

Newsletter – Spring 2009

In 2008 Comfort Rwanda has been blessed again with wonderful committed support, diligent Rwandan partners of integrity and vision and God's unfailing provision for every commitment undertaken. We thought you might like a summary of some of the special things that have happened throughout 2008. Comfort Rwanda is you. This is the legacy you have left for 2008.



Solace survivors group at Bugesera

Land has been purchased and building funds given for the Living Church to build a Vocational Training Centre for Street Kids. A fundraising group is working hard to raise the funds for the equipping of the centre.

The Comfort Rwanda-funded Solace outreach programme has been developing and strengthening new survivors' groups throughout Rwanda. The hope, peace, love and joy that are flourishing in these groups is a testimony to the anointing of God on these Solace outreach workers.



Ndahigwa Paul finds time to smile at Kamonyi healing & reconciliation group

The growth of Comfort Rwanda reps and volunteers has been a huge blessing. People are promoting involvement in churches, raising funds for projects, craft stalls, developing resources, running sponsorship schemes, organising prayer, running special events, and volunteering at the charity shop. You are the salt of the earth.

The pastors' training continues to develop and we are very hopeful of a partnership which will help create properly accredited certificates & diplomas of pastoral studies.

Sponsors continue to be dedicated to the support of young Rwandans. Our systems of reporting are not as good as we would like them to be but we assure you the support is deeply appreciated and effective. The new Street Kids and Education sponsorship schemes are very exciting and a testimony to people's generous hearts.



Ex-street boys Desire, David and Gabriel after their baptism

Churches have given selfless support. Partnerships between churches and Rwandan communities are flourishing.

For the first time we were able to minister to pastors & leaders in DR Congo as well as providing relief during the crisis. We look forward to the continuation of the blessing that has gone to Rwanda extending over the border to DR Congo.

The Bugesera project (integrated housing, water, crops, fruit, cattle, education) has given the three survivors' communities great hope, joy and a foundation for continued development.



The survivors village at Rukumberi begins

The transformation of the Street Kids continues. Many kids are at or near the top of their classes at school, some are been trained in bakery, some have now been baptised and their characters are truly beautiful.

Our relationship with our partners continues to be a source of joy. We had the blessing of leading a Solace staff retreat earlier in the year and Ndahigwa Paul's visit to Scotland was a great blessing to him as he was made so welcome & loved.

Prayer

Want to pray for the work in Rwanda? Get in touch with Anne Reid (01382 776601, chicsanny@hotmail.co.uk) to get regular prayer

2009 visits

Group visits for June, July & September are now full. There may be some places on a visit in October. Contact if interested

Comfort Rwanda

82 Arden Grove, Kilsyth G65 9NU
01236 827251
enquiry@comfortrwnda.org.uk

Container to Rwanda

We are hoping to send a container to Rwanda later in the year. Vocational training equipment for welding, computing, carpentry, mechanics, tailoring is especially sought.

2008 reflection and look ahead to 2009

2008 Income

General donations	49374
Bugesera project	42359
Land purchase for Living Church	40500
Sponsor an Orphan or Survivor	14269
Community Projects	12991
Shop, book & crafts contribution	9890
Gift Aid	5651
Housing & Roofing	5361
Cattle	5191
Street Kids	2725
Fundraising for choir visit	1774
Sewing project	1390
Education	1315
Congo	1234
Gifts for Paul's visit to Scotland	1030
Goats	438
Pastors training	50
Total	195542

Note: Income & funding are for donations only. The charity shop funds all charity expenses and ensures all *donations* go 100% to Rwanda. Similar gifts may be in different categories. E.g. Funds for cattle given to a community may be in cattle or in community projects. We will try and clarify this in future.

2008 Funding to Rwanda

Land purchase Living Church	45663
Bugesera project	38159
Street Kids	23300
Education	21300
Sponsor an Orphan or Survivor	12226
Community projects	11195
Cattle	7751
Healing & Reconciliation housing etc	6062
Housing	5161
Pastors training	4715
Living Church general support	4500
Solace community outreach	3600
Solace general donation	3540
Crafts	2693
Passports and visa applications (choir)	2525
Sewing project	2000
Congo support	1000
Goats	910
Bibles	675
Other	1284
Total	198259

Gifts sent may straddle different categories. Because funds may be given in one year and transferred in another there are some discrepancies between income and funding given. Please note these are not official accounts which will be available after April.

The table below outlines what we feel God is calling us to commit to for 2009. The areas highlighted in red are those for which we are in particular need of partners.

Project	Amount	Funding situation
.Vocational Training Centre Building	34000	34000 given
Education	21900	At present 4908 through university sponsorship scheme
Community projects	21100	A number of churches are partnering communities and this is the amount CR would like to raise for these communities
Voc. Training Centre Equipping	18000	12000 with funding group aiming to raise the rest
Street Kids	18000	c. 2700 through sponsorship/befriending programme
Sponsor an Orphan or Survivor	15000	12226
Pastors training and accreditation	10600	A partner church has pledged 8000 of this
Crafts	8000	Through stalls & outlets
Solace outreach team	6000	None at present
Healing & Reconciliation housing	6000	None at present
Cattle project	4000	Individual partners are working to raise this
On the spot needs	4000	Hopefully from visit groups!
Living church income generation & micro-credit project	3710	A partner organisation is seeking to raise this through the year
Solace outreach team	3600	None at present
Living church general support	3000	None at present
Congo support of refugees	2375	A small amount has been given
Sewing project	2000	CR rep has taken on this project & will seek to raise this (& more!)
Housing	1500	Funds needed for finishing Consolée's house
Total	182785	

The above is money we are committed to providing and doesn't include other gifts or projects God leads us to through the year. There may be funds needed for flights if we get choir visas but this should be recouped. We praise God for His provision over 2008 and thank-you for being partners together in the work.