

Voices of WMI: Insights and Reflections from Our Team



Compiled by our 2024 Summer Interns Sakura and Kurumi



How has WMI empowered you as a woman?

"WMI has empowered me by giving me this leadership opportunity. The community respects me, calling me 'Director'. Traditionally, leadership positions in the village were held by men. For us widows, it was especially hard because people rather give a position to a married women who has a man by her side. But WMI empowers all women, whether they're married, single, or widowed."

Olive Walimbwa,
Local Director



Milly Walimbwa,
Finance Manager



"Through WMI I have made numerous contacts across the districts, with banks, government ministers and other NGOs. That has given me valuable connections that rural women traditionally lack because they are in the home or at the farm. This has opened new doors and accessed new opportunities for rural women and our community."

What is your favorite part of WMI?

Grace Mangali
Local Operations
Manager



"My favorite part of WMI is collecting the loans. When the women come in to repay their loans, it allows us to keep our program running and provides capital to fund new loans to first-time borrowers. This sustainability means we can continue to empower and impact even more women in the future."

What keeps you motivated?

"What keeps me motivated is seeing how WMI uplifts women. It has empowered us and made us independent. Before WMI, women faced many struggles and burdens of poverty. Now, women are busy with their business and generating income. Men now respect them. Before WMI, it was only men providing for their family's needs. Now women are providing for their families as well. Women have become leaders in our community, and this motivates me."

Phyllis Catherine Wanyenze,
Loan Coordinator
(Kyibooko Center)



What is your hope for rural women in Uganda?

"I hope to see improvements in their lives. With access to loans, they can educate their children, afford school fees, have better nutrition, dress well, and increase their household income.

My wish is for all rural women to establish businesses, purchase land, save money, and build homes for themselves and their families."

**Phoebe Irene
Wetaka,**
Head Coordinator
(Busiita Center)



**Jackline
Namonye,**
Assistant Local
Director
(Budeda Center)



"I believe that in the future, rural women will be even more advanced. Due to their own hard work they will build well-constructed houses, more children will receive a quality education, and the dropout rates will reduce. Rural children, especially girls, will be have access to more skills training and options for their futures. Rural women will be uplifted through WMI and will in turn uplift their families and communities."

What is your favorite memory at WMI?

"My favorite memory at WMI is when I received my first loan. There were no other organizations to give me a loan, and none were focused on helping rural women specifically. That loan allowed me to take care of myself, support my relatives, and create a successful school that currently has 504 students. I wouldn't have been able to achieve any of this without the opportunity WMI gave me with that first loan."

Muhenge Penina,
Loan Coordinator
(Gombe Center)



Contact Us:

Stay in touch with us. Use any of these avenues of communication to learn more about our mission, to receive updates from WMI on our programming and operations, and to find out how you can help.

Email: wmicontact@gmail.com **Phone:** +1 (301) 520-0865

Address:
Robyn Nietert, President P.O. Box 485
Cabin John, MD
20818 USA

Subscribe to Updates:
Email: wmicontact@gmail.com
Subject line: Subscribe to WMI Updates



wmionline.org