staff treat approximately 70 pregnant mothers, 40 infants, 20 elderly patients, and deliver between 10-15 babies each month. The clinic's ambulance is one of only three in the entire district, and has transported patients as far as Nairobi, Kenya, to receive life-saving treatment.

Since partnering with FCDE in 2015, Kadoth has increased access to maternal and child health services in Rukungiri with the help of training, funding, and professional advising provided through our partnership. Following a thorough organizational evaluation and creation of a new strategic plan, Kadoth was able to increase the number of educational outreach activities focused on maternal health from one to four times a month in Rukungiri Town's surrounding rural villages, areas where most women lack basic education and health information. According to Annette, fear and stigma associated with doctors and hospital births is a leading cause of preventable illness and morbidity among young mothers and babies in rural Uganda, as mothers don't know how or are too afraid to seek the care they need. Following the improved community sensitization and outreach efforts, Kadoth saw a 30% increase in young women and mothers seeking services at their clinic last year.

"FCDE has empowered us with knowledge so we now see better results from our work."

- Annette, Kadoth's Executive Director (pictured above in her ambulance)



In 2016, FCDE awarded \$2,000 USD in small grant funding to Kadoth's project aimed at reducing maternal mortality and increasing awareness about maternal health care among young mother between 14-22 years of age. Thirty young mothers were selected to receive free antenatal care during their pregnancy and after check-ups after delivery. So far, six mothers have delivered naturally and without complications at the clinic. Five of the beneficiaries were also trained as peer health educators to ensure the project's long term sustainability. Pictured from left to right: Two of Kadoth's beneficiaries from the FCDE funded program, FCDE staff Esther Nahabwe, and Annette, Kadoth's Executive Director.