



---

RWANDA SHINE REPORT

---

2020



DECEMBER 10, 2020  
RWANDA SHINE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH STAR SCHOOL

## SUMMARY:

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lord for this far HE has brought us. We have had one very challenging year and yet at the same time, seen Gods hand at work in many ways. With the COVID19 pandemic paralyzing most of our work, we have still been able to achieve much albeit the challenges we have faced from the lockdown, to most of our people losing their jobs etc. Yet despite all this, we have seen growth and maturity in our children, loyalty from the staff, powerful support from our well-wishers, Gods hand of protection and so much more.

## ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Health care

As Star school and in partnership with World Help, we were able to provide the widows of mudugudu (community) with healthcare for a year. This is valid till July of 2021.

This has so far helped a young mother deliver her baby without a glitch, a child who was bitten by a rabid dog recover; all the basic ailments have been treated. God has been faithful.

This has also allowed the families to divert funds that would have gone into medical bills to small projects like selling of tomatoes, charcoal, snacks and the like.



### *Nirere before and after treatment*

- New school

We have recently acquired a new school closer to the city center. Half of the school (nursery through to primary three) is not present as the lower classes are not yet permitted by the government to join school due to the pandemic. It is strictly a primary school and we believe that the Star school standards shall help raise the standard of this school even further.

- Sponsorship

God continues to be kind to us that despite the COVID19, we have seen some of our sponsorship sustained and our well-wishers have given our children a chance to study and be fed without any disruption.

These have also been some really tough times for most families whose children lost their sponsorship. Almost 50% of our children lost their sponsorship according to the latest names given by Rwanda Shine. It is a painful experience and we pray that God will provide for the families. For the children still on the sponsorship scheme as well as on our behalf, we want to thank you very much for your selfless giving.

- Home of Hope renovations

Home of Hope has been fully renovated and what was once a shack has recently turned into a place of glory. A testimony to Gods continued faithfulness to us.

We are trusting God to lead us on how best to use these premises for HIS glory.

- Feeding program

This has been an extremely successful project. Out of the generous hearts of our well-wishers and also with the covid19 relief fund, we are able to supplement the meals of the families in our Star school community. No families went hungry. God provided even better than they had been providing for their own families in terms of variety, quality and quantity. We are forever grateful to our sponsors for this generosity and we pray that they too shall see Gods hand in their lives at such a time as when they will need it.



## **ANSWERED PRAYER / NEW BLESSINGS:**

- We have since acquired another school that is located at Kabeza (10 minute's drive from the city). The school has both primary and secondary sections
- Despite the pandemic, we have new students who have recently joined us
- Our staff are all back on board
- The ability to feed families despite the pandemic
- The virus has not affected any of us or our children and these us thank God for.
- The sponsorship program has been such an encouragement to the students and school as a whole. We have benefited from the feeding; the students are well fed and studying without a worry about their fees.
- Payments for the bus purchase have been completed and the bus is being put to use. We bless God for this wonderful gift of transportation.
- We were able to provide/ feed over the widows village and vulnerable children with meals (about 300 people in total)
- The chicken project is picking up with eggs being sold for feeds and some of the eggs left to hatch new chicken.
- School reopened successfully and everyone on the campus is safe and sound.

## **CHALLENGES:**

The lock down has greatly affected movement and effective progress on all the projects and minimized contact with our children on all fronts.

- Seven of our staff still have no homes and are still being housed by the school. This came about when they left the country at the start of the pandemic and their homes were given to new tenants.
- Training came to stand still for two reasons – the pandemic and the fact that I could not be present to supervise. We are still hoping to work with AVEGA to manage this project at a much smaller cost than the business center. The village is ready to work alongside us on this matter.
- Parents are struggling to pay fees for their children due to the lockdown.

## **PRAYER POINTS AND SUPPORT:**

1. There is still a great need for sponsorship of the children especially the young ones and those that dropped out of school and would like to do vocational training.

2. The playground continues to be a major prayer point. The project was stopped halfway due to a lack of funding making it a big hindrance in terms of safety.
3. The new campus is making headway but still pending the allocation of funds from the bank. This process has been slowed down tremendously by the COVID19 outbreak. We would like to obtain this school before the start of the new school year so that we can run it alongside the current Star school.
4. We are still in need of a good solid library. It lacks books, furniture and is not up to standard for a good education.
5. We would like the widow's village to become self-sustaining in the long run.
6. Financial support for a project coordinator/social worker
7. We do not have the heart to send children home and yet the school cannot be sustained on no finances. Our prayer is that parents will find jobs in these tough times and that sponsors will also get financing to continue with this generous heart of supporting a child.

#### **WAY FORWARD (Year 2021)**

- Training – Partner with AVEGA and start training the widows to create sustainable income generating activities.
- Find good vocational schools for the school drop outs and young adults in the widows' village community.
- Business startups – Once the training is done, we want to create small businesses that grow and are monitored by both us and our partners for success.
- Career guidance – Revisit our discussions with the Business Development Centre to train our children who have completed school or are about to complete, including giving placements for internship.
- Water project – Work in partnership with sponsors to provide water for the widow's community.
- Grow sponsorship program in terms of numbers and activities
- Have a student's Christian camp