



Relief can be simple

Foundation Orphans in Rwanda



Stichting

**Weeskinderen
in Rwanda**





Information and purpose of the foundation

On October 10, 2000 the Foundation Orphans in Rwanda was laid down in a notarial act and registered in the Trade Register of the Chamber of Commerce in Eindhoven under number 17128822.

The foundation has been marked as a Foundation with the purpose of general use: ANBI nr 17441.

Purpose of the Foundation is to offer help to underprivileged orphans in their primary needs, in which nutrition, health care and education are the central issues.

Area of action in Rwanda: diocese Nyundo in the western province, especially in the hills and on the countryside.



Reason of existence of the Foundation

In 1993 our youngest son gets an incurable kidney disease. This is a difficult time for him and our family. During his illness I get motivated to take care not only of my son, but also of underprivileged children. I get the opportunity to do this when, in September 1994, I meet abbé Prosper Ntiyamira in St. Lambert Church in Eindhoven; he had to flee from his country with his bishop and fellow priests because of the genocide. Michael, my sick son, is allowed to play the church organ in Saint Lambert Church: his great passion.

In January 1995 I receive a letter from abbé Prosper in which he writes about the cruelties that have taken place in his country and about the thousands of orphans, who walk around with much grief and without any help. In March 1995 I visit Rwanda for the first time. I am deeply touched by the great need among the numerous children, orphans, in the orphanage Noël, which is more than full, and I began to think of offering help.

In November 1995 the diocese of Nyundo counts 18.000 orphans, of whom only 900 can be housed in the orphanage Noël. For thousands of other children there is no place here: they have fled into the jungle. With the help of 'The White Fathers' in Antwerp, gifts from some firms in the Netherlands and very soon also from many benefactors, we were able to send 7 containers with goods to the orphanage Noël from 1996 to 2001.

On 18 August 1998 our sick son receives one of the kidneys of me, his mother. During the process of recovery I find much support from my family and abbé Prosper Ntiyamira.

In October 1999 Prosper visits Eersel. He and I are greatly concerned about the roaming orphans who still wander around and live in the hills and in the jungle.

To be able to offer help to these children the Foundation Orphans in Rwanda is founded on 10 October 2000.



The purpose of the foundation is to offer help to under-privileged children / orphans in Rwanda. Their primary needs such as: nutrition, health care and education are the central issues.

In the period of 2000 until 2010 abbé Prosper and Ria start projects together with the population, which are still being carried out, like the goat-project, the vegetables and seed project, the installation of clean drinking water and the 'Eat and live healthy' project.

Projects:

- Orphanage Noël
- Goat project
- Vegetables and seeds
- Widows groups and agricultural organizations A.G.I
- Small agricultural tools and garden tools
- Installation of clean drinking water
- Flourmills
- Storage/ warehouse and shop
- School materials for primary education
- Youngsters
- Eat and live healthy project with 3 cooking books

What are our strong points and what do we continue?

- In primary and small-scale projects, the first basic needs
- The projects are closely related to the needs and wishes of the population, which is necessary
- Short lines: a good contact person on the spot in Rwanda. This person controls and leads the projects and reports regularly to the foundation
- No paid- for committees, everything is done on the basis of solidarity and sharing
- No overhead costs, the euro is used for the help only
- All projects are for groups, not for one person, this would create jealousy

- The orphans, widows and rural population are part of the projects. They are involved, do the work, and take care. That gives them self-confidence, much satisfaction and a responsibility
- They experience improvement of their living conditions
- They come with new ideas, they believe in their future
- They are proud and take care of the projects that have been realized by them
- They take care of maintenance and improve or repair where and when necessary
- All materials are bought in Rwanda; that supports their economy
- All projects have the support of the people; the people experience the improvements and are prepared to keep it that way.

The foundation is a good example of development-aid which is useful and possible.

The profit from vegetables and other products for example is put into a fund for maintenance. When there is more money it is divided among poor families, e.g. for school materials for the children.



Our help is a basis for independence. The people want improvement and have faith in their future. Motivating them and stimulating where necessary is important, especially financially.

