



HOPE OF FAMILY PROJECT REPORT

YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION: July 2020 –February 2021



February, 2021

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Executive Summary

Hope of Family continued to devotedly execute her mandate to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children education. We do this, primarily through developing appropriate standards and policies to ensure that HoF remains true to its vision and mission. This report provides information about project activities carried out by Hope of Family during the period July 2020 up to February 2021. The project implementation was done in Muhanga District of Southern province of Rwanda. Hope of Family is directly supporting 100 vulnerable families which have 500 families' members and supports indirectly 2500 people at community level (excluding beneficiaries). The major achievements realized in this implementation period are organized under four objectives of HoF. The main project activities implemented were families' house renovation, Covering Community- based Health Insurance for family members, Distribution of domestic animals (pigs) , distribution of school materials to children under support programme and provided financial support to the heads of families through saving and lending groups to starting long term project that can generate income for them.

Hope of Family staffs, founding members and beneficiaries of Hope of Family are grateful to the Running Chicken organization for their generous help in achieving all of these achievements that period.

Emmanuel Mfateneza

Executive Director

I. Introduction to Hope of Family organization

Hope of Family is local Non-Government organization operates in Muhanga District of rural area of Southern province of Rwanda and was officially started in 2018. The primary goal of Hope of Family is to promote parental involvement in their children education while improving families' socio-economic status. Families and Hope of Family staff agree on the contract terms to sign in order to effectively support their children and raise their school performance. Hope of Family (HoF) vision is all about families that live decent life with appropriate and timely involvement in their children education. The organization's mission is to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children education. In order to achieve this mission, Hope of Family works around four clear and concrete objectives which include: Provide wrap around support to children from vulnerable families; Improve children's basic education by involving more their parents ; Promote adult literacy and capacity building among the beneficiaries and Support families' initiatives for improving their socio-economic welfare.

Hope of Family supports most vulnerable families in southern rural Rwanda which are being identified alongside with the local administration. Hope of Family intervenes in those vulnerable families for their livelihoods and economic development. Hope of Family provides domestic animal, supports families to have kitchen gardens in order to have balanced diet and more importantly, provide financial support to head of families belong in saving and loans groups to start long term project that can be generated income and organization also repairs modestly families' houses in order to at least live in acceptable and standard accommodation. In Health community area, Hope of Family provides community based health insurance to people from lower-income families, distributes cleanliness materials and build family latrines while in education area, Hope of Family provides wrap-around support to children from vulnerable families. The organization also promote adult literacy and capacity building of beneficiaries. Hope of Family understands that literacy is the most indispensable tool to support children's education.. Hope of Family staffs work tirelessly to encourage parents about the importance of school and why imperative for parents to maximize the aid opportunity in the interest of their successful children's education.

II. Hope of Family's key achievements at Glance

Project activities done	Success in Numbers
Objective one: Provide wrap around support to children from vulnerable families	
Providing school materials package to Children	142
Payment of school fees at secondary school to orphans' children	4
Objective two: Increase children's basic education by involving more their parents	
Encouraging the parents to be engaged in children education at home and School	100
Objective three: Promote adult literacy and capacity building among beneficiaries	
Encouraging adults who cannot read nor write to attend community literacy school	466
Objective four: Support families' initiatives for their socio-economic welfare	
Providing provisional domestic animals (Pigs) to families	75
Construction of toilets for supported families	4
Construction of houses for supported families	25
Supporting family members to adhere to community-based health insurance for 2020/2021	3000
Providing financial support to 3 saving and loans groups which included 100 head of families to start long term project that can generate income	100

III. Project activities implemented by Hope of Family during period of July 2020-February 2021

Hope of Family has been provided a support to 100 families for ensuring the improvements their family's livelihoods and children education. The project activities done during the period of July 2020 up to February 2021 were distribution of school materials to children, renovation of families' houses, providing Health insurance to community people, and provided financial support to 100 families to start long term project that can generate income to them.

