



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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It is hard to believe we have reached "The Dog Days of Summer" already! But here we are. Most areas of the country have experienced some pretty extreme heat, drought, forest fires and more.

We hope ARM's triannual Newsletter finds you in a cool, calm spot where you can put your feet up and read some GOOD NEWS for a change! We have an abundance to share. It never ceases to amaze how faithful God is. His timing and provision is perfect. Whether it is our many prayer warriors, Donors, Volunteers, Traveling Teams, New staff additions...God is clearly in control and we are so thankful for all He does in and through Arise Rwanda Ministries. We continue to give Him ALL of the glory and praise He so richly deserves.

"Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago." Isaiah 25:1

So where to begin? There is much to cover and each story holds its own unique blessings to share. We give thanks to the hard working team on the ground and especially to Elvira who is so faithful in sharing and helping to coordinate these incredible updates, stories and photos.

Let's begin with Arise Rwanda's Kivu Hills Academy reaching a BIG milestone. The entire Boneza Community celebrated the TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY Graduation!! Several Board members were on campus to join in the celebration and here are their stories...

KHA Celebrates its 10 Year Anniversary Graduation!!



Travel Notes From ARM Board Chair, Greg Yancey

In June, ARM U.S. Board members - Greg Yancey, Bob McClelland and Kevin Denton and Dave Knibbe were in Rwanda with visiting medical professionals from the U.S.

They want to share their visit to the community of Boneza and all that the ARM Team is doing there. They want our praying and giving partners to enjoy highlights from their respective journeys. We invite you to join in celebrating all that God has, is and will be doing in Boneza through the ARM ministry.

Greg started by saying that the trip was both exciting and fruitful. It was filled with many God sized stories that emanated from a two day Pastor conference, KHA's 10th graduation anniversary (of 119 students!!) and a five day medical mission.

Greg and the team had a wonderful opportunity to meet and spend time with the new KHMC medical team. They ate meals together, shared morning devotions and enjoyed a very productive and insightful leadership meeting.

During the meeting, they were able to hear about each persons background. They learned their story and what led them to commit to KHA and move to rural Boneza. Many shared that learning about the great needs in the community of Boneza, the vision and mission of Kivu Hills Medical Center and hearing the compelling story of Arise Rwanda Ministries - is what influenced their decision to join KHMC.

They discovered that making the move from working in the comfort of urban settings has led to finding a much greater purpose and motivation for their medical service. Their skills and talent is proving to be bigger than themselves at KHMC.

By God's grace, each one is a devoted follower Jesus. They want to live out their faith by serving through KHMC.

The KHMC team are very enthused over their leader, Dr. Divin. They all believe, in the short time they have been together, that he is the very best leader for KHMC. He is highly respected by everyone.

Seeing the KHMC them in action, the US visitors all were amazed at how quickly they had formed friendships with one another. None of them knew each other before moving to Boneza and yet they have quickly created personal and professional relationships. It was an encouragement to hear them share how natural these relationships have developed and how much they have appreciated

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getting to know each other. If Greg and team had not known any better, they would have thought the KHMC team were lifelong friends.

When asked to share the benefits and challenges of the past several weeks, they shared that adjusting to rural life has been a bit tricky and trying. However, they praised the quality and excellence of the medical center and the transition made easier by using the mission house's accommodations. It made finding permanent housing stress free and exciting and they are looking forward to remodeling and renovating their homes.

During our time together, we also went through a Faith & Planning exercise that the team was very engaged in. It gave them a new and beneficial perspective on faith based mission work.

Under Dr. Divin leadership, he has already created and fostered a healthy culture of collaboration, respect and empowerment that the team is passionately buying into. With Dr. Divine's guidance, the team is looking forward to lovingly serving the community and region through KHMC values.

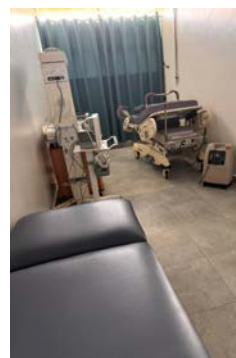
- Serve With Dignity
- Care With Excellence
- Treat With Respect
- Nurture With Compassion
- Lead With Teamwork

Greg and team could not emphasize enough what a wonderful leader Dr. Divin is. His education, leadership skills and qualifications are excellent and balanced. He has a tender heart for the people of Boneza. All these qualities truly make him the ideal fit for KHMC.

