
HON. DR. JANE RUTH ACENG OCERO @2 YEARS AS WOMAN MP LIRA CITY: 17th MAY, 2022 UP TODATE.

Background:

Born on 11th May 1968 in Oyam District, Hon. Dr. Aceng Jane Ruth Ocero, attained her O' and A' level from Nabisunsa Girls School and later joined Makerere University where she obtained her MBchB, M.MED. Paediatrics and a Master in Public Health. She also holds a Diploma in Health Systems Management from the Galilee International Management Institute, Israel. She is a mother and married to Dr. Andrew Ocero.

She started working in Lira as the Medical Superintendent of Lira Regional Referral Hospital from 1998 up to 2003. As a consultant Paediatrician and Senior Consultant Paediatrician, also doubling as Ag. Director of Lira RRH, from 2007- 2011, she spearheaded a number of structural changes in the hospital until July 2011 when she was appointed a Director General Health Services at the Ministry of Health, a position she held for 5 years until 2016 when she was appointed Minister for Health for another 5 years.

She joined politics in 2021, in a hotly contested race for the Woman Member of Parliament- Lira City on the NRM Ticket, with two others. She emerged as a winner with 63.7% victory and became the first Woman MP for Lira City. She was again re-appointed Minister for Health, a position she holds up to date. We are now counting close to one (01) year since she was sworn in on 17th May 2021.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY HON. DR. JANE RUTH ACENG OCERO IN THE SECOND YEAR OF OFFICE AS WOMAN MP LIRA CITY.

- i) Commissioned eleven (11) boreholes drilled in Lira City in partnership with MMP Raja Foundation C/O Nile Agro Industries Limited. In 2021, she wrote to the Ministry of Water and Environment requesting for boreholes to be drilled in Lira City in areas with severe water shortage and later a permit was granted for drilling and to date our community have access to clean and safe water.



Figure 1 Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero pumping one borehole repaired in Anai Ward

- ii) On the 29th May 2022, she visited a total of 560 foot pilgrims from Lira Diocese who were trekking to Namugongo ahead of the martyr's day celebrations which was slated for 3rd June 2022. She met the pilgrims at St. Jude Kasana Luwero together with her beloved husband Dr. Andrew Ocero. She delivered to the pilgrims assorted items like salt, water, soda, soap, rice, meat, tomatoes, saucepan etc. She also encouraged the pilgrims in the journey of faith.

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- iii) Commissioned the handover of ambulance Reg. No. UG 7290 which she secured for Lira City (Lira RRH). The ambulance was given to support emergency medical services in Lira City. Ambulance services are the primary providers of a 24/7 response to medical and trauma related emergencies.



Figure 2 Hon. Minister handing over Ambulance to Lira City Council

- iv) Launched the reconnection of water supply on 10th July 2022 at Lira main market that had been disconnected nearly 10 years ago when Lira City was still a municipality. It had taken nearly 10 years since water flow was disconnected by the National Water and Sewerage Cooperation due to accumulated water bills since the regime of Lira Municipal Council.

Figure 3 Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero with His Worship Mayor Sam Atul during the reconnection of water supply at Lira main



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- v) Supported the PLWDs at Adina Foundation with mosquito nets as they celebrate their Day of the African Child in 2022.
 - vi) Commissioned her new office space for Woman MP Lira City. The office is located at plot 10 Oroma Close, Junior Quarters 'A' Cell, Junior Quarters Ward, Lira City West Division opposite former Adyel Division.

Figure 4 Hon. Minister with her Campaign team during the commissioning of Lira liaison office



- vii) Sensitized the local leaders of Lira City, Lira District, Kole District and the community on Parish Development Model. The above sensitization meeting was carried out from 22nd – 24th June 2022 at City Council hall for Lira City, the district council hall for Lira District and Engineering Department for Kole district.

The sensitization was officiated by Hon. Minister for Health, Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Oceru, accompanied by fellow members of parliament such as Hon. Linda Auma, the woman Member of Parliament for Lira District, Hon. Samuel Opio Acuti, MP Kole North and Hon. Judith Alyek, Woman MP Kole district who also doubles as Chairperson Lango Parliamentary group.



- viii) Commissioned the ground breaking and handed over contract documents of Punuoluru Health Center III to the contractor (Build Mask) that is constructing Punuoluru Health Center III. People of Punuoluru Cell, Anai Ward- Lira City West Division suffered for long since there isn't any nearby health center.