FUTURE activities

- Improvement of knowledge about healthy nutrition.
- Stimulating the use of own vegetables and plants.
- Improvement of income for the poorest families.
- Education for professions



Next **PROJECTS**

- Warehouse for storage of seeds and vegetables
- Shop for selling: vegetables, flour, salt, soap etc.
- Continuation of cooking lessons and information about the importance of the use of clean drinking water, of hygiene and a varied menu.
- Growing sunflowers, for the sunflower oil and the pits are used for bread and porridge. The stems of sunflowers can be used as feed.

- Extension of the water supply
- New goats and chickens.

How can we support?

The foundation will continue to support and extend the projects. We keep asking help for:

- New storage and shop
- Goats: many more goats are needed, a goat inclusive necessities = € 35,-
- One new male goat per village of the Boers bred = € 500,-
- Vegetable seeds are still welcome
- Mosquito net = € 10,-
- Cooking course, 6 lessons + cooking book
'Living healthy' = € 10,-
- Arinate, a medicine to help children cure from malaria = € 3,-
- Sewing machine, bought in Rwanda because of high delivery costs = € 135,-
- School uniforms € 7,00 and school materials = € 3,-
- Maternity present: after having delivered a baby in the clinic the mother will receive a baby kit =€ 10,-
- Extension of water supplies



The book 'The power of donation' including a dvd, written by Ria van de Ven- Gijsbers tells an elaborated and detailed story about the projects in Rwanda during the last 15 years and it also reports of the experiences as a donor of a kidney to her youngest son. It shows how it is possible to reach great results with relatively little money, mainly by including the population intensively in the projects and sharing everything together.

The profit of the book €19,95 is fully meant for and used on the projects in Rwanda. ISBN: 978-90-814083-3-2 Nur-code: 402

Your financial support is much appreciated:

Bank account ABN-AMRO Eersel: 53.80.44.160

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The help started as emergency aid and has become development aid! It has become clear that giving aid can be simple and doesn't have to cost so much money. Primary needs are the most important things in life for every person; it is necessary to start with those needs: good nutrition and clean drinking water.

Giving aid means: motivating people, activating them and giving them responsibility and the idea they really are worthwhile. Asking them to make reports, showing bills, and letting them pay their own materials. Visit the projects yourself and check + listen and look at what is needed. The help must fit their way of living, environment and circumstances in the country. Reliable contact persons on the spot are very important. They can report about the daily progress. Everyone must stay loyal, disciplined and honest. Friendship makes a bond, gives trust and joy to realize a dream together.

The projects – explanation

Orphanage NOEL

Care for orphans, especially for their food and education.

From January 2012 young people from the age of 18, with a school certificate, are helped in finding a job and independent living circumstances.

The goat project

The advantages of a goat are:

- The goat gives nutritious milk every day, which is necessary for the growth of every child
- The goat is fed with the grass that has been planted to prevent erosion; children cut the grass and feed it to the goats
- The goat doesn't need extra feed, so no extra costs for the family
- The goat's dung is converted in the compost pile and is suitable for the manure for the fields and the vegetable garden
- To keep the dung together the goat must remain in a shed which protects her from rain and sun
- A few times a year the goat gives birth to one or two lambs, the male goats are bred for the meat and the goats for the milk
- The first-born goat must be given to another poor family
- An animal that children can look after and hug is very important for their own development.



The goat is important for the food and the dung.

This project is loved by the population. In 2010 new male goats from Broers bred were raised; the new goats are stronger and bigger, give more milk and meat. Still many more families need a goat.

The first goal, the starting-point of the foundation Orphans in Rwanda is to fight extreme poverty and hunger. As a member of the Third Chamber Ria van de Ven-Gijsbers introduced her proposal here. It is about the goat project, which has led to good results in Rwanda.



The proposal has been accepted by the Dutch government. From 2007 this goat project is being practiced in the European Union and by many big organizations and foundations throughout the world with the same result.