Everyone agreed that there is much more to look forward to in Boneza. All are confident we have and will continue to witness firsthand the transformation(s) God has and is going to achieve through KHMC and the whole ministry of ARM. By God's sufficient grace, we get the humble privilege of being invited by the Great Physician to join Him in what He is doing!

On the right is a picture of the KHMC Team with Greg Yancey.

Here are a few pictures from the hundreds of people that were served as well as a photo of an overnight room, laboratory, Xray room , ultrasound room ophthalmology room and dental room. KHMC dental office provided teeth pulling, teeth fillings and oral care services to several dozen patients.





KHA Graduation and 10 Year Anniversary Celebration

By USA Board Member Kevin Denton

As the 2026 graduating class of Kivu Hills Academy was honored for their great scholarly accomplishments this summer, there was cause for even more celebration—the 10th anniversary of KHA!

Ten years ago, 23 students were just finishing their first year as the pioneer class at KHA. 21 of these young people would go on to graduate two years later. Now, just a decade down the road, many of

these were able to join the celebration as distinguished alumni. One of these pioneer students, Gilbert Niyitegeka, now serves as the department chair for Masonry trades (seen in red with his students in the photo to the left).



Presided over by the honorable Principal Jean Claude Dusabe—himself a pioneer staff member from the beginning—the graduation and anniversary ceremony was rich with memories, traditional dancing, singing, food for everyone in the packed house at Valmark Arena, and even a cake and fireworks to celebrate KHA's birthday!

Representatives of the over 2000 preschool students who have been served through ARM also shared their experience and hopes to one day attend KHA.

Those in attendance heard memorable and inspiring words from the Class Representative IRIZA Nabella

Praise, Arise Rwanda Founder John Gasangwa, Deputy Mayor of Rutsiro District, distinguished guests from the Ministry of Education, and from the KHA Chancellor and ARM board chair, Greg Yancey. Also in attendance for the special occasion were ARM USA board members Pastor Bob McClelland and Kevin Denton, along with the amazing ARM and KHA staffs and newly hired staff of the Kivu Hills Medical Center.



When it was all said and done 119 students graduated that day, rounding out a total of 572 KHA graduates in the last 7 years! God was praised and given all the glory as we all stood amazed at what He brought to be in just a decade! That is 572 students who have been empowered, equipped, encouraged and educated to go make their world a better place and give glory to the God who made them, loves them and is leading them into the plans He has for them.

As KHA looks ahead to what is in store for the future, it is with bright eyes. Thank you to all those sponsors who provided full or partial scholarships to these students to attend. Thank you to all those prayers asking Jesus to bless and protect this institution. Thank you to the staff who have chosen to make KHA one of the country's best and most sought after schools, and for the time and energy they pour out each day to ensure that the mission is accomplished each year.

Onto the next adventure, the next decade and the next students whose lives will be transformed through this school. Go Lions!



Pastor's Conference June 2026

by Pastor Bob
McClelland

Lord, why Boneza? On the shores of Lake Kivu in Rwanda there is a village of 30,000 people who call Boneza home. This is not just another village. It is a place that God has chosen to display His great love and miracle working power. Boneza is also the place that Arise Rwanda Ministries calls home. And through this ministry, the lives of people are changing forever. Arise Rwanda has five core programs, and each one is very



Joining together to learn more about God and His Word!

important in impacting the people of Boneza. We like to look at these 5 programs as the key ingredients that have made this ministry so successful. They are education, clean water, healthcare, economic development and pastoral outreach.

It all started back in 2011 when Arise Rwanda answered the call of Jesus Christ to love, equip, and serve the people of Boneza by joining with



The hats, shirts and certificates brought the pastor's great joy!

them on their journey out of poverty. It has truly been a miracle of God. The first 4 programs are built around helping and serving the people with their practical needs, program 5 addresses their spiritual needs. Our goal was to bring all the pastors together to build relationships

with Arise and with each other. They are the spiritual gatekeepers in Boneza, and our vision is

to train and equip the leadership who could then train and equip the people in their churches. Another miracle of God!

