HOPE OF FAMILY

NOVEMBER-JANUARY 2025



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



ABOUT HOPE OF FAMILY

Hope of Family (HoF) is a local Non-Government 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 MISSION

Reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children education.

OUR VISION

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



lope.offamily X hopeof_family in hopeoffamily in hopeoffamily Dear Readers,

It is with great pride and gratitude that we welcome you to our latest quarterly newsletter, showcasing the impactful work and milestones we have achieved over the past three months.

In this edition, you'll find heartwarming stories of transformation, made possible through your unwavering support and our shared commitment to reducing extreme family poverty. Together, we have created meaningful change in the lives of the families and children we serve.



This quarter, we celebrated the joy of the Christmas season with around thousand children from vulnerable families, bringing smiles and a sense of belonging to their hearts. Our 25 newest cohort of youth under our program embarked on a mushroom farming initiative, equipping them with sustainable livelihoods and entrepreneurial skills.

Additionally, we tackled the pressing issue of malnutrition among children under five from 4 home-based ECDs and provided vital support to ensure vulnerable families could access health insurance—an essential step toward securing healthier, brighter futures.

Each of these achievements mentioned and the rest of others are testament to the generosity of our supporters and the transformative power of our collective efforts. We are truly inspired by the impact we are making together, and we hope you enjoy reading the stories that highlight the strides we are taking in advancing strong children's education and fostering hope within families.

From all of us at Hope of Family, thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Your support continues to drive our mission forward and make these incredible successes possible.

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Happy reading!

Warm regards,

IYAMUREMYE NSHUTI Augustin EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HOPE OF FAMILY



LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER!

We had the honor of hosting a visit from Stand Together for Change, an inspiring local NGO that empowers children with disabilities from underprivileged families. Our Executive Director warmly welcomed the team, and our Program Managers shared insights into our initiatives, delving into the "why" behind our programs.

The idea exchange was rich with collaborative spirit as we explored ideas to drive meaningful change. Our guests shared impactful initiatives like rehabilitation and recreation services for children with disabilities and Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs aimed at fostering inclusive growth for all children.

It's always a pleasure to connect with fellow organizations that value our work in reducing extreme family poverty through strong and effective education initiatives for children. Here's to mutual learning and building a more inclusive future together!







THEY ARE READY TO SAVE FOR THEIR FUTURE LIVES!

We're thrilled to celebrate the progress of our 100 new beneficiaries, who have just completed their financial literacy training! With newfound knowledge, they are now equipped to take charge of their financial futures, having been organized into five savings and credit groups.

As a next step, each group has received essential tools, including secure metal boxes for storing group documents and funds before depositing them in local microfinance (SACCO) accounts. Every member also received a personal savings and credit booklet, allowing them to track their shares, monitor their savings, and measure their growth over time.

Our approach is simple yet powerful: by grouping beneficiaries into Savings and Credit Groups, we provide а sustainable pathway to financial independence. Through these groups, each individual gains access to affordable credit, enabling them to launch their own income-generating activities.

To further strengthen their financial foundation, Hope of Family also provides financial assistance to boost their savings via these groups.

Since our founding, this initiative has brought together 900+ beneficiaries in 43 savings and credit groups, creating a strong foundation for sustainable financial empowerment, and this number continues to grow!





FROM TRAINING TO ACTION: TRAINED BENEFICIARIES SHARE KITCHEN GARDEN SKILLS WITH NEW RECRUITS

At Hope of Family, the spirit of cooperation and collaboration among our beneficiaries has reached new heights. Our long-term beneficiaries took a proactive step to empower our newly recruited beneficiaries by sharing invaluable knowledge and hands-on skills in constructing kitchen gardens. The gathering took place at the home of one of our beneficiaries, where experienced group members demonstrated the process, step by step, for building a kitchen garden from the ground up.

This initiative is a testament to the success of our one-year comprehensive training program, which equips beneficiaries with practical skills for utilizing limited land at home to cultivate a balanced diet. One key component of this program is the construction of kitchen gardens, ensuring families have ready access to vegetables—an essential part of a nutritious diet. Beneficiaries are encouraged to take community assignments seriously by sharing their newfound knowledge with others, further spreading sustainable practices throughout the region.

During this event, our Livelihood Program Manager, Mr. Fabrice Gatama, emphasized the critical importance of kitchen gardens in improving household food security. He also highlighted the culture of collaboration among beneficiaries as a core value of our organization, crucial for creating lasting impact.

