



NEWSLETTER

TRANSFORMING THE BONEZA, RWANDA COMMUNITY

Our Mission

To positively transform the community of Boneza out of extreme poverty by focusing on education, clean water, healthcare, Pastoral care, and economic development.

Our Vision

A thriving Boneza, Rwanda, with Christ centered, educational leaders and residents creating hope, health, and sustainability for all people.

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Kivu Hills Medical Center

Providing both quality and affordable healthcare to rural communities in Rwanda



FROM A DREAM TO A REALITY



HOW IT STARTED

It all started by just a question from a dear friend of mine and Arise Rwanda Ministries, Barb Culver, who was visiting Boneza, Rwanda, from Cincinnati, Ohio, in 2018. The question Barb asked was, "What is the biggest need in Boneza?" Without hesitation the answer was HEALTH CARE for 30,000 people. Currently, there is a small health center that we call the First Aid Box that you walk in and won't even find a band aid. People in Boneza must walk for four hours to the nearest hospital serving 300,000 in the Western province of Rwanda. It doesn't even have an x-ray machine!

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STATUS AND WHERE WE ARE HEADED

In October 2021, in FAITH, we broke the ground to build Kivu Hills Medical Center (KHMC). A 50,000 square foot medical center that when completed and operational would serve the people of Boneza and the entire Western province of Rwanda. The mission of KHMC is to create a healthcare model of compassion and excellence in which patients are served through

their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs for the glory of Jesus Christ. *"Truly, I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me."* - Matthew 25:40

When completed, KHMC will offer the following services:

- Pediatrics
- Obstetrics and Gynecology
- Maternity
- General Medicine and Wellness
- Dental
- Ophthalmology
- Emergency
- ENT (ear, nose, and throat)
- Internal Medicine
- Laboratory services
- Surgery (both minor and major)
- Pharmacy

KHMC will start as an Open Day Department (OPD) Medical Center and eventually, it will be upgraded to a full-fledged hospital that could also become a teaching hospital in Rwanda.

THE NEED

We are so excited to share with you that we are in the last construction phase of KHMC with a completion of about 80%. We are raising the final funds to complete this project. We are partnering with Project CURE in the USA that will donate all the medical equipment to equip the medical center. We still need about \$400,000 to complete this medical center. The completion time would be 3-4 months once the funds have been received. With your kind gift, you can help us complete KHMC.

Here is the breakdown of how you can help with a donation:

- \$2,500 two laboratory rooms
- \$20,000 dental department room
- \$20,000 ophthalmology room
- \$30,000 six doctor's offices
- \$30,000 two pediatrics wards
- \$30,000 two women's wards
- \$30,000 two men's wards
- \$40,000 two delivery rooms
- \$50,000 three operating theaters
- \$100,000 all other construction projects for KHMC

Last year in April, I visited a family in Boneza, and the mother was watching her son die of malaria due to lack of medicine. I asked if I could pray with her and she said, "John if that medical center Arise Rwanda is building would be completed and operational, I wouldn't be seeing my son die." Her story is a representation of so many stories and the need for healthcare in Boneza. Today, we can give HOPE to this mother and so many people in Boneza by helping them complete Kivu Hills Medical Center.

You can donate directly to our website at ariserwanda.org/donate and designate your donation to the fund of your choice.

If you prefer to give by check, cash, or money order, please send your donation to the following address:

Arise Rwanda Ministries USA, Inc.
 c/o Pamela Fogg, CPA
 8333 SE Stark Street
 Portland, OR 97216

Bibles For Boneza

Do the families in Boneza have Bibles in their language? It was a simple question, asked by a friend of Arise at a gathering last year. This set into motion a project that culminated in sending 8,500 Bibles to Boneza, one for each household in the community. Each Bible cost \$10 so the total project goal was \$85,000. The American Bible Society and the Rwandan Bible Society became our partners and donated half of the total cost of the Bibles. It was up to us to generate the rest of the funding. Within a few months the goal was reached, and the Bibles were on their way.

When Board member, Dave Knibbe and his team went to Rwanda, they were joyfully welcomed at Kivu Hills Academy where a large celebration awaited them to distribute the Bibles. Students were also given a New Testament and Psalms edition. Pastors, priests, and all religious leaders in the area were invited to come to receive the gift of the Bibles. They could then distribute them to their congregations.

The Bibles were received with great appreciation and many thank-you's echoed in the auditorium. Boneza worshippers proudly carry their Bibles to church on Sunday. It is their "Sword and Shield", and they are honored to have one in their home. At least one person can usually read Kinyarwanda in each household.



Dave reflected on the experience of presenting the Bibles and talking with the students, pastors, community leaders, and recipients. He is thankful that Arise can bring together the many denominations of churches in the Boneza area for spiritual growth and mission. Having a Bible in each home will be a blessing to the families and the community.

Thank you to the many donors who contributed and made this possible. Keep praying for the people of Boneza as they grow in faith in God.



Student Stories

Education Making a Difference

When KHA opened in 2015, the Pioneer class of 21 students were on the brink of life changing opportunities. Their hard work through the first years of KHA gave them a true bond and hope for the future. Graduates have gone on to university in Kigali and have also remained in Boneza to start their own businesses, build with ARM, and help their families.



Dedicated of KHA June 2015

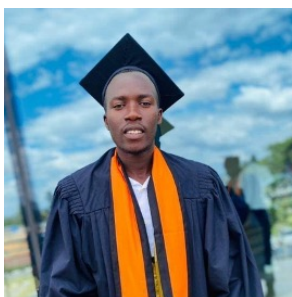
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This year these members of the Pioneer class graduated from the university in Kigali.



