

## **JOYCE**

Joyce Ssali, widowed 20 years ago, has been raising nine children and grandchildren on her meager income and living in a dilapidated, leaky house with no shutters. One of her children was enrolled in the child sponsorship program and with support from JIACOFE, she was able to boost her small business of tailoring and selling water. The support included business management skills, parenting education, participation in the village savings and loans association (VSLA), positive living (Living with HIV) and a micro-grant equivalent to USD 150.

Using the income from these sources, Joyce was able to care for her enrolled sickly grandchild and other children from her household by providing them with medication, food, and education. She went ahead to improve the condition of her house by constructing a semi-permanent structure and is now also engaged in constructing permanent rental housing units from which she is already earning an income.

Regarding the future, Joyce is focusing on training some of her grandchildren in tailoring and business management so that they to continue with the family business. Joyce's family was affected by HIV/AIDS and as a result, she decided to enroll for training as a community counsellor. With this knowledge, she engages in community awareness campaigns and individual counselling sessions for those affected by HIV/AIDS within her community.