This past June we held another Pastoral Conference for the pastors and community leaders. It is always an honor for Arise to host this all important event. The conference is for 2 days and has become a highlight for these leaders. We eat together, pray together, worship together and learn together. Another miracle of God! We bless the pastors with hats, shirts, food, certificates and a special monetary gift for them and their families. We have seen an amazing change in the pastors over the years. Their willingness to come together and be a part of each other's lives has set a beautiful example in this community. Our theme this year was found in the book of Isaiah 6:1-8 where God is looking for someone to go to the people with a word from God. And the prophet Isaiah responds to God and says, "Here am I. Send me!" May that be the passion in our hearts, to go and impact the world for God.

David Knibbe, also a USA Board member visited Boneza during this season and wanted to make sure that this special story was shared. He and his family have ties to this remarkable woman and have seen the great transformation only God could do in her life.

Hope and Transformation

The Story of Nikuze Vestine

My name is Nikuze Vestine. I am a 40-year-old widow and mother of three children—two daughters and one son. Life changed dramatically for my family in 2016 when my husband passed away after suffering from diabetes. His death left me alone with the responsibility of raising our children, and the future seemed uncertain. After losing my husband, life became a daily struggle.

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I had no stable source of income, and providing food, school necessities, and basic needs for my children was extremely

difficult. There were many days when I wondered how I would continue caring for my family.



In 2017, I was blessed to receive a cow through the support program of Arise Rwanda. At first, it seemed like a simple gift, but for me, it became the beginning of a completely new chapter in my life. The cow provided manure, which helped me improve my farming. I was able to fertilize my banana plantation, and over time my harvests increased. For the first time

in years, I could see progress and feel hope returning to my home. What once seemed impossible slowly became achievable. The support did not stop there.

Last year I received a Bible in Kinyarwanda, which has helped deepen my faith in God and train my children. One of my favorite verses is John 1:1: "In the beginning was the Word. The Word was with God, and the Word was God."



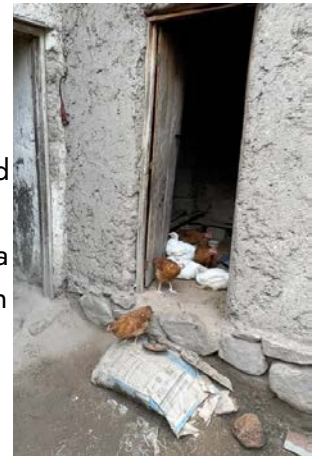
This year, Arise Rwanda helped me by providing a roof for my house. Before, I worried every time it rained because my home was not in good condition. Today, my children and I can sleep peacefully, protected from the rain and weather. Having a safe home has restored dignity and comfort to our family.

In addition, through the Microfinance Trust Group, I learned the importance of saving and investing. With the opportunities provided through the group, I was able to purchase chickens. I started with only a few, and now I have 14 chickens. They are another source of income and a sign of the growth that has taken place in my life.

When I look back at where I was after my husband's death, I can hardly believe how much has changed. What began with a single cow has transformed my family's future. The cow was more than an animal—it was a seed of hope, confidence, and opportunity. Because Arise Rwanda believed in me and trusted me with that gift, I was able to rebuild my life step by step. Today, I am no longer living without hope. I can provide for my children, improve my farm, and dream about a better future. My children have seen that even after great loss, life can change for the better when someone extends a helping hand.

I am deeply grateful to Arise Rwanda and everyone who supports their work. Their kindness did not simply change my circumstances; it restored my hope and gave my family a chance to thrive again.

Story compiled by Mukama Elvira



Two Camps, One Message of Hope: Jesus

Since summer is drawing to a close...We wanted to share how Summer Camp in Boneza changed lives. This summer, we had the privilege of hosting two special camps on the Kivu Hills Academy Campus and at the Arise Rwanda Guest House.

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These camps brought together children and young people from different parts of Rwanda. Although the camps were different in size, location, and leadership, they shared one beautiful purpose: to help young people know Jesus, understand His love, and learn what it means to live a life centered on Him.

The first camp was held at the Arise Rwanda Guest House. Maggie O'Keefe, an American guest from Ohio led the camp with the help of a Christian School, CVCA. For many of these children, it was more than simply a summer fun activity. It was a unique opportunity to step away from their normal routines. They made new friends, laughed a lot, played, learned, and most importantly, they heard about Jesus in a way they could understand.

