



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.

Inside This Issue

KHA Student Graduate Stories	1-4
Kivu Hills Medical Center Update	4-5
Boneza Road Before & After	5
Boneza Visitors!	6-7
Come Visit	7

[Donate Here](#)



Kivu Hills Academy (KHA) Student Graduate Stories

Summer has arrived and the news coming from Arise Rwanda Ministries is sizzling with excitement! The students at Kivu Hills Academy continue to excel. We usually provide updates on the current students, their many endeavors and incredible accomplishments.

For this newsletter however, we thought you might enjoy learning what some of our KHA graduates are doing.

Because of a KHA Scholarship, they are discovering what is possible for them. They are excited about their futures and dare to dream. They have confidence and have learned the joy in serving others. We give thanks to God for our many partners and the generosity of your gifts, prayer support, visits and voice.

In the days ahead we hope to be able to provide additional graduate stories on a regular basis. These stories are written by the dedicated ARM Team and KHA staff working on the ground in Boneza. They are encouraged by the success of the KHA grads and following them on their respective journeys. They sincerely hope you enjoy each update story.



Niyodusenga Emmanuel

Also known as Emma, he comes from a family of 7 children with him being the 6th born. Growing up, he loved church so much and to the extent that he always wanted people to refer to him as "Pastor."

Emma is also one of the first Alumni of Kivu Hills Academy (class of 2018). He was born and raised in Boneza where he attended his primary and middle school. At Kivu Hills Academy, Emma graduated high school with a certificate in construction. This diploma helped him to continue in the same department of study at IPRC Kigali. This is where he acquired his diploma in Civil Engineering (Water and Sanitation Technology).

While at college (IPRC Kigali), he juggled both books and entrepreneurship. He used to sell credit/airtime to both his schoolmates and the teachers before and after school. His business mind enabled him to also come up with a small stationery shop selling scholastic materials right outside of the school. He used the little money he used to get out of his business to support his parents back home in Boneza.



After acquiring his diploma, Emma got a job in the Water and Sanitation Corporation of Rwanda working for its branch in the western part of the country in Rusizi district.



For his dreams, Emma wants to have his own NGO that supports the less privileged and he hopes to also continue and graduate with a bachelor's Degree in Hydro Sanitation.

Niyomugabo Jacques

Jacques is now 26 years old and he was born and raised in Boneza. He is the last born in the family of 8 children. He attended both primary and secondary school within the community of Boneza and one of his best memories is the day he received the opportunity to join Kivu Hills Academy for his grade 10, 11 and 12. He graduated from KHA with a certificate in Tourism.

Growing up, Jacques dreamed of becoming a professional footballer because up to now soccer is his favorite hobby. Unfortunately, life took a big turn and he did not manage to play soccer professionally as he wished. Jacques chose to take the same direction he took on in high school. He decided to look for a job in the tourism sector because there was no hope of continuing soccer.

He now works with one of the biggest hotels in Boneza (Rushel Kivu Resort) in the house keeping department and he has been there for 10 months now.

For his future plans and dreams, Jacques hopes to get the opportunity to study at the University level and become a Hotel manager.



Ishimwe Fietsa Doreen

Doreen is a 23 year old young lady who is also very hardworking. Doreen was born in Kigali and the biggest part of her life was spent in Kigali. She is the 2nd born in her family of 3 children and growing up she dreamed of becoming a movie actress. She thought she would pursue acting, but as she grew up, she also grew out of that dream.

She joined KHA in 2018 in the tourism Department where she graduated in 2021. After the release of the national exams, Doreen applied for a government scholarship so as she could continue to college and fortunately enough she got in one of the government colleges (IPRC KARONGI). She pursued Hospitality management. She attended the same college for a year and then changed to The University of Tourism and Business studies because her previous college was not offering a bachelor's degree.

She now works with M Hotel (for a year now) in Kigali as a cashier and she pays for her school with her salary.

Below is a picture of Doreen being awarded as the best employee of the month.



For her future dreams, Doreen dreams of having a children's NGO that will facilitate their education and the security of a home to stay.



