

# UNIVERSAL CHASTITY EDUCATION 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Faith Inspires. Hope is Born. Health Follows.





# UCE-USA Director Message

Dear Friends of UCE,

I'm happy to share an abundance of "good news" with you, our supporters, who make this beautiful ministry possible. In our world, that seems to grow darker by the day, the ministry of Universal Chastity Education continues to be a shining light in Africa. This past year, UCE delivered 357 chastity outreaches with 126,767 young people signing chastity commitments. I invite you to read the beautiful stories in the pages that follow. Be encouraged by the inspiring work UCE's teams in Africa are doing all year round!

On page 5, I invite you to read the wonderful testimonies shared by both students and a headmaster in UCE-Burundi. One student shares how UCE's message prevented her from being a teen dropout. Another student was tempted to engage in prostitution to get by, but UCE's message convicted the student to embrace chastity and also set a good example for her sisters.

This year, I was impressed to see the UCE-Uganda-Kasese and UCE-Uganda-Masaka programs in person. The UCE teams were composed of all different walks of life, including younger and older men and women, a pastor, and the powerful witness of 2nd chances. This sharing created a powerful impact to the students. Unique to UCE-Uganda is the music praising the Lord. I personally loved how the UCE teams and students sung their heartfelt praises and cries to God, often at the beginning of the outreach. When we visited one school, there was a phrase on the students t-shirts that struck me: "He who struggles wins." This message of chastity, although not a popular message, is God's way, blessed and fruitful. I like to adapt that and say, "He who struggles in Christ, wins." Let us persevere with spreading the "good news" of chastity! Besides hosting our USA team and UCE Africa Director, they also share many awesome program accomplishments from during the year on pages six and seven. There's also an opportunity to scan the QR code and view moving video highlights from our Uganda trip.

UCE-Tanzania had remarkable accomplishments by reaching two new districts this year. On page eight, you can see the pictures and stories of so many youth who were transformed this year, despite the many difficulties that some students face.

In closing, it's your support that makes this ministry possible. This report is full of "good news" from the pro-life chastity education outreaches that the UCE-African teams deliver. Whether it is youth who choose chastity as a "second chance" and better their lives because of that decision, or students who embrace the message for the first time, thank you. I invite you to hear UCE-Africa's special

words of appreciation to you, our supporters, by scanning the QR code below for a short video and reading pages 10 and 11. Thank you for joining UCE in transforming *thousands* of youth in Africa!

In Christ,

Sarah J Smith



Scan QR code for a special thank you from UCE-Africa



UCE-Uganda, Kasese Director, Fr. Joseph Tumuisime, leads a UCE outreach in Uganda with Trent & Sarah Smith (left) and Drs. Ken & Kim Dernovsek (right) observing.

"For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light." Ephesians 5:8



# UCE-Africa Director Message

Praise the Lord Jesus Christ.

First of all, I am more than grateful to God for this fiscal year. It has been a unique and blessed year for UCE programs in Africa. Many youths have been reached and the majority of them have chosen chastity. Chastity's message "had yet" to be accepted among the youth, teachers, parents, and community at large. It

as the way of life. Chastity's message "had yet" to be accepted among the youth, teachers, parents, and community at large. It has now become concrete to fill in the gaps that young people experience in their lives. Parents are expecting teachers to inform their children about sexuality. Yet, parents are also afraid of what will be taught. On the other side, teachers assume it's a parent's role to educate their children on sexuality. At the end of the day, neither parents nor teachers are talking to young people about their sexuality. Through UCE outreaches, teachers and parents are very grateful for chastity education. This makes chastity to be a win-win message in our community. The joy and happiness have been observed during the outreaches. The testimonies have confirmed that the right people were reached at the right time with the right message.

UCE teams have acquired adequate skills in ministering to the youth and the community in general. They have become more advanced in the level of their competencies of delivering chastity messages to different people across the generations. Observing the team during the outreaches, you will notice the great treasure that UCE has. Some of them were still young when they joined the UCE team. Currently, they are parents, and they have started to share the message with their own children. Ooh! They are not to be shaken at all. They are like the baobab tree, which cannot be shaken with the blowing wind. They have stood up and been firm with the chastity message in spite of the changing world.