Throughout their time at camp, the children were taught about who Jesus is and why having Him in their lives matters. Through Bible lessons, worship, games, conversations, and time spent together - they were reminded that Jesus knows them, loves them, and has a purpose for their lives.

Some children listened quietly, some asked questions, and others openly shared what was in their hearts. It was beautiful to see young hearts becoming more curious about God. They even learned how to give back to their community. They participated in the construction of one of the Arise Rwanda Beneficiary homes. As such, they were carrying the bricks, hauling sand with their small hands...and they were so happy to do it.

Igisaro Ineza Rosette, 12 years old said, "I didn't know how to pray, how to read the Bible or even know how to play with other kids - but now I know how to behave in the society and I will even teach my siblings everything I learnt from this camp"

Uwamahirwe Eric 11 years old said, "This camp was amazing because I was able to have three meals a day! In our family, we normally have one meal a day.

It is because our parents have to spend their hours finding what to put on the table for us. In this camp, I had everything I could not find in our house and it was a privilege and I thank God for that. This camp helped me to learn different things like being confident and speaking out in public skills. I learnt the process of praying, I learnt how to read the Bible in three steps and even improve my English."

The second camp was much larger, bringing together 350 youth from Boneza. It was held at Kivu Hills Academy (KHA). Seeing hundreds of young people gathered in one place was a powerful reminder that God is (and wants us) working on the next generation.

The young people came with different stories, experiences, struggles, dreams, and questions about life. Some may have come simply expecting to enjoy a summer camp with their friends, but they encountered a message that was much deeper: Jesus wants to be part of their everyday lives.

The teaching focused not only on knowing about Jesus, but on understanding what it means to live a life with Jesus. The young people were encouraged to make choices that reflect their faith to love others, forgive, serve, remain faithful, resist negative influences, and allow Christ to guide their decisions.

There were moments of laughter and excitement and there were also times of profound quiet and deeply spiritual moments. During worship and prayer, the atmosphere changed as young people opened their hearts before God. Some prayed with tears in their eyes. Others stood quietly, reflecting on what they had heard. For some, it may have been the first time they truly understood that Jesus was not simply a name they heard at church or in a Bible lesson - but a Savior who deeply desires a personal relationship with them. Now and for eternity!

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What made these two camps especially meaningful was seeing the human side of faith. Children and young people were not only learning Bible verses; they were building friendships, encouraging one another, sharing their stories, laughing together, and discovering that they were not alone in the challenges they face.

The camps also reminded us that young people need more than information. They need someone to listen to them. They need people who believe in them. They need safe places where they can ask difficult questions and discover that their lives have value and purpose.

At the heart of both camps was one simple but powerful message: Jesus is not only someone we learn about; He is someone we are invited to follow.

We may never know the full impact of these few days. A child may remember a Bible lesson years from now. A young person may make a life-changing decision because of a conversation at camp. A prayer offered quietly may become the beginning of a new journey with God.

Our prayer is that what began during these holidays will continue long after the camps are over. We pray that these young people will take Jesus with them not only into their homes and churches, but also into their schools, friendships, communities, and future careers.

Of course these impactful Summer Camps would never have taken place if there had not been a willing Servant Heart TEACHER willing to accept the challenge! Our traveling teams and volunteers have tremendous impact on the community...and as Maggie share - it is mutual!

Maggie's Visit Experience

When I visited Arise Rwanda in January of this year with a team of high scholars, I knew this place was

special. As a teacher having the summer months off, I had been praying about using a large portion of my summer to serve globally in some type of way. After talking with ARM and praying through some options, I was thrilled to have been able to come back for about 2 1/2 weeks after spending two weeks in Mozambique with a group from my church. A month in Africa was a dream come true for me!

I was able to come with one of my dear friends who is studying medicine. She was able to spend some time shadowing and helping in the medical center while I was leading some Bible studies of men and women who are a part of the ARM micro-lending business groups. Something that maybe seemed so simple to me - really turned out to be a blessing for these people as well as myself.

Spending two hours to encouraging them through God's Word, giving them a chance to share their stories and then praying together was a gift that had a deep impact on all of us involved. It was amazing to see the big and small ways that Grace (who helps oversee this aspect of ARM ministry) and others are discipling these people both in business and in life.

