



Empowering people for sustainable regenerative communities



HIHD Annual Report, 2021

ABOUT HAND IN HAND FOR DEVELOPMENT (HIHD)

BACKGROUND

HAND IN HAND FOR DEVELOPMENT is a non-profit organisation managed by following dispositions of the law N° 20/2000 of 26th July 2000 related to non-profit organization and registered in Rwanda as a local organization with legal personality N° 440/RGB/NGO/LP/03/2019. HIHD is a social and economic development organization dedicated to promote the living conditions of vulnerable and marginalized people as well as protecting and defending their rights. HIHD was founded in 2012 by good-hearted people motivated by the disarray and precarious situations through which people lived especially those orphans, widows, people living with albinism, girls heads of households as a result from the hard times and civil wars that Rwanda passed through before and after colonization period. These led to excessive unemployment youth and severe conditions for marginalized groups; therefore, there was strong need to reintegrate them socially and economically in developing vocational skills; providing training and awareness campaigns on peace building , human rights and ensuring education and innovation in job creation.

The operational area of HIHD extends on all territory of Rwanda especially northern and western regions. Its duration is unspecified.

The head office of the organization is established in Umuganda cell, GISENYI Sector, RUBAVU District, WESTERN Province.



Why we intervene

About one person in three Africans lives below the global poverty line; they represent more than 70% of the world's poorest people; and more than 80% of diseases around the world are from unsafe water; especially in Africa. In Rwanda, these numbers are still significant where around 39% of the population are below the poverty line while more than 2 in 5 people don't have access to clean water and 1 in 3 don't have decent toilet.

HIHD MISSION

Our mission is to promote the wellbeing of the population in general, especially communities living in economically difficult situation, orphans, unemployed youth, women and girls, widows and the disabled unable to take care of themselves.

HIHD VISION

We envision a future where all citizens have the same value and a standard living condition.

WHAT WE DO



HAND IN HAND FOR DEVELOPMENT (HIHD) collaborates with partner organizations, local government and donors to improve the living conditions of vulnerable and marginalized people, people with albinism disability as well as protecting and defending their rights.

Around the country HAND IN HAND FOR DEVELOPMENT (HIHD) works with different communities, vulnerable families, groups of youth, women, young mothers and people with albinism to find sustainable solutions on eradicating poverty, water scarcity, malnutrition as well as promoting human rights and building an active, contributing and resilient society. Towards our goal, through its different programs HIHD provides to its beneficiaries different services including capacity building, economic empowerment, financial support, children's education, self-employment through entrepreneurship, water supplies, hygiene and sanitation, etc.

OUR APPROACH

To achieve our success, we initiate our projects at community level; they become community driven projects. They are community members who are benefiting from the project at the same time changing living conditions in their community and contributing to its development. Our goal is not just to get a change, but to make sure it's a long-lasting community driven change with a great foundation.

OUR SPECIFIC AIMS

- Fighting the prevention of HIV/AIDS scourge, STD as well as delinquency within both schooled youth and non-schooled youths of Rwanda,
- Promoting, in favour of children and youths positive values: honour, reconciliation, forgiveness, peace, hope, tolerance, mutual aid and a sense of family,
- Promote entrepreneurship of youth, women, young mothers, vulnerable families and people with albinism,
- To fight against illness cause by water born with distribution of bio sand water filters,
- Promote rainwater catchment system through ferrocement tanks construction,
- Fight against endemic illnesses,
- Establish adequate sanitation through micro flush toilet promotion,
- To promote and protect the rights of people with albinism as well as changing mindset about albinism,
- Raise income and employment of youth, women, young mothers, marginalized families and people with albinism through sustainable businesses development,
- Improve living conditions of vulnerable and poorest families,
- Help communities to increase their chances to access to loan, etc.

