



HELPING HEART FAMILY RWANDA

2023 - 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by

NSANZIMANA Andre

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) has been at the forefront of empowering vulnerable communities, particularly former street children and families facing adversity. Through a comprehensive range of initiatives spanning education, healthcare, skill development, and community engagement, HHFR has made remarkable strides in fostering positive transformation and creating sustainable livelihoods.

This annual report highlights HHFR's unwavering commitment to its mission, as evidenced by the diverse array of activities undertaken during the 2023-2024 period. From celebrating International Women's Day and reintegrating street children into the educational system to launching the TUGANIRE Center for Former Street Children and empowering teen mothers through training programs, HHFR has left an indelible impact on the lives of countless individuals.

Notably, HHFR's collaboration with local authorities, partner organizations, and community members has been instrumental in amplifying its reach and effectiveness. The successful implementation of initiatives such as the Huye Karate Technical Seminar for Children, the High School Tour Campaign against Gender-Based Violence, and the Zanshin Karate Championship for Children 2023 underscores the power of collective action and shared vision.

As HHFR looks towards the future, it remains steadfast in its commitment to expanding its reach, forging new partnerships, and addressing emerging challenges within vulnerable communities. With a resolute focus on empowerment, inclusivity, and sustainable development, HHFR stands poised to continue making a lasting difference in the lives of those it serves.

FOREWORD



RWIKAZA Gentil

Executive director of Helping Heart
Family Rwanda

It is with great pride and immense gratitude that we present the Annual Report of Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) for the year 2023-2024. This report not only chronicles our organization's remarkable achievements but also serves as a testament to the unwavering commitment, dedication, and resilience of our team, partners, and the communities we serve.

First and foremost, we express our profound gratitude to God Almighty, whose divine guidance and blessings have been the foundation upon which our mission stands. It is through His grace that we have been able to navigate the challenges and seize opportunities to make a lasting impact on the lives of the vulnerable populations within our communities.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to Helping Heart Family Belgium for their steadfast support and partnership. Their unwavering belief in our cause and their generous contributions have been instrumental in propelling our initiatives forward, enabling us to reach new heights and touch countless lives.

Our deepest gratitude goes to the Districts of Huye and Gasabo, whose unwavering support and collaboration have been pivotal in our efforts. Their trust and commitment to our shared vision have paved the way for effective implementation of our programs, ensuring that our initiatives resonate with the needs and aspirations of the local communities.

Moreover, we are indebted to Never Again Rwanda for their invaluable partnership and commitment to empowering vulnerable communities. Their provision of facilities, mentorship opportunities, and unwavering support has been a driving force behind the success of our initiatives, enabling us to create lasting positive change.

As we reflect on the achievements outlined in this report, we are filled with a profound sense of humility and gratitude for the incredible journey we have embarked upon. It is through the collective efforts of our dedicated team, partners, donors, and the resilience of the communities we serve that we have been able to make a tangible difference in the lives of countless individuals.

We invite you to join us on this transformative journey, as we continue to forge ahead, driven by our shared commitment to empowering vulnerable communities, fostering sustainable livelihoods, and creating a brighter future for all.

Activity 1: International Women's day

"On October 25th, 2023, in commemoration of International Women's Day, Helping Heart Family Rwanda, in partnership with Huye District, orchestrated a meaningful celebration. The event, held in Isimbi Sector of Huye District, saw the distribution of domestic animals, specifically goats, to two vulnerable families. This initiative aimed to empower these families and contribute to their journey out of poverty.

Following the distribution, the NGO extended their outreach by providing balanced diet meals to children from vulnerable families in Isimbi Sector. This additional gesture underscored the holistic approach taken by Helping Heart Family Rwanda towards community welfare.

The collaboration between Helping Heart Family Rwanda and Huye District signifies a concerted effort towards community development and the alleviation of socio-economic challenges. Huye District expressed profound appreciation to Helping Heart Family Rwanda for their consistent support to vulnerable families, recognizing their pivotal role in fostering progress within the district."



Activity 2: Empowering Education: Breaking Barriers and Building Futures in Gasabo district.

