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From the cover: Dr. Jean-Baptiste Mbonyingeni, VHW’s Medical Director, and nurses Jeanne d’Arc Kantore and Dieudonne Kwizera mask up to keep themselves and their patients safe.

Below: Deogratias Niyizonkiza, CEO & Founder, speaking with members of the community.
Dear Friends,

The extraordinary loss, turmoil, and disruption of the past year has tested our global community in a way that none of us had previously experienced. Through uncertainty and adaptation, I have been proud of the great resilience and strength shown by the community we have built at Village Health Works. We joined together despite the difficulties brought by a pandemic that continues to make itself felt throughout a changed world, and I am grateful to our colleagues in Burundi and our friends from every corner of the globe for their dedication and generosity. Despite challenges that others might have thought insurmountable, we have not only survived—we have been able to take steady steps forward.

Massive disruptions to global supply chains caused the construction of the Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion (WHP) to slow its pace, but it continued throughout the year and as I write this, the structure is watertight, wires peek out of ceilings awaiting the lights that will illuminate new hopes, and pipes stand ready to bring lifesaving oxygen to patients. The students of Kigutu International Academy (KIA) are hard at work in McKenna Hall, dreaming of the new Burundi they will one day create and building friendships that will last for decades. Patients at the clinic and students at our ECOFO schools are receiving nutritious food to help them grow stronger, and a farmer is learning new ways her crops can provide better nutrition for her family. All of these positive steps are rooted in commitments undertaken in 2020, and we have taken all of these steps together.

We remember the many supporters who responded to uncertainty with unwavering generosity, allowing this vital work to continue on a strong financial footing. They know what we have always known, and what the world has sadly come to realize too late: protecting the health of the most vulnerable is not only a moral imperative, it is necessary to protect the health of any of us. It is with profound gratitude that I would like to recognize the generous Covid-19 relief grants provided by the ELMA Relief Foundation, the Primate’s World Relief Development Fund (PWRDF), Global Affairs Canada (GAC), and many others. Thanks to these grants and many individual donations, Village Health Works had necessary PPE and sanitization equipment on hand, and was able to provide Covid-19 specific training for our Community Health Workers—and meet countless other challenges and needs.

The challenges we faced demonstrated the fundamental importance of our vision of equal access to dignified health care for all people, regardless of their circumstances. That basic understanding is at the core of our recently completed strategic plan, which recognizes that if change is to be long-lasting it needs to be rooted in hope, dignity, and resilience, and be driven by those who have both the greatest understandings and the greatest stakes in the future of their country. Our vision is rooted in two key projects, the WHP and KIA, both of which will dramatically expand our reach and our capacity to make that direct change, while also developing a new generation of leaders to continue driving that change forward.

As we look to the year ahead, many uncertainties remain. It is impossible to predict how the pandemic will spread across the continent of Africa, or what new variants may emerge to complicate how we provide care. However, I know that regardless of the situation we will be better able to respond with the resources and capabilities of a hospital, whether that be ICU beds for a respiratory disease or surgical capabilities for a c-section. I also know that a strong connection to the community we serve will remain essential for any effective response, and that we will learn from each other as we discover that path together. Together, our friends throughout the world and our friends in the hills surrounding Kigutu can bring a dignified and healthy life closer for all of us.

Turi kumwe—we are together,

Deogratias Niyizonkiza
Founder and CEO
A group of young women in the community gather to perform a traditional Burundian dance.

**OUR MISSION**

Village Health Works’ mission is to provide quality, compassionate, and dignified health care and education to improve the lives of individuals, contribute to resilient communities, and strengthen health and education systems. In collaboration with those we serve, we develop grassroots and long-term solutions to address illness, poverty, violence, and neglect.

**OUR CORE PURPOSE**

To cultivate healing, hope, and opportunities for transformation.

**OUR CORE VALUES**

- We value the dignity inherent in each individual.
- We aspire to excellence in all we do.
- We proceed with boldness and perseverance.
- Compassion and justice are at the heart of our organization.
- We are accountable to each other and to our community.
VILLAGE HEALTH WORKS OPERATES IN A RURAL area of southern Burundi, centered on the village of Kigutu. Our campus is seven miles from the nearest paved road and three hours south of the country’s largest city of Bujumbura. We serve a population of approximately 200,000 people, receiving patients mostly from the provinces of Rumonge, Makamba, and Bururi—but also from as far away as Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. We provide our community with quality and compassionate health care, access to education and nutritional services, and opportunities for economic empowerment. This holistic approach to confronting multidimensional poverