

FMI "UBUMUNTU"



Monthly Newsletter

Volume 1/ Issue 8/ April 2025



EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Friends of the Friends of Motherland Initiative Ubumuntu, we hope you are doing well!

We are delighted to present to you the first volume, Eighth issue of our monthly newsletter. This newsletter will provide a detailed account of all our activities carried out each week throughout the month. It is our hope that you will take the time to read through it and stay informed about the progress we are making.

We deeply appreciate your continued support and facilitation, which have been invaluable in guiding us every step of the way. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our cause.

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fmiubumuntu

Communication Officer
Alexis IRADUKUNDA

Week 1



FMI HOLIDAY COACHING PROGRAM

Together with our dedicated volunteers, we had a wonderful time with the children during our FMI Holiday Coaching program. This special event was designed to instill strong values and patriotism in the children while also providing an opportunity for them to review their lessons and discover their unique talents.

Through interactive activities and engaging discussions, the children gained a deeper understanding of important life principles that will guide them in their daily lives.

After the coaching session, the children had the chance to unwind and enjoy themselves through music and dance. It was heartwarming to see their enthusiasm as they expressed themselves through joyful performances. This combination of learning and fun not only strengthened their skills but also created lasting memories for everyone involved.



COMMUNITY SERVICE IN NDORA SECTOR

At Gisagara Yego Center, our volunteers, along with other youth volunteers from different sectors, took part in an important conversation in partnership with the Rwanda National Police. This discussion followed a community service activity in Ndora Sector, where volunteers helped smear a house for a community member and constructed two kitchen gardens to support local families.

During the event, local leaders delivered speeches highlighting the government's current programs and initiatives aimed at community development. They also expressed their gratitude to the youth for their dedication and active participation in making a positive impact. This gathering served as a reminder of the power of youth engagement in building stronger, more resilient communities.



ACHIEVEMENTS OF PLANT POWERED PLAY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Last year, we successfully organized the Plant Powered Play Football Tournament, supported by Thrive Philanthropy. This initiative significantly strengthened our collaboration with key stakeholders, including GREEN for LIFE Rwanda, local communities, health centers, and schools. The tournament not only promoted sportsmanship but also served as a powerful platform to drive meaningful environmental and social change.

Through this partnership, we achieved tangible results within the Gisagara District community. Together, we distributed 2,350 passion fruit seedlings, 3,100 tomato tree seedlings, 3,871 guava seedlings, and 8,920 agroforestry tree seedlings to nine schools and their surrounding communities. These efforts, carried out in collaboration with Green for Life Rwanda, aim to enhance food security, improve nutrition, and foster environmental sustainability.

Beyond tree planting, the tournament provided an opportunity to engage the community in adopting sustainable practices, such as the establishment of kitchen gardens. This initiative encourages a shift toward a plant-based lifestyle and promotes environmental conservation, benefiting both individuals' health and the planet.

We are deeply grateful for the transformative support of Thrive Philanthropy, whose commitment has made a lasting impact on the communities we serve.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATION

We took part in the General Assembly of Gisagara District Partners, which was held at the District Office. The assembly focused on reviewing the decisions made during the previous General Assembly in Karongi and discussing strategies for effectively implementing the Graduation Program. Additionally, emphasis was placed on the ongoing efforts to rebuild the Mamba IDP Model Village, ensuring sustainable development for the community.

The assembly was led by Osee Seban, the JADF Leader in Gisagara District, and was attended by various stakeholders. During the session, Mayor Rutaburingoga Jérôme expressed appreciation for the valuable contributions of partners in driving community development. Their collective efforts continue to make a significant impact on improving the lives of residents across the district.

COMMEMORATION WEEK OF 1994 GENOCIDE AGAINST THE TUTSI

During the week of commemorating the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, Friends of Motherland Initiative (FMI) “Ubumuntu,” in collaboration with our dedicated volunteers, made educational conversations with children. These sessions focused on the history of Rwanda, starting from the pre-colonial period, through the colonial era, and exploring how these historical dynamics contributed to the tragic events of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

The program will continue by teaching children about how the Genocide was stopped, the process of unity and reconciliation, and the importance of the “Ndi Umunyarwanda” Program. As part of these sessions, children have given the opportunity to ask questions, seek clarification, and receive accurate, age-appropriate answers. This helps to prevent the spread of misinformation and ensures that the memory of the Genocide is preserved truthfully and respectfully.

The program is designed to involve both children and their parents, working hand in hand with FMI “Ubumuntu” to build a more informed, united, and resilient community.

#Remember-Unite-Renew





FMI SUNDAY COACHING PROGRAM

In collaboration with our dedicated volunteers, we continued engaging with the youth and children we work with, deepening important conversations that contribute to their growth and understanding.

The focus of the session was on guiding them in using the right and respectful language during the period of commemorating the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. It was also a safe space where children were encouraged to ask questions and receive thoughtful, age-appropriate answers, helping them to better understand the significance of remembrance.

This important program will continue, extending to include both children and their parents through our Saving Groups, fostering healing, unity, and shared reflection within families and the broader community.

#Remember-Unite-Renew



VISITS TO THE SURVIVORS OF 1994 GENOCIDE AGAINST THE TUTSI

With the children we work with, we visited an elderly woman from Amashya Village, Higiuro Cell, in Nyanza Sector, Gisagara District who is a survivor of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi. The children came together to collect gifts and food to support her, demonstrating compassion and reminding her that she is not alone. As Friends of Motherland Initiative (FMI) “Ubumuntu,” we also brought our own contribution to support her and show our continued solidarity.

During the visit, the children gave her words of comfort and assured her that such atrocities will never happen again. The visit continued to another family in Impinga 2, where we received a warm welcome and heartfelt appreciation. These families expressed deep gratitude, not only for the support, but for the way we are raising children to grow with empathy, kindness, and a sense of responsibility for others.

Remember-Unite-Renew
#Kwibuka31



VOLUNTEERS IN SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

Our volunteers from Huye District are actively supporting the communities they serve by visiting households and engaging with families to understand their needs. During these visits, they help community members identify challenges they are facing and guide them in seeking advice and support from local leaders.

In addition to this, the volunteers are playing an important role in helping vulnerable families who are part of the Graduation Program. They are supporting these families in the fight against malnutrition by supporting them to build kitchen gardens and plant vegetables.

This initiative enables families to access a variety of nutritious foods directly from their gardens, promoting a balanced diet. As a result, the money that would normally be spent on purchasing vegetables can now be used for other daily activities and needs that improve the overall well-being of their households.



BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN

In collaboration with dedicated youth volunteers, we progressed a “Back to School” campaign aimed at encouraging school attendance and reducing dropout rates in our sector. During this initiative, we engaged with 15 students found in the local market, reminding them and their parents about the importance of returning to school as the new term begins.

This campaign is part of our ongoing efforts to raise awareness about the significance of education and to ensure that every child has the opportunity to continue their studies. By reaching out directly to students and families, we aim to foster a community-wide commitment to education.

Our ultimate goal is to achieve zero dropouts in our sector. We believe that through continuous engagement and support, we can create an environment where every child remains in school and thrives academically.

Gallery



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