On September 24th, 2024, in Gasabo District, a remarkable initiative unfolded at the office of Kabuga Cell in Rusororo Sector. Over 20 children from various sectors were reintegrated into the educational system, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Helping Heart Family. This endeavor aimed not only to provide immediate support but also to foster enduring positive changes for the benefit of these children and their communities.

The assistance rendered encompassed essential school materials like books, notebooks, pens, pencils, uniforms, and school fees for each child. By addressing these foundational needs, the initiative sought to eliminate barriers hindering these children's access to education and hindering their potential for growth. It's important to highlight that this support was extended to both boys and girls across different educational levels, from primary to secondary schooling.

The tangible impact of this endeavor was evident in the transformative experiences of these children. Through the provision of necessary school materials and the coverage of their school fees, Helping Hands Initiative facilitated their active engagement in learning. This not only equipped them with knowledge and skills but also ignited a sense of hope and optimism for their future. Additionally, by reintegrating them into the educational system, the initiative aimed to promote their social integration and provide them with a nurturing environment conducive to holistic development.

The commitment of Helping Hands Initiative to supporting vulnerable children extends beyond initial assistance. They are dedicated to ensuring sustainable support by continually monitoring the progress of these children, addressing any emerging needs, and collaborating with relevant stakeholders to establish a robust support network. Furthermore, the initiative has ambitious plans to expand its reach, reaching out to more street children in need and leaving a lasting impact on their lives and communities.



Activity 3: Street Kids Reintegration Initiative In Huye district



Our organization has been actively involved in the initiative to return street kids to their homes and schools, addressing the issue of vulnerable children living on the streets. The primary objective is to provide support and resources to integrate these children back into mainstream society, ensuring they have access to education and a stable living environment.



on 24th September 2024, Over 40 vulnerable children in Huye District have benefited from our initiative, receiving school materials and fees to access education and reach their full potential at primary and secondary levels. This has empowered them with knowledge and skills, leading to social integration and holistic development.



Returning street kids to homes and schools has long-term benefits, such as contributing to community development and breaking poverty cycles. Education helps individuals lead fulfilling lives, and promoting inclusivity and community value. The support provided is sustainable, involving continuous monitoring, addressing needs, and collaboration with stakeholders. The initiative aims to expand to reach more street kids in the future.



Activity 4: Huye Karate Technical Seminar for Children.

In 2023, our organization partnered with Zanshin Karate Academy to organize the Huye Karate Technical Seminar for Children. The seminar aimed to combat the trend of young individuals resorting to the streets to escape domestic issues by teaching them the importance of discipline and guiding them towards a brighter future through Karate and education.

The primary goal of the seminar was to provide an alternative outlet for children facing challenges at home or in their community. By introducing them to Karate, the values of self-discipline, perseverance, and self-defense were instilled in them, empowering them to make better choices and avoid risky situations.

The seminar also emphasized the significance of education in achieving success and creating a prosperous future. By combining the physical and mental benefits of Karate with academic knowledge, a well-rounded individual better equipped to handle life's challenges was aimed to be developed.

Collaboration with experienced instructors who were skilled in Karate and adept in teaching and motivating young minds ensured the success of the program. These professionals inspired the children, boosting their confidence and self-worth, qualities that would benefit them in various aspects of their lives.



Activity 5: Empowering Girls Street Children through Sanitation and Reproductive Education.

Starting on 25th November 2023, our organization initiated a program to assist girls who used to be on street children with sanitation materials and educate them on reproductive health and self-care. This activity is an ongoing effort that aims to gradually improve the well-being and knowledge of these vulnerable girls.

The primary focus of this program is to provide the necessary sanitation materials to ensure the girls have access to proper hygiene practices. Additionally, education on reproductive health is included to empower them with knowledge on their bodies, menstruation, and how to take care of themselves effectively.

By addressing these essential needs and providing education on reproductive health, we aim to enhance the overall health and well-being of these girls. This gradual process involves ongoing support and education to help them develop the necessary skills and knowledge to maintain good hygiene practices and take care of their bodies effectively.



Activity 6: Empowering Youth Against Gender-Based Violence: A High School Tour Campaign during the 16 Days of Activism.



Throughout the 16 days of fighting gender-based violence worldwide, our organization conducted a high school tour campaign to raise awareness and educate students about this critical issue. The campaign took place in various schools in Huye district, Rwanda, with the aim of empowering young people to combat gender-based violence.