When we were originally talking about ideas for my stay there, they brought up the idea of a teen summer camp. I was a bit overwhelmed and had no idea where to start. Yes I'm a high school teacher and yes, I have worked at a summer camp in Ohio - but I had no idea what this would look like in Rwanda.

Thankfully, The Lord knew all of the gifts that would come out of this. Lots of time was spent planning out all the details. People from my home church donated a LOT of camp supplies to bring. The schedule and timing remained fluid both before and during the week as this was the very first teen summer camp in Bonanza. EVER !! And thanks be to God - it was a wild success!

We had over 30 teenager campers at the guest house for the week. we held team competitions, crafts, games, service work in the community, learning how to read the Bible, time to reflect and think about their identity in Christ, glow in the dark dance parties... I could go on and on.

The week felt anointed as we watched the power of love melt these kids' hearts from being nervous and shy to bold and joyous. To see the power of remembering your dignity and worth, getting full meals and being treated like kings and queens - it was only by God's grace.

I was crying as they left. I love thinking about how they have a new journal and Bible. They have new tools to better read and understand the Bible for themselves. And best of all - to know they are thinking about of the things they learned about how much God loves them. They can take this into their homes and communities. The Gospel has the power to change everything about them just by attending this sweet summer week. I could not have been more grateful! Just as all the kids wanted it to happen every year, I'm praying for the same thing!

My 2 weeks were a gift. Not just to the people we got to minister to and serve alongside, but to all of us as well. I'm so grateful for Arise Ministries and their staff, and the amazing ways that God is using them to impact their communities for the sake of the gospel. I cannot wait to be back in January with another team of students from my high school. Now we have so many more ideas on how to be intentional with these opportunities!

Kivu Hills Medical Center Stories

Kivu Hills Medical Center continues to pour out good news! The level of impact and remarkable reports coming from the staff, Volunteer teams, staff and the Boneza community are deeply encouraging. In this



issue we will share some stories from 3 departments.

"Heal me O Lord and I will be healed; save me and I will be saved, for you are the one I praise."

Jeremiah 17:14

The Radiology Department

Beyond the Image: How an Abdominal Ultrasound Revealed More Than Expected

Sometimes, a patient walks into a hospital looking for answers to one problem and leaves with an entirely different understanding of their health.

For one patient from the Boneza community, an ordinary visit to the Medical Imaging Department at Kivu Hills Medical Center (KHMC) became one of those unexpected moments. The patient arrived at KHMC seeking medical attention for ongoing abdominal discomfort. The discomfort had been persistent enough to require further investigation, and an abdominal ultrasound was requested to help determine what might be causing the symptoms. For the patient, the expectation was simple: undergo the ultrasound, identify the cause of the abdominal discomfort, and receive the appropriate treatment.

But the examination revealed something that neither the patient nor the team had initially expected. When the patient entered the Medical Imaging Department, the radiology team approached the examination with the same level of care and professionalism they bring to every patient. An ultrasound examination is more than simply obtaining images. It requires technical skill, careful observation, knowledge of anatomy, and the ability to recognize findings that may not necessarily be related to the original reason for referral. As the examination progressed, the radiology team remained attentive to the images and to the patient's overall presentation. While assessing the abdominal structures, they noticed findings that raised concern about a possible underlying cardiac problem. The patient had been unaware of this condition. What had started as an examination to

investigate abdominal discomfort had unexpectedly opened the door to a potentially important discovery about the patient's heart.

Rather than dismissing the unexpected findings or limiting their attention strictly to the original request, the radiology team carefully documented their observations and took the appropriate next step. The patient was referred for further cardiac evaluation so that the findings could be investigated more thoroughly. For the patient, this was an unexpected turn of events.

They had come to KHMC because of abdominal discomfort. They had not come expecting to hear that there might be a concern involving their heart. The discovery highlighted an important reality of healthcare: sometimes, the most significant finding is the one that no one was initially looking for.

The KHMC Medical Imaging Department is committed to ensuring that every patient receives careful, professional, and compassionate imaging services. This means approaching every examination with attention to detail and recognizing that patients may have health concerns that they themselves are not yet aware of.

The patient's experience demonstrates why this approach matters.

Had the findings gone unnoticed, the underlying cardiac concern may have remained undetected for longer. Instead, the patient's examination prompted a referral for further cardiac assessment, giving them an opportunity to seek appropriate medical attention.