III.1. Provide wrap around support to children from vulnerable families

Hope of Family is aware that education and poverty are inversely related and that poverty is a stumbling block in the way of achieving economic development. Cognizant of the essence of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 'Education for All' program, education is promulgated as the primary weapon against poverty prevalence. Hence it is important to seek out the effect of different levels of education upon poverty in Rwanda. Reason being, HoF believes that like a tree, poverty has many roots. But among the many causes of global poverty, one factor stands out: education. Not every person without an education is living in extreme poverty. But most of those living in extreme poverty do lack a basic education. Those living below the poverty line will also be more likely to keep their children out of school, which means that their children will also have a greater chance of living in poverty.

To mend to this situation, Hope of Family provided wrap-around support to 113 children of primary level and 29 children of secondary level of studies by distributing school materials composed of (note books, pens, school bag, pair of shoes, bottle of water, school uniform and pads for ladies) in order to ensure effective school performance while improving their education at primary and secondary level. Additionally, Hope of Family supported 4 children who are and coming from very impoverished backgrounds.



Figure 1: Distribution of school materials to primary and secondary's students

III.2. Increase children's basic education by involving more their parents

Many parents mistakenly believe that their children's education is entirely in the hands of teachers. Yet, it should come as no surprise that there is a long list of benefits that come from taking an active role in child's education. In fact, one of the biggest influences on a child's success stems from how invested the parents are in his or her education. That is why Hope of Family encourages parents from 100 families of beneficiaries to be involved in their children education for supporting children to increase their school performance. Parents agree to visit their children on the weekly basis, provide more after-school time for their revision, respond sooner to teacher's or any other school leader' invitation to discuss about the child's learning.

This has been the case throughout the academic year 2020/2021, though parents seemed busy they did not cease to come over to school and interact with teachers about the education of their children and this yielded fruits with regards to children's performance which in fact cemented the fact that when parents are involved in their children's education, children are more engaged with their school works, stay in school longer, and achieve better learning outcomes. This also translates into longer-term economic and social benefits.

During the during the Covid-19 crisis whereby families were under lockdown, all Rwandans were reminded that lockdown should not impede smooth teaching and learning, in response, the government called on all partners in the basic education sub-sector to come together and lend their expertise and resources to ensure students' path to a prosperous future is not interrupted. In the

same line, Hope of Family was not apathetic, we encouraged parents to support their children by recalling them about the time whereby lessons were to be broadcasted.

Radio was the most popular and accessible source of information in Rwanda, as it is used by over 98% of the population. It was thus an especially helpful means of getting information to remote and rural areas, where radio lessons have been particularly helpful during the Covid-19 crisis to date. For families supported by Hope of Family, access to radio was not an issue since they were supported to own them.



Figure 2: Parents engagement in their children education.

III.3. Promote adult literacy and capacity building among beneficiaries

Low literacy levels have a profound impact on communities worldwide and dictate what a person can or can't do in everyday life thus literacy is the foundation of a socially thriving society and a healthy economy. Hope of Family realizes that lacking vital literacy skills holds a person back at every stage of their life. As for adults, they won't be able to support their own children's learning. This intergenerational cycle makes social mobility and a fairer society more difficult. In this situation, Hope of Family supports adult literacy at community level by encouraging adults who cannot read nor write to go for attending community literacy school.



Figure 3: Adults people are studying in community literacy class with teacher

III.4. Support families' initiatives for improving their socio-economic welfare

This section describes project activities done for improving socio economic welfare of families supported by Hope of Family.

III.4.1. Distribution of provisional domestic animals (Pigs) to families

Hope of family undoubtedly realizes the potential in pigs rearing whereby pigs contribute to the improvement of their social and economic conditions of the owners whereby farmers renovate their houses, pay school fees for their children, purchase clothes for their family members, pay community health insurance, buy land for expanding their agricultural activities among other benefits. Sticking into this reality, HoF provided 75 pigs to 75 families to enhance the family's income through livestock produce. It is expected that agricultural production will increase with the availability of manure and hence their land will become more fertile.



Figure 4: Distribution of pigs to families of beneficiaries

III.4.3. Providing financial support to families through saving and loans group for starting long term project

Hope of Family provided financial support to 100 families living in the Shyogwe sector to set up a long-term project that could generate income for them.