Figure 6 Hon. Minister handing over contract documents to the contractor (Build Mask)

- ix) Supported Lango Province (FUFA Drum) with one million shillings 1,000,000shs during FUFA Drum football tournament against Ankole on 30th July 2022 at Akii Bua Stadium, three million shillings on match day with Ankole in Ibanda and two million shillings in the first leg of the quarter finals with Bugisu in Mbale stadium and lastly two million shillings during the final- 2nd leg at Akii Bua stadium.
- x) Supported Lira Diocese on 4th August 2022 during the ordination of Priests and Deacons at Ordination ground – Lira Cathedral.
- xi) Launched the eye surgery camp in Lira City with the High Commissioner of Pakistan to Uganda H.E Hassan Wazir on 7th August 2022 at LRRH. The team of specialized doctors did 251 cataract surgery and over 592 patients had their eyes checked and given eye drops and other medications during the eye surgery camp.



Figure 7 Hon. Minister launching the eye surgery camp with the High Commissioner of Pakistan to Uganda

- xii) Received Leadership Excellence Award from Lango Development Forum. The award was presented by Dr. Esther Aceng and received by Dr. Andrew Ocero on 11th September 2022 in Kampala.

- xiii) Lobbied and delivered 400 pre-painted iron sheets and five million shillings for the construction of Truth Fountain Ministries Cathedral. She was hosted with the State Minister for Northern Uganda Hon. Kwiycwiny Grace Freedom. They were welcomed by the overseer of Truth Fountain Ministries Rev. Dr. James Okalo Ekwang who was accompanied by the chairman Pastors and Elders Fellowship Rev. Johnson Ogema of Victory Outreach Church, pastors and the Christians of Truth Fountain Ministries.

- xiv) Modified 15 wheelchairs for People Living with Disabilities in Lira City at Lira Regional Referral Hospital. The wheelchairs were modified with straps and tray.

This will allow support in both the sagittal and coronal planes for stability of the wheelchair user in the wheelchair while the wheelchair tray will provide convenience and study surface for eating and drinking, reading, writing, and other activities. The modification will also minimize the need to transfer the user from the wheelchair to another chair.

- xv) Supported Lira Cathedral with 15 million shillings and also delivered another 15 million shillings' contribution from the speaker of parliament Rt. Hon. Annet Anita Among during the Diocesan day and fundraising drive for the Bishop's development fund to enable renovation and expansion of the Bishop's residence. The bishop has been humbly living in a small dilapidated house.
- xvi) Transported 6 children from Lira City to Entebbe Children's surgical Hospital for further management. The children got free surgery. The children had severe complications such as non-complicated stoma, urethral vaginal fistula, etc. The children were assessed by Doctors from Lira Regional Referral Hospital in May 2022 and referred for further management.
- xvii) Supported over 200 members of mother's union from Amuca Parish, Lira Urban West Archdeaconry Diocese of Lango with Long Lasting Mosquito nets. The mother's union were for a one-day retreat under the theme "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, Therefore I hope in him." (Lamentations 3: 24).
- xviii) Contributed cash worth fifteen million shillings (15,000,000shs) for the construction of Bishop's house during the fund-raising drive at Lira Catholic Diocese where the Vice president of the Republic of Uganda Her Excellency Jessica Alupo Epel was the Guest of Honour.

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- xix) Supported 76 expectant mothers with mama kit and basins. 50 mothers during the official launch of Anai Airport market and 17 mothers in Boroboro.
 - xx) Flagged off 164 Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWS) who successfully completed their 6 months training at Uganda Martyrs University, Ngetta Campus.
 - xxi) Partnered and collaborated with Airtel Uganda and delivered 300 bags of cement, internet package soap, sugar, rice, internet and other assorted items to Ngetta Babies Homes- Lira. This was done as part of Social Corporate Responsibility tagged “12 Days of Christmas”.

Figure 8 Sr. Leocladia of Lira Babies Home, Ngetta receiving their package from Airtel Uganda.



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- xxii) Awarded mattresses, suit cases and laundry soap to 200 candidates from Government Aided Schools and privately-owned Primary schools in Lira City who performed very well in the PLE results of 2022 from their respective schools.



Figure 9 Hon Minister together with some of the pupils who performed very well in PLE 2020

- xxiii) Monitored the construction works in Lira City which were on going at Ongica Health Center III, Anyangatir Health Center III, Punuoluru Health center III and Ober health center IV.
- xxiv) Organized cervical cancer screening, breast cancer and prostate cancer screening camp during the women conference which took place for five days at Fountain Boarding and Primary School. Hon. Minister was represented by her friend/colleague State Minister for Northern Uganda, Hon. Grace Freedom Kwicwiny.

