



HOPE of FAMILY
Direct, wrap-around assistance



HOPE OF FAMILY

NEWSLETTER

ABOUT HOPE OF FAMILY

Hope of Family (HoF) is a local Non-Government Organization created in 2018 with a goal-oriented towards reducing extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education. Hope of Family is based in Shyogwe Sector, Muhanga district, Southern Province of Rwanda.

WHAT WE DO

we work tirelessly to holistically improve low-income families' socio-economic standard while urging them to take giant steps in their children's education

MISSION

"Reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children education"

Dear Friends of Hope of Family

Welcome to the latest edition of Hope of Family's quarterly newsletter! We are excited to share with you the progress of our work in the Shyogwe sector of Muhanga District, where our dedicated team has been tirelessly fulfilling their tasks.

This newsletter will provide insights into our efforts to empower youth through our "Youth Economic Program." This initiative aims to provide opportunities for young individuals who have not had the chance to pursue normal education. Through specialized training and vocational education at TVET schools, these youths are equipped with valuable skills to build a better future for themselves and their communities.

In addition, we will delve into heartwarming stories of how our staff members spent Christmas with children in rural areas. For many of these children, the festive season is not always filled with joy due to the challenging living conditions they face. Our team's dedication to bringing moments of happiness and celebration to these children highlights the essence of our mission.

As we move forward, I urge you to continue supporting Hope of Family's work. Your support is invaluable in enabling us to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve. At Hope of Family, accountability and our core values are at the forefront of everything we do, driving our successful field activities centered around the four pillars of our Theory of Change.

Our organization has forged strong bonds with our beneficiaries through collaboration with partners operating in Muhanga District. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our donors, local administration, and beneficiaries for their unwavering support for our cause.

Together, we can continue to create positive change and bring hope to families in need. Thank you for your ongoing support and dedication to our mission.

Warm regards,

IYAMUREMYE NSHUTI AUGUSTIN

Executive Director

Hope of Family



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A Transformative Visit: British High Commissioner And Delegates Inspired By Hope Of Family's Impact



Hope of Family NGO welcomed esteemed guests, including Omar Daair, the British high commissioner to Rwanda, accompanied by Olivier Kraft, a dedicated Hope of Family volunteer with his friends, along with delegates from the Kunda Arts Collective. The visit aimed to provide an insight into the impactful initiatives undertaken by Hope of Family in combating poverty and fostering education within the local community. The day commenced with an engaging presentation led by the adept team members of Hope of Family, shedding light on the organization's profound commitment to addressing the needs of the local community. Augustin, the Executive Director of Hope of Family, extended a heartfelt welcome, emphasizing the organization's deep-rooted understanding of the

"We are a passionate local team with a profound understanding of our community's needs and context," expressed Augustin. "Our mission is centered on reducing extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education." He added. Augustin highlighted the significant progress made over the years, addressing crises such as high poverty rates, adult illiteracy, low school performance, and soaring youth unemployment. He proudly announced that the organization had positively impacted the lives of community members including children, and their parents. over 490 children experiencing improved holistic education, 450 children engaged in various recreational activities nurturing their talents, and more than 430 adults enhancing their literacy and numeracy skills.

Moreover, in their pursuit to uplift the community, over 855 individuals received financial support to kickstart Small Income Generating Activities. Additionally, 49 youth, previously deprived of educational opportunities, are now enrolled in technical and vocational schools, thanks to the relentless efforts of Hope of Family. The visit wasn't confined to presentations; the guests were taken on an enlightening visual tour, exploring the tangible impact of Hope of Family through images depicting their work.

The journey continued into the field, where the visitors interacted with beneficiaries. Mukambonyi Delphine and Nyiransababera Phelomene, beneficiaries of Hope of Family programs, shared moving testimonials, illuminating the transformative effect on their lives.

Nyiransababera, emotionally overwhelmed, shared her poignant journey: "I was nothing, hopeless, struggling to provide for my children's education and our basic needs.



Hope of Family transformed our lives. They supported my children's education, renovated our home, taught us how to grow vegetables, they provided us with a kitchen garden and livestock including pig to help us to start small income-generating activities. Today, my family thrives independently."

