



UNIVERSAL CHASTITY EDUCATION  
**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**  
Celebrating 20 Years

Faith Inspires. Hope is Born. Health Follows.







# UCE-USA Director Message

Dear Friends of UCE,

This year thanks to supporters like you, UCE celebrates an exciting milestone—20 years of ministry! Over the past 20 years, more than ¾ of a million youth have signed chastity commitment cards. Many more students have also heard the message without being ready to commit to chastity. UCE has made a huge impact in the lives of so many youth and families in East Africa. The UCE message reminds me of the mustard seed referenced in Scripture, specifically, how one signed chastity commitment card can take root and blossom in a person’s life. “Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” Matthew 13:32

More than just the number of signed chastity commitment cards are the hundreds of testimonies UCE has received over the past 20 years. Students, teachers, administrators, and parents have expressed their thanks to UCE and you, our supporters, for bringing hope in the form of this pro-life, chastity message to the youth in Uganda, Burundi, and Tanzania, all year round.

On page 5, in UCE-Burundi, I invite you to read how the UCE message helped two students, now headmasters, achieve personal and professional success. They are now passing the chastity message to their students. How many more students will hear it and be transformed?

UCE-Kasese continues to impress me by the creative ways they reach youth and families. In-person outreaches continue to be the base. However, they also have strong UCE clubs, sport matches, radio, and youth conferences that reinforce how to live out the chastity commitment in a powerful way. On page 6, you can see how they have really made an impact through UCE.

The team in Masaka, also in Uganda, truly “reaches the masses” with their 10 monthly outreaches. On page 7, take a look at how they are able to inspire both the students and teachers in their region despite the challenges they face.

Tanzania has much to celebrate this year with multiple UCE students graduating from “abstinence to faithfulness.” On page 8, I invite you to read about how UCE helped Mary Kitaponda and Deogratius Ramale achieve their vocation of marriage. UCE also celebrated the ordination of former student, Gregory, as a Catholic priest.

As UCE celebrates 20 years of ministry in 2024, I thank God for His providence. I also thank UCE co-Founders Drs. Ken and Kim Dernovsek, the UCE Board (current and emeritus members), UCE-Africa Director, Mr. Isaac Lema, and the UCE teams in Africa that work so hard to carry on this message. I also thank each of you for your contributions to UCE, because it is you, our supporters, who make everything possible. Please scan the QR code on the next page to enjoy a video honoring UCE’s 20th anniversary premiered during our annual fundraiser, a banquet in Pueblo celebrating our 20th year. This video highlights UCE’s success, including historical footage and many testimonials from Africa. As you’ll hear in the video, sometimes your gift allows youth to choose chastity as a “second chance” to better their life. Others hear the message for the first time and embrace it right away. In this milestone year, I invite you to ponder the question, what kind of gift can I give that impacts *thousands* of lives each year? One answer is a gift, in whatever form you can, to support UCE’s ministry. Perhaps you can also consider giving a legacy gift. This year, UCE began a quasi-endowment fund for this purpose.

Let’s continue together, with God’s grace, for the next 20 years and beyond!

In Christ,

*Sarah J. Smith*

Sarah Smith



UCE celebrating 20 years of ministry

*“Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its branches.” Matthew 13:32*



# UCE-Africa Director Message

Praise the Lord Jesus Christ,

I am grateful to God as we proudly celebrate 20 years of growth, achievements, and meaningful chastity impact this year. Chastity’s message continues to be an up-to-date message to our young people. It is a lifesaving message. Despite the changes in the worldview of sexual feelings, thoughts, attractions and behavior Chastity remains valued in our community. Chastity has been valuable in the past and will remain valuable in the future as a successful integration of our sexuality in a healthy way.

