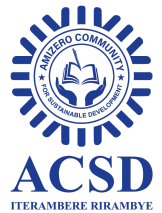


Mission: Empowering families to self-sustainability through education and training.

Vision: We see a network of our academic and vocational graduates lifting their families and communities out of poverty.



Graduations are a great cause for celebration. In this last year we graduated the most kids of our 12 years: 20 from Secondary, 59 from Vocational programs, one from university. They all came from subsistence, landless families who would, at best, have supported them to attend day-school. With our sponsorship, those in top 40% of their class are attending quality boarding schools where they specialize in science, languages, technology or teaching – always with a strong component of civic responsibility that makes Rwanda the most peaceful country in the region.



Every year at least two of our grads earn National Merit Scholarships to university and we have managed to support this exciting opportunity with the necessary living stipend they could otherwise never afford. The teacher who graduated this year brings our total uni grads to eleven in medicine, teaching, accounting, engineering, business. Eight others continue their studies for another year or two.

When deserving students were lacking in academic strength, we sponsored them in various vocational programs: 23 in tailoring, 18 in shoemaking, 8 in hairdressing, 7 in market selling.



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We continue to sponsor two nursery schools in Anglican parishes providing 90+ kids with the learning skills and decorum to support their success in primary as well as a mug of nutritious porridge every morning. Meanwhile, moms find work in the fields. Groups of poor moms get rented fields to raise their own food. Underweight kids and their moms are enrolled in our nutrition classes and food bank.



Again this year we partnered with local community leaders to rehabilitate 35 adobe houses of destitute families, many of them high in distant hills where no other help reaches. We installed 92 doors and 125 shuttered windows to give their homes security and respectability. The house of Simon got special attention. 22 yr old Simon fell into an unprotected well shaft and was paralyzed from the waist down. We trained him to make baskets which his mom sells at market.

The rough dirt floor limited his wheelchair to a 15 ft course from his grass mat in the main room to just outside his front door. We put a smooth cement floor throughout the front room and out onto a veranda allowing him to move himself easily in and out of the space where he will spend the rest of his life. We put stucco all over the mud walls and bought him his first-ever bed with mattress and also a toilet chair.



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Then there are the dozens of burdens we lift for those without resources to cover any but he most basic needs of survival. All of this support is compassionately managed by our Coordinator, a former teacher, Dieudonne, God's Gift. Surely he embodies his name for me and for all our beneficiaries. And so we carry on, accomplishing more than I could ever ask or imagine. Soon I will be forwarding the letters from students to their sponsors, bringing a moment of contact with the wonderful work in progress through our support.