On the 29th of November 2023, we began the campaign at Groupe Scolaire Cyarwa, where we were joined by the district official in charge of the National Women Council of Huye district, as well as the directors and teachers of the school. This marked the first day of our educational sessions on gender-based violence.



Continuing the campaign on the 1st of December 2023, we visited Groupe Scolaire Butare Catholique, followed by Groupe Officielle de Butare on the 2nd of December 2023. At each school, volunteers and members of HELPING HEART FAMILY RWANDA provided crucial teachings to students to raise awareness about gender-based violence. are of their bodies effectively.

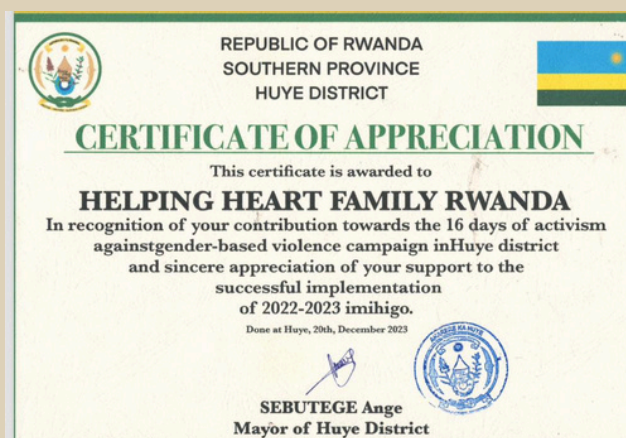


Cont'd

The high school tour campaign extended to Groupe Scolaire Matyazo on the 6th of December 2023, and MSgr Mubirigi TSS on the 10th of December 2024, as part of our ongoing efforts during the 16 days of activism against gender-based violence worldwide.

On the 12th of December, we concluded the campaign on the district level in Kimirehe Cell, in Kinazi Sector with the District Mayor, who commended and certified our organization for its dedicated work in helping the community combat gender-based violence. The collaborative efforts of volunteers, district officials, school directors, and teachers have contributed to raising awareness and promoting a safer and more inclusive environment for all individuals.

At the end the Organisation certified individuals who volunteered to take part in the campaign.



Activity 7: Launch of TUGANIRE Center for Former Street Children



In line with our organization's mission to empower and rehabilitate vulnerable youth, we proudly launched the TUGANIRE Center for Former Street Children on December 9th, 2023, in Huye District. This comprehensive initiative aims to equip former street children with essential skills in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), mental health support, and sexual reproductive education for young girls. The center commenced operations with an initial cohort of 30 children, providing a safe and nurturing environment for their holistic development.

Objectives:

1. Offer ICT education to former street children, enabling them to acquire crucial digital skills for future employment and self-sufficiency.
2. Address the mental health needs of these children through counseling, therapy, and support services, helping them overcome trauma and challenges faced during their time on the streets.
3. Empower young girls through comprehensive sexual reproductive education, equipping them with knowledge and resources to make informed decisions about their well-being.
4. Foster a supportive and inclusive environment that promotes personal growth, self-confidence, and the development of essential life skills.

Implementation and Partnerships:

The establishment of the TUGANIRE Center was made possible through a vital partnership with NEVER AGAIN RWANDA, a renowned organization dedicated to empowering vulnerable communities. Their generous support provided a well-equipped facility, enabling us to create a conducive learning environment for the children. The collaboration with NEVER AGAIN RWANDA has been instrumental in ensuring the success of this initiative.