The delegation also paid a visit to the two groups of Hope of Family's beneficiaries who are in a program of "Peer Driven Change (PDC)," a program, fostering communal support and financial assistance among like-minded groups.

Expressing gratitude, Omar, the British High Commissioner, lauded the remarkable work of Hope of Family: "Thank you for an excellent visit. It was enlightening to witness the tremendous impact of your work. I can't wait to come back" Omar.

The collaborative spirit soared as the Kunda Arts Collective delegates expressed their aspirations to collaborate further, aiming to promote volunteerism in Rwanda. Their initiative aligned perfectly with the vision of linking international volunteers with local organizations, amplifying the impact of collective efforts.

In closing, amidst expressions of joy and gratitude, the visit culminated with feedback sessions and token exchanges. Hope of Family extended heartfelt gifts, marking the end of a visit that not only showcased their impactful interventions but also ignited a beacon of inspiration and collaboration that transcends boundaries.



Hope of Family Celebrates Return of Youth from TVET School as First Term Concludes for Academic Year 2023-2024



In a heartening display of dedication and perseverance, Hope of Family has welcomed back a group of determined youth who have successfully completed their first academic term 2023-2024 at a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) school. These young individuals, part of the "Youth Economic Empowerment Program," have embraced a transformative journey, overcoming economic hardships and rural challenges to reclaim their academic aspirations.

The Youth Economic Empowerment Program, spearheaded by Hope of Family, serves as a beacon of hope for those young individuals who, due to poverty and challenging rural conditions, were unable to pursue normal educational avenues. The program strategically nurtures their potential through comprehensive academic training before enrolling them in various subjects at TVET schools. Its overarching goal is to not only restore hope but also foster confidence among disadvantaged youth.

A primary goal of the initiative is to empower vulnerable youth from struggling families by facilitating their enrollment in technical schools. Post-graduation, these empowered individuals will embark on entrepreneurial ventures, thereby creating a cyclical effect as they contribute back to their families and communities.

As of today, 49 youth have completed their first term at TVET school, marking a significant milestone in their educational journey. The breakdown of their educational backgrounds highlights the diverse challenges they have overcome: 35% had not completed primary school, 27% finished senior one or senior two, 22% attended senior three to senior five, while only 16% had completed senior six.

Despite these challenges, the dedication and hard work exhibited by the youth during the first term have been nothing short of inspiring. Their commitment to their education and personal growth showcase the transformative power of the Youth Economic Empowerment Program.



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In the broader context of the Shyogwe sector, where Hope of Family operates, there are 704 youth hailing from impoverished backgrounds, lacking formal education and job opportunities. Today, the NGO proudly announces a 7% reduction in this number as 49 youths have embarked on their educational journey in technical subjects.

Hope of Family stands as a beacon of hope, actively reshaping the futures of these young individuals, and fostering a sense of purpose and possibility where there was once desperation and uncertainty. Through their tireless efforts, they are not just educating youths but sowing seeds of empowerment and resilience in communities that need it the most.

The returning youths, who are now on holiday break, expressed their sheer excitement and delight at being able to return to school. They shared their experiences of boarding at the TVET school, highlighting the camaraderie with fellow students from diverse regions and the transformative nature of their academic pursuits.



Hope of Family Enhances Safeguarding Measures with Support from Segal Family Foundation



In a significant move towards strengthening its commitment to the well-being of vulnerable individuals, Hope of Family recently updated its Safeguarding policy. Last week, staff members gathered at the organization's head office for a comprehensive training session facilitated by an external expert in the field of safeguarding.

The update to the Safeguarding policy was made possible through the generous support of the Segal Family Foundation. This philanthropic organization played a crucial role by providing access to capacity-building resources, aimed at enhancing Hope of Family's organizational health. The collaboration with Segal Family Foundation reflects a shared dedication to upholding the highest standards in safeguarding practices.

During the training session, various engaging activities were incorporated to ensure active participation from every staff member. Far from being an ordinary affair, the training became an enjoyable and interactive experience, fostering a sense of joy and companionship among the participants.





Hope of Family's staff members actively engaged in a group discussion on tasks given.

