

QUARTERLY

NEWSLETTER



OUR MISSION

Reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children education.

ABOUT HOPE OF FAMILY

Hope of Family (HoF) is a local NonGovernment Organization created in 2018 with a goal-oriented towards reducing extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education. we are based in Shyogwe Sector, Muhanga district, Southern Province of Rwanda.

OUR VISION

Families that live decent life with appropriate and timely involvement in their children education.



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Dear Readers,

Muraho! On behalf of Hope of Family, it is with immense pleasure that I warmly welcome you to the latest edition of our quarterly newsletter for this new fiscal year 2025-2026. As we welcome you to this new edition of our Quarterly Newsletter, I am reminded of the simple yet powerful truth that continues to guide our work at Hope of Family: real change begins with belief; belief in the potential of every child, belief in the strength of every family, and belief that together, communities can transform their own futures.

This quarter has been a powerful reflection of that belief in action. Across schools, villages, and families, we have seen hope take root and grow. From empowering children and community to discover their voices through the IJWI Program, to watching young talents shine during our Talent Detection initiative, and to welcoming a new cohort of families into our support network, each milestone has reaffirmed why we do what we do.

We have also witnessed the transformative power of learning, as our collaboration with partners like NABU brought the joy of reading to our children, nurturing not only their minds but also their confidence and curiosity. And as we continue to provide school materials, mentorship, and opportunities for growth, we are reminded that every investment we make today plants a seed for a brighter tomorrow.

What stands out most is not just the number of activities accomplished, but the stories behind them — stories of resilience, of dreams reignited, and of communities standing together to build lasting change.

As we look ahead, our vision remains clear: to ensure that every child, regardless of their background, has the opportunity to learn, to dream, and to lead. This mission is possible because of you, our partners, donors, friends, and team members, who believe that transformation begins with unity and action.

Thank you for being part of this journey of hope. Together, we continue to turn challenges into opportunities and dreams into realities.

With warm regards,
IYAMUREMYE NSHUTI Augustin
Executive Director
Hope of Family





WHEN CHILDREN READ TOGETHER, COMMUNITIES GROW STRONGER

At Hope of Family, we believe that a child who reads is a child who dreams, and a community that nurtures readers is one that thrives. This belief came to life last few weeks when our office transformed into a joyful hub of laughter, curiosity, and storytelling during a vibrant Read-Aloud Session held in collaboration with our friends from NABU.

The event, led by NABU officials Mr. Philippe Nkwakuzi and Mr. Ricardo Tuyishimire, brought together over one hundred children participating in our Talent Detection Program in Reading & Storytelling. The children gathered not only to read stories in Kinyarwanda but also to share their voices, express their imaginations, and connect with stories that mirror their culture and experiences.



Every page turned and every story shared became a bridge, linking young readers to a world of imagination and connecting them to one another through the beauty of language. As we listened to the children read with confidence and enthusiasm, we were reminded of the deep power of storytelling: to unite, to heal, and to shape the minds of tomorrow's leaders.

But our journey doesn't end with a single session. Through our continuous effort to make reading a joyful routine, Hope of Family hosts Read-Aloud Sessions three times every week, providing consistent opportunities for children to engage with mother-tongue books. These sessions are not only helping children strengthen their literacy skills but also building their self-expression, confidence, and love for learning.



TO NABU:

Our heartfelt appreciation goes to NABU, whose invaluable support ensures that children in our community have access to quality books in Kinyarwanda. Together, we are planting seeds of literacy that will grow into forests of opportunity, one story, one voice, and one child at a time.

At Hope of Family, we know that when children read together, communities indeed grow stronger.



A DAY TO REMEMBER: CELEBRATING THE POWER OF YOUNG TALENT

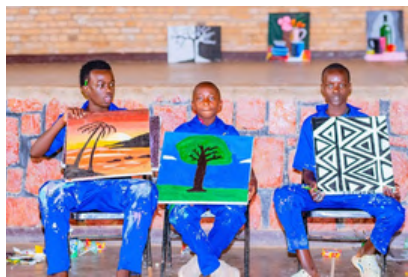
This year, Hope of Family witnessed an extraordinary celebration of potential, creativity, and unity during the closing ceremony of our Talent Detection Program 2025. Over 800 children, alongside their parents, community members, and local leaders, gathered to mark the culmination of three months of discovery and growth, a season that turned ordinary holidays into unforgettable moments of empowerment.

Across the fields, stages, and art spaces, children showcased their talents with unmatched enthusiasm. The football grounds roared with energy as teams displayed skill, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Traditional dancers captivated the audience with rhythmic movements that echoed the richness of our culture. Artists transformed blank canvases into colorful stories of imagination, while young storytellers filled the air with words that inspired both laughter and reflection.