Cont'd

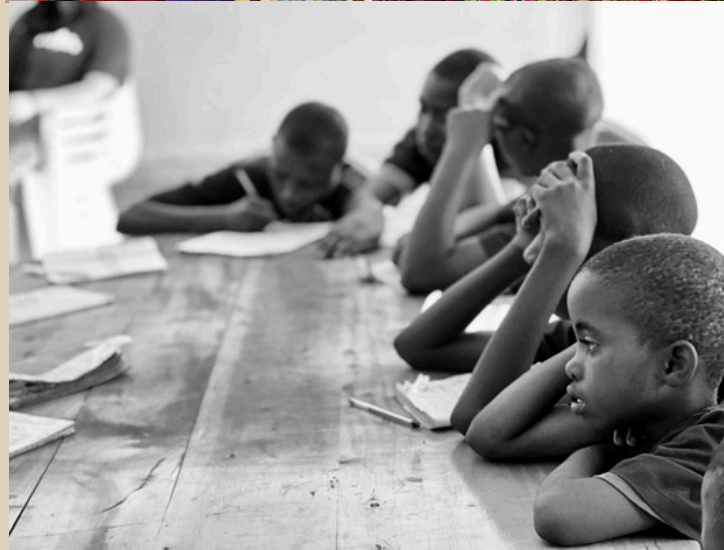
Progress and Impact:

Since its inception, the TUGANIRE Center has witnessed remarkable progress, as evidenced by the academic and personal development of the children. Regular assessments and progress reports have demonstrated significant improvements in their educational attainment, mental well-being, and overall confidence. The positive impact of this program has been a testament to the dedication and hard work of our staff, partners, and the resilience of these exceptional children.

Future Outlook:

Encouraged by the success of this pilot program, our organization is committed to expanding the reach of the TUGANIRE Center and replicating this model across the country. We aim to establish additional centers in strategic locations, providing more former street children with access to the transformative services offered by this initiative. By fostering partnerships and securing sustainable funding, we strive to make a lasting impact on the lives of these vulnerable youth, empowering them to break the cycle of poverty and realize their full potential.

Overall, the launch of the TUGANIRE Center for Former Street Children in Huye District marks a significant milestone in our organization's mission to create a brighter future for these resilient individuals. We remain steadfast in our commitment to nurturing their growth, providing them with the tools and support they need to thrive, and ultimately, paving the way for their successful reintegration into society.



Activity 8: Christmas celebration with beneficiaries of HHFR in Huye district.



Christmas was celebrated with great joy and compassion on December 23rd, 2023, as our NGO organized a special event in Huye District to honor our beneficiaries, especially the children. This annual tradition holds a profound significance, as it aims to give back hope, love, and a sense of belonging to those who have faced difficult circumstances, particularly former street children and families living in vulnerable situations.

The event was a heartwarming spectacle, filled with the laughter and smiles of the children as they received Christmas gifts carefully selected to bring them happiness and joy. The atmosphere was one of celebration and inclusivity, reminding these young individuals that they are valued members of our community and that their well-being is a priority for our organization.

Beyond the distribution of gifts, the Christmas celebration served as a platform to foster a sense of community and togetherness. Participants had the opportunity to engage in various activities, share their stories, and forge new connections. This event not only provided material support but also offered emotional and psychological nourishment, reminding our beneficiaries that they are not alone in their struggles.

The success of this event was a testament to the unwavering commitment of our NGO and the generosity of our supporters. It was a collective effort that brought together volunteers, donors, and community members, all united by a common desire to uplift and empower those in need. The joy and gratitude evident on the faces of our beneficiaries reinforced the significance of such initiatives in fostering hope and resilience.

As we look towards the future, our NGO remains steadfast in its mission to support and empower vulnerable communities, particularly former street children and families facing adversity. The Christmas celebration serves as a reminder of the transformative power of compassion and the importance of creating opportunities for growth, development, and community building. We are committed to continuing this annual tradition, spreading love, and fostering an inclusive society where every individual feels valued and supported.



Activity 9: Zanshin Karate Championship For Children 2023.

From December 23rd to 24th, 2023, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) partnered with Zanshin Karate Academy to host the "Zanshin Karate Championship for Children 2023" at Credo Hotel. This two-day event aimed to engage children in the sport of karate while promoting discipline and healthy lifestyles. Play and participation in sports are crucial for children's mental and social development as they foster creativity, problem-solving abilities, emotional intelligence, discipline, teamwork, and perseverance.

The Zanshin Karate Championship for Children 2023 provided a platform for young karate enthusiasts to showcase their skills and compete in a friendly environment. The event attracted participants from various backgrounds, including former street children, who found solace and direction through martial arts training. HHFR recognizes the transformative power of sports in shaping well-rounded individuals.