To date, we are proud to report the establishment of 320 modern kitchen gardens within our operational areas in Shyogwe Sector, where our research has shown that 49.8% of children under five are affected by malnutrition. These gardens are a vital tool in combating malnutrition and advancing food security for the entire community. We commend our beneficiaries for their dedication and commitment to building a healthier future for all.





STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIONS: A MEANINGFUL VISIT FROM SINAPISI NGO TO HOPE OF FAMILY

We had the privilege of hosting a team from SINAPISI, a remarkable local Rwandan non-governmental organization dedicated to advancing education, social activities, health, economic strengthening, capacity building, and food security.

Welcomed by our Executive Director, Mr. IYAMUREMYE NSHUTI Augustin, and our program managers, the SINAPISI team had the opportunity to dive deeper into the impactful work we do at Hope of Family. This visit was more than an exchange—it was a moment of mutual learning and exploration of potential collaborations.

Both our organizations share a commitment to serving vulnerable families through a holistic approach that encompasses education for children, social activities, health initiatives, and sustainable economic empowerment. Together, we aim to uplift communities and reduce extreme family poverty.

At Hope of Family, we firmly believe that holistic support is key to achieving our mission of reducing poverty through strong and efficient children's education.

A heartfelt thank you to SINAPISI for visiting us and engaging in such wholesome discussions. Together, we are stronger! 6





HOPE OF FAMILY SUPPORTS 1,500 VULNERABLE PEOPLE IN SHYOGWE SECTOR WITH HEALTH INSURANCE

Hope of Family proudly joined Muhanga District's Citizens' Assemblies to support a transformative initiative aimed at providing health insurance to vulnerable families in the Shyogwe Sector. Through this program, 1,500 vulnerable individuals have received a one-year health insurance plan, fully funded by Hope of Family.

The initiative, which requires an annual contribution of 3,000 RWF per person, ensures access to essential health services for families unable to afford mandatory health insurance. With over 38.5% of Shyogwe Sector's population living below the poverty line, this support is a vital step toward enhancing community well-being and fostering a stable environment for children's education.

The event also featured the participation of KAYITARE Jacqueline, the Mayor of Muhanga District. She expressed gratitude to all partners for their contributions to uplifting communities and emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts district-wide progress. in achieving Mayor KAYITARE also reflected on the achievements of the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1) over the past seven years and invited participants to share ideas and activities for inclusion in the upcoming National Strategy for Transformation (NST2).





EMPOWERING RURAL YOUTH: YES, THEY ARE **MUSHROOM CULTIVATORS!!**

Meet TWIVANEMUBUKENE, a passionate group of We're proud to see TWIVANEMUBUKENE leading young mushroom cultivators and graduates of Hope of Family's Youth Economic Empowerment Program.

These 25 youth, part of our early cohort 2 of 51 participants, have successfully completed a threemonth short course in mushroom farming. Inspired by their vocational training, and fueled by our leadership academy, they've launched their own mushroom farming project.

Their journey began with the Hope of Family Leadership Academy, where they gained skills in entrepreneurship, leadership, reproductive health, and human rights education. Afterward, they continued their growth at TVET schools, pursuing vocational learning in areas like mushroom cultivation.

the way, while the remaining youth from Cohort 2 continue pursuing vocational training in hairdressing, masonry, and tailoring, further expanding their horizons and potential through skills that will enable them to launch incomegenerating activities or compete in the job market.

The Youth Economic Empowerment Program was created to support vulnerable rural youth who missed out on traditional education due to financial hardships. By equipping them with leadership skills and vocational training, we're enabling them to build sustainable livelihoods and support their families.

To date, our program has empowered 100 youth, with 74 already graduated from vocational schools in diverse fields. We couldn't be prouder of their dedication and success!







NETWORKING AND NEW CONNECTION: SUSTAINABLE VILLAGES FOUNDATION

In December 2024, our Executive Director IYAMUREMYE NSHUTI Augustin had the privilege of meeting Mr. Joachim Hauschopp, the Founder of the Sustainable Villages Foundation, along with his delegate teammate. This inspiring discussion explored potential avenues for future collaboration, with a shared goal of enhancing the well-being of communities in Rwanda.

The Sustainable Villages Foundation is a remarkable nonprofit organization dedicated to addressing critical issues in energy, agriculture & food, water & hygiene, education & professional training, and income generation, recognizing their interconnected impact on community development.

Through insightful idea-sharing, the discussion delved deeply into the workings of our Adult Literacy Program and other transformative programs at Hope of Family. It was inspiring to explore synergies and identify ways to amplify our shared impact on the communities we serve.

We are thrilled about this new connection and the meaningful conversations that pave the way for greater impact in the communities we serve. Together, we can build more sustainable, empowered, and thriving villages!

