



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2008

HOME BUILDING PROJECT

As you know, peace is not possible for people who do not have a place to live. There is NO way to promote peace, reconciliation, education, technology, development, safety, health in and among the families who do not have shelter. A home is one of the most important things which contribute to the good living of a human being; that's why at JRMD, building homes for the survivors of the war and the needy people, is one of the strategies and prior-



Present situation of people JRMD is assisting today.

ity to promote and achieve peace, and give youth a voice and the right place in the society.

Promoting peace and reconciliation through rebuilding homes, has been our biggest and

most important project since JRMD was founded in 1994. In this project we help build homes for the victims of the war and needy people in Burundi. Within 2008, with donations from our Partners and Friends in USA and Holland, made by churches, NGOs and individuals, we were able to build 127 homes, for 127 families in Carama; **and 40 of 127 houses built this year in Carama, were built in 40 days, for 40 families, with funds raised in 40 days, by David Scammell, "Director of The Hope Project"**.

Today in Carama, **643** of the **800** homes to be built there have been completed and around 4,000 people are living



One of the houses that JRMD builds for returning refugees

in these homes and continue to have their smile of joy and hope back, after over 10 years, suffering in refugee and displacement camps.

This last summer, we were blessed to receive in Burundi

and work together with the teams from Global Citizen Journey (GCJ), in Washington State and Spirit of Joy Lutheran Church, in Orlando, Florida. In brief, the visit to Burundi of these two different groups was a great encouragement to us and to the people that we are assisting and serving in Burundi.

In addition, with the help of the team from GCJ, we provided 92 mattresses to 92 families who were sleeping on the floor for many years.

I can not finish without telling you the **GREAT JOY** we experience in serving those in need.

THE ORPHANAGE AND SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

"Imuhira Iwacu Centre"

In Burundi, because of the war and aids, many children have been left orphans and street children. Today, because of the poverty in many different homes, children have moved to the streets to feed for themselves.

As we all know a street is not a home or school for any child; that's why with the sponsorship of Foundation "Plan Afrika Holland, Every child Every Village, USA", and Friends, JRMD has started the construction of the above mentioned **orphanage and school**, at Ruhagarika, in Cibitoke Province.



Construction site of the orphanage & school

As you can see from this picture, one block of the two of the school building is at the level of roofing and this block is made by 2 classes, library, offices for Secretary and Headmaster. Another block made by four classes is still at the level of the foundation. The Home for Orphans and Street Children is made by three blocks and one block that will serve as the dormitory for boys, two rooms for mother caretakers and toilets is at the level of roofing.

The two other blocks that will serve as a dormitory for girls, dining room, kitchen, community room, rooms for mother caretakers toilets for the girls are still at the level of foundation. For more information towards the above projects and our work in general, that we are doing in Burundi, please visit our website: www.jrmd.org.

The construction is in progress with some buildings without roofs and some still just at the foundation. There is a school, dorms for both boys and girls and eventually there will be a clinic and Medical School as well.

Funds for the orphanage and school have been trickling in and work progresses as the funds arrive. My hope is that some day in the near future, with the help of friends and partners, we will have the opportunity to raise enough support for this project.



PEACE BUILDING CONFERENCE

On July 28-29, 2008, JRMD organized a 2 day Peacemaker Workshop in partnership with **John Mann, from Cornerstone Church, in Orlando, Florida**; a workshop that was attended by over 70 pastors and church leaders from different denominations present in Burundi.

As we all know the church plays a very important role in our community and society, in promoting peace and reconciliation among the community and nation. This workshop gave to the participants a clear understanding, orientation and guidance in conflict management.



Participants working in groups.

The response from the attendees was very positive; after the peace conference, several pastors requested that John Mann returns to teach another seminar in their churches, and over 30 came to our office to request additional materials.

A week after the peace conference, 7 pastors came to JRMD office in Bujumbura and shared with me how much the peace conference will enable them to manage different conflicts that they do face in their churches.

ON GOING AND PLANNED PROJECTS IN 2008 - 2010

- Carama Home Building Project continues
- Building 500 houses at Ruhagarika, Buganda Commune, in Cibitoke Province
- The Orphanage and School construction continues
- Building a Medical School at Ruhagarika/Cibitoke
- Supplying Water Projects at Carama and Ruhagarika/Cibitoke
- Building two Clinics at Carama and Ruhagarika/Cibitoke
- Helping Free Methodist Church to rebuild the church at Carama which was destroyed during the ethnic war
- Shipment of Computers in Burundi
- Conducting Peace building and church leadership Workshops and Conferences
- Pig and farming Project
- Receiving 10 teams from USA and Europe.
- Promoting peace and reconciliation through a music team
- Mission to USA with Umuhuza Music Team
- Micro finance project continues

A SHORT HISTORY LESSON

In 1993, six months following President Ndadaye's assassination, about a half a million of Hutus and Tutsis were slaughtered, including women and children. About 60% of the homes-as well as schools and hospitals-were completely destroyed. The country became a veritable wasteland as people took up arms against each other, similar to what happened in Rwanda, as seen in the movie *Hotel Rwanda*. We saw no effective intervention from the international community to intercede in all this bloodshed.

The many crises facing the people of Burundi and the Great Lakes Region today are complex. Chronic poverty, AIDS violence and ethnic conflicts resulted in the large scale displacement of people, mass famine and destruction. In the past 10 years, almost 8 million people have died in wars of the Great Lakes Region (Burundi, Rwanda and Congo). Burundi, as well as the whole continent of Africa, seems to be left behind and forgotten by the international community.

PROMOTING PEACE IN A DIVIDED NATION THROUGH MUSIC

In Burundi and in the whole Continent of Africa, Music is one of the other many important ways which bring together thousands of people to come to meet, listen, learn and dance together. With the help of musical and sounding system instruments, we are able to call and invite thousands of people to come for a gathering and receive a message on how to build peace among ourselves, in our community and society.

With "**Umuhuza Singing Team**", we will reach thousands of Burundians and people living in Great Lakes Region, with a message of hope, reconciliation and peace that millions of Burundians and people living in Great lakes Region need today. Through this project, we will be able to reach all sectors of the community and people, despite their ages and background.

From the experience of millions of people, around the planet, it is very well known that: "People who make music together can not be enemies, at least not while the music lasts".



UMUHUZA (Mediator) singing team

Join JRMD/YRWD in Sharing Compassion in Action

THE IMPACT OF YOUR CONTRIBUTION:

\$998 will build a home- Donations of any amount will very quickly help a Burundian family build and move into their home;

A JRMD field team of 25 needs just \$1,825 per month for food, housing and a modest personal stipend.

We can now accept donations towards our different projects in two ways. You may write checks to YNW/JRMD, and send them to: **14316 75th Ave. NE, Bothell, WA. 98011, USA**, or visit our secure website at https://www.youthnewworld.org/donate_new.cfm

NOTE: Your donations are tax deductible. YNW Tax ID# 91-2119749