Over the past two decades, we’ve transformed challenges into opportunities and dreams into reality. Together, we’ve built something truly special, a Universal Chastity Education (UCE) rooted in passion, resilience, and innovation under the foundation of the faith we have in Christ, *“For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength”* Philippians 4:13. COVID-19 was among the challenge that affected us directly. The UCE programs have to stop due to the lockdown. It was a time of uncertainty, but also profound resilience. We started to reach young people in new ways creatively and compassionately. We have grown up in such a big UCE family and move forward with the spirit of perseverance. Even in those darkest moments, chastity light continues to shine through.

From time to time we have come together as a team to strengthen our unity and update Chastity’s message with scientific information. Prayer remains our powerful foundation in the UCE program. Prayers have joined us together. New people have joined the team to keep the message going. We continue to respect tomorrow and live today through chastity.

As we look to the future, we are excited to continue with this journey, the journey of shining the Chastity light that started in Uganda 20 years ago. Thank you for being an essential part of our success. This milestone is a testament to the contribution and dedication of the UCE team, our partners and the community at large. Let us keep shining and support others to be able to see and light up their lights by choosing Chastity which will make them shine.

UCE Africa is grateful to our UCE Board of Directors for their guidance and support. We are grateful to all our supporters and we continue to pray that God will continue to bless you and grant you good health and long life in Jesus Christ.

Isaac Lema  
UCE Africa Director



Scan QR code for a special UCE 20th anniversary video



*UCE Africa Director, Mr. Isaac Lema, presents a student with her UCE certificate of excellence at the UCE club graduation*

*“For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength”* Philippians 4:13



# 2024 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.

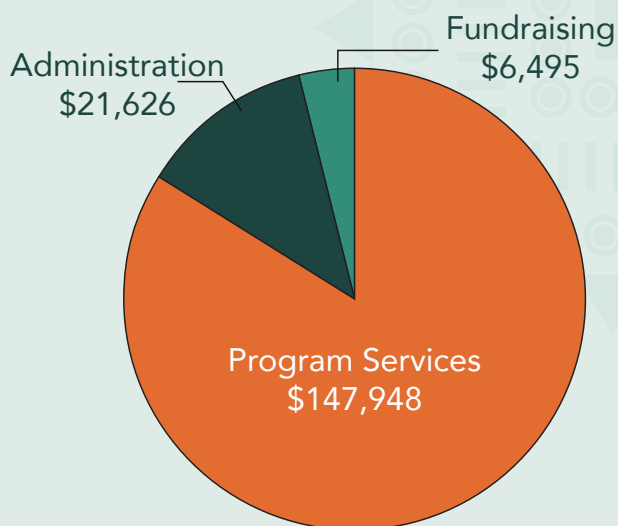
## Ministry

**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.

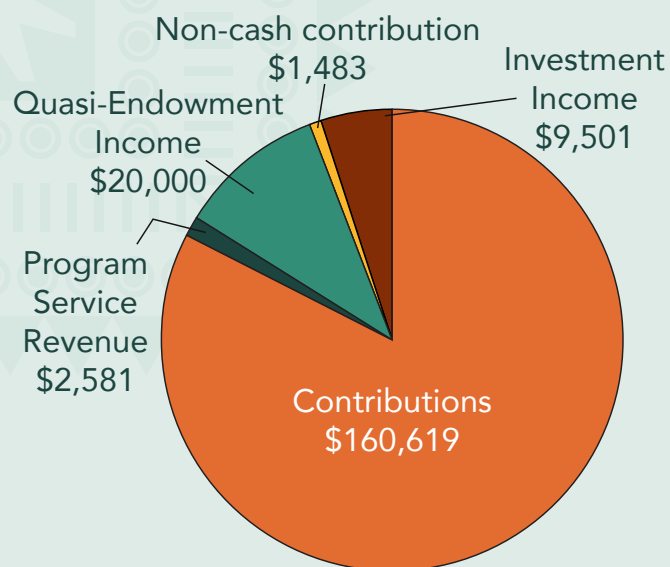
**368 Outreaches    84,073 Chastity Commitments    95 UCE Clubs**

## Financial



### Operating Expenses

Program Services	\$147,948	84%
Administration	\$21,626	12%
Fundraising	\$6,495	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$176,069</b>	



### Revenue

Contributions	\$160,619	83%
Program Service Revenue	\$2,581	1%
Quasi-Endowment Income	\$20,000	10%
Non-cash contribution	\$1,483	1%
Investment Income	\$9,501	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$194,184</b>	

N.B. This annual report and these financial charts are derived from reporting for the UCE fiscal year ending July 31, 2024.