The presence of district officials reinforced the shared belief that every child, regardless of where they come from, deserves an equal opportunity to explore and develop their potential. The Talent Detection Program continues to bridge that gap for children in rural communities, offering them the same opportunities for recreation, creativity, and growth that others might take for granted.

As we close this year's program, we celebrate not only the children's achievements but also the promise they carry into the future. To all the young talents stepping back into classrooms: carry your courage, curiosity, and confidence forward. Your dreams matter, your voices are powerful, and your talents can shape a brighter tomorrow.



Beyond the performances:

what truly stood out was the confidence glowing in every child's eyes. The event was not just a celebration, it was a reflection of transformation. Parents who once doubted their children's hidden abilities watched with pride as they discovered new dimensions of what their children could achieve when given the right space and encouragement.

Through initiatives like this, Hope of Family reaffirms its commitment to nurturing holistic child development, where learning goes beyond books, and every child finds a reason to believe in their own potential. Together, we continue to build a community where every child's dream has space to grow.





WE ARE SCALING UP: WELCOMING OUR 5TH COHORT OF BENEFICIARIES!

Hope of Family is proud to announce the launch of our 5th Cohort of Beneficiaries, marking a significant milestone in our mission to reduce extreme family poverty through quality children's education. This new cohort brings 200 families from Mubuga and Mbare cells into our programs, carefully selected in collaboration with local leaders to ensure we reach those most vulnerable in our community.

Our work is about tangible change—children accessing education, families empowered to break the cycle of poverty, and communities strengthened through collaboration and care. Each household welcomed into Hope of Family reflects our ongoing commitment to impactful, sustainable, and life-changing programs.

With this addition, Hope of Family now directly supports 620 families, each embarking on a three-year journey of transformation. But scaling up is more than just a number. It represents opportunities created, hope restored, and futures brightened for families who deserve dignity and the chance to thrive.

We celebrate this milestone with gratitude and renewed determination. Together, we are building a future where every child can dream bigger, every parent can hope stronger, and every family can flourish.



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I feel so lucky to be part of Hope of Family. For the first time, I believe my children can have a future filled with hope and education. This is a blessing for our family.
Jean Bosco from Mubuga, shared his joy.





A JOYFUL DAY: OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE IJWI PROGRAM – EMPOWERING VOICES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN MUHANGA

In September 2025, Hope of Family proudly marked a historic milestone with the official launch of the IJWI Program, a groundbreaking initiative designed to strengthen community engagement and inspire both students and teachers to become champions of human rights in Muhanga District.

“Ijwi,” meaning voice in Kinyarwanda, truly embodies the spirit of this program, amplifying the voices of students, teachers, and community members to build a society where respect, equality, and justice are lived realities.

The IJWI Program is built on the belief that education is one of the most powerful tools for social transformation. Through this initiative, History and Citizenship teachers in public schools across Muhanga District will be equipped with the skills and resources to integrate human rights education into their school environment and school communities. Beyond the school communities, the program empowers student clubs to become safe spaces for civic dialogue, nurturing a generation of critical thinkers, compassionate leaders, and active citizens.

At the heart of IJWI lies a commitment to bridge schools and communities. The program extends beyond education walls to facilitate community dialogues, awareness campaigns, and locally-led initiatives that address real human rights challenges within rural settings. By empowering teachers and community leaders alike, IJWI paves the way for sustainable, community-driven change.

The day was filled with inspiration as experts shared insights and testimonies on the power of human rights education to shape resilient, inclusive communities. Teachers and community representatives expressed renewed enthusiasm to take these lessons forward, knowing they are part of something larger—a vision of dignity and equality for all.

The official launch event, graced by district and sector officials, was not only a celebration but also a call to action. The Mayor of Muhanga District, Mrs. Jacqueline Kayitare, captured the essence of IJWI when she said:

“The key steps we have taken in education to save a child should now be combined with the IJWI Program. For the outcomes we have been waiting for, people should recognize that something valuable has been added. The more time you spend with the community, the better you understand their needs and how to help solve their problems. Thank you, Hope of Family, for this important initiative ; it is not only a joy but also a responsibility for each one of us” Mrs. Jacqueline Kayitare.

Her words resonated deeply, reinforcing the shared responsibility that lies ahead to ensure that human rights education is not merely a subject, but a movement that transforms hearts, homes, and communities.

Hope of Family extends heartfelt gratitude to Woven Teaching and the Woven Foundation for their unwavering support in making this transformative initiative possible. Their belief in the power of local action and education continues to inspire and strengthen our work.



