

SUPPORT

We have sent out a letter concerning the opportunity to support our full time charity developer Callum Henderson but have not circulated it too widely so as not to impose upon the goodwill of the charity's supporters. If you would like to know about how Callum has been supported and the options for the present and future, please phone/email Siubhan (01236 452798 siubhan.rintoul@tiscali.co.uk)

Churches

If your church does not have a recognised Comfort Rwanda rep and you would like to have one please contact enquiry@comfortrwanda.org.uk 01236 827251

Pressing Needs

People often ask "what is the most pressing need?" The major areas of **ongoing support** needed at present are the Street Kids Rescue/ Friends of Jesus, Education Support and Pastors Training in Rwanda and DR Congo. Regular (or one-off) support for these would be a blessing! The support of one man or woman for a year at the Christian Training College of Rwanda would be £320 (£26.50 a month).

Land purchase

When the land on which the Street Kids Vocational Training Centre and Accommodation and options of an orphanage, income generating guest house and church was bought there was a second instalment of 20 million Francs (£22,000) to be paid later. Although the land deal is secure that payment is now due to be honoured. £5000 has just been donated for this and any further support would be gratefully received. Perhaps you might consider doing a fundraiser for this.



To follow up any support or giving opportunities please either visit the giving page on the website or contact details are below:

Newsletter – Winter 2010



Widows from the Solace survivors group at Bugesera prepare pineapple suckers from their fields for extending the plantation. They said:
When we came to Solace they helped us to grow pineapples. Now everyone has their own patch and we save money in our account. When we face problems we can go and buy what we need. We were in a very bad mood after we lost our children but God brought the brethren and they are in the place of our husbands and children. Now we no longer suffer much poverty like we suffered so we have hope that things will be good since God has given us a good family.

COMFORT RWANDA'S 10th ANNIVERSARY THANKSGIVING & CELEBRATION

Comfort Rwanda began its support of survivors in 1999 but the charity was registered in April 2000. This year will be our official 10th anniversary. We would like to say a huge thank-you to you our supporters and to The Lord for His faithfulness and goodness at an evening of thanksgiving, worship, inspiration (we hope!) followed by a ceilidh and buffet. Everyone is welcome so please do come and enjoy a wonderful time of fellowship.

Saturday 8th May
6.30 -8.00 Thanksgiving & Celebration
8.00 – 10.30 Ceilidh and Buffet
Chryston Church, Main St, Chryston, G69 9LA

PARTNERSHIP

A letter of thanks from the Living Church

"Our beloved partners Comfort Rwanda, we once again wish you a happy and prosperous New Year, may God multiply your blessings in 2010. We thank you for your support since the time we have been working together to minister the Kingdom of God to the people of Rwanda.

When we look at the Friends of Jesus (Street Kids Rescue) now we see what a great work we have done in the Kingdom of God with your hand. The F.O.J. bakery is now serving the community and the boys in the Friends of Jesus are enjoying being part of the team that is making bread. When we look at the progress in the lives of the pastors we have been training at Eglise Vivante with your support we thank God for our wonderful connection and partnership. What do we say about the land bought because of your generosity, now we are going to build the technical college soon it is all a product of our friendship and we always thank God and pray for you because you have done and are still doing a great work in the Kingdom of God. The mothers in Eglise Vivante who were given money to run small scale businesses are very grateful to your ministry, some are doing well and others who didn't do well previously are now blessed with training and soon will receive their second phase support. They say they are better now than when they were given the first phase.

Kamonyi people are witnesses to your wonderful help in practical reconciliation because now people live in roofed houses because of help and giving hand, the ladies and orphans in Kamonyi now have a hope for a better future because of the sewing machines you gave them, they learn with passion and enthusiasm.

The other children from Eglise Vivante and the Eastern province who are supported in their education also thank God for you, their parents narrate how your support has helped them take their children to school, had it not been because of your helping heart then they don't know how they would have been today.

So dear beloved partners join us and let's thank God together for our partnership and role extending the Kingdom of God."

Christian Training College of Rwanda (CTCR)

The Foundation Certificate of Christian Studies goes before the International Christian College (Glasgow) on March 24th. Do pray for God's blessing and wisdom on this. (See also back page re support for this).

NEW HORIZONS

For some time we have felt that the work in Rwanda and the good things God is doing there must reach out to hurting people in neighbouring countries. A visit in October confirmed the huge need of tens of thousands of people in Kivu, north-east DR Congo. Years of conflict and displacement, recent volcanic eruptions and rampant corruption have robbed people of hope, resources and often their families as well. Hundreds of thousands of people are living in refugee camps, many in torn tarpaulins stretched over bent branches.

Comfort Rwanda has a small sewing project in the camps and we believe a £10,000 project to help refugees return home by providing land, tools and crops will be approved shortly. We visited pygmy churches where, despite having been driven out of the forests and having lost everything, they worshipped with fervour. A gift of a few sacks of beans was received like treasure. Please pray for the work in DR Congo that God's compassion would reach these traumatised and disempowered people.



Dwellings made of rags, tarpaulins and branches and built on volcanic rocks cluster round a church in the refugee camps



The pygmy church at Mugunga refugee camp. It is beautiful to see the effect of God's love being ministered to such marginalised people

NEWS CLIPS

- You can hear/ buy/ download music from the **Solace choir** at www.rafikirecords.com
- We hope to have a time of prayer on **April 7th** during the **genocide commemoration** period. We are not sure how many people are likely to come to that so choosing a venue is difficult. So please **let us know** if you are likely to be there and we will choose an appropriate venue to suit the numbers.
- Our graphics and web designer, Gary, has updated and refreshed the **logo**. We are still experimenting with various design offshoots. We hope you like it!
- The July visit is now booked. Interest in **September or October visits** should be given now and deposits will be needed March and April 30th respectively.
- Want to pray for the work in Rwanda? Get in touch with Anne Reid (01382 776601, chicsanny@hotmail.co.uk) to get regular prayer news.
- If you want to have a stall for the **Rwandan crafts** please let us know.