# UCE-Uganda, Kasese

109 Outreaches

14,472 Chastity Commitments

42 UCE Clubs



The team continues vibrant, in-person UCE outreaches, regular radio broadcasts, youth conferences, and strong UCE clubs that incorporate sports, music or different activities to reinforce the UCE message. UCE has reported much success, despite the many challenges the youth face. These challenges include the threat of HIV/AIDs/STDs, teen pregnancy, school dropout, abuse, trafficking, early forced marriage, severe poverty, and smart phones that allow access to pornographic movies, social media, etc.

## National Youth Leadership Conference

UCE was asked to present a seminar during a national youth leadership conference that brought together 95 youth leaders across the 19 dioceses of Uganda. Uganda has an estimated 33 million+ youth under 30. The UCE team spoke about UCE's mission and shared live testimonies about how it has helped young people in Kasese. The message of "second chances" was emphasized. The UCE seminar was received well.

## Principal attributes UCE outreaches to student success

At Emmanuel secondary school, the principal told the team that the annual outreaches at her school have greatly improved the students' discipline and academic performance, including the excellent performance on the 2023 Uganda Certificate of Education. She said the UCE message helped the majority of students concentrate on their studies and set positive goals for their life. 245 students signed chastity cards this year at her school.



*UCE sharing about chastity over the radio*



*A UCE club playing netball and reinforcing the chastity message*



*UCE inviting the youth to receive the chastity message into their hearts.*



# UCE-Uganda, Masaka

**120 Outreaches**

**19,996 Chastity Commitments**

**12 UCE Clubs**

Masaka is known for reaching large numbers of youth with the UCE message. On average, they reach 1,500+ youth each month with about 10 monthly UCE outreaches. The Masaka team includes men and women from different ages and life experiences. The dynamic team continues to incorporate the following concepts during their UCE outreaches:

- ▶ Prayer, entrusting everything to God.
- ▶ Explaining the ABCs of chastity: "Abstinence, Be faithful in marriage, through Christ" and how it applies to the youth, either for the first time or as a "second chance."
- ▶ Personal testimony
- ▶ Interaction with the students such as singing, dancing, or skits so the message comes alive for them.
- ▶ Scripture invites students to realize their God-given dignity and God's design for their body.
- ▶ Students have an opportunity to write down their questions anonymously and have the UCE team answer them.
- ▶ The chastity commitment card is explained. Then the students are invited to commit to this lifestyle and sign a chastity card to remind them of their commitment. Also, it is no problem that not all students choose to sign a card to commit to chastity.



"Thanks....I am a changed person."

At times the UCE team faces challenges such as poor roads, including during heavy rains (see picture). However, their perseverance has been received with heartfelt gratitude from both administrators and students. One teacher remarked, "Classes were cancelled for the UCE program and sincerely, we have not made any loss. UCE is a resourceful message. Please come again and again." Also, see below for a couple of thank you notes from students.

## Six years and counting

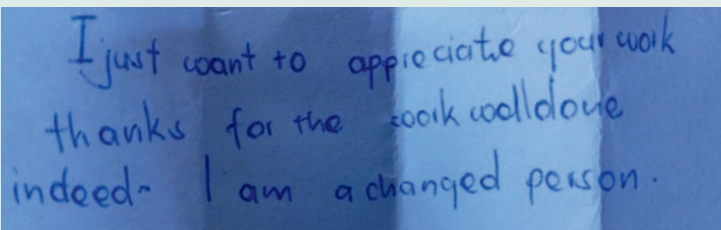
During a recent UCE outreach to St Andrew Secondary School, there was a group of students from the upper class that had previously signed chastity cards. The students said they have kept their chastity commitments over the course of six years. UCE congratulated them and encouraged them to continue their commitment, and God shall continue to bless them.