Domain	Activity	Achievement
EDUCATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of school materials to children from poor, vulnerable families and children with albinism disability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children received school supplies and uniforms. • Increased school attendance.
HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct awareness campaigns on nutrition • Installation of kitchen gardens and fruits trees planting • Food assistance to victims of natural disasters • Preventing skin cancer among PWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 permagarden constructed • 3,000 fruits trees planted • 60 PWA were provided skin lotion
ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building of groups of youth, women and young mothers • Capacity building of vulnerable families • Jobs creation for PWA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups of youth, women and young mothers received financial support to run and strengthen their businesses • Access to raw materials for the pottery of historically marginalize community • 9 PWA received entrepreneurship skills and start up toolkits
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assisting vulnerable families to access water • Assisting vulnerable families to access clean water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased access to water for historically marginalized community • Increased access to clean water for vulnerable families • Reduced water related challenges
HUMAN RIGHTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct awareness campaigns in communities on albinism disability • Enabling PWA to have access to education and other potential opportunities available in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People have a bit understanding of albinism disability. • PWA are integrated in their communities. • PWA are contributing citizens, respected and share same opportunities in the community.
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting groups of women on developing trees nurseries • Distribution of eco-friendly cooking stoves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One trees nursery was installed • 47 eco-friendly cooking stoves were distributed
EMERGENCIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food assistance and rehabilitation to victims of volcanic eruption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 families were provided food and household items assistance • 12 houses have been rehabilitated



Support students from vulnerable families to access School Materials

Due to the effects of COVID-19 including economic hardship for families most of children especially those from marginalized families have not been able to return to school. To respond to some challenges that children were facing in their education and contribute to the reduction of school drop outs as well as increasing the school attendance for children in primary and secondary schools, HIHD assisted children from poor, vulnerable, marginalized families and children with albinism disability by providing them school materials and school uniforms; this year HIHD provided school uniforms, not books, pens, school bags and other different material to more than 200 children.

For consideration

Despite the invested effort to returning children to school, many children are still facing numerous challenges in education including lack of school charges and school fee; more children Even if more than 200 are attending class but they are still struggling with other school changes and other numerous children are still being on street.

EDUCATION

Every child goes to school



Conducting awareness campaigns on nutrition

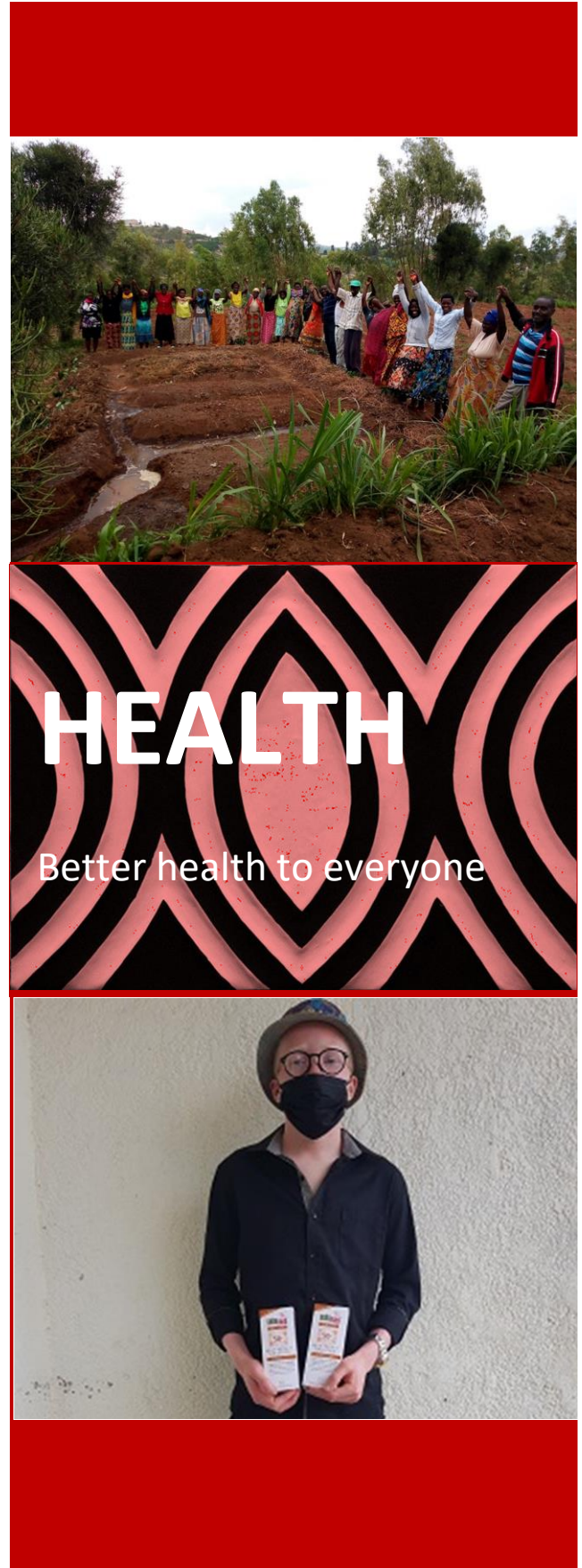
Despite the country's impressive economic growth, food insecurity and malnutrition remain in Rwandan households especially those in rural areas. To promoting healthy eating habit in communities, awareness campaigns have been conducted in different rural communities of RUBAVU, NGORORERO and RUTSIRO districts where women have been educated on nutrition and preparation of balanced meal.