Figure 5: Providing financial support to head of family through saving and lending groups to start long term project

After receiving this financial support, each savings and loan group has designed a long-term project that can be implemented to generate income. Two business projects, such as Pig and Chicken Farming, are now being implemented.



Figure 6: Projects that are currently being implemented for the benefit of the beneficiaries

III.4.4. Renovating families houses

HoF supported 20 families to renovate/ rehabilitate their families' houses after torrential rains that hit Muhanga district residents in the southern province of Rwanda. The family's members are staying in good condition with smartest accommodation



Figure 7: Family's house renovated

III.4.7. Providing community health insurance to community people

Achieving universal health coverage, including financial risk protection and access to quality essential health-care services, is one of the main Sustainable Development Goals. In low-income countries, innovative and affordable health financing systems are key to realize these goals. To this end, Rwanda has expanded mutual health insurance considerably in recent years, which has a great potential for making health services more accessible. It is from this fact that Hope of

Family strives to cater for the lives of the supported families by among other services supporting families under support programme to access Health Insurance for the sake of maintaining their health status. Thus far, three thousand families (3000) comprised of 500 family members from 100 families that are directly supported by Hope of Family and 2500 more persons identified across the community in close collaboration with local leaders.



IV. Project impact observed

After Hope of Family promoted saving culture among beneficiaries, all head of families are belonging in savings and lending groups where they are now able to save and request small loans for starting the small business that can generate family income. The domestic animals (Pigs) distributed by Hope of Family to families have been provided fertilizers to be used in agriculture for increasing production. Some families have already started to get income from pigs' production, they are using it for improving family welfare and children education. The children support by Hope of Family have sufficient school materials using in education environment with ambition of increasing school performance.

The parents are now aware of involving more in children education by assisting and supporting their kids during revision time at home and visit their children at school on weekly basis for monitoring children school performance and behavior. All family members under the support programme are aware of accessing medical treatment and service at hospital on time. After repairing houses of beneficiaries, the family members are living in good condition with smartest accommodation and they have hope for future.

V. Challenge encountered

Hope of Family team has been stopped home visits in the families during lockdown for preventing spread out of Covid 19 pandemic. However Hope of Family team continued to make follow up of project progress through phone calls where we have been called all beneficiaries and discussed about children education and family welfare during that period of lockdown. Through the phone calls, we encouraged parents to be engaged more in children education at home by assisting and reminding them to make lessons revision and follow lessons programme passed Radio programme. The families have faced Covid 19 impact on their livelihoods particularly their socioeconomic welfare, Hope of Family come up with good approach of promoting teamwork among saving and lending group's members and provide financial support to them to start long term project that can generate income to them with hope of overcoming Covid 19 impact on their family welfare. Hope of Family supported families by providing domestic animals that can be sources of family income as also solution of overcoming covid 19 impact on livelihoods at family level. Hope of Family distributed school materials packages to the students who returned back to school after lockdown of covid 19 for make sure that each student has sufficient materials that can support him or her to increase school performance

VI. Conclusion

Hope of Family is goal oriented to promote parental involvement in children education while improving the socio-economic status. The premise is if community members have increased means of securing the necessities of life, then they will have enhanced their resiliency, improved their overall well-being for themselves and for future generations. The concept of livelihood as a right is protected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which states that “everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment. Similarly, the right to work is protected in The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights article 6 and 7. Through this objective, Hope of Family intervened to ensure these rights are protected. Most of the interventions of Hope of Family are aligned with Sustainable Development Goal 8: “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all. Nevertheless, the activities undertaken by Hope of Family were meant to further its mission and we do hope that the interventions will undeniably contribute towards boosting the livelihoods in a special way will contribute to the academic performance of the children under our care. Pigs, like poultry, have high turnover rate, quick return on investment, high growth rate and a short generation interval. They do not contribute to loss of grazing land as they can be raised for their entire life time in enclosures, and pigs have high feed conversion ratio. Hope of Family intervention in education fits in with the philosophy that in Rwanda, education is perceived as a fundamental human right and an essential tool to ensure that all Rwandan citizens :women and men, girls and boys realize their full potentials. From this perspective, the government of Rwanda has committed to make education at all levels more accessible and for all and more relevant to the national needs while ensuring that men and women, boys and girls.