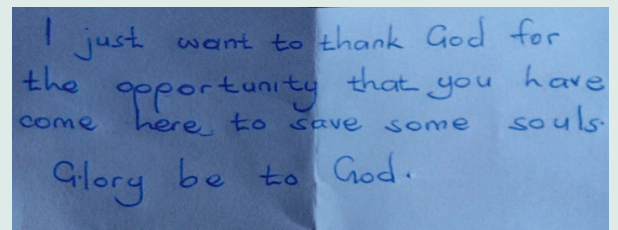
Youth praying to God.



UCE team pushing the vehicle when it got stuck in the mud



Student thank you notes to UCE





# UCE-Tanzania

**110 Outreaches**

**43,013 Chastity Commitments**

**25 UCE Clubs**

UCE has reached an impressive 30 districts in 16 regions out of 26 total regions of Tanzania's mainland since 2009 (see map).

## UCE Graduates from abstinence to faithfulness share their stories Chastity as a 2<sup>nd</sup> chance

*"Before working at UCE, I was in a relationship with a man for almost five years... After getting to know UCE well, I decided to tell him about UCE and my goals. He agreed to live the chastity life, but he had another relationship... I decided to break the relationship off and concentrate on UCE. The outreach training continued to build me up. I began to live a life of chastity. I stayed at UCE for a long time (12 years) because of the peace in my heart.... I thank God for being able to work with UCE. Through UCE, I have married the best husband (2023)." Mary Kitaponda, former UCE manager*



Ramale and his bride on their wedding day, June 1, 2024

### UCE Club and personal success

Soon after signing a UCE chastity card in 2017, Ramale started up a UCE Club at his school and other schools in Mwanza district. According to Ramale, *"UCE helped me to build my confidence levels and self-control. I also gained awareness about myself.... UCE has shaped me to be a good speaker, confident peer educator, professional psychologist (2022), and above all a good and faithful husband to my wife (2024)." See picture. UCE Senior Volunteer, Deogratius Julius Ramale*

### Celebrating a priestly vocation

Student, Gregory, signed a chastity commitment card during a 2009 UCE outreach and helped form Njombe UCE club in 2011. He decided to pursue a vocation to the priesthood. On January 13, 2024, Fr. Gregory was ordained a Catholic priest and still proudly carries his UCE card in his wallet. See picture.



Fr. Gregory, on his ordination day, celebrating with UCE mobilization officer, Mr. Leonard Mgina

### Integrated parent youth seminars

Through integrated parent-youth seminars, communication between parents and their teens improved, and chastity knowledge was shared, which resulted in stronger relationships. One parent shared, *"This is surely something special for our children. We thank you as a team. May God bless you for the best and most beneficial education."*



On the following page, UCE-Tanzania patron, Bishop Ngalalekumtwa shares the significant impact UCE has had since 2009 when UCE-Tanzania was formed.

UCE co-Founders, Drs. Ken & Kim Dernovsek visit UCE-Tanzania, including Mwanza district schools that have strong UCE clubs.



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Ref: Dioc/Ira/1/24

Date: 10 / 09 / 2024

Dr. Kim Dernovsek and Dr. Kenneth Dernovsek,  
The Founding Directors of Universal Chastity Education (UCE)  
P. O. Box 3541  
Pueblo, Colorado 81005  
United States of America

Dear Doctors,

I am writing to enthusiastically endorse Universal Chastity Education (UCE) for its work and to highlight the remarkable contributions to saving lives in the Tanzanian community. As UCETanzania Patron, I have had the privilege of closely observing the outstanding work and impact of the UCE program for fifteen years. Under the coordination of Fr. Aidan Ulungi, the UCE Tanzania National Coordinator, the UCE team has reached many young people in schools, colleges, universities, and churches. They have consistently demonstrated exceptional dedication that has enabled them to reach 30 districts in 16 of the 26 regions in Tanzania mainland. UCE has fostered strong partnerships with the government and has been instrumental in the reduction of HIV/AIDS infection, teen pregnancy, STDs, and other psychosocial problems associated with premarital sex.

