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ANNUAL REPORT

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Profile Of Hope Iwacu Initiative



Hope Iwacu Initiative is a non-profit organization dedicated to combating human trafficking and promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in Rwanda. We focus on preventing human trafficking through awareness campaigns, training for law enforcement

and community leaders, and providing comprehensive support to survivors. Our efforts extend to promoting SRHR through education, counseling, ensuring healthcare access for marginalized communities, and advocating for policies like gender equality. These initiatives aim to create a safer and healthier environment while empowering individuals to rebuild their lives after trafficking experiences.



Vision & Mission



Vision

To protect vulnerable individuals, empower survivors, and create a society free from human trafficking and where SRHR is respected and upheld.

Mission

To build the Rwandan society where every individual is protected from the horrors of human trafficking and where SRHR are universally respected, ensuring a society of dignity, equality, and empowerment.



Our Team



01. Kabera Telesphore, Secretariat Coordinator

02. Ange Imfpurayiwacu, Feld staff officer, Nyagatare

03. Happy Umurungi, Project officer- Makeway project

04. Aika Morinaga, Volunteer on SRHR services

05. Sylvie Uwimana Ishimwe, Nurse and Psychotherapist

06. Icyizanye Masozera Jacky, Finance and Admin manager



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Kabera Rwagatare Charles

Executive Summary



In 2023, Hope Iwacu Initiative continued its unwavering commitment to fostering positive change and sustainable development in our communities. Despite the challenges posed by the global pandemic and other socio-economic hurdles, our

organization remained resilient in its efforts to uplift lives and empower individuals across various domains. This annual report highlights our key achievements, projects, partnerships, and the impact we've made throughout the year.



Key Achievements In 2023

**1**

Makeway Project Expansion:

Makeway Project Expansion: The Makeway project, aimed at promoting sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), witnessed significant expansion in 2023.

Through strategic collaborations with FAWE Rwanda, we extended our reach to four secondary schools of Rwempasha in Nyagatare district, ensuring comprehensive SRHR education and support for individuals, particularly targeting teachers, students and entire communities in the catchment areas. Schools were equipped with mobile sound systems, club attires and drums.



2 Advocacy and Awareness Campaigns:

Hope Iwacu Initiative actively engaged in advocacy and awareness campaigns to address pressing social issues and promote inclusivity and equality. Through workshops, seminars, and community dialogues, we facilitated discussions on gender equality, women's rights, and health awareness, garnering support and fostering positive change at the grassroots level. In the spirit of advocacy and community engagement, Hope Iwacu Initiative actively participated in the preparation and execution of the annual 16 Days of Activism campaign. As part of our commitment to promoting gender equality and addressing social issues, we collaborated closely with school partners, particularly Gs Rukomol and institutions in the Rwempasha sector. During the community dialogue sessions held on Tuesdays, theatrical performances became a powerful tool for conveying messages of protection, education against discrimination, and addressing prevalent family conflicts that impact teaching and learning outcomes. The active involvement of students from Gs Rukomol and other local schools in these performances not only facilitated greater community engagement but also empowered young voices to advocate for change within their communities.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our partners, including the Ministry of Gender and Family Promotion, FAWE Rwanda, NUDOR, and local authorities, for their invaluable oversight and guidance throughout the preparation and implementation of these initiatives. Their support played a pivotal role in ensuring the success and impact of our collective efforts to address gender-based discrimination and promote a conducive learning environment for all.

This formulation emphasizes the collaborative efforts undertaken by Hope Iwacu Initiative and its partners, highlighting the specific actions taken and expressing gratitude for the support received from relevant stakeholders. In the same year (2023), Hope Iwacu Initiative organized a dynamic community awareness campaign in Rwempasha, with a special focus on the Kazaza area, aimed at

promoting understanding of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). Utilizing a vehicle caravan format, we effectively engaged community members through innovative outreach strategies.

One notable feature of this campaign was the involvement of key artists, including renowned performers like DIGIDIGI, who utilized theatrical performances to convey crucial SRHR messages in an engaging and impactful manner. Their involvement added a creative dimension to the campaign, capturing the attention of the audience and facilitating deeper understanding.

Moreover, students from GS Kazaza actively participated in the event, showcasing their theatrical talents and contributing to the dissemination of SRHR knowledge. Their involvement not only highlighted the importance of youth engagement but also provided them with a platform to express themselves and contribute to community development.

We are particularly grateful for the collaboration received from local authorities, whose support was instrumental in mobilizing community members and ensuring widespread participation. Their efforts in facilitating local engagement underscored the importance of grassroots involvement in promoting SRHR awareness and fostering community-led initiatives. Through this campaign, Hope Iwacu Initiative demonstrated its commitment to innovative and inclusive approaches in addressing SRHR issues, leveraging the power of art, education, and community collaboration for positive social change.



3

Partnerships and Collaborations:



Collaboration remained a cornerstone of our approach in 2023. We are pleased to announce our strategic partnership with the Ministry of Justice in combating human trafficking. Through this collaboration, Hope Iwacu Initiative has actively contributed to the development of the Trafficking in Persons Policy, aligning our efforts with national priorities to address this pressing issue.

We extend our deepest appreciation to the Ministry of Justice for their unwavering support and collaboration. This partnership underscores our shared commitment to combatting human trafficking and protecting the rights and dignity of vulnerable individuals. Together, we are making significant strides towards a safer and more just society.

Financial Overview



Financial transparency and accountability are integral to our operations. In 2023, Hope Iwacu Initiative allocated its resources efficiently, ensuring that funds were utilized judiciously to support our programs and initiatives. Detailed financial statements, including income, expenses, and fund allocation, are available upon request for stakeholders and donors.



Our Partners



Continuous Memberships and Affiliations

Throughout the year 2023, a significant focus was directed towards maintaining continuous memberships and affiliations with various entities.

Among them include:

1. Alliance 8.7 network in fighting against modern slavery and child labor.
2. Rwanda education NGO coordination platform (RENCP).
3. Rwanda Human rights defender's forum chaired by British high commission and co-chaired by the Netherlands embassy-Kigali.
4. Member of the UPR (Universal review on human rights) coalition network in Rwanda, chaired by Legal Aid forum.