← At Hope of Family, partnerships are at the heart of our mission, and we are committed to fostering relationships that drive lasting change.







OUR NEWEST DONOR: WE WELCOMED ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA

We are overjoyed to share a groundbreaking update with all our partners, supporters, and friends of Hope of Family! in December, we officially welcomed ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA as our donor. newest esteemed African-based an deeply foundation committed to supporting organizations that work tirelessly within communities to ensure that African children thrive. This partnership is more than just financial support -it is a powerful alignment of visions and values. At Hope of Family, our mission has always been to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education, and ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA's focus on community-driven impact child-centered development and perfectly complements this goal.

Why This Partnership Matters?

In many communities, poverty creates barriers that hinder children from accessing quality education, nutritious meals, and safe environments to grow and learn. Together with ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA, we aim to:

- Expand access to education opportunities for underprivileged children.
- Strengthen family-focused initiatives to build resilience and sustainable livelihoods.
- Inspire lasting change through community-led solutions that empower families and ensure their long-term wellbeing.

The Impact Ahead!

This collaboration could not have come at a better time. As we continue to grow our programs, ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA's support will enable us to scale our impact, reach more families, and enhance the quality of services we provide. From supporting educational resources to improving infrastructure, this partnership is a beacon of hope for countless children and families in our community.

Join Us in Celebrating!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to ELMA MASANA WA AFRIKA for their belief in our work and for partnering with us on this transformative journey. This is more than a partnership—it's a shared commitment to creating brighter futures for African children and their families.

Stay tuned for updates on upcoming projects and success stories made possible by this incredible collaboration. Together, we are creating waves of change that will ripple through generations!

Join us in celebrating this milestone and the hope it brings for a better tomorrow.

Find how we welcomed our very new donor via: <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KIH13EIZt_w</u>



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HOPE OF FAMILY JOINS SEGAL FAMILY FOUNDATION PARTNERS FOR AN INSPIRING END-OF-YEAR COCKTAIL EVENT

December 2024, we had a privilege of participating in the Segal Family Foundation's End-of-Year Cocktail event at the Kigali Convention Center. This special gathering brought together Segal Family Foundation partners for an evening of insightful dialogue and meaningful connections.

The highlight of the evening was a thoughtprovoking panel discussion featuring inspiring leaders: Isabelle Kamariza of Solid'Africa, Uwamahoro Delphine of Our Sisters Opportunity (OSO), and Satir Omar Bahati of Uwezo Youth Empowerment. The panel delved into critical topics, including:

- Fundraising in challenging sectors like inclusion
- Leveraging past experiences to build thriving new ventures
- Maintaining organizational identity and vision amid potential mission drift caused by donations Their insights resonated deeply, offering valuable strategies and inspiration that align with our mission of reducing extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education.

The event also provided an excellent platform for casual networking among partners, fostering collaboration and shared learning. As proud members of the Segal Family Foundation network, we look forward to applying the lessons from this enriching evening to advance our work and drive sustainable change in our communities.

We extend our gratitude to Segal Family Foundation for organizing such a meaningful event and to our fellow partners for their shared commitment to creating a better future.





FOSTERING COLLABORATION AND GROWTH: OUR VISIT TO UGANDA

In November 2024, our team had the incredible opportunity to join fellow partners of Up with Africa (UW/A) in Uganda.

Up with Africa is a dedicated organization that collaborates with local community-based organizations and entrepreneurial leaders to develop sustainable and scalable solutions to some of the most pressing challenges in East and Central Africa.

The gathering was a dynamic platform for sharing partner updates, exchanging best practices, and learning from one another. Together, we reflected on our ongoing activities and laid the groundwork for exciting plans for 2025.

A special highlight was connecting with Steve Dobo, the visionary founder of Up with Africa, and Tamra Arp, the organization's Managing Director. Their leadership continues to inspire impactful initiatives that make a real difference.



This meeting also opened doors to explore potential future initiatives, reinforcing our shared commitment to creating lasting impact. We are excited about the possibilities ahead and the collective strength of our partnerships!





SUPPORTING EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND COMBATING MALNUTRITION IN SHYOGWE SECTOR

As part of our ongoing initiatives, Hope of Family took a significant step toward fighting malnutrition among children under 5. Through our Home-Based Early Childhood Development (ECD) support program, we continue to support 60 children from four ECD centers located in Musezero, Kinyami, Kabungo, and Gatare.