This fiscal year visitation has added the fire to our programs. As UCE-Africa Director, I visited Uganda. It was such a blessing to meet brothers and sisters that I know and who have joined the UCE program. We continue to learn from each other. The fire was very high, when the Pearl of Africa received visitors from the US. One of the ancient proverbs says, "Let the guest come and the host will be healed"; the UCE team was more energetic. The fuel was added more to their burning flames. Even the neighbors asked what was happening to the UCE family. They continue to hear the UCE team singing the song "There is something today in the House of the LORD". Who would have resisted to come and join them? The house was full and more lives were saved. Not only had the young ones joined the team. This time around, the fuel was also added to the couples. They sang together "See what the Lord has done", when celebrating the anniversary of the UCE co-founding directors, Drs. Ken and Kim Dernovsek. Such joyful moments!

Prayer remains our powerful foundation in the UCE program. Prayers have joined us together. God has continued to surprise us each year. Glory and Honor be to God! UCE Africa is grateful to our UCE Board of Directors for their guidance and support. We are grateful to all our supporters. We continue to pray that God will bless you and grant you good health and long life in Jesus Christ.





Mr. Isaac Lema leads a UCE outreach.

"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain." 1 Corinthians 15:58

## 2023 Overview



UCE is a Christian interdenominational 501(c)(3) non-profit organization with Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans, non-denominational Christians, and others working together for a common life-saving mission.

## Ministry

UCE Mission: To promote, through Christian principles, abstinence and faithful marriage as the healthiest way of life.

UCE Vision: To empower a growing number of people to be free from slavery to passions, STDs and painful memories by building and expanding sustainable networks of education to help people live healthier and longer lives.

\$165,975

\$178,851

\$10,647

\$2,229

93%

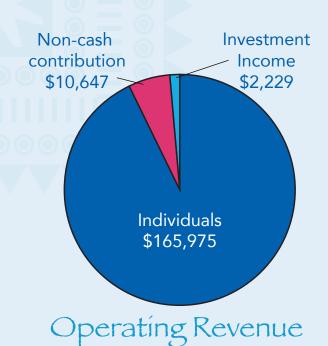
6%

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## 357 Outreaches 126,767 Chastity Commitments 104 UCE Clubs

# Administration \$9,549 \$20,018 Program Services \$140,424

Operating Expenses
Program Services \$140,424 82%
Administration \$20,018 12%
Fundraising \$9,549 6%
Total \$169,991



N.B. This annual report and these financial charts are derived from reporting for the UCE fiscal year ending July 31, 2023.

**Individuals** 

Total

Non-cash contribution

Investment Income

# UCE-Burundi

#### **44 Outreaches**

### 12,536 Chastity Commitments

## **27 UCE Clubs**



In Burundi, the UCE message stands the test of time. UCE-Burundi sends so many beautiful testimonies each year from both headmasters and students alike. For example, this year when the UCE team presented at Buheka Fundamental School, the headmaster himself welcomed the team with great joy, because he had

"They brought me here to bring back order, but they don't know that the secret is UCE teachings."

Headmaster

been touched by UCE during his schooling in 2008 (see accompanied picture). Additionally, the student testimony below was given.