By collaborating with Zanshin Karate Academy and the Fédération Rwandaise de Karaté (FERWAKA), HHFR aimed to support children's physical and mental development while encouraging discipline and a sense of community. The event not only allowed children to engage in a sport they enjoyed but also provided them with a positive outlet for their energy and a means to build self-confidence and camaraderie.

HHFR expresses its sincere gratitude to Zanshin Karate Academy and FERWAKA for their invaluable support in making this event a success. Their expertise and dedication to the sport played a vital role in creating a memorable experience for the young participants. The organization also extends its appreciation to the volunteers, sponsors, and spectators who contributed to the event's success through their involvement and encouragement.

By hosting events like the Zanshin Karate Championship for Children, HHFR reinforces its commitment to positively impacting the lives of children and promoting a healthier society. The organization recognizes the importance of extracurricular activities in a child's overall development and will continue to seek opportunities that foster growth, discipline, and a sense of community among the youth.



Activity 10: Graduation of Rusororo Sector Beneficiaries and Transition to New Program.



On December 31st, 2023, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) held a graduation ceremony for 20 families, primarily composed of widows, from the Rusororo sector in Gasabo district. These families had been beneficiaries of HHFR's support program for three years, during which they received assistance in various areas, including education for their children, access to medical care, and training to enhance their financial and mental well-being.



Throughout the three-year program, HHFR invested more than 2 million Rwandan francs in an agriculture project, enabling the beneficiaries to cultivate rice and vegetables. This initiative not only provided them with a source of income to support their daily needs but also encouraged them to develop saving habits. HHFR facilitated the opening of savings accounts for all beneficiaries at a local SACCO, empowering them to build financial resilience.



The graduation ceremony marked the end of HHFR's support for these families in the Rusororo sector. However, the organization remains committed to its mission of transforming lives and has already identified a new group of beneficiaries – teenage mothers from Gasabo district. This transition signifies HHFR's unwavering dedication to addressing the diverse needs of vulnerable communities within the district.



The primary goal of HHFR's programs is to empower beneficiaries, equipping them with the tools and resources necessary to achieve self-sufficiency and break free from the cycles of vulnerability. By providing comprehensive support, including educational opportunities, healthcare access, and financial training, HHFR aims to create a lasting impact on the lives of those it serves.

HHFR encourages all individuals and organizations to support its cause and contribute to the transformative work being done within local communities. Every contribution, whether financial or through volunteering efforts, plays a crucial role in enabling HHFR to continue its mission of uplifting and empowering those in need.

Activity 11: Empowering Former Street Children Through Education.

On January 6th, 2024, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) continued its unwavering commitment to supporting former street children through its Education and Outreach Project. As the new academic term began, HHFR provided essential school materials, including clothes, uniforms, pens, and books, to the beneficiary students. Additionally, the organization covered the tuition fees for these students, ensuring their access to education remains uninterrupted.

This project focuses on selected former street children who have been successfully reintegrated into families with the support of HHFR's guardianship program. The vision driving this initiative is to reduce the number of children living on the streets by providing them with the necessary resources and opportunities to pursue education and build a brighter future.

HHFR recognizes that education is a powerful tool for breaking the cycle of poverty and vulnerability. By equipping these children with the tools they need to excel in their studies, the organization aims to empower them to overcome the challenges they have faced and unlock their full potential. Access to quality education not only enhances their academic prospects but also instills valuable life skills, discipline, and a sense of purpose.

Through this project, HHFR remains steadfast in its commitment to creating a lasting positive impact on the lives of former street children. By addressing their educational needs, the organization hopes to facilitate their successful reintegration into society, enabling them to become self-sufficient and contributing members of their communities.

HHFR extends its gratitude to all the partners, donors, and supporters who have made this project possible. Their contributions play a vital role in ensuring that these children receive the support they need to pursue their dreams and overcome the adversities they have faced.



Activity 12: Bohoka Ubeho" - Fostering Spiritual Healing and Transformation



On January 27th, 2024, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR), in partnership with the Federation of Evangelical Associations in the University of Rwanda (FAE), hosted the "Bohoka Ubeho" evangelical concert at the University of Rwanda. The event, themed "Get Freedom and Life in God," aimed to promote spiritual healing and renewal within the university community.