These children come from vulnerable families who struggle to afford the basic nutritional requirements needed for healthy growth and development. Through this initiative, the children now receive packages of nutrient-rich foods such as milk, eggs, and porridge at their ECD centers, ensuring access to a balanced diet that fosters physical growth and development. This program was launched in response to alarming statistics from the Shyogwe Sector, where 49.8% of children under 5 are malnourished, and 46% of households live in poverty, making balanced diets inaccessible for many families.

In addition to supporting children, we are empowering parents through monthly training sessions on preparing low-cost, balanced meals using locally available ingredients. These sessions, led by Health Social Worker Francine Mukayiranga, include live demonstrations at one of the ECD centers, ensuring parents gain hands-on skills to sustain their families' nutrition practices at home.

Our mission is to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education. By addressing malnutrition, we are paving the way for healthier, happier children with improved attention spans, memory, and problem-solving skills. Together, we're building a brighter future for the next generation!





LEADERSHIP CORNER **SESSION:** FOSTERING **COLLABORATION AND PEER LEARNING**

host the senior management team from Peace Education Initiative Rwanda (Peacedu.org) as part of the Leadership Corner session, an initiative by the Woven Foundation to strengthen partnerships by fostering peer sharing and mutual learning among organizations in the same country.

Peace Education Initiative Rwanda (Peacedu.org), a dedicated non-governmental organization, focuses on preventing genocide and mass atrocities through education and peacebuilding. Their visit provided an incredible opportunity for mutual learning and meaningful exchange, with discussions centered around strengthening organizational capacity and sustainability.

During this session, our Program Managers and Executive Director engaged in deep and insightful conversations with the PeaceEdu team on critical aspects of organizational development. Key topics included:

✓ Organization Branding: Strategies to increase visibility and amplify impact.

Impact Reporting & Storytelling: Techniques for effectively showcasing outcomes and engaging stakeholders.

V Fundraising Strategies: Creative approaches to secure funding and ensure sustainability.

Social Enterprise Insights: A sneak peek into our upcoming social enterprise initiative aimed at enhancing long-term sustainability.

January 17th, 2025. This week, we were honored to We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Woven Foundation for initiating and supporting the Leadership Corner sessions. This platform not only encourages knowledge sharing but also strengthens collaboration among like-minded organizations working towards positive change.

> Together, we continue to learn, grow, and work towards building stronger, more sustainable communities.





CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS: & SANTA SURPRISES OUR KIDS IN STYLE!

Hope of Family wrapped up 2024 in style, bringing festive cheer to children in the rural community where we operate. The event, highlighted by a surprise visit from Santa Claus, united 1.000 children approximately from our beneficiaries and the broader community in a day filled with joy, laughter, and love.

Organized in the heart of the sector where Hope of Family is based, the celebration aimed to brighten the holiday season for children who often face significant hardships due to their families' challenging circumstances. In a region with around 10,000 households, many parents struggle with limited resources and difficult living conditions, making celebrations like these an extraordinary gift for their children.

The day was filled with unforgettable moments as children sang beloved Christmas carols, exchanged cheers, and enjoyed the presence of Santa. Gifts were distributed to all the children, creating memories that will stay with them for years to come. Their joy was contagious, resonating through the community and reminding everyone of the power of togetherness and kindness during the holiday season.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our donors, stakeholders, beneficiaries, and supporters who made this magical event possible. Your generosity and commitment to our mission continue to bring hope and happiness to the children we serve.

From all of us at Hope of Family, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a joyous festive season!





HOPE OF FAMILY BOARD MEMBERS CONVENE TO STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT

NOVEMBER 2024, Hope of Family welcomed its At Hope of Family, we are excited about the journey Board members to our head office for a planned and ahead and remain committed impactful board meeting. The meeting, presided opportunities that transform lives and build over by our Legal Representative and President of stronger communities. the Board, Mrs. Chantal Muhoza, marked an important step in advancing our mission to reduce extreme family poverty through strong and efficient children's education.

The Board reviewed and approved several critical organizational policies, ensuring the organization's continued growth and effectiveness. They were also presented with updates on key projects currently under development, all designed to improve the socio-economic welfare of our beneficiaries.

One of the highlights of the gathering was a field visit, facilitated by our Executive Director, to observe the progress of ongoing projects. Among these initiatives is a modern rabbit farming project launched by 100 beneficiaries. This collaborative effort aims to provide sustainable income for families while fostering economic independence. The project stands as a testament to the creativity and resilience of our beneficiaries, aligning closely with our vision for community-driven development.

