



Educate, Engage, Empower

Quarterly
Newsletter

July—September
2013

Celebrating Young Rwandan Achievers

Special points of interest:

Aheza Project was launched to train 200 young genocide survivors on income generating activities, IT and management of cooperatives.

We are grateful to Liquid Telcom, Maureen Ruetters, Jennie Weiss and Paul Farmer for their generous support to the Foundation.

Upcoming Events:

- "Let us Dream" workshop for best performing girls . November 2013
- Annual Holiday Camp for scholarship beneficiaries November 2013
- "Ndi Umunyarwanda" in Higher Learning Institutes November 2013
- Parents and Adolescents Communication forum on HIV and AIDS. December 2013
- Youth access to sexual and reproductive health services campaign. December 2013

For the 4th time, Imbuto Foundation celebrated and recognized outstanding Young Rwandan Achievers in August 2013.

Emmanuel Hitimana, Isabelle Kamariza, Clarisse Ilibagiza, Esther Mbabazi, Dominique Ntirushwa, Chance Tubane, and Violette Uwamaliya are the 7 Young Rwandan achievers, who were awarded by Her Excellency Mrs. Jeannette Kagame. These young men and women excelled in various fields such as Information Technology, Aviation, Entrepreneurship, Performing Arts and the non profit sector.

The awards ceremony featured Mr. Ashish Thakkar, as the keynote speaker. Ashish Thakkar aged 32 yrs, is Africa's youngest billionaire. At the age of 15 he registered his first IT company and has never looked

back since. Celebrating Young Rwanda Achievers (CYRWA) was established to honour outstanding young Rwandans who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment.

To date, 29 youth have received the CYRWA award.



2013 Young Rwandan Achievers just after being awarded

"We are who we have been waiting for" forum

Leading up to CYRWA awards, a youth forum was held for 200 young professionals. Elizabeth Mwangi, Charity Kabango and Awel Uwhanganye addressed the youth under the theme "**We are who we have been waiting for**". Speakers emphasized that youth must determine their destinies , no one will do it for them.



Speakers inspiring forum participants

International Women's Congress

Mrs. Jeannette Kagame opened an International Women's Congress, organized by the Seventh Day Adventist Church under the theme: "Chosen to Make a Difference".

Over 1,500 Adventist women from across Africa and America gathered to discuss challenges facing them, such as gender-based violence, self-esteem, social and economic development.

At the occasion Mrs Kagame urged women to strive for these 6 virtues: **Character, Humility, Obedience, Servanthood, Enlightenment and Nobility.**



First Lady Mrs. Kagame officially opening International Women's Congress– Huye District

"We nurture, inspire and encourage those around us and, whether we realise it or not, we set the foundation for character building. Apart from being the heart of a home, the society expects a lot from us as wives, mothers, sisters, professionals and individuals."

Mrs. Jeannette Kagame

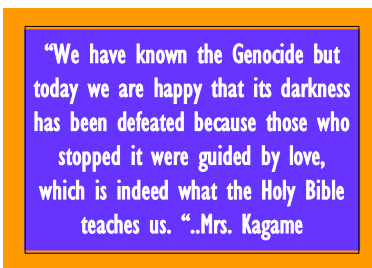
Mushaka Parish' 50 year Jubilee

Mrs. Jeannette Kagame joined 6,000 people to celebrate 50 years since Mushaka Parish' birth. The Parish established in 1963 has constructed schools and health facilities.

To build on Rwanda's national unity and reconciliation program, the Parish also introduced a unique approach called "Gacaca Nkristu".

Genocide perpetrators and survivors attend special 6 month sessions. They are taught how to live together fearlessly, using biblical principles. Perpetrators who participate in this program are temporarily banned from receiving holy communion and getting

married in church, until they complete the sessions and receive forgiveness from the survivors whose families they destroyed. So far 140 people have completed sessions successfully.



Mrs. Kagame with Government and church leaders at Mushaka Parish

"Ndi Umunyarwanda – Proudly Rwandan"

"**Ndi Umunyarwanda**" is a program and a process born out of the Youth Connekt Dialogue. The dialogue was initiated by Rwandan youth, Ministry of Youth and Imbuto Foundation, with the aim of building trust among Rwandans.

In the Rwandan context, trust is a process that can be achieved through responsible and continuous dialogue, on the truth about our history, the cost

struggle. **Ndi Umunyarwanda**, reminds Rwandans that the struggle to protect our nation and sustain our achievements is ongoing.

Ndi Umunyarwanda works towards unifying and reconciling Rwandans. The concept is based on four pillars: history, testimonies, forgiveness and healing.

Under the leadership of the First Lady Mrs. Jeannette Kagame, "**Ndi Umunyarwanda**" has been introduced to different target groups such as youth, journalists, higher learning institutes, artists, faith based organizations, and Rwanda's local and national leaders.

Reading Week Festival

In partnership with Rwanda Library Services, the Ministries of Education, and Culture, Imbuto Foundation launched the Reading week Festival.

The aim of the festival was to further promote a reading culture amongst primary school children at school and at home. The initiative also speaks to educators and parents on the importance of reading, and how to help children develop an interest in reading.

This year Imbuto Foundation has impacted 600 primary school children and 300 parents, through the reading initiative. At each annual reading event, reading competitions are held to keep students motivated and challenged.



Children at a library in the Southern Province of Rwanda

Mrs Kagame speaks at George Bush Institute

The First Lady Mrs. Jeannette Kagame delivered a speech at an event organized by the George W Bush Institute and World Vision in New York on September 25th.

Mrs. Kagame talked about how Rwanda has defined a clear future for itself. She also spoke about Imbuto Foundation, and how it was created by a sisterhood of caring and committed women to complement public service efforts.



Mrs. Kagame addressing the audience

Along with the other First Ladies present, Mrs. Kagame informed the audience about her philanthropic work and areas of focus.

While in New York, Mrs. Kagame also attended luncheons hosted by Mrs. Michelle Obama, former First Lady Mrs. Laura Bush and Mrs. Ban Ki Moon.

Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health Day

Imbuto Foundation organized an “Open Day” on Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights. (ASRH&R) The aim was to ensure adolescents understand their roles, responsibilities, and rights.

According to Zaina Nyiramata, Imbuto Foundation board member, adolescents are most susceptible to early and unwanted pregnancies,

sexually transmitted diseases and abortions.

This Open Day, therefore, was key in raising awareness among youth, on their rights and access to sexual and reproductive health services.



Zaina Nyiramata, speaking at ASRH&R “Open Day”.