Vegetables and seeds

To get acquainted with new vegetables and eat in a varied way is a useful knowledge. Sowing and harvesting yourself: that is a great pleasure for these children and teaches them a wise lesson. Every year new vegetables are introduced. Because of the importance of eating healthy the project 'Eat and live healthy' came into existence. Seeds are still welcome.

Tools for garden and agricultural use.

They are necessary to work in the fields and gardens.

Clean drinking water

Water is the source of life. Clean drinking water is indispensable for a healthy life. In our working area in Rwanda people use the water that is available. This water, taken from ditches, ponds and puddles is seriously polluted.

This polluted water causes cholera and diseases of the intestines. High up in the mountains there are powerful sources. In 2002 our foundation started to bring this water

to the people. The first three tapping points have been constructed inside in the health Centre of Biruyi and one tapping point outside at the lawn, a benefit to the sick people and the visitors. Meanwhile the tapping point at the healthcare Centre has become a meeting place. People bring their goats and also cows from the parish can feed on the grass and drink here. The results of the Health Care Centre have made people conscious of the necessity of clean drinking water, information via posters and radio has added to this.

All materials for the construction of pipes can be bought in Rwanda. The population is very motivated to work on this project.

Pipes, taps and connections have to be checked and repaired regularly. Before the construction started, a committee was formed in the parish. Every family that collects water pays 50 eurocent a month; this is for the maintenance of the tapping points. Should a tap be broken, then repairs can be paid from the reserve. It is a common responsibility. More tapping points, closer to the families in the countryside are necessary.

Sewing workshops for young girls and women

They are taught sewing and making patterns. This is a self-providing project now. Buying material to sew is good for



the economy, having a uniform made in the workshop provides for employment, pay the women for the work done is useful to be part of the economy and giving uniforms to the poorest is solidarity.

Flourmills

By using a mill it is easier to bake bread make maize and soya porridge. Thanks to the cooking lessons they can give their children a variety of food. The ground flour they don't need for their family can be sold at the markets so that they have some income.



Storage and shop

When in abundant periods there are more than sufficient vegetables, these must be stored to have something to eat in more difficult times. Flour and vegetables are sold in the shop, the profit goes to the common funds and can be divided among the participating members.

Basic education

Education is very important. It encourages a child and gives it self-confidence. Development and knowledge attribute to a good future for all children. They do have an opportunity to go to school, but very often they don't have any materials.

Young people/ adolescents

It is important to make youngsters and teenagers active in the community. The adolescents feel committed to and involved in our projects and cooperate full heartedly.

Widow groups and members of agricultural organizations

They attend and support orphans and young families in taking care of the goats, vegetables and seeds in the garden. Agricultural tools circulate to profit from them . They have informative meetings about the use of clean drinking water, the importance of hygiene, varied food and all kinds of social aspects.

Health Care

The activities of the Foundation in the countryside have led to a remarkable improvement of healthy living: clean drinking water, better food and more hygiene.

One of the big problems in Rwanda remains the fight against disease number1: malaria. Children die daily because of this disease: malaria. That's why mosquito nets are so important for them, to have at least one in every family. Malaria patients can be helped by a cure of Arinate.

UJIMENYA IBILIWA N'AGACIRO KABIYO



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Project 'Eat and live healthy'

The orphans and young families don't know much about preparing healthy meals; they do not have the example of a mother or grandmother. That's why the Foundation has published three colourful books in the Rwandese language: 'Living healthy'.

Part 1 gives information on hygiene, the use of clean drinking water and varied food

Part 2 describes the preparation of healthy simple meals that can be prepared with vegetables from their own garden.

Part 3 is an extension of part 1 and 2; recipes and advices have been included which are still known to the older local population. To every book belong 6 cooking lessons which are given in the health care centres by members of A.G.I. and the widows to young girls and young families. The song 'Indyo Yuzuye', which means 'healthy living' from part 2 and 3 shows the composition of healthy meals.

This song is sung everywhere; thus small children and people who can't read or write can also be reached.

Your contribution is welcome at:

ABN-AMRO 53.80.44.160 – IBAN NL 56ABNA0538044160

**Your contribution is fully used for the work
with orphans in Rwanda**



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