Ushindi Education Initiative (UEI) enables high performing students in Africa to acquire international education opportunities by joining international colleges and universities that provide experiences that are academically challenging, professionally relevant, and personally engaging for youth in Africa. UEI has participated in the HALI Network events and has been a part of several educators’ conferences including the Yale Young African Scholars Program (YYAS).

We work to enhance the development of global and multicultural competencies enormously valuable in an increasingly interconnected world. UEI inspires, informs, guides and supports students, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to engage effectively with local and global communities and become culturally perceptive citizens and leaders to further development of the African continent.

Mission & Vision:

To provide access to quality international higher education experiences for high achieving, low income students that are committed as change makers in Africa. To help develop African students into global citizens through education.

Summary:

This report presents progress on performance for the months of June, July and August 2020. These achievements were championed with the financial support from the Opportunity Grant among other partners and champions.
HIGHLIGHTS:

We set up our student’s career Hub. The Hub is devoted space for students with support facilities. It also serves as the UEI offices.

Reviewed and Updated the Ushindi Education Initiative Work plan and budget due to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak.

Recruited 4 new staff to join the UShindi Education Initiative team.

June
Conducted two (2) meet and learn sessions for eight (8) new students on international education opportunities around the globe.

Launched our partnership with the Second Chance Program. Founded by Joan Lui, the Second Chance Program gives students a ‘second chance’ to join university after the failure to join the initially desired universities.

Launched communication platforms to enable access of information for the students we work with. The active platforms include: social media, organisation email and website.
Conducted two (2) virtual capacity building trainings for students focusing on essay writing and selection of universities and colleges.

 Participated in a webinar on Careers in Japan by the Japan University Consortium.

Photo: A virtual capacity building session with the students
Meet Elizabeth Kulabako one of our scholars who was able to secure a fully funded scholarship at FLAME University in India. She is pursuing a bachelors degree in Journalism and Communication Studies.

Elizabeth’s passion for journalism started while pursuing her secondary education at Mount of Olives College Kakiri. Having been an avid member of the writers’ and debaters’ club where she was responsible for collecting information and mobilizing writing of articles by students.

Elizabeth’s writing focused on pertinent or pressing social and economic issues. This has equipped her with excellent analytical skills and empathy for my community especially the plight of the girl-child and women.

“This golden opportunity was possible thanks to Ushindi Eduaction Initiative and the Second Chance program, “ says Elizabeth.

Elizabeth wants to use her education skills to advocate for women and girls and promote their rights.
CHALLENGES:

- Limited access to computers as these are shared between staff and students.
- Limited IT equipment to facilitate virtual engagements

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Secure more computers for staff and students to use.
- Secure a Digital Video conferencing system for the smooth facilitation of virtual engagements.

IN THE PIPELINE:

- Create a fund that supports students other expenses such as VISA application fees, passport fees.
- Host a parents engagement event for 2020.
- Conduct a students boot camp for the 2020 cohort.
OUR PARTNERS:

[Images of logos: ACAC International Association for College Admission Counseling, Opportunity Grants, Flame University]

OUR CHAMPIONS:

Laura Kaub  Abaarso Experiences at Abaarso School of Science & Technology.

Mala Swaminathan  Pathways College Consulting.

Joan Liu  United World College of South East Asia (UWCSEA) and Second Chance Program.

Pamela Kelly Wetzell  United World College of South East Asia (UWCSEA).