Graduate Gratitude

Recently Arise Rwanda Ministries received this heart felt thank you letter from a recent graduate. When asked if supporting these students through scholarship and prayer is making a difference... this letter should make clear how this young man's life was put on a whole new course because of the support he received.

THANK YOU Arise Rwanda Ministry!!

Dear Arise Rwanda Ministry,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the invaluable support I received from your ministry throughout my education. Your commitment to empowering Rwandan youth through educational opportunities has had a profound impact on my life.

Before your intervention, the path to a brighter future seemed distant and uncertain. However, your ministry stepped in and provided me with the resources and guidance I needed to thrive. Thanks to your support, I was able to access quality education, which ignited a passion for learning and opened doors to new possibilities.

I am so grateful for qualified teachers and staff. These experiences not only equipped me with knowledge and skills but also fostered a sense of confidence and self-belief.

Today, thanks to the foundation laid by your ministry, I stand as This achievement would not have been possible without your unwavering dedication and belief in the potential of Rwandan youth.

I am now Future Teacher , and I am confident that I can achieve them because of the strong foundation Arise Rwanda Ministry and Kivu Hills Academy provided.

Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment to education. You are an inspiration to countless Rwandan youth, myself included.

Sincerely,

PATRICK NZAYIHIMBAZA



Kivu Hills Medical Center Update!

The progress on The Kivu Hills Medical Center continues! Not only is the structure looking beautiful, but now medical equipment is arriving through our partnership with Project Cure and the generosity of donors who funded the shipping of the container(s).

The new road that the government is building to the KHMC is making its way from the main turn off to Boneza (referred to as the "African Massage" for many years) ...all the way up to the new center! So if you are wondering what transformation looks like...

In a community that previously had no access to clean water, a High School Education, pre-schools, pastoral care or good medical care... seeing this beautiful vision become a reality...is a good example of how miraculous and wonderful God's grace is! We give thanks for the many hearts He has touched to see this all come about in His perfect timing.

(Continued on the next page...)

Here is a message from the founder of ARM, John Gasangwa:

Hello Arise Rwanda Ministries Family,

We are SO excited to share with you the GREAT news that KHMC medical container made it to Boneza this morning at 2 am. All the equipment had to be physically inspected by Rwanda FDA in Kigali, then we loaded them in 3 trucks and headed to Boneza.

We are using Valmark Arena as the storage for the medical equipment until we complete construction of KHMC and move them up. Our hope would be to complete it by end of August so that we move all the equipment there before school starts in September.

We have hired an incredible biomedical engineer who has worked with government hospitals before to help facilitate navigate the government process and procedures and she will put all the equipment together at KHMC. She is on a short term contract for now; but we hope she will be full time with us when we open KHMC.

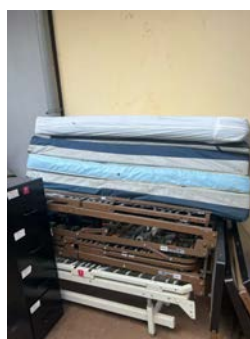
Again, the people of Boneza are so excited to see the medical equipment for the first time. Its the same excitement as when they saw clean water coming for the first time.

Just wanted to share with you the wonderful news. God bless you all.

By His Grace, John Gasangwa

On the road again!

As the progress on the construction of KHMC, the new road and the arrival of medical equipment continues; Dedicated ARM Board members here and in Rwanda are also very carefully evaluating the new potential personnel applicants and leadership who will soon be hired and become a part of the KHMC vision. We appreciate all of your prayers for wisdom and discernment in these vital decisions and positions.



The old road



The new road



Boneza Visitors!

It is said that “No one visits Rwanda only once!” And how true that is! We love to share re-caps from the visiting friends and partners who always seem to say, “I cannot wait to go back!”

When teams and individuals from the U.S. visit the ministry of Arise Rwanda, the entire community of Boneza considers it a great blessing. Smiles erupt on the faces of young and old. The children shout and jump around excitedly while trying to get a closer look.