#### UCE prevented a teen dropout

"I am happy for the UCE message, because I was about to abandon the school. My boyfriend was proposing that I stop studying, so that he may marry me. He was asking me to lay with him...Since I am hearing this good message from the

UCE team, I decided first to continue studying and protecting my life against HIV/AIDS/STDs, using

abstinence. I will encourage others to follow me in order to arrive at our destination. Blessings upon all UCE team members." Adeline

#### UCE helped uphold the dignity of human life

After an outreach at Gatwaro Fundamental School, a student testified. "I'm from a poor family. I was thinking about how to get money by starting prostitution. Now, as I am being taught of how important it is to maintain my chastity, I decide for chastity. I hope that God will still be on my side and help me. I will also encourage my little sisters to follow my path. May the Lord strengthen the UCE team." Honorine

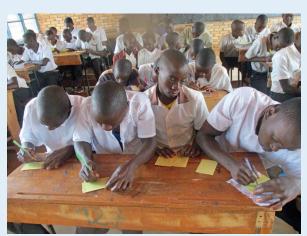


Buheka Fundamental School outreach

When the UCE team visited Mabanda II Fundamental School, the headmaster was aware how the UCE message is powerful to change and transform student behavior, because of his leadership at his previous school. According to him, UCE helped him bring back order in his previous school, where he had many teen pregnancy drop outs. The headmaster added, "Hopefully, even here things are going to change, because they brought me here to bring back order, but they don't know that the secret is UCE teachings."



Students proudly sharing their signed chastity cards.



Youth signing chastity cards.

# UCE-Uganda, Kasese

#### 108 Outreaches

## 15,940 Chastity Commitments 42 UCE Clubs



The UCE team reported on some challenges facing youth in Uganda. This includes the majority of youth having smartphones, with access to social media and pornographic movies, songs, etc. The threat of HIV/ AIDs/STDs, teen pregnancy, school dropout, abuse, trafficking, early forced marriage, and severe poverty is a reality among the youth. To help combat these challenges, the UCE team helped educate the youth about their God-given dignity and the message of



Girls at St Therese School excited for the UCE message.

chastity. Many students took the UCE message to heart.

#### **Excellent Student Academic Performance**

St. Therese Girls Secondary School thanked UCE for helping their students excel on their final exams. They attributed this success to God and the UCE message. The UCE team had encouraged them to be God-fearing, set positive goals, and work toward

achieving those goals. When the USA team accompanied the Kasese team on an outreach to this school in June, the students were ecstatic with the message, music, and encouragement from the visit (see picture).

#### "God's Miracle"

UCE-Africa Director, Mr. Isaac Lema, also visited UCE-Uganda this past year. Isaac, together with the UCE team, did an outreach at Katwe. The parish priest there, Fr. Alfred, shared that he is a priest, because the UCE team reached his school when he was young and encouraged abstinence. He asked the youth, "Did I die because I abstained from sex"? As a priest, he continues with abstinence and is very happy. The UCE team called this outreach "God's miracle," because they faced many challenges to set it up and do it. For example, the school administration bounced their booking letter three times. The students were 2 ½ hours late arriving to the outreach, thus delaying the outreach. Also, many youth at the start of the outreach were saying that it's impossible to abstain. However, at the end of the outreach, 123 students (the majority) chose to sign a chastity card and were truly touched by the message (see picture below).

#### **UCE Clubs**

The UCE clubs continue to do an excellent job reinforcing the UCE message. For example, during a sports match between Kyalumba and Bukangara, over 2,000 people attended from all walks of life. The UCE team was passing on the UCE message during the game. At the end of the game, many people requested more information for UCE to reach their schools and churches (see picture).



UCE club sports match



Students at Katwe outreach.

# UCE-Uganda, Masaka

## 117 Outreaches

## 17,772 Chastity Commitments

#### 10 UCE Clubs



Teacher gives powerful UCE testimony from when he signed a chastity card 15 years ago.

The UCE team in Masaka continues to excel. They deliver an average of 10 UCE outreaches each month, with so many youth and teachers grateful for the message. For example, during the UCE outreach to St Bernard's Secondary School, a teacher gave a

testimony that he signed a chastity card 15 years ago. He told the students that the UCE message is real, and it kept him on track. He waited for his wife until he finished studying. She was pressing him, but because of the UCE commitment, he waited until the right time. The chastity card reminds the students always of their commitment (see picture).

Approximately 800 youth enthusiastically participated in "Chastity Day" celebrations, which included prayer, UCE talks, youth sport competitions, food, and fun for all who attended.

