# ERIC CANCER INITIATIVE

UGANDA



## A Word from our Program manager

## Empowering You, Empowering Health.

Breast cancer is a journey no one should face alone, and prevention and early recognition is the best medicine. Eric Cancer Initiative is committed to providing women and girls of reproductive ages with practical breast-self exam steps and knowledge to help women and girls take control of their breast health. From life style changes to early detection and screening, we can reduce the risk of breast cancer and stay ahead of this disease. Join us as we navigate the world of breast cancer prevention together, and let's take the first step towards a healthier, happier future-starting today!



This report outlines diverse activities and represents the collective determination of our team, volunteers, and partners whose relentless pursuit has made meaningful contributions to the fight against breast cancer. We have registered incredible results while using our 40%- 20%-40% model which guides our interventions in the communities of Uganda.

#### **ERIC Celebrates**



8,160 individuals, 8,160 stories of hope and resilience.

With breast cancer awareness, they've been empowered to take control of their health, to speak up and seek help when it matters most.

They've been given a voice, a chance to break free from the shackles of fear and uncertainty. They've been inspired to prioritize their well-being, to cherish every moment, to live life to the fullest. And in doing so, they've become beacons of strength, shining bright for their loved ones, their communities, and the world at large.

We can say that 8,160 individuals, is 8,160 triumphs over breast cancer, and countless lives forever changed.





#### **ERIC Educates**

## Community awareness outreaches:

#### Madaraja community outreach partnership





On April 15th, a Volunteer Health Team (VHT) member in Bulijjo Parish, Nama Subcounty, graciously invited our team to conduct a breast cancer awareness session within her beloved community. We collaborated with Madaraja, a foundation dedicated to reproductive health, providing antenatal care, postnatal support, family planning, and immunization services to the community. Mr. Andrew, the team leader, warmly welcomed our involvement, facilitating the delivery of a comprehensive healthcare package to our dear community.



## School outneaches:

We have successfully connected with various schools across our regions of influence, spanning both Central and Northern areas. We extend our gratitude to the school leadershipteams for consistently welcoming us and allowing us to provide these highly needed services to their students. Our team has engaged with a total of 7 schools from the Northern region and 18 schools from the Central region, empowering them with our educational initiatives about breast cancer.

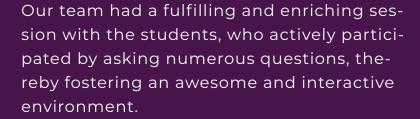
#### Luweero school outreaches:

Breast cancer awareness sessions were conducted in Luweero district in Zirobwe subcounty, three secondary and primary school going females and males were empowered which in turn expanded our service delivery milage. The teachers and administrators expressed their gratitude for the service and extended a request for district-wide entry into their community, ensuring that all community



### St Lawrence Academy School outreach

One of our team member initiated contact with the school administration to request the delivery of our breast cancer awareness service to St. Lawrence School, Academy Branch in Buddo Nakasozi. This was indeed a significant opportunity for our outreach efforts and increasing visibility.



The session was crowned in a return demonstration of the self-breast examination by volunteer learners.











## Chunch & Manket outneaches:

Reaching busy, working women posed a significant challenge for our team. Consequently, we strategized to meet these women directly at their workplaces, helping them understand the importance of our services. This approach has significantly expanded our reach and increased the number of women trained in our localities. The service is delivered right from their place of work with comfort and convenience.

## Village setup outreaches.

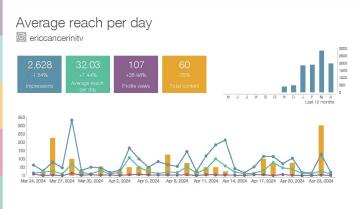
This strategy has been successful thanks to the collaboration with the Village Health Teams (VHTs) and Local Council Chairpersons. It involves utilizing a one-to-one approach to mobilize and invite their subordinates to gather at specific locations to receive our breast cancer awareness sessions. This measure has been effective in ensuring broader participation and engagement of all people within an identified community.