A FRESH START, A BRIGHTER FUTURE: BREAKING BARRIERS TO EDUCATION IN SHYOGWE

The start of the 2025–2026 academic year marked more than a simple return to classrooms in the Shyogwe Sector. It signaled renewed hope and opportunity for 1,112 children from vulnerable families supported by Hope of Family. This milestone stands as a shining reminder of what collective effort and compassion can achieve when directed toward one powerful goal: ensuring every child's right to education.

For many of these young learners, walking into school with a backpack full of books, pencils, and notebooks was once unimaginable. Poverty had often meant choosing between daily survival and a child's schooling. Yet this year, those same children stepped confidently into classrooms, their eyes bright with curiosity and their hearts full of promise.

This success goes far beyond the distribution of scholastic materials. It represents a crucial step in Hope of Family's mission to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education. By removing barriers that prevent children from accessing education, we are not only changing individual lives but also transforming families and entire communities.

Each notebook symbolizes a dream that can now be pursued. Each school uniform represents dignity restored. With education, a child begins to see beyond immediate challenges and starts to imagine a future filled with potential, a future where they can contribute meaningfully to society and uplift their families.

At Hope of Family, we believe that when a child succeeds in school, a family thrives and a community moves forward. That is why our efforts extend beyond the classroom, supporting families with complementary programs that nurture livelihoods, enhance parent engagement, and strengthen community ownership of children's success.

we are thankful to you!

As we celebrate this achievement, we are reminded that progress is a journey built on partnership, compassion, and persistence. Every donor, volunteer, partner, and parent plays a vital role in shaping this story of hope. Together, we are not just providing school supplies; we are fueling dreams, inspiring resilience, and lighting the path toward a future where every child in Shyogwe has the opportunity to learn, grow, and shine.





A HARVEST OF HOPE: EMPOWERING FAMILIES THROUGH MODERN RABBIT FARMING

In the quiet hills of Shyogwe Sector, a new kind of hope is hopping to life, one rabbit at a time. This quarter, Hope of Family marked a major milestone in our ongoing mission to reduce extreme poverty and empower families toward self-reliance.

Through our Modern Rabbit Farming Project, 83 beneficiary families received their first rabbits from our modern farming center. Each rabbit represents far more than livestock. It symbolizes dignity, empowerment, and the start of a new chapter for families determined to rise above poverty.

For many, this was the first time they owned an asset that could multiply value over time. As they carried their rabbits home, the joy was unmistakable. Faces lit up with pride and optimism because this was not a handout but a hand up.

The Modern Rabbit Farming Project integrates practical training with sustainable livelihood support. Beneficiaries learn not only how to care for and breed their rabbits but also how to manage them as a small-scale business. This means increased access to meat-based nutrition, organic manure for crop farming, and potential income from selling offspring, creating a multi-layered approach to building resilience.

At Hope of Family, we believe that lasting change comes when communities are equipped with the tools and knowledge to thrive independently. Each distributed rabbit becomes a seed of transformation, feeding families, supporting education, and nurturing a culture of responsibility and innovation.

This initiative is made possible through the invaluable support of World Connect, Inc., whose belief in grassroots impact continues to change lives across the Muhanga District. Their partnership has turned an idea into a living, breathing source of hope for dozens of families.

Every life changed is a victory for us all

"When I received my rabbit, I felt I had something I could grow for my children's future," said one of the beneficiaries. "It gives me hope that I can provide food and even income."





BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE IJWI PROGRAM: A COLLECTIVE STEP TOWARD HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

At Hope of Family, we believe that creating a just and inclusive society begins with empowering young people to understand, claim, and uphold their rights. This vision took a major step forward as we convened an inspiring and collaborative meeting with 35 head teachers from schools across the sectors where the IJWI Program will be implemented.

The meeting was more than an introduction to a new initiative. Together, we explored the goals of the IJWI Program, which seeks to strengthen Human Rights Clubs in schools, many of which have been inactive for years. These clubs will serve as safe and dynamic spaces where students can learn about their rights, engage in open dialogue, and take part in community-driven initiatives that promote dignity, equality, and respect.

The presence of the Muhanga District Director of Education added great depth to the conversation. His active participation and detailed insights on the district's role in the program reaffirmed a powerful partnership between Hope of Family and local authorities. This collaboration ensures that the IJWI Program is not only impactful in the short term but also sustainable for years to come.

Throughout the session, head teachers expressed genuine enthusiasm and optimism. They shared firsthand accounts of the challenges their students face, ranging from lack of awareness about basic rights to limited opportunities for youth participation, and voiced their belief that the IJWI Program can become a turning point in promoting human rights education in schools. Their energy and commitment reflected a common desire: to raise a generation of learners who are informed, confident, and compassionate citizens.

