

SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:

- Challenges
- Deaths
- Excelling Children

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Yvan



Nadine

# BURUNDIKIDS PROGRAM

## Challenges as well as successes

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### Challenges faced by parents/guardians

It is always exciting for students to go back to school after a long holiday period. From the beginning of July up to the beginning of September, students of primary and secondary school are in long holidays. They always look forward to the reopening of schools for the following school year. To most of the Burundian parents/guardians however, it is a period mixed with feelings. Yes, they are happy their children are around them for quite a good period, but face a challenge on how to manage

them for that period. Furthermore, all that period, they scratch their heads to see where they will get school materials for their children. This year was even harder for them: due to the deterioration of the economic situation, the prices of school materials, food, and other goods skyrocketed. The prices almost doubled compared to last year. The average price of school books and uniform is around 50.000Fbu (\$25) per child, which is far beyond the financial capacity of most Burun-



Parents have hope despite challenges

dians. Many families have at least three to four children in school on average. Many children go to school with less school materials, putting on indecent school uniforms and bare foot, while some never make it to school due to poverty.

### Yvan & Nadine: Gone too soon

This year and mainly the month of August was very challenging for our HOPE family. Two of the children in the program passed away in the same month of August. Nadine Ndayisenga, a 17-year-old girl, got some complications in her stomach and later was diagnosed of having two tumors. Doctors operated her, removed one tumor and left the other. When we thought she was getting better, the doc-

tors decided to remove the other tumor but unfortunately it was too late as it had busted and we lost Nadine in the process.

The second student we lost is Yvan Igiraneza, a young man of 18 years old and the 1<sup>st</sup> in a family of 6 children. We met him when one of his legs was amputated due to cancer. The doctors, her mother and HOPE family thought he was free from

the disease. For more than 4 years we were with him and he was a jovial boy, full of dreams to be an inspirational speaker, especially to encourage young people not to lose hope and believe in a bright future. He later started to develop some swelling on his arm and shoulder. It was confirmed that it was cancer in its advanced stage. After a long hospitalization of about 10 months, he succumbed to the disease.

## Relief to children in the program

Children in the program and new intake were happy to receive school materials and uniforms before the opening of 2022-2023 school year. For the secondary school students, they spent a half day together with the coaches. It was a time of reconnection for those who were already in the program, for a goodbye for those who were certified upon completing secondary and it was time to welcome new entries in the program. HOPE team ceased the opportunity to remind the students of the best practices leading to school success among them being disciplined,



*Primary school children receiving uniforms and school materials*

studying hard, not missing school and being available for help by the coaches. After that they gladly received school uniform and school materials (as required by school and class level). Students were very happy and felt ready to go to school with all energy and moral. They are grateful to the donors.

Primary school children were accompanied by their parents or guardians. The parents/guardians expressed a feeling of relief because it is a heavy burden that was removed from their shoulders.



*Secondary school children receiving uniforms and school materials*

## Certification and giving back to HOPE



*David giving back to HOPE*



*David and some of the graduates*

Every school year, we encourage children towards working hard in school, have good conduct and discipline. During our meeting with secondary school children, one The school year that ended in August was a great year for HOPE. We had 14 students in the last school year and all of them except one got certified. They are so grateful for the support they got through HOPE, supported by the different donors all along their school journey. One

of their representatives, David, says that being in the program of HOPE is a great opportunity that few children get in life. He told the Burundi Agency of Press (ABP) that if it were not for the help of HOPE, he would have abandoned school. For that reason, he has started helping young children from his neighborhood in their school work for free.

of the most important activities was to publicly encourage great class performance. The criteria was to finish among the top 2 in their class, and to have a greater percentage. Five children were recognized and presented with gifts in front of the others. It is a good practice because it encourages others to work hard.

# Elysée

Elysée is a 19-year-old girl, she is the first of 4 children in her family. She has been coached through zoom sessions by a young man from Switzerland, Constantin de Lint mostly in mathematics. Elysée is in Sciences section in her last year of secondary school. She worked hard this last school year and her progress is very impressive and has the most significant progress among all the children

in the program. In the first term, she was the 3<sup>rd</sup> in her class with 57.92%, in the second term she was the 2<sup>nd</sup> in her class with 65.85% and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> term she was the 1<sup>st</sup> in her class with 79.43%. She is very grateful for all the support she gets from HOPE as well as the coaching. She dedicates her success to the coaching and hard work.



Elysée

## Encouraging good performance

Every school year, we encourage children towards working hard in school, have good conduct and discipline. During our meeting with secondary school children, one of the most important activities was to publicly encourage great class performance. The

criteria were to finish among the top 2 in their class, and to have a greater percentage. Five children were recognized and presented with gifts in front of the others. It is a good practice because it encourages others to work hard.



Christophe receiving a present



Dorcas receiving a present

# Crispin

Every year the government of Burundi in collaboration with the ministry of education organizes a special exam for all the top five students in 6<sup>th</sup> year classes in the whole country in order to select students who will go in schools of excellence that government has created. The schools enjoy a special treatment from the government (best teachers, best learning facilities and conditions). In August 2022, two of HOPE children sat for that exam. Crispin, who was 1<sup>st</sup> in his

class is one of the two. He worked very well and scored 82% in the exam. He was then sent into one of the best schools in the country Lycée du Saint Esprit run by Catholic priests. Crispin is 13 years old, raised by his mother, and is 1<sup>st</sup> of 5 children in his family. His mother and HOPE family are proud of him. His mother is very grateful for the support her boy got and she is very happy to see her boy attend one of the prestigious and desired schools in the country.



Crispin

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**Bringing hope, Changing lives**

HOPE *worldwide* Burundi (HWWB) is a faith-based relief and development organization, and legally registered by the government of Burundi in 2005.

The organization was founded by the leadership of the church 'Eglise du Christ de Bujumbura'. HWWB works to improve the well-being of youth, women, orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) in Burundi by building the capacity of families and communities to cope and respond. HWWB is active in the fields of HIV prevention, education, nutrition, health, and fight against poverty to improve livelihood.



## Table Of Activities

Activity	Target Reach			Actual Reach		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
No. of Volunteers Mobilized	50	40	90	35	25	60
No. of coaches (teachers)	8	8	16	7	4	11
<b>No. of Children that Receive:</b>						
Nutrition support	90	110	200	75	85	160
Healthcare	90	110	200	75	85	160
Clothing and Bedding	20	20	40	18	15	30
Primary Education Support	30	40	70	24	26	50
Secondary Education Support	100	100	200	52	58	110
Higher Education Support	10	10	20	4	4	8
Psychosocial Support	100	100	200	81	75	160
Total families involved	200	200	200	157	157	157
Economically empowered families	20	60	80	15	45	60
Total Number of Children Supported	100	120	220	75	85	160