

Project Snapshot:

AMAHORO ASSOCIATION

Location: Kigali, Rwanda

Website: www.chabha.org

Partner: Global Fund for Children

Partner Website: www.globalfundforchildren.org

Summary of project:

Rwandan society has been altered significantly by the dual tragedies of genocide and HIV/AIDS. Half the population of over 10 million people are below the age of 20. Many of these youth are catapulted to the role of household head. They face stigma from society and often have difficulties accessing social services. Their dire social and economic circumstances also make them vulnerable to homelessness, violence, sex work, and HIV/AIDS.

Orphaned by the 1994 genocide and AIDS, eight teenagers formed the Amahoro Association in Kigali, Rwanda, in 2000. Today, the organization offers home-based care and support to 412 families and 2,000 children and youth between the ages of 3 and 20.

Professional post-trauma counselors work closely with the children to help them cope with their feelings of loss, grief and hopelessness. The children also learn viable income generation options through Amahoro's skills workshops and microenterprise trainings. The psychological program, which includes home visits, educational support and life skills trainings, is the foundation of Amahoro's work. Every Saturday, hundreds of children in the program meet to sing, dance, and learn from leaders in the community who teach and facilitate discussions on important issues affecting the children and their community.

Funds for project:

100% of funds will be used for capacity building and general support of the Amahoro Association.

" Do your little bit of good where you are; its those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." Desmond Tutu



Rwanda Info:

Population: 10,473,282
(compared to USA's 307M)

60 % of the population live below the poverty line (2001 est.)

42.1 % of the country is 0-14 years old

29.7 % of the population is illiterate (2003 est.)

Source: CIA World Factbook