As we build this strong foundation together, Hope of Family remains committed to supporting educators as key change agents. Teachers are at the heart of every successful transformation, and through their leadership, the IJWI Program will reach thousands of young people, helping them not only to know their rights but also to respect and protect the rights of others.

This meeting marked the beginning of something powerful: a collective movement to embed human rights education at the core of school life, ensuring every child's voice is heard and valued. Together with schools, district partners, and our communities, we are nurturing a generation ready to stand up for justice and equality.





KEEPING THE SPARKS ALIVE: A JOURNEY OF HEALING, REFLECTION, AND RENEWAL FOR HOF STAFFS

At Hope of Family, we often speak of nurturing the children and families we serve, but who nurtures those who give their hearts daily to this mission? Thanks to the Keep Sparks Alive grant from Imago Dei Fund, our team recently paused the daily demands of our work to embark on a transformative four-day Silent Retreat and natural exploration, an experience that reaffirmed the power of care, reflection, and emotional wellness.

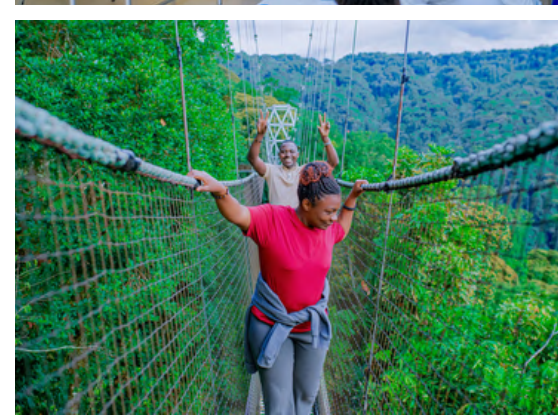
In a serene and supportive environment, guided by a professional therapist, our staff engaged in deep emotional reflection. We explored tools to manage stress, heal from personal and work-related wounds, and reconnect with inner peace. Spiritual moments enriched our journey, as we reflected on biblical stories and engaged in prayer, grounding ourselves in faith, purpose, and the resilience needed to continue serving vulnerable families.

Our journey didn't stop there. Nature called us to the awe-inspiring Nyungwe National Park, one of Africa's oldest rainforests. From trekking the Igishigishigi Trail, walking across the 160-meter canopy bridge, to braving the longest zipline in East Africa, our team recharged through adventure, laughter, and shared experiences. Each step in the forest, every thrilling zipline ride, became a reminder of the strength found in unity, joy, and renewal.

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This retreat reinforced a core belief at Hope of Family: those who care for others must also be cared for. By investing in our own emotional and spiritual well-being, we return to our mission energized and more capable than ever of reducing extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Imago Dei Fund for making this journey possible. Your support allows us to pause, reflect, and renew and ensures that together, we truly keep the sparks alive.





RAISING VOICES, EMPOWERING FUTURES: IJWI PROGRAM INSPIRES SCHOOLS ACROSS MUHANGA

Last week, Hope of Family reached a transformative milestone in its mission to empower young girls and amplify children's voices. The IJWI Program officially launched at the school level, beginning at Buringa Technical Secondary School (TSS), in a vibrant collaboration with district and sector officials, timed with the 2025 International Day of the Girl Child.

The day was a powerful celebration of talent, creativity, and advocacy. Through poems, songs, dances, and theatrical sketches, students vividly expressed a shared conviction: every girl deserves equal rights, respect, and opportunities. Their performances were more than just art; they were a resounding call for equality, echoing the core mission of the IJWI Program to foster awareness of children's rights across schools and communities.

Over 500 students actively engaged, participating in conversations, sharing their perspectives, and learning directly from local leaders about the ways the IJWI Program will enhance understanding of children's rights in all aspects of life, from education and safety to participation and equality.

This successful launch underscores the power of collaboration between communities, schools, and local authorities. Sector and district officials' support amplifies our shared vision: building a generation that not only knows their rights but is also equipped to defend and value human rights for all.

At Hope of Family, we believe that every initiative that strengthens children's awareness and voice contributes to a more just, equitable, and empowered society. The IJWI Program is not just about advocacy; it's about shaping tomorrow's leaders who understand the power of equality and respect. Together, we are raising voices, shaping futures, and transforming communities.





CELEBRATING THE POWER OF RURAL WOMEN

At Hope of Family, we recently had the privilege of joining Muhanga District officials and community members to celebrate the International Day of Rural Women in Nyarusange Sector. The day was a powerful reminder of the courage, resilience, and determination of rural women. Every story we heard showcased the transformative impact women have on their families and communities.