Installation of kitchen garden and fruits trees planting

To contribute to the reduction of malnutrition and stunting issues among children under five years old, this year HIHD continued to educate communities on installation of permagarden an approach of climate smart agriculture and distributed fruits trees in communities. Through these activities, 60 kitchen gardens have been installed and 3,000 fruits trees consisting of avocado, guava, mango, pawpaw and passion trees have been planted.

Preventing skin cancer among PWA

Differently to others, people with albinism disability are vulnerable to sunrights which once not controled exposes them to skin cancer. With different challenges they face from poor mindsets of communities about their disability including discrimination, isolation, lack of access to potential opportunities available intheir communities, lack of access to education most of people with albinism disability are economically poor; this last affect their living conditions and expose them to potential health issues. To facilitate people with albinism to preventing skin due to lack appropriate skin lotion, HIHD provided to 60 people with albinism sun screen lotion where 120 bottles have been distributed this year. HIHD provided also to young born children with albinism protective clothing.



Capacity building of youth, women, young mothers groups and vulnerable families

In the course to poverty reduction and improving the living conditions of the population especially youth, women and vulnerable families, this year HIHD continued to invest in employment of women, youth, young mothers and people from vulnerable communities. In this journey to self-reliance and sustainable development, this year HIHD strengthened the businesses of youth, women and young mothers by provision of financial support to 40 existing businesses and start up capital to 45 new beneficiaries in agri-business and small scale businesses.

HIHD also contributed to strengthening the pottery business of historically marginalize community of RUGERERO through facilitating to get access to clay and molds to make cooking stoves where HIHD rent a plot for the cooperative to extract clay for making pottery products and provided them 10 molds to producing cooking stoves.

To empowering youth, raise incomes and employment for

people with disability, this year HIHD supported also youth with albinism disability through training on entrepreneurship skills and provision of toolkits where 9 people have been supported to follow vocation education and provided toolkits to start their own businesses.





WATER, HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Increase access to water, clean drinking water and sanitation



Assisting communities to access water and clean water

Despite the invested efforts to increase access to water and clean water in Rwandan communities, only 57 per cent of the population access safe drinking water that is within 30 minutes of their home and most households without access to water often due to inequalities in water supply between urban and rural areas are those located in rural regions of the country.

To reducing communities' water related challenges, this year HIHD continued to facilitate communities having access to water and clean water through construction of rainwater harvesting systems and distribution of bio sand water filters where a 20 m³ ferrocement tank have been constructed to the pottery of historically marginalized community of RUGERERO and 69 bio sand water filters have been distributed to historically marginalized communities and vulnerable families in CYANZARWE sector, RUBAVU District.

Conducting awareness campaigns on albinism disability

Albinism is a rare genetic condition that reduces the amount of melanin pigment formed in the skin, hair or eyes and occurs in all racial and ethnic groups throughout the world. Like in most African countries, in Rwanda people with



albinism are still facing also multiple forms of discrimination because it's still profoundly misunderstood, socially and medically. To change the poor mindset about albinism disability, this year HIHD raised awareness campaigns about albinism disability in different communities of RUBAVU and RUTSIRO Districts and conducted radio talks on community radio explaining about albinism disability and facilitating people with albinism to be heard and sharing their stories.

HUMAN RIGHTS
Equal opportunities

Since Children with albinism are often excluded from full participation in education because of their visual impairment and the stigma associated with the condition in their communities, this year HIHD also facilitated 32 children with albinism disability to attend schools and 3 children to get optical services.





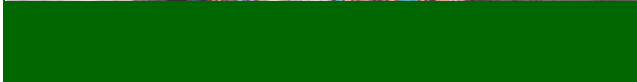
Developing trees nursery

The North-Western part of Rwanda is currently facing unprecedented consequences from deforestation and climate; to facilitate communities mitigating these challenges, this year HIHD supported a group of women to installing a tree nursery from which 9,000 fruits seed trees have been planted.



Reduce number of cut trees for cooking purpose

To contribute to the reduction of trees cut to be used for cooking purposes, HIHD supported households from vulnerable communities to have access to eco-friendly cooking stove where 47 cooking stoves have been distributed in CYANZARWE and BUSASAMANA sectors.