The radiology team's experience with this patient reflects a culture of attentiveness, professionalism, and collaboration. That is what comprehensive healthcare looks like.

It knows that a patient who walks through the hospital doors may have questions they have not yet

thought to ask. It understands that a routine examination can sometimes reveal an unexpected concern. And it is having the professional courage and responsibility to speak up when something does not look right. The story also reflects the broader impact that Kivu Hills Medical Center is bringing to the Boneza community. With access to medical imaging services closer to home, patients can receive important diagnostic investigations without having to travel long distances in search of specialized care. For communities where access to advanced diagnostic services has previously required significant travel, the availability of medical imaging at KHMC represents an important step towards more accessible and comprehensive healthcare.

This patient's experience is one example of what can happen when expertise, technology, compassion, and careful observation come together. Their story is a testament to the importance of skilled medical imaging professionals who do not simply look at the image they look at the patient behind it. Because sometimes, the most important discovery is not the one we went looking for.

At Kivu Hills Medical Center, every image matters, every patient matters, and every opportunity to protect a life matters.

Minor Surgery Department

From a Painful Wound to Walking in Hope: A Journey of Healing at KHMC

Sometimes, healing is measured not only by how a wound looks, but by the things a person is able to do again. For one woman from the Boneza community, the ability to walk comfortably, move freely, and attend church had once been an ordinary part of life. After an accident in January, however, these simple things became difficult challenges. The accident left her with a severely

The accident left her with a severely swollen leg and a painful wound that would not heal properly. Determined to get better, she sought treatment at several health centers.. She hoped that with each visit, her wound would improve and her life would return to normal. Unfortunately, despite receiving treatment, the wound continued to cause problems and failed to heal as she had hoped. The persistent pain began to take a toll on her quality of life.

Her mobility was affected, and she could no longer move around with the freedom she once had. Even more painful for her was the fact that she could no longer attend church comfortably. For her, church was not simply a place she visited. It was an important part of her life—a place where she found community, encouragement, and spiritual strength. Being unable to attend was therefore another painful consequence of an injury that had already taken so much from her. Months passed, and she continued searching for a solution.

Then, Kivu Hills Medical Center (KHMC) opened its doors to the Boneza community on 22nd

June 2026. When she came to KHMC, she was carrying not only the physical pain of her wound, but also the frustration of having lived with an injury that had not healed despite seeking care elsewhere. The KHMC team carefully assessed her condition and developed a comprehensive wound-care plan tailored to her needs.

From the beginning, the focus was not simply on treating the wound, but on supporting her overall recovery and helping her regain her ability to move comfortably. With each treatment session, the team carefully monitored her progress, provided wound care, and followed up on her condition. The process required patience and consistency, but she remained committed to her treatment. So did the KHMC team.

Session after session, small improvements began to appear. The swelling gradually reduced. The wound

began to improve. Her discomfort became more manageable, and slowly, she began to regain confidence in her ability to walk. What had once seemed like a distant hope was becoming a reality. After her fifth treatment session, she experienced a moment that was far more significant than simply seeing an improvement in her wound. She could walk much better. Then came something she had been waiting for months to do. She was able to attend church again.

For someone who had spent months struggling with pain and limited mobility, being able to walk into church once more represented a deeply personal victory. It was a sign that she was beginning to reclaim parts of her life that the accident had taken away. Her wound was now nearing complete healing, but the transformation went far beyond the physical. She was regaining her independence. She was moving with greater confidence. She was returning to her community.

And most importantly, she was beginning to live her life again.

Reflecting on her journey, the patient expressed heartfelt gratitude for the care she received at KHMC and for the hospital's presence in the Boneza community. Before KHMC opened, she explained, patients often had to travel long distances to Murunda District Hospital to seek medical attention. For many members of the community, such journeys were costly, time-consuming, and physically exhausting particularly for people who were already sick, injured, or in pain. For patients like her, having a healthcare facility nearby has made a significant difference. Instead of travelling long distances while struggling with a painful wound, she could receive continued care within her own community. Her treatment could be monitored closely, and she could return for follow-up sessions without the burden of a long journey.

Today, her wound is nearing complete healing. But perhaps the most powerful evidence of her recovery is not the wound itself. It is the fact that she can walk better.