Emmanuel "Pastor Bob" graduated with high grades and looks forward to giving back to Boneza and ARM.



Gilbert Niyitegeka graduated with a degree in civil engineering and is returning to Boneza to work at KHA and help build the medical center. He says, "Thank you for your support ... you changed my

life, you brought hope back into my life, in my family, and in the community. Thank you for all you are doing through Arise Rwanda."

And Christian is in his third year at the University in IT networking. Best wishes as you complete your studies, Christian!



KHA Graduate Giving Back

Meet Gilbert!

Please meet 23 year old Gilbert Niyitegeka, one of KHA's first graduates!

Gilbert was among the 21 students who joined KHA in 2016. Gilbert comes from a poor family in Boneza who lives on \$1 a day. His family grows crops like potatoes, beans, maize and owns about 100 coffee trees! Gilbert has 7 siblings. When Gilbert failed middle school in Boneza, he dropped out of school and started working as a porter carrying cement and concrete on construction sites in Boneza.



When Arise Rwanda started building Kivu Hills Academy in October 2015, Gilbert came to work as a porter carrying bricks, cement, rocks, sand, and mixing concrete. He was making \$1 a day working for 8 hours without having breakfast or Lunch. While working, he asked the school administration if they would enroll him to Kivu Hills Academy when the construction of the school is completed. When the school said YES that they would take a chance on him even if he had failed middle school, he started to save the money he was making to be able to buy school materials when school started. When KHA opened, Gilbert was enrolled in KHA in the Masonry trade learning construction. However, his family couldn't afford \$150 per year tuition to keep him in school. They had to sell off part of their plot of land to keep him in school but still this wasn't even enough! To keep him in school.

Finally, when Arise Rwanda started the scholarship program for the poor students from Boneza, Gilbert was one of the students who benefited from this program. After completing high school at Kivu Hills Academy, he had good grades for joining a university,

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but his family couldn't afford to pay for his university. Arise Rwanda paid for his university education and Gilbert graduated last December with a degree in Civil Engineering. He has been working at Kivu Hills Medical Center as a foreman. This school term, Gilbert was hired as a teacher at Kivu Hills Academy teaching construction technologies. Gilbert keeps excelling as a schoolteacher and the school principal is grooming him to take on the leadership of head of Construction Department at Kivu Hills Academy.

Gilbert has the DNA and the vision of KHA at heart! He makes about \$300 per month as a schoolteacher and supports his family and siblings at home. Gilbert said, **“John, my life changed when Arise Rwanda believed in me and invested in my education. I am always indebted to this ministry. May God richly bless Arise Rwanda Ministries for transforming lives in Boneza.”**



This is Gilbert teaching a class at Kivu Hills Academy.

Visitor Reflections from Jen and Paul

Visiting Boneza is the best way to see mission in action. Jen and Paul Woods recently visited Boneza after only viewing it from afar for many years.

In 2011, Jen and Paul met John in Kigali, and he invited them to visit Boneza with him. Arise Rwanda was in its infancy at that time. John had just committed to helping the preschool feed the children a Bowl of Porridge a day and the children were meeting in a church without a roof! The vision of ARM was a dream, and the community was ripe for growth.

Jen and Paul had been serving with another mission in Rwanda and knew the challenges and opportunities ahead. When ARM became a ministry, they fully supported the efforts and as board members shared their experience and expertise in working in a rural mission. They walked muddy streets, met with pastors, and saw the many needs that existed in the communities.

Last month, Jen and Paul again visited Boneza, and they saw the progress of 12 years of dreams come true.



Boneza in 2011

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Boneza in 2023



ARM's mission is to partner with the Boneza sector to make the programs sustainable and integrated into the fabric of the community. God is at work in this amazing land, and we are privileged to be part of His work there. We give God the glory for all that is being accomplished in His name. Join us in prayer for the success of the mission and for the people we serve.

US Board Members

Greg Yancey, **Board Chair**

Pam Fogg, **Treasurer**

Janet Roberts, **Secretary**

Board Members: Peter Mutabazi, Dave Knibbe, Bob McClelland, Heidi Morgan, Larry Rybka, Jennifer Woods, Paul Woods, Kevin Denton

Follow our progress and learn more about our programs, impact, and how to get involved at ariserwanda.org or on Facebook.

All donations are tax-deductible. Arise Rwanda Ministries USA is a US 501 (c)(3) charity, EIN 88-3306938

Donations can be made on our website or sent to:

Arise Rwanda Ministries USA, Inc.
c/o Pamela Fogg, CPA
8333 SE Stark Street
Portland, OR 97216

They saw seven preschools and healthy children learning and singing and playing under the guidance of loving and well trained teachers. The high school, Kivu Hills Academy, perched as a light on the hill as a beacon of education and training in useful skills inspires students who are fully invested in their learning. Most live on campus and are giving back to KHA in many ways.

The quality of life has also improved through micro finance groups that encourage women to start small businesses to support their families. Some women have purchased fishing nets to catch and sell the small fish of Lake Kivu and some have opened stores. Most of all, they feel the sense of accomplishment through the growth of their skills and the difference they are making for their families.

You really have to see it to believe it. Are you ready to visit Boneza? If you're interested in planning a trip, reach out at ariserwanda.org/visit.



Your Gifts Bring Hope to Boneza

The Arise Rwanda team thanks you and invites you to support the exciting work God is doing in Boneza!

Every gift makes a difference in the lives of those we serve. Whether it is a one-time gift or recurring donation - YOU can be a vital part of our ongoing ministry.

See our website for more ideas getting involved and making specific project donations at ariserwanda.org/get-involved

**Thank you for your prayers and support!
Thanks for being our partners in Boneza!**