Assistance to victims of natural disasters

Differently to other times that NYIRAGONGO volcano entered into eruption, this time was not announced by any of volcanological agencies neither in Rwanda nor in DRC; The fact that this eruption surprised people from both sides, they never took time to secure or move their goods to safer places. With triggered series of small earthquakes, lava flows and volcanic ash, the eruption caused significant damage in both neighboring cities Goma and Rubavu including loss of goods, damaged goods, damaged and burnt crops, looting of goods, collapsed houses and buildings, families displacement, etc.; from these challenges, many businesses especially the small and medium ones have lost, others were disrupted and the living conditions for many families fell into disrepair.

To responding to the effects of this volcanic eruption, HIHD contributed on recovering lost and disrupted businesses of youth, women and young mothers, to rehabilitation of some collapsed house and provided food and household items assistance to 200 affected families.



INCOMES & PARTNERSHIP

INCOMES



HIHD's incomes come from its donors and partners; our work is only possible because of many supporters are part of our movement. Their financial assistance comes in many forms such as regular monthly donations, organizing and taking part in events of fundraising, leaving us gifts and so on.

To go along this way and realize our activities in this year required much more efforts; and our partners worked hard for us to succeed and make positive changes families and communities most in need.

HOW AND WHERE HIHD RAISES FUNDS

HIHD's partners raise money in public fundraising and our royal

donors respond to several emergency appeals helping to save lives. HIHD is deeply grateful for the continued and generous support of all of our donors. Their commitment and passion is an inspiration.

PARTNERSHIP



Our partners are independent organizations and independent persons.

Partners



The Lemonaid & ChariTea Foundation is a charitable organization founded in 2010 in the bohemian St. Pauli area of Hamburg. We've made it our goal that every persona has

access to independent, self-determined and sustainable livelihoods.

We support entrepreneurial and income generating initiatives in regions currently excluded from fair access to the global economic system. We partner with local organizations who implement projects within their communities to create positive change and strengthen economic independence.

The focus of our work is therefore on strengthening their resources. For this reason, we primarily promote entrepreneurship and educational institutions that aim to create sustainable sources of income.

Our organization is funded primarily from the sale of Lemonaid & ChariTea drinks, but [donations](#) and [active participation](#) in our work are more than welcome. The projects we support lie in ingredients home countries of the beverages and teas.

Visit <https://lemonaid-charitea-ev.org/en/> Lemonaid:



About CooperRiis

Set in the mountains of Western North Carolina, our healing

community offers a unique approach to recovery with a balance of evidence-based clinical therapies, purposeful work, community service, education, and holistic health and wellness practices. From the start, the CooperRiis experience is grounded in hope and guided by a personal Dream Statement to empower residents in their recovery. We believe recovery from mental illness is possible and best achieved when individuals and their families are active participants on the journey ahead.

Mission

Our healing mission is to improve the lives of individuals struggling with mental illness or other mental health challenges by helping them work towards achieving their highest levels of functioning and fulfillment.

Visit CooperRiis:
<https://www.cooperriis.org/>



About Rwanda Hugs

Rwandan HUGS, a non-profit established to embrace and empower the people of Rwanda. Rwandan HUGS (Help Us Get Started) partners with existing Rwandan faith-based and civic organizations to provide support for agriculture, education, and entrepreneurship.

Visit Rwandan Hugs:
<http://www.rwandanhugs.com/>



The Los Angeles-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) is a global nonprofit organization providing cutting-edge medicine and advocacy to over 1,500,000 people in 45 countries. They are currently the largest provider of HIV/AIDS medical care in the U.S.

AHF funds its mission to rid the world of AIDS through a network of [pharmacies](#), [thrift stores](#), healthcare contracts, and other strategic partnerships. Generating new, innovative ways of treatment, prevention and advocacy have been the hallmark of our success. They are currently leading a mass testing initiative to identify and treat the millions of people who are unaware they are infected.

By advocating big goals—such as having 1 billion people tested each year—AHF hopes to eliminate older, more time-consuming methods. Since 1987, AHF has cared for thousands of people living with HIV and AIDS worldwide. As we create and implement new programs in communities across the U.S. and abroad, we expand delivery of healthcare and influence over

policy with the aim of saving more lives.

Visit Rwandan AHF:

<https://www.aidshealth.org/>



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of the Federal Republic of Germany
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