Hope of Family expressed gratitude to the Segal Family Foundation for their support, recognizing the invaluable role played in advancing the NGO's capabilities and ensuring that their safeguarding measures align with the latest industry best practices. The updated policy and the enthusiastic response from staff members underscore Hope of Family's unwavering dedication to creating a safe and secure environment for those they serve.



HOPE OF FAMILY EXTENDS WARM CHRISTMAS WISHES TO DONORS, AND PARTNERS, CELEBRATES TRANSFORMATIVE YEAR

Date: December 25th, 2023



HOPE OF FAMILY TEAM
WISHES YOU A MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND A JOYFUL
NEW YEAR FILLED WITH
BLESSINGS

In the spirit of this festive season, Hope of Family NGO extends heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed donors, partners, and the resilient community we serve. With immense appreciation for your unwavering support throughout the year, we celebrate your generosity that has made an indelible impact on our mission to Reducing Extreme Family Poverty through Strong and Efficient Children Education.

As the year draws to a close, the organization reflects on some profound impact made possible by the collective generosity and commitment of its supporters. This year, 270 children from vulnerable families were empowered with essential scholastic materials, enabling their consistent attendance at school. Consequently, these children are now on a path toward a brighter future, equipped with the tools for educational success.

Furthermore, 49 youths, previously constrained by circumstances beyond their control, were given a renewed sense of hope through specialized training at the leadership academy.

Their aspirations were reignited, allowing them to pursue education at TVET schools, transcending barriers and fostering personal growth.

The impact extends beyond education, reaching the heart of healthcare access. Around 2000 community members were provided with essential health insurance, ensuring access to vital medications, thereby enhancing their well-being and resilience.

The transformation didn't halt there. Ten beneficiary households underwent renovations, creating conducive environments that facilitate improved learning conditions for children within their homes. Additionally, 43 kitchen gardens were established, not only providing sustenance but also combating malnutrition by ensuring access to a balanced diet.



The commitment to lifelong learning was also evident as 339 adults were empowered through literacy programs, allowing them to acquire fundamental skills in reading and writing, a pivotal step towards personal empowerment and societal engagement.

Hope of Family staff members stand in awe of the tremendous support received throughout the year. With hearts full of gratitude, we extend warm wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 2024 to the donors, partners, and the community at large.

As the festive season approaches, Hope of Family remains steadfast in its commitment to creating lasting positive change. Together, with the unwavering support of the community, the organization looks forward to continuing this journey of empowerment and transformation in the coming year.

SANTA CLAUS STEALS THE SHOW AS HOPE OF FAMILY SPREADS CHRISTMAS JOY TO OVER 400 CHILDREN



In a heartwarming culmination to the year 2023, the spirit of Christmas came alive as the Hope of Family brought joy to the hearts of over 400 children from 420 beneficiary families and the wider community. The weekend festivities saw Santa Claus stealing the spotlight, spreading happiness and cheer amongst the young ones in a remarkable celebration.

The event, organized by Hope of Family in the sector it operates in, aimed to brighten the holiday season for children who often face hardships due to their families' challenging circumstances.

With around 10,000 households residing in this area, many struggle with limited resources and difficult living conditions, making it hard for parents to bring festive joy to their children.

Santa Claus emerged as the star of the day, captivating the children with gifts and merriment. Excitement filled the air as wide-eyed youngsters received various presents, sparking smiles that illuminated the gathering. Their joy was contagious, echoing



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through the community as they joined together to sing a medley of beloved Christmas carols and exchanged cheers and laughter.

Witnessing the sheer delight on their children's faces, parents couldn't contain their own happiness. In a setting where making ends meet is a daily challenge, this celebration provided a glimmer of hope and warmth for families, emphasizing the spirit of

The event not only marked the end of the year on a positive note but also served as a reminder of the power of community, generosity, and the enduring spirit of Christmas.

As the echoes of laughter and carols fade away, the impact of this festive celebration will linger, leaving behind cherished memories for the children and families who experienced the magic of Christmas with the Hope of Family.



HOPE OF FAMILY INSPIRES UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA STUDENTS IN DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES WITH EYE-OPENING FIELD TRIP



In a bid to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world applications, students from the University of Rwanda-Huye campus, pursuing studies in Developmental Studies, were hosted by the Hope of Family on the 18th of January 2024. The enlightening trip aimed to connect academic learning with practical, on-the-ground experiences in the realm of developmental work.

