Nurturing Potential

Restoring the Rhythm of Life for Rwanda’s Most Vulnerable Youth

2011

Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village Annual Report
There are 2.8 million orphans and vulnerable children in Rwanda today. Often left to fend for themselves and each other, they live on the streets, in child-headed households or are placed with extended family in subservient or abusive situations. The majority of these marginalized youth cannot think beyond their next meal, let alone dream about the future. Without a viable solution to nurture, educate, and heal this vulnerable population, the impact of a generation of hopeless youth would be devastating for the future of Rwanda.

Thanks to the hard work of everyone in our community, we’re improving this outlook every year. In 2011, we hit our maximum capacity of 500 students—four class years of 125 kids each. This year, we’re graduating our first class of kids—graduates who will walk out of our gates full of hope, dreams, and possibilities. And we are always looking to the future with our own dreams of expanding ASYV’s reach—influencing other organizations to implement our model across the globe.

But at our core, we are about the future of our kids. We believe in them and, more importantly, we have restored their belief in themselves. And this belief is fundamental, not only for building their futures, but for ensuring the future of Rwanda.
Restoring the rhythm of life

The 144 acres that make up ASYV are filled with a bustling community. Students, teachers, informal educators, family moms, big brothers and sisters, a dedicated staff, and volunteers from around the world all work together to create a loving, stable, and supportive family and community for our incredible kids.

From the state-of-the-art high school where our kids study to our Health & Wellness, Science, and Art centers and our fully operational farm, we provide an engaging environment for our kids to learn and grow.

Our kids participate in 20 different enrichment programs centered on athletics, hands-on science, and the arts. We also have many student-led clubs that both keep our Village running and give our youth a stronger sense of ownership over their community.

We celebrate public holidays in a uniquely Village way—from choosing heroes who embody our Village philosophy for Hero’s Day, to feasting together to end the fast of Ramadan, to celebrating baptisms and confirmations.

We are a Village full of life and possibility, with an energy that is felt the moment you pass through our gates.

MORNING

Chores at Home
We wake up with the sun (at 6:30 a.m.), eat to wake up, do our household chores, and get ready for school.

Walk up the Hill
Once we have chores out of the way we’re ready to learn, we walk up a steep hill flanked by colorful birds and friendly colorful birds.

Liquidnet Family High School
At the top of the Hill we live at the Liquidnet family High School and prepare for the day.

Our official school day begins at 7:30 a.m. with a homeroom check-in with our teachers.

Classes
At school throughout the day, we study many subjects, including:

- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Economics
- Geography
- Modern Languages
- Science
- Computers
- Physics

Lunch
We love school, but by 11 a.m. we’re ready for our lunch. We walk down the hill with our friends and eat lunch together with the faculty.

AFTERNOON

Enrichment Programs (1st & 2nd years)
After lunch, our after-school enrichment programs start. Each term, through enrichment, we learn more about what we’re passionate about, and what we might want to do with our futures and careers.

- Sports and the Arts
- Music
- Dance
- Traditional Skills
- Entrepreneurship
- Job Readiness

- Enrichment Programs (3rd & 4th years)
- When we’re not busy with our clubs, we’re usually participating in campus activities.

- Activities
- On Wednesday we always have debake nights in our houses.

- On Fridays we always have Happy Time in the Village.

Dinner
Every Friday evening, the Village gets together for an assembly and we get to watch a video news segment filmed by our TV club.

Village Time
Every Friday evening, the Village Time Club organizes a gathering of the whole Village community where we can sit together in the spirit of a real family to share our talents, reflect on the week, and discuss Village life.

WEKEND

The Farm
Saturday mornings, you’ll always find us on the farm with our teachers, parents, and staff. Everyone knows how important it is to keep the farm productive, and the Farm Club makes sure that things go smoothly, managing rotation of assignments among the house, deciding who does.

Recreation
The Religion Club on campus represents all the faiths in the Village, and plans religious events including services. A lot of kids’ favorite thing to do on weekends, though, is to sing. We organize our own choirs and learn each other music and harmonies that carry across the whole Village. After all, we have to make sure we’re prepared for all the talent shows!

Movie Night
On Saturday nights we watch a movie selected by the Movie Club.

500 students living and learning at the Village
Our holistic philosophy

In their four years at ASYV, our kids are provided with a place to heal and the tools to flourish—the loving support of a family environment together with structured education and enrichment programs. This holistic approach promotes emotional and intellectual growth, practical skills, and a commitment to give back.

To achieve these goals, we have adopted a general philosophy of Parental Wholeness. This is the concept that the Village as a whole can provide all of the things parents would ordinarily give their children. Beyond the basic necessities of food, clothing, and shelter, ASYV offers our kids the opportunity to become healthy (both physically and mentally), educated, enriched, and independent.

Everyone who lives and works in the Village is trained in our philosophy and the three guiding pillars on which it is based: Individual Evaluation, Tikkun (Repair), and DNA. These pillars allow our adults to create parental wholeness in the Village, and allow our kids to develop into healthy, whole individuals.
Another great year...

This past year has been an extraordinary one of infrastructural, organizational, and programmatic growth for Agahozo-Shalom.

We’re so proud of what we have accomplished thanks to the generosity of our donors, the deep commitment of our staff and volunteers, and the leadership of our Board of Directors. Thanks to our collective efforts and dedication, our kids are thriving.

...with more to come

Reflecting on our successes reminds us that there are still challenges ahead. Together, we can and will surmount them.

Preparing our 1st class to graduate in 2012

Hired Jean Claude Nikulikiyimfura, our first Rwandan Village director

500 students
Completed final construction to accommodate a full capacity of 500 students

Maximize potential
Use our experience from the past five years of operation to evaluate the most effective methods for developing our kids and evaluating potential

Future initiatives
Develop business initiatives to support the Village and provide additional training and career paths for our graduates

Monitor impact
Enhance the tracking and measuring of Agahozo-Shalom’s impact not only on our kids but on the communities they will return to

Hired Jean Claude Nikulikiyimfura, our first Rwandan Village director

Job placement
Develop a resource center for job and internship placement

$ Help us build a promising future for the kids in Rwanda

Make your gift 
212-620-1432 to contribute online or mail your gift to Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, 3175 Broadway, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10025.

Professional Skills tracks up and running

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Our ability to move our vision forward is critical to the millions of vulnerable and marginalized youth in Rwanda—kids for whom Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village is a last chance. On behalf of our kids, murakoze cyane, thank you for making that all possible.

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SOURCES</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
<th>OPERATIONS</th>
<th>CAPITAL</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Special Fundraising</td>
<td>$4,837,585</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trust and Private Grants</td>
<td>$4,837,585</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Giving</td>
<td>$2,548,468</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual Giving</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Village Programs and Volunteer Services</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction, Improvements</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
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WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

<table>
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<th>OPERATIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>77% Village Programs and Volunteer Services</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>26% Buildings, Improvements</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1% General and Administration Expenses</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% Cash, Other Assets</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1% Building Materials and Equipment</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12% Special Fundraising</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>30% Trust and Private Grants</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
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<td>11% Community Giving</td>
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In Rwanda, there is hope in the form of a Youth Village. A Village that offers a holistic approach to healing the trauma of vulnerable children, providing them with a warm and loving environment. An environment in which they live, learn, heal, and dream. An environment where they can prepare for a hopeful future. The result is a whole and healthy individual who, with the help of a new family, believes in themselves and learns to make contributions to their community and the world.