Their ability to teach chastity is particularly noteworthy and has had a significant impact on the young people in Tanzania. Over 351,000 commitments to chastity have been made since UCE began in 2009 in Tanzania. As I have said, "UCE is the new way of evangelizing the youth."

I am confident that UCE will continue to excel and make significant contributions to help our people live healthy lives through chastity. I am grateful for the UCE programs and am pleased to continue to support UCE in my Diocese.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



+Tarcisius J.M. Ngalalekumtwa

**BISHOP OF IRINGA**  
**P.O. Box 133**  
**IRINGA-TANZANIA**



May 10, 2023

The words “health” and “holy” are related. They may even come from the same root word. Each has to do with “wholeness”, the kind of full and perfected life that God created us to enjoy. Physical and mental health, not surprisingly, are tied up with spiritual health, with living in a relationship of love and obedience to God. Our sexual lives are places where “holy health”, in its furthering or ruining, is starkly visible. When HIV became a scourge around the world over 30 years ago, it was clear from the start that the connection of health and holiness was at the center of the tragic challenge so many were facing. Faithfulness in marriage, and the offering of our sexual lives exclusively to such faithful marriage, was clearly both a pathway to health, and something whose weakening was leading to destructive disease. Universal Chastity Education (UCE) was one clear and compassionate response to this reality.

In the last twenty years since its founding, UCE has remained a pillar of steadfast witness to the truth of human dignity, and to the integrity of the human body and person that God has created. UCE’s mission has been among young people, mostly in Africa, whose calling to serve God with the fullness of their created gifts has been buffeted by all kinds of challenges, including sexually transmitted disease, like HIV, and the habits of sexual relationship that have permitted such disease. During these years, UCE has worked consistently, tirelessly, and lovingly on the ground, helping educate young people about the divine purposes of their bodies and loves, of healthy and faithful friendships and patterns of life, all flowing from God’s love for them in Christ Jesus.

The fruit of this work, carried out by teams of local leaders and youth, has been conspicuous in its light. Gatherings, information-sharing, testimonies, discussions, educational material, retreats, carried out in schools and churches, in rural and urban areas, have provided precious resources and encouragements to a life of sexual abstinence outside of marriage. The work of UCE’s teams have also strengthened commitments to prayer, study, and faith. Young people have learned new habits and hope, have pledged themselves to faithful ways of living and have supported one another in a grateful receipt of God’s gifts for their young lives. The result has been the flourishing of health, in its deepest and most holy character.

HIV, along with other sexually transmitted diseases, remains a threatening force of ill-health around the world, despite the fact that we are hearing less about it these days. This is why UCE dare not slacken its witness. But UCE’s steadfastness of service has also come in the face of new challenges and changes within the lives of those we have sought to support. In the past twenty years, for instance, internet usage has exploded in East Africa, and elsewhere on the continent. Over one-third of African high-school and university students are now, like many of their Western counterparts, viewed as “internet addicted”. Along with this, habitual pornography viewing has also sky-rocketed. Despite local efforts to rein in pornographic websites, in many African nations, like Uganda, young people visit pornography sites more than they watch the national news. The effects of pornography viewing in Africa are no different than they are in





America: increased hostility and aggression by young men towards women, earlier sexual activity, sexual confusion and marital dissatisfaction and conflict. The casualty is health in its fullest sense.

Christians too should be concerned. In the era of the internet, the youth of America and Africa are no different in these respects. UCE knows that. Our steadfastness is a response to that. Holy health, and the health of holiness, are a promise and vocation that does not wither and that we dare not lose interest in. I know that my support of UCE needs to be unwavering. I pray that others will join in helping strengthen the constancy of this witness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ephraim Radner".

Ephraim Radner  
Professor of Historical Theology  
Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto

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## Helping People Live Healthy Lives

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