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- xxv) Supported Boda Boda riders of Lira City through their umbrella boda LUMBA with 2,000 pieces of Executive reflector jackets in a bid to reduce road accidents among the Boda Boda riders of Lira City.
 - xxvi) Supported the mothers of Victory Outreach Ministries with 100 mattresses for hiring to the public as their source of Income Generating Activity.



Figure 10 Madam Emma Okite and Otucu Bonny handing over the mattresses to the women representative of Victory Outreach Ministries

- xxvii) On 20th March 2023, she officially launched the issuance of Driving license in Lira City by the Uganda Security Printing Company Limited at Lira City Council Hall. The event took place at Lira City Council Hall and many motorists especially Boda Boda riders and drivers started the process of acquiring licenses after which a permanent office was established at UNRA's offices in Lira City for Driving permit.



Figure 11 Minister officially launching the issuance of driving license in Lira City

xxviii) Rehabilitated 12 broken boreholes in Lira City in partnership with PAK4Humanity. The official launch for the repair took place at Te-Obwolo Cell, Akia Ward- Lira City East Division.



Figure 13 Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero and Shannon Forester launching the repair of broken boreholes in Lira City



Figure 12 Youths of Barkwoyo cell jubilating after repair of their borehole

xxix) Officiated the ground breaking for Lira Satellite Laboratory to have a Biosafety Level II laboratory constructed at Lira Regional Referral Hospital. The laboratory will improve detection and analysis of disease outbreaks, improve specimen safety, better waste solid management. The construction of the laboratory is funded by the World Bank Group under Uganda COVID-19 Response and Emergency Preparedness Project (UCREPP).



Figure 14 Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Otero and other officials from MoH during the ground breaking for Lira satellite laboratory



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- xxx) Supported the market vendors of Lira main market by paying electricity bills worth ten million shillings.
 - xxxi) Supported the people of Otuke East through YOGI Limited which donated medical equipment worth over twenty five million shillings to Atangwata Health center III.



Figure 15 Handover of Donated medical equipment to Atangwata H/C III

- xxxii) Lobbied for a complete solar lighting system from Solar Light for Africa for Nancy School for the Deaf in Lira City. The solar light was installed in the classrooms and dormitories of the Schools. Nancy School for the Deaf was nearly started 20 years ago with support from a lady called Nancy and the community. There are over 560 students in the school in both Primary and Secondary section with majority of nearly 90% deaf pupils/students.



Figure 16 A team from Solar Light for Africa with Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng at Nancy School for the Deaf.



Figure 167 Nancy School for the Deaf after the installation of the solar light.

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- xxxiii) Launched the production of re-usable sanitary pads and non re-usable sanitary pads for the teenage girls organized by Plan International Uganda at Bar Apwo Primary School in Lira City West Division, Lira City.



Figure 17 Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Oceru during the launch of Sanitary pads at Bar Apwo Primary School

HON. DR. JANE RUTH ACENG OCERO @1 YEAR AS WOMAN MP LIRA CITY: 17th MAY, 2021 UP TO 2022

Achievements in One (01) Year of Office as the Woman MP- Lira City:

Putting aside all the contributions, Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero had made in the past towards the development of Lira and Lango Sub-Region, the under listed are some of her contributions in the first 365 days of office as a Woman MP for Lira City;

- i. Attracted Investors to invest in Lira City. E.g. Universal Granite and Marble factory for tiles in Lira City. The factory is located in Anyalo Cell, Barapwo Ward- Lira City West Division. This is aimed at creation of more jobs for the youths and generate revenues for the City Authority.
- ii. In partnership with MMP Ruja Foundation C/O Agro industries Limited, Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero drilled 11 boreholes in areas with severe water shortage in Lira City.
- iii. In partnership with friends from Later Days Saints Church, a Non-Government Organization, She supported 50 Persons Living with Disabilities (PLWDs) with wheel chairs and tricycles (Costed at about USD 98,000).
- iv. She has been at the center stage of advocating for the reconstruction of Lira-Kam dini Road. She took an active role in all activities as organized by the Lango Parliamentary Group until when the road construction works was commissioned.
- v. At the peak of the COVID-19 Pandemic, she ensured that the people of Lira City remained safe. She provided the much-needed Personal Protective Materials to the Health Workers and Community Health Extension Workers.