Evangelical concerts play a pivotal role in nurturing the spiritual well-being of individuals and fostering a sense of community. They provide a platform for sharing the Word of God, offering solace, and encouraging personal growth and transformation. By addressing the spiritual needs of attendees, these events contribute to the overall holistic development of individuals, empowering them to lead fulfilling lives guided by faith and purpose.

During the "Bohoka Ubeho" concert, renowned evangelist Ev. Niyomugabo Anicet shared the Word of God, delivering powerful messages of hope, redemption, and liberation. The event was further enriched by the presence of the Alarm Worship team from Kigali, whose uplifting performances captivated the audience and created an atmosphere of spiritual connection.

HHFR believes that this evangelical concert brought a positive impact to the community of the University of Rwanda, fostering an environment conducive to personal growth, healing, and transformation. The organization extends its sincere gratitude to all partners, organizers, and attendees who made this event a resounding success.

Recognizing the importance of nurturing the spiritual well-being of communities, HHFR remains committed to supporting initiatives that promote positive change and personal empowerment. The organization encourages all individuals and organizations to support this cause, as their contributions play a vital role in bringing about a positive transformation within our communities.

Activity 13: A VISIT TO VULNERABLE PATIENTS IN CHUB

On January 27th, 2024, members of Helping Heart Family Rwanda continued their annual tradition of visiting vulnerable patients at Central Hospital of Butare (CHUB). This initiative exemplifies the organization's core mission of sharing love and compassion with those most in need within the community.

The dedicated volunteers spent the day interacting with and distributing essential supplies to patients at the hospital. Care packages included basic groceries, nutritious food items, clothing, and vital sanitary materials. This tangible support aimed to not only meet immediate needs, but also provide a sense of dignity during difficult health circumstances.

Beyond the material provisions, the visit allowed for meaningful human connection. Volunteers took the time to have personal conversations, offer emotional encouragement, and let each patient know they have not been forgotten. These acts of kindness fostered an environment of hope within the hospital walls.

The impact of this event extended far beyond the single day. Helping Heart Family Rwanda's display of generosity continues to be a uplifting force that strengthens the Butare community year after year. The smiles, appreciation, and renewed sense of care made lasting positive impressions on both patients and volunteers alike.



ACTIVITY 14: Empowering Teen Mothers for Sustainable Livelihoods



In line with its commitment to fostering positive transformation within communities, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR), through the department dedicated to enhancing the well-being of teen mothers and women at large, "Rise and Live," held a comprehensive three-day training program in Huye district. This initiative, undertaken with generous support from Akaliza Anely, started from February 2nd to February 4th, 2024, aiming to equip teen mothers with essential knowledge and skills to navigate life's challenges successfully.

Themed **"Rise and Live Beyond Your Challenges,"** the training sessions were designed to address critical areas affecting the well-being of teen mothers, encompassing mental health awareness, comprehensive sexuality education, and strategies to combat gender-based violence (GBV). The overarching objective was to inaugurate a cohort of empowered teen mothers strong to deal with adversities, particularly the looming threat of poverty, through holistic support and guidance provided by HHFR.

Central to the training agenda was the cultivation of financial literacy and entrepreneurial skills among participants. Through structured modules and interactive sessions, teen mothers were equipped with the necessary tools to initiate and manage micro-business ventures, thereby fostering economic independence and resilience. Notably, as a tangible outcome of this endeavor, together formed "Ijabo group" which now holds a savings account within the SACCO of Ngoma sector, boasting a cumulative balance of 200,000 Rwandan Francs.

The successful implementation of this training initiative marks a significant milestone in HHFR's ongoing efforts to effect positive change within communities. By nurturing a cadre of empowered teen mothers equipped with both knowledge and resources, HHFR reaffirms its commitment to fostering sustainable livelihoods and bolstering the resilience of marginalized demographics. As HHFR continues its mission, it invites stakeholders and supporters alike to join hands in amplifying the impact and ushering in a brighter future for all.

Activity 15: Empowering Teen Mothers for Sustainable Livelihoods in Gasabo District

Continuing its mission to empower marginalized demographics, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) extended its transformative efforts to teen mothers residing in the Kinyinya sector of Gasabo district. In alignment with its overarching goal, HHFR, through the department "Rise and Live", orchestrated a two-day training program from 6th March 2024. This initiative mirrored the previous undertaking in Huye district, aiming to equip teen mothers with essential skills and knowledge for a resilient and empowered future.