While it takes a lot of planning, coordination and effort to host visitors; the accommodating ARM team on the ground knows there is no better way for partners and friends to understand the ministry, the community, the needs and the tremendous impact ARM has made...until they experience it first hand. God gracefully weaves an amazing tapestry of transformation in the heart of both the visitor and the Rwandans with whom they interact. Bonds of love and trust are formed. The Rwandans say, “We know you care when you come at first to visit. We know you love us when you come back.”

This year has had a steady stream of visitors...and here are a few of their stories.

Dear Arise Rwanda Team,

Our week spent in Rwanda was awesome! We received such a warm, heartfelt, awe-inspiring welcome from women in two different groups of genocide survivors, and were touched by our follow-up visit with Nathalie, a genocide survivor who has suffered yet another devastating blow in having had her home recently ransacked.

Visiting one of the preschools and distributing toothbrushes, toothpaste, and small stuffed animals to the children was quite a treat! The attached photo shows a preschooler expressing delight with her new toothbrush and toothpaste.



I was impressed by the educational programs. The well-mannered behavior of the students at Kivu Hills Academy (KHA) was impressive. The lively Friday afternoon chapel service at KHA was inspiring!

It was amazing to witness the progress made in the construction of the Kivu Hills Medical Center since my first visit to Boneza in May/June, 2022. The simplicity of the lives of the villagers of Boneza, who have very few modern conveniences compared with us in the U.S., can teach us a valuable lesson.

Thanks,

Marcy Schulte



As my first mission trip, I wasn't quite sure what to expect. I knew of Rwanda and the genocide that took place. But, wasn't familiar with Boneza, which is where we would be spending most of our time.

Some of the heartbreaking moments were:

- The Genocide Memorial - The outdoor mass grave, reading, hearing & seeing pictures of hundreds/thousands of people killed brought about anger, & tears of just how cruel mankind can be.
- Visit to the survivors village - Hearing about the lost of family/friends & their own survival was heartbreaking. But, their journey to forgiveness was incredible.
- PreSchool- Broke my heart to see the preschoolers sitting on a thin rug on a hard concrete floor.

Some of the highlights were:

- How beautiful the country is...lush, green, very clean & some of the most skilled drivers I've ever seen.
- Touring the medical center that's being built in Boneza... Hallelujah!
- Visiting the High School- sharing my story w/ the students, having church, seeing them perform, & performing w/ them.
- Visiting the Ubuntu women women- who graciously entertained us, and picking up the beautiful items they made for us that we pre-ordered.
- Witnessing 3 families receiving Cows.
- As we were driven to and from, seeing the beautiful, friendly, smiling faces waving and greeting us always made my day!
- The staff was Amazing! They were always courteous, friendly, & helpful...usually with a big smile.

I continue to share my experience with family and friends, because I feel a change I can't yet explain. And, if it is in the will of God, I definitely would like to return.

Beverly Worsham



Our 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 of Directors

Greg Yancey, **Board Chair**

John Gasangwa, **Founder**

Pam Fogg, **Treasurer**

Kevin Denton

Dave Knibbe

Bob McClelland

Heidi Morgan

Peter Mutabazi

Larry Rybka

Jennifer Woods

Paul Woods

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 online or sent to:

Arise Rwanda Ministries USA, Inc.

c/o Pamela Fogg, CPA

8333 SE Stark Street

Portland, OR 97216



Michelle was also on this team that was hosted by Barb Culver. She made new friends quickly and truly enjoyed her visit! They are back home in Ohio now...but planning fund raisers for KHMC. There will no doubt be a return trip soon.

We can never say THANK YOU enough and we look forward to sharing MORE good news in the days ahead. Meanwhile, find joy in the journey. Sometimes we have to look for it...but our Rwandan brothers and sisters have certainly taught us well why and how.

Interested in Visiting Boneza?

You are welcome here! We can help you plan your visit to western Rwanda where you can get to know the friendly community and make an impact firsthand. We'd love to host you in Boneza at our beautiful guest house that overlooks Lake Kivu.

Spending time in the village of Boneza and meeting with children, families, and village leaders is a life changing experience.



[Click here to learn more about visiting Boneza](#)



[Click here to learn more about Boneza](#)