This year, a milestone was celebrated by UCE volunteer, Godfrey Bukenya. The UCE team was there to witness and celebrate his marriage. The wife signed the UCE card, too, and vowed to be faithful to her husband (see picture).

The team also warmly welcomed and hosted the USA team, who visited UCE-Uganda in June. To enjoy some video highlights from this trip, scan the QR code below.



USA team arrives in Uganda. From left to right, Dr. Sam Ebersole (UCE-Board member), Sara Jane Ebersole, Dr. Kim Dernovsek (UCE co-Founder), Fr. Deusdedit Ssekabira (UCE-Masaka Director), Dr. Ken Dernovsek (UCE co-Founder), Trent Smith, Sarah Smith (USA Director)



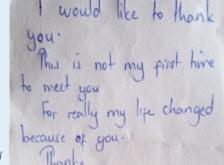
Scan QR code for UCE-Uganda June trip highlights





Mr & Mrs Bukenya Godfrey on their wedding day.

"The UCE message is real, and it kept him on track."



A student's personal thank you to UCE.

## UCE-Tanzanía

#### 88 Outreaches 25 UCE Clubs **80,519 Chastity Commitments**

The UCE team has blessed innumerable students by reaching new districts across Tanzania. To do this, the team must apply and be granted a permit through the regional educational offices of that area. This year, UCE reached two new districts. In Tabora Municipality (northwest Tanzania), the UCE team reached all 35 secondary schools, with an astounding 18,934 students signing chastity pledges. In Ruvuma region (southern Tanzania), UCE reached 42 out of the 44 secondary schools there, where an amazing 20,083 students signed chastity pledges.

from home to school. On the way, they encounter many temptations to have



Students attentive to the UCE presentation.

sex."

The chastity message also helps youth with the difficulties they face. Headmistress Anita Joseph relates, "Some students are going through family challenges because they are raised by one parent, or many of them have been

experiencing conflicts in their families. Some students walk very long distances

RWANDA **TANZANIA** 

The feedback from both regions was overwhelming positive. For example, at Lizaboni Secondary School outreach, the academic master, Mr. Shega, insisted students follow the message. He said, "This is a very special message for all students. This love of the UCE team to travel far and reach those students is the elegance of God... It is not easy for someone to share this message with a person who is not your relative or your neighbor, but only UCE has done."

At Taif Foundation Secondary School, the school secretary, Miss Agness, welcomed the UCE team. Miss Agness recognized the message as having received it when she was in school. Indeed, UCE had come to her school in 2014, and she signed a card. She said, "You guys changed my life very much, and up to now I am living a chaste life." A nearby teacher, Mr. Derick, overheard and responded, "So, UCE, you're the one who makes her hard to seduce, because we tried our best but she always refused." The UCE team invited Mr. Derick to commit to a 2nd chance, to pray to God, and begin a new life. During the UCE outreach at that school, all 103 students signed chastity cards.



"You guys changed my life very much, and up to now I am living a chaste life."

Students excited about their new chastity pledges.

# Clergy Endorsement



## Diocese of Colorado Springs

Office of the Bishop 228 North Cascade Avenue Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

Telephone (719) 636-2345 • FAX (719) 866-6488

March 2, 2023

Dr. Kim K. Dernovsek, and Dr. Kenneth D. Dernovsek, Founders Universal Chastity Education PO Box 3541 Pueblo, CO 81005

Dear Drs. Dernovsek:

I commend Universal Chastity Education (UCE) for their outstanding work in schools, villages, churches and anywhere young people may gather. I am very impressed by your international prolife ministry and the excellent results from the chastity education outreaches in many African countries. Your teams bring a message of hope, forgiveness, second chances, purity, and God's plan for our lives regarding our sexuality.

In the world we live in today, it is often confusing to know how we are to use God's gift of sexuality. Young people have been getting wrong information from the media! Fortunately, UCE is enlightening the youth with the correct message, through their mission of promoting abstinence and faithful marriage as the healthiest way of life, to include delivering well-designed and effective HIV/AIDS prevention programs.