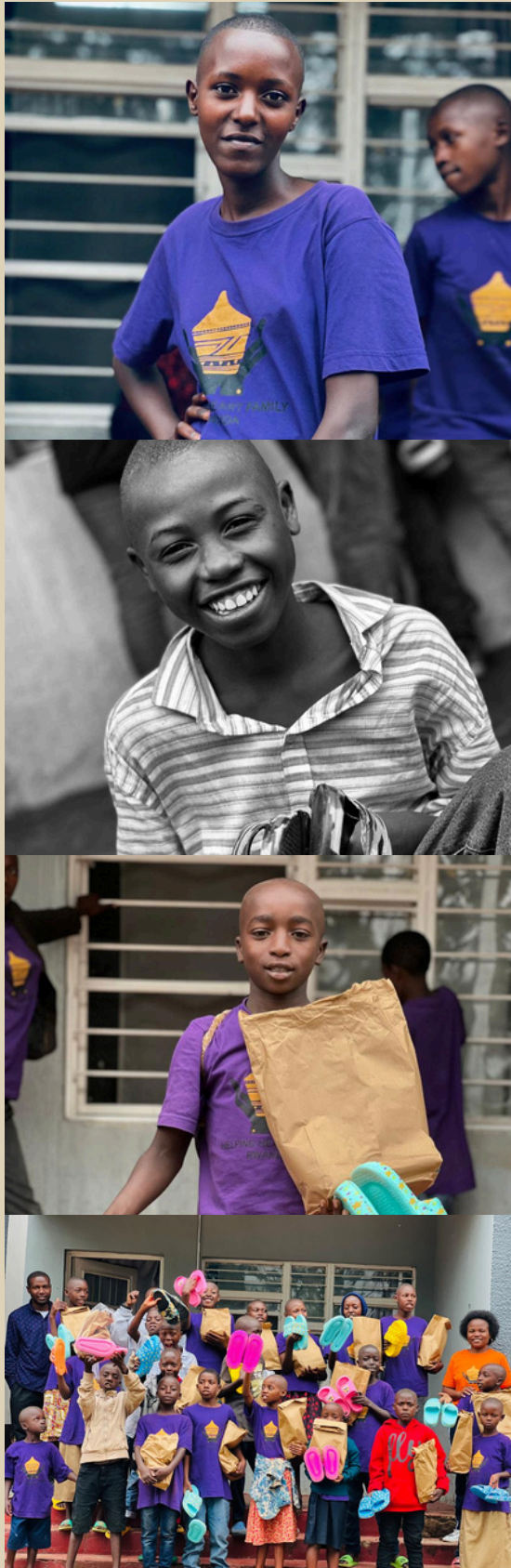
Themed "**Woman, Stand Up and Speak Out You're Able**," the training sessions delved into pertinent issues affecting teen mothers, with a particular emphasis on encouraging self-expression and resilience. Notably, the program allocated dedicated time for participants to share personal narratives of resilience, providing a platform for those grappling with mental health challenges, such as heartbreak, to find solace and support. Through facilitated counseling sessions, individuals in need received empathetic guidance, fostering a supportive community ethos.

A notable outcome of this endeavor was the remarkable decision by 90% of participating teen mothers to pursue further education, signaling a transformative shift towards self-empowerment and long-term resilience. This decision underscores the efficacy of HHFR's holistic approach, which combines skill-building with ongoing support to facilitate sustainable change within communities.

As HHFR celebrates this significant achievement, it reaffirms its unwavering commitment to amplifying the voices and agency of marginalized demographics, such as teen mothers. By fostering an environment of empowerment and support, HHFR catalyzes positive change and paves the way for a future where every individual can realize their full potential. Moving forward, HHFR invites continued collaboration and support from stakeholders and allies to further expand its impact and reach.



Activity 16: Education Support Initiative for Former Street Children



On April 13th, 2023, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) embarked on a crucial initiative to support the education of former street children, marking a significant step towards fostering inclusivity and opportunity within the community. In an effort to mitigate barriers to education and facilitate a smooth transition into the third term of the academic year 2023/2024, HHFR distributed essential school materials to 30 beneficiaries who had previously experienced life on the streets.