It is the fact that she can once again participate in activities that matter to her. It is the fact that she can attend church again. And it is the renewed sense of independence that comes with being able to move through life without the same pain and limitations she had endured for months. Her journey reminds us that healthcare is about much more than treating a medical condition. A wound may be physical, but its effects can reach into every part of a person's life—affecting their work, relationships, mobility, confidence, faith, and sense of independence. Compassionate healthcare has the power to address all of these dimensions.

For the people of Boneza, having quality healthcare closer to home means fewer long and difficult journeys in search of treatment. It means that patients can receive care within their community, remain close to their families, and return for follow-up when necessary. Most importantly, it means hope. Hope for the patient who has been living with pain.

Hope for the family waiting to see their loved one recover. Hope for the person who thought they would have to live with a condition indefinitely. And hope for a community that now has greater access to compassionate healthcare.

Sometimes, healing is found in the small victories, the first comfortable step, the first pain-free movement, the first time returning to a familiar place, and the moment a patient realizes that life is beginning to feel normal again. For this patient, five treatment sessions have brought her closer to complete healing. However, they have also given her something equally valuable: the freedom to move, the confidence to participate, and the hope to look forward to tomorrow. Her story embodies the heart of Kivu Hills Medical Center's mission: Reaching Our Goal, Changing Lives.

Because when healthcare reaches people where they are, it does more than heal wounds. It restores dignity. It restores independence. It restores hope. In addition, sometimes, it gives someone the chance to walk back into the life they thought they had lost.

Dental Department: From Constant Pain to a Healthy Smile: A Journey of Healing at KHMC

For years, quality dental care was not easily within reach for many people living in Boneza and the surrounding communities. When dental problems arose, seeking treatment often meant making the long and difficult journey to Murunda District Hospital a journey that could be costly, exhausting, and, for someone living with severe pain, almost unbearable. For one 25-year-old woman from the community, this was her reality.

She had been living with persistent dental pain caused by two severely infected teeth, one on each side of her mouth. The pain was more than a physical discomfort. It affected her ability to eat, sleep, and carry out her everyday activities. Yet, despite the suffering, accessing specialized dental care was difficult because the services she needed were far from home.

Everything changed when Kivu Hills Medical Center (KHMC) opened its doors on 22nd June 2026. During the medical mission at KHMC, she finally had the opportunity to receive the dental care she had needed for so long. She arrived at the Dental Department in significant pain, but was met by a compassionate team committed to restoring not only her oral health, but also her quality of life. After carefully assessing her condition, the dental team performed an extraction of one of the infected teeth. The procedure was carried out safely and with compassion, and for the first time in a long while, she began to experience relief from the pain that had dominated her daily life. She was given clear instructions on how to care for the extraction site and was encouraged to return for follow-up care.



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**

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Two weeks later, she returned to KHMC as planned. This time, she came back with a renewed sense of hope. The first procedure had already made a remarkable difference. The constant pain was subsiding, and she could once again eat, sleep, and go about her daily life with greater comfort. The second infected tooth was removed, bringing her one-step closer to complete relief. However, the care did not end there.

At her follow-up visit, the dental team provided her with a professional teeth cleaning and personalised oral health education. She was taught practical ways to care for her teeth and gums and how to prevent future dental problems. What began as a painful dental problem had become a journey towards better health, renewed confidence, and a brighter smile. Looking back on her experience, she expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the KHMC dental team, "The dental team treated me with kindness and professionalism. They removed the pain that had been affecting my life for so long and taught me how to take better care of my teeth. Before KHMC opened, we had to travel all the way to Murunda District Hospital to receive treatment. The journey was long, difficult, and expensive. Now we have excellent dental care close to home, and our community no longer has to travel far to receive the help we need."

Her story is more than a story about two infected teeth. It is a story about access, compassion, dignity, and transformation. Since opening its doors, the Dental Department at Kivu Hills Medical Center has remained committed to bringing quality and compassionate oral healthcare closer to the people of Boneza and neighboring communities. For this young woman, having dental care close to home meant more than avoiding a long journey. It meant being free from pain, learning how to protect her oral health, and being able to smile again. At KHMC, healthcare is not only about treating illness it is about restoring hope and about changing lives.

Thank you again for your interest and faithfulness in walking with the people of Boneza via the outreach and ministry of Arise Rwanda Ministries. We cannot do what we do without you. You are always welcome to visit!

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

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