I also appreciate your efforts to offer your services and ministry to the people of our Diocese. I strongly recommend UCE to the pastors of the Diocese of Colorado Springs. I hope the donation from the Diocese of Colorado Springs will help you to continue to further God's work. May God Bless your ministry and help you to spread God's truth about the dignity of every person and His gift of sexuality.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James R. Golka Bishop of Colorado Springs

James R Dolka

# Appreciation from UCE-Africa

#### Appreciation from UCE-Africa

Each year, we receive an abundance of gratitude from students, teachers, and administrators on the ground in Africa. May these words of thanks inspire and encourage you.

"Thank You, UCE for helping a Ugandan, an African child....You are like Jesus, who sacrificed His life by dying on the cross, for the good of human kind. You do a similar act as UCE founders and funders. Every coin you sacrifice has a positive impact on a soul. We humbly ask you to continue supporting UCE to reach more and more people. It's our humble prayer for God to keep opening more financial doors so that more souls are reached and saved." UCE-Uganda, Kasese



A teacher at Uganda Martyrs School kneels down with gratitude thanking Fr. Deusdedit and the UCE-Uganda, Masaka team for the good UCE teachings to her students (see picture).

#### A Headmaster's Thank You

"I'm grateful for the UCE team. We, as headmasters, are ashamed when we start the school year with many students and end the year with about half of those who started. I thank God because we are still at the beginning of the first term. This UCE encouragement is powerful. I am strengthened by it. I will keep reminding my students what they have heard. I regret for those who have already gone. Perhaps if they would have heard the message, they would not have done what they did. God bless UCE supporters and the team." Jamvier Nahayo, Headmaster from Burundi

#### Gratitude for UCE Clubs

UCE clubs are active in some schools to reinforce the chastity message. A student, Jennifer, expressed her gratitude saying, "Being in a UCE club from 2019 to 2022 was an unforgettable experience... I am among the witnesses of chastity and its benefit... it pays to live a chaste life."

On the following page, Bishop Serverus Jjumba, a Bishop serving Masaka, Uganda expresses his appreciation for UCE. Masaka, Uganda is one region UCE reaches. It has a total population of two million, with young people composing at least 1.3 million.



UCE-Tanzania club members proudly show their UCE certificates during their graduation event.

"Every coin you sacrifice has a positive impact on a soul."



## MASAKA DIOCESE

Bishop's House, P.O. BOX 70, Masaka, Uganda (East Africa)

21<sup>st</sup> August, 2023

Sarah smith **UCE** Director USA.

Dear Director.

RE: APPRECIATION

Warm greetings from the Catholic Diocese of Masaka.

The purpose of this letter is to share the strong impact the program of Universal Chastity Education (UCE) has made in my Diocese under the direction of Fr. Ssekabira Deusdedit as the Diocesan Youth Chaplain.

The program started in 2016 encouraging young people and the youth to live a life of chastity before marriage. As St. Paul puts 1Cor. (3:16-17) "Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit." The youths throughout the Diocese have been taught to treat their bodies with respect because they are created in God's image.

The youth in Uganda make 65% of the population, this shows a great impact the UCE message has made in the Diocese. The message is given to both youth in school and those out of school.

According to the schools, the UCE message has been carried to is that there is a positive response for both the students and the teachers; there has been a reduction of teenage pregnancy, the decrease of HIV/AIDs among the young people (prevalence rate 5.2%), improved behaviors among the students, decrease in the use of drugs, decrease in school drop outs, academic performance improvement and also strengthening of the Christian marriages.

Also some youths have joined the religious life to live fully the life of chastity by loving God more and also spreading the message of chastity for life.

I am grateful for the support to the UCE ministry in my Diocese and also I pray that you continue supporting Universal Chastity Education.

God's blessings.

In Christ.

Rt. Rev. Serverus Jjumba **BISHOP OF MASAKA DIOCESE** 

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# Helping People Live Healthy Lives

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