This endeavor underscores HHFR's commitment to providing holistic support to vulnerable populations, ensuring access to quality education as a fundamental right. By equipping these children with necessary school supplies, ranging from textbooks to stationery, HHFR endeavors to empower them with the tools needed to thrive academically and pursue their aspirations.

The provision of school materials not only addresses immediate needs but also serves as a catalyst for long-term socio-economic empowerment. Education stands as a potent vehicle for breaking the cycle of poverty and opening doors to a brighter future. Through this initiative, HHFR lays the foundation for academic success and personal growth, fostering a sense of hope and possibility among beneficiaries and their families.

As HHFR continues its mission to uplift marginalized communities, it recognizes the importance of sustained support and advocacy for education. Moving forward, HHFR remains committed to providing ongoing assistance and guidance to former street children, ensuring their continued integration into the educational system and nurturing their potential to become active contributors to society.

Activity 17: Promoting Legal Awareness and Community Engagement

In a bid to promote legal awareness and foster community engagement, Helping Heart Family Rwanda (HHFR) leveraged its legal department in collaboration with Gasabo district to initiate a pivotal partnership on May 21, 2024. This significant milestone marked the inception of a concerted effort to address pressing issues within the community, underscoring HHFR's commitment to effecting positive change through collaborative action.

The partnership unfolded within the framework of "Inteko y'abaturage," a community gathering where local authorities and residents convene to collectively tackle challenges and devise sustainable solutions. Central to this session was the pressing concern regarding a proposed mining operation, poised to introduce heavy machinery that threatened property damage and noise pollution within the community.

Drawing upon the collective expertise and perspectives of HHFR, local authorities, the mining company, and community members, the dialogue served as a platform for constructive engagement and consensus-building. Through collaborative efforts, stakeholders endeavored to identify viable strategies to mitigate the adverse impacts of the mining operation while safeguarding the interests and well-being of the community.

This proactive approach exemplifies HHFR's unwavering commitment to advocating for the rights and welfare of marginalized communities, facilitating meaningful dialogue, and fostering inclusive decision-making processes. By harnessing the power of collaboration and legal advocacy, HHFR embarks on a journey to effect tangible, sustainable change and empower communities to confront challenges with resilience and unity.

As HHFR continues to navigate the complex landscape of community development, it remains steadfast in its pursuit of impactful solutions and meaningful engagement. Through ongoing partnerships and collective action, HHFR endeavors to catalyze positive transformations, ensuring a future where every individual's voice is heard, and every community thrives.



As we reflect upon the remarkable achievements detailed within this annual report, we are filled with a profound sense of gratitude and a renewed commitment to our mission. The journey we have undertaken has been one of immense challenges, but also of extraordinary triumphs and profound impact.

The success stories we have shared, from the reintegration of street children into the educational system to the empowerment of teen mothers and the promotion of legal awareness, stand as a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the transformative power of collective action. Each initiative, each partnership, and each life touched serve as a reminder of the boundless potential that lies within our communities when we come together with a shared vision and unwavering determination.

As we look towards the future, we are emboldened by the knowledge that our work has laid the foundation for lasting change. The seeds we have sown today will continue to bear fruit, rippling outward and touching the lives of generations to come. It is our solemn duty and profound honor to nurture these seeds, to water them with our unwavering commitment, and to watch as they blossom into a tapestry of hope, empowerment, and self-sufficiency.

We extend our sincere gratitude to all those who have walked alongside us on this journey – our partners, donors, volunteers, and the resilient communities we serve. Your support, collaboration, and unwavering belief in our mission have been the driving force behind our achievements, and we are humbled by the trust you have placed in us.

As we turn the page to the next chapter, we do so with renewed vigor, steadfast resolve, and an unyielding commitment to our cause. Together, we will continue to forge ahead, breaking down barriers, empowering the marginalized, and creating a world where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and realize their full potential.

In the words of Nelson Mandela, "It always seems impossible until it's done." Let us embrace this wisdom, and together, let us make the impossible a reality – one life, one community, one step at a time.