Upon their arrival at the Hope of Family, the students were warmly welcomed by Mr. Augustin Iyamuremye, the Executive Director of the organization. Mr. Iyamuremye provided a concise overview of the NGO's mission, vision, and the diverse areas of intervention they engage in to support their beneficiaries. The students were given an insightful tour of the NGO's headquarters, gaining a deeper understanding of why Hope of Family is an integral part of the community.

The excursion moved beyond the confines of the NGO's office as both students and NGO staff ventured into the field to visit beneficiaries. The primary goal was to showcase tangible evidence of the NGO's impact on the lives of those it serves. Two beneficiaries were visited during the trip, offering a firsthand look at the positive transformations brought about by the collaborative efforts with Hope of Family.

It was revealed that Hope of Family has successfully supported 420 struggling families, significantly improving their living conditions. Additionally, the NGO has facilitated the education of 680 children by providing essential school materials, thereby enabling them to engage effectively in primary formal education.

Following the field visit, an open discussion was held between the NGO staff and the students.

This dialogue provided an opportunity for students to pose questions and share their observations and insights gained from the field. The exchange was not only informative but also served as a platform for the students to appreciate the impactful work being done by Hope of Family in reducing extreme family poverty through a focus on robust and efficient children's education.

Dr. Prosper NKURUNZIZA, a lecturer accompanying the students, praised the initiative, affirming that what the students witnessed in the field seamlessly aligned with the theoretical foundations laid in their university studies. Dr. Prosper urged the students to translate their knowledge into action, imploring them to implement the valuable lessons learned and, upon graduation, contribute to community development to positively impact the lives of others.



STRENGTHENING BONDS: HOPE OF FAMILY STAFF'S STUDY TRIP TO DORCAS CONSOLATION FAMILY NGO



Hope of Family staff members recently undertook a study trip to Dorcas Consolation Family NGO, marking a collaborative effort to enhance their commitment to aiding vulnerable families.

Dorcas Consolation's mission revolves around empowering vulnerable girls and women through community-led interventions for sustainable development. The visit proved enlightening as Hope of Family aligned with Dorcas Consolation's methodologies, emphasizing the shared mission of reducing extreme family poverty through children's education.

One of the key takeaways from the trip was an in-depth understanding of Dorcas Consolation's Early Childhood Development Services (ECDs). The organization focuses on providing comprehensive support to children during their critical early years, emphasizing access to early learning, good nutrition, hygiene, and protection. This aligns seamlessly with Hope of Family's commitment to fostering a solid educational foundation as a means to combat extreme family poverty.

The exchange of ideas extended to adult literacy programs, emphasizing the importance of teaching adults how to read and write which enrich the lives of adults and contribute to the overall development of the community.

In the realm of sustainability, the Hope of Family team gained insights into Dorcas Consolation's social enterprise initiatives. This aspect becomes crucial in times of financial constraints, as the social enterprise provides alternative avenues for funding and support.

The study trip also delved into Dorcas Consolation Family NGO's saving and credit groups, which have proven instrumental in improving the lives of their beneficiaries. Hope of Family learned about the methodologies employed by Dorcas Consolation to establish and nurture these groups, leading to a positive impact on the overall well-being of the members. Additionally, the tracking mechanisms employed by Dorcas Consolation to measure the tangible effects of these initiatives provided valuable insights for Hope of Family in enhancing their own monitoring and evaluation processes.

Currently, Hope of Family supports 38 saving and credit groups, each comprising 20 members. These groups function as a self-sustaining financial ecosystem, where members circulate money internally to initiate new income-generating activities, subsequently improving their overall well-being. Hope of Family's study trip to Dorcas Consolation Family NGO was pivotal, offering insights into successful initiatives like Early Childhood Development, adult literacy, social enterprise, and saving groups.

The collaboration highlights shared knowledge and a commitment to reducing extreme family poverty through effective children's education. Thanks to Dorcas Consolation Family for welcoming and sharing the constructive experience to Hope of Family staff members.





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