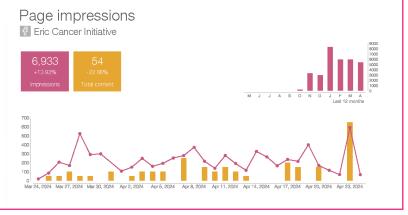


## Social Media Manangement



April saw significant strides in our media engagement mounting to new 42 followers, 17800 post interactios, and 98200 impressions across platforms, indicating a positive trend in our online presence and engagement in the month of April.





# Outstanding event: International Women's Day Event

Under the international theme of *My health, My right*; the ERIC Cancer Initiative team observed International World Health Day on April 7th at Iganga School of Nursing and Midwifery. Our objective centered on acquiring ambassadors for breast cancer awareness among student nurses and midwives. Additionally, we aimed to acknowledge and celebrate the life-saving contributions of nurses in combating breast cancer. Approval was graciously granted by the school principal, who accommodated our activities on Saturday, April 6th.

A remarkable session unfolded as students shared knowledge about the early signs, risk factors and finally reviewing the self-breast exam with our team. .







This was followed by an electrifying aerobic session on the school grounds, featuring activities such as dance, dodge ball, rope skipping, and climaxing in a fruit

and water challenge. The intention was to underline the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle to lower the risk of breast cancer.







Outstanding participants were awarded our branded T-shirts and appointed as ambassadors for our initiatives within the school. Furthermore, a robust social media campaign was launched to enhance event visibility. The online promotion involved posts, flyers, and stories, contributing to the event;s success in training over 400 student nurses and midwives...

We extend our special thanks to Patrick, the students leader, for spearheading mobilization and rallying his peers, as well as to the school administration, particularly the principal, for accommodating our activities at the school.







### The nutritional challenge continues;

We continued with our nutritional campaign locally. It was therefore required of the team to hold different fruit, water, vegetable challenges and tag their loved ones into the move. This was a message to remind the public about eating healthy as one of the many ways we can reduce risks to this breast cancer disease. It was an amazing season as members held this challenge on a weekly and had our social media family hearken to the call.











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## Janette's stony

Janette, a mother of three, attended a breast cancer awareness training at her church where Susan Aromarach the Gulu coordinator educated attendees about breast cancer early signs and symptoms. She discovered a lump in her breast, sought help undergoing a scan at Uganda Cancer Institute in Gulu, and fortunately, it was not cancerous.

A treatment plan was made and adherence ensured and supervised by Susan. Janette is now well and thankful to ERIC as our communications officer noted during her travel to Gulu to record and share Janette's journey.

Janette's Story explains the importance of timely detection and intervention in healthcare, as well as the critical role played Eric Cancer Initiative in providing support and assistance to individuals facing health challenges.

Together we are restoring hope and happiness in families.









## Staff Retneat

On 30th April, 2024, our team embarked on a thrilling retreat at Busiika Adventure Park. We kicked off the day with engaging team-building activities, blending fun and education seamlessly. Over delicious meals, we celebrated our Quarter One milestones and set our sights on empowering more women with vital breast cancer knowledge in Quarter Two. The day culminated in an epic ERIC vs Cancer paint shooting competition, capping off our retreat with unforgettable excitement.







#### **Upcoming Initiatives:**

Excited to launch our gift offering fundraiser, where you purchase a branded T-shirt, tea mug or bottle and gift it to yourself or a friend in a way of standing for breast cancer awareness and supporting us to enable our work to reach the intended communities.

#### **Conclusion:**

The impact of empowering 8,160 women and girls being majority with breast cancer awareness information is a testament to the power of knowledge. By arming ourselves with education and support, we can break down barriers, shatter stigmas, and create a ripple effect of hope and resilience.

Let us continue to advocate for early recognition and fight for a future where breast cancer is no more. Together we can create a world where women and girls can thrive, and where legacy of 8,160 individuals can inspire generations to come.

Our sincere appreciation goes out to our founders and donors Early Recognition Is Critical, who make it possible for us to serve in these women and girls in our communities and Eric Uganda team which gets the work done.