We witnessed firsthand how these women champions are driving socio-economic progress, overcoming challenges, and inspiring change. From improved family livelihoods to contributions to local development, their efforts embody leadership in action.

As an organization dedicated to empowering children and families, we firmly believe that strengthening the role of rural women is key to building resilient and thriving communities. By standing alongside the Government of Rwanda and our partners, we continue to advance a vision of inclusive development, where women lead, communities flourish, and lasting change takes root.

This celebration is more than recognition; it's a call to action. When women rise, families, communities, and nations rise with them.





STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS FOR HOLISTIC FAMILY WELL-BEING

At Hope of Family, we believe that lasting change in communities begins with the well-being of every family member. Last week, we had the distinct honor of welcoming Krista McCowen, MA, LLC, Founder & President of Ubuntu Wellness LLC, alongside Joel Ndatimana, Vice President, to our offices and project sites.

Guided by our Executive Director and Program Managers, Krista and Joel experienced firsthand the realities of the families and children benefiting from our programs. From touring our facilities to visiting families in their homes, their presence offered a valuable opportunity to see the tangible impact of Hope of Family's work.

Beyond observation, the visit sparked meaningful dialogue about future collaboration. Ubuntu Wellness brings expertise in holistic health and wellness, offering counseling and support to children and parents facing mental health challenges, a mission that perfectly complements our goal of improving family well-being. Together, we envision programs that not only support education and livelihoods but also strengthen emotional resilience, mental health, and overall family cohesion.

We are deeply grateful for this visit and excited about the potential partnership with Ubuntu Wellness. By combining our resources and expertise, we are confident that we can create stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities, empowering families to thrive in every aspect of life.





STRENGTHENING OUR MISSION THROUGH GLOBAL EXPERTISE

At Hope of Family, we believe that meaningful change happens when local commitment meets global expertise. Last week, we had the distinct honor of welcoming Dr. Felix C. Seyfarth, a Senior Advisor in higher education governance, institutional strategy, and digital transformation, to our office. With decades of experience in university governance and professional training systems, Dr. Seyfarth's insights into capacity-building and community-centered development brought a new perspective to our work.

Dr. Seyfarth's visit was more than a courtesy; it was an opportunity for knowledge exchange, inspiration, and partnership. He engaged deeply with our team, exploring the heart of Hope of Family's interventions: from empowering parents through literacy programs to creating robust pathways for children's educational success.

The highlight of his visit was joining us in the field, where he met NDEZI Gabriel, one of our dedicated beneficiaries. Gabriel, a devoted parent of two primary school children, shared how the support from Hope of Family has transformed his family's life. He recounted how literacy training and educational resources have enabled him to provide opportunities that were once out of reach for his children. Moments like this bring our mission to life; they show the tangible impact of education and empowerment on families and communities.

Dr. Seyfarth's presence reaffirmed the importance of visibility and collaboration. When global leaders witness first-hand the resilience of families and the effectiveness of grassroots programs, they validate our work and help amplify the call for broader, more inclusive support for vulnerable communities.

As we reflect on this visit, we are inspired to continue building bridges, between local action and global expertise, between community challenges and innovative solutions. Together, we are transforming the lives of children, strengthening families, and shaping a future where every child can thrive.

We are deeply grateful to Dr. Seyfarth for his engagement, insights, and encouragement, and we look forward to continued partnerships that expand the reach and impact of Hope of Family's mission.





CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP AND VISION: OUR FOUNDER WINS THE LIGHTHOUSE AWARD

We are thrilled to share a moment of pride and inspiration for the entire Hope of Family community! Our founder, Aimable Mpayimana, has been honored with the Lighthouse Award, an accolade recognizing individuals whose dedication to supporting grassroots organizations has been truly transformative.

This award was presented at the Gratitude Network Summit at the LinkedIn building, San Francisco, where Aimable also had the privilege of addressing a global audience as a speaker. In his talk, he shared valuable insights on grassroots funding prospects and philanthropy trends, emphasizing a truth they hold close Woven Foundation: meaningful change is only possible when we combine our synergies and work together.

Aimable's recognition is not just a personal achievement, it is a testament to the power of community-driven impact. It underscores how nurturing local initiatives, empowering grassroots organizations, and fostering collaboration can ripple outward to create lasting, tangible change in the lives of children, families, and communities we serve.

At Hope of Family, this milestone reaffirms our commitment to innovation, partnership, and bold action. We are inspired to continue advancing programs that empower families, nurture talent, and strengthen communities, building a brighter, more equitable future for all.



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