The items included; reusable face shield, medical facemask, hand sanitizer, examination gloves, temperature guns, reusable cloth aprons, multipurpose liquid soap etc. She extended such support to the districts of Lira, Oyam and Apac. This was a collaboration with NGOs like Living Goods, MOVIT Products and Last Mile Health among Others.

- vi. Supported a total of 100 pupils from Government aided schools in Lira City who performed well in PLE in the year 2020 with school requirements/packages such as mattresses, suit cases and bars of soap. 100 parents and 44 head teachers were also appreciated with kitenge, African Fabric for a dress or a shirt.
- vii. In Partnership with the Pakistan Association of Lira City with support of overseas Pakistans Global Foundation Africa, she organized a free eye surgery camp in Lira City for 3 days for complete eyes checkup and cataract surgery where a number of patients were offered specialized care free of charge.
- viii. As a Minister for Health, she mobilized the whole Top Management of Ministry of Health to come to Lira City to assess the State of Health Service Delivery in the City and the teams made a number of recommendations for improvement. They also launched mass vaccination against COVID-19 at Lira Mayor's Garden.
- ix. She has ensured that Ober Health Center III is upgraded to a Health Center IV and construction of the theatre is ongoing. Construction of the Surgical Theatre at Ongica Health Center III in East Division, Ngetta Sub-County is also on course.

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- x. She mobilized 40 oxygen cylinders for Lira Regional Referral Hospital when the country had insufficient supply of medical oxygen to support the COVID critical care patients. This was a donation made by Absa Bank Uganda in partnership with JMS under their subsidiary oxylife 2020 (U) Ltd.
 - xi. Supported Lira Garments Designers' Cooperative society Limited with payment for their rent for half of a year (six months). This was to save them from interruptions and ensure normal progress in their works including training of the communities. This society has over 300 members in Lira City.
 - xii. Donated Covid-19 relief items (500 bags of beans and 500 bags of maize flour) to the most vulnerable groups of people in Lira City like; street children, street vendors, wheel barrow pushers, blockers etc during the lock down.
 - xiii. Conducted a community needs assessment in Lira City to identify the local problems, challenges, development priorities and needs for the strategic planning and interventions by the office of Woman MP Lira City 2021 – 2026.
 - xiv. Mobilized two garbage trucks for the City and Lira RRH to boost garbage management. Also mobilized a number of vehicles for the two entities, which has improved on their fleet for better service delivery.
 - xv. Commissioned a new state of the art Out Patient Department (OPD), casualty wing, Maternity, Dental, Ear Nose and Throat (ENT) wing at LRRH, constructed with support from the Government of Japan (JICA).

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- xvi. Supported a local group of thump piano dancers commonly known as “Ongura Youth Group” a 50 members’ group with uniforms and other materials.
 - xvii. Mobilized and encouraged the communities to handover land for the development of industrial park for Lango Sub Region at Aler farm. The land that is over 700 acres was handed over to government to facilitate industrialization in the region, create jobs, improve on the household incomes and contribute to developing the area.
 - xviii. Supported football clubs (Jerusalem Soccer Academy and Lira Sports club) with sets of uniforms and balls. Balls and netballs were distributed at ward level for youths.
 - xix. Distributed hybrid maize seeds to 1,350 Peri Urban household farmers in Lira City to boost subsistence farming in Lira City. (750 households in 2021 and 600 Households in 2022).
 - xx. She distributed 1,000 gomesis to women in Lira City at colorful women’s day celebrations held at Lira Town College. This event was graced by a number of Hon. Ministers, Members of Parliament, Development Partners and the Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament officiated as the Chief Guest. In addition, she distributed mosquito nets to all pregnant women and mothers at the same function. **At the National Level**
 - xxi. She has focused on building strong health systems in Uganda to address the burden of preventable, communicable and non-communicable diseases. xxii. She has been responsible for building strong partnerships with Development Partners, Civil Society and

the Private Sector to plan for, implement and monitor health service delivery.

- xxiii. As an experienced and seasoned leader, She has spearheaded the sector's response to Public Health Emergencies such as Ebola, Marburg and COVID-19 among other diseases.
- xxiv. In order to strengthen a decentralized response, she has supported the districts to build capacity to respond to public health emergencies. One such example is the establishment of three (03) Regional Operation Centers in Mbale in the Eastern Region of Uganda, Mukono and West Nile.
- xxv. Dr. Aceng is a firm believer in investing in communities to respond to public health emergencies. She has mobilized communities to respond and embrace a sense of ownership whenever the country detects a disease outbreak. This has led to increased vigilance, awareness and embracing public health solutions by the population.