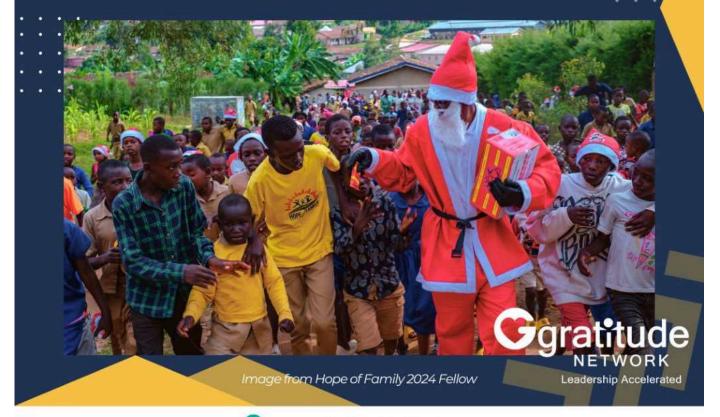
Mrs. Chantal Muhoza commended the Board members for their active participation and unwavering support for Hope of Family's mission. "Your dedication to our shared goals continues to inspire and drive meaningful change for the families and children we serve," she remarked in her closing address.

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HIGHLIGHTING 12 DAYS OF **AN INCREDIBLE NETWORK!** GRATITUDE DAY 5

2025 Fellowship Application in January!



www.gratitude-network.org

HOPE OF FAMILY IN THE SPOTLIGHT: FEATURED BY **GRATITUDE NETWORK!**

We are thrilled to share that Hope of Family has been Through personalized coaching, mentoring, and featured by the Gratitude Network Fellow in their access to a global network of social impact leaders, #12DaysofGratitude campaign! 🎉

As one of the few organizations in Rwanda selected organizational growth, and sustainability. for the prestigious 2024 Gratitude Network This recognition fuels our passion to continue Fellowship, this recognition is a testament to our making a difference every day, and we look forward unwavering commitment to transforming the lives of to leveraging this incredible opportunity to further children and families in our community. We are our mission. Together, we are building a brighter especially proud to see our Executive Director future for children and families in Rwanda! highlighted, showcasing the visionary leadership driving our mission forward.

The Gratitude Network Fellowship is a highly regarded year-long program that supports visionary nonprofit leaders driving transformative solutions for children and youth in areas such as education, health and wellbeing, and children's rights.

the program focuses on leadership development,



Rwanda OF FAMILY FEATURED AS AFLATOUN HOPE

INTERNATIONAL'S PARTNER OF THE WEEK!

Partner of the Week! 🎉

Aflatoun is а renowned organization dedicated to empowering children and families who were unable to continue their academic youth through social and financial education. Since studies. 2020, Hope of Family has proudly been part of the We are honored to see our work recognized Aflatoun partner network. This partnership has internationally, and we remain steadfast in our allowed us to access valuable resources for children's mission to transform lives through education and education, youth training materials, and a broader empowerment. network of organizations, donors, and institutions Want to know more about this exciting recognition? committed to impactful change.

recognized by Aflatoun International Being highlights our shared commitment to creating opportunities for vulnerable children and youth.

We have been recognized as Aflatoun International's At Hope of Family, we strive to reduce extreme family poverty by delivering high-quality education non-governmental and skills training, especially for youth from rural

Read the blog here: https://lnkd.in/eREqjXCB





















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We extend our heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering support and belief in our vision and mission. Your generous donations have been instrumental in driving our team forward and achieving significant progress towards our shared objectives. Your dedication to our cause has not only provided us with invaluable resources and opportunities but has also served as a constant source of inspiration and motivation. We deeply appreciate the trust you have placed in us and are grateful for the collaborative efforts that have brought us to where we are today.



- FORMER BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER TO RWANDA, OMAR DAAIR
- JACKIE & TALAL
- ALEX KRAFT
- KATE ENGLISH
- OLIVIER KRAFT
- MARTINE & HENNING KRAFT
- RAPHAEL & FLORENCE



HERE'S HOW YOUR GENEROUS DONATION CAN SUPPORT

CAUSE

\$3

\$5

\$50

1hr

Can support one person to get one-year free health services in a public hospital

Can support an adult people to get needed materials to attend community literacy school

Can buy full package of school materials for a child for a year

Donating just one hour of your skills can significantly contribute to the growth and development of our organization \$50 p

\$50

\$50

Can buy one domestic animal for a poor family

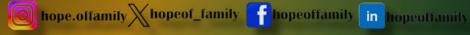
Can support to construction of a kitchen garden for a family in order to improve nutrition status

Can support to pay a coach who can help children to grow his talent for one month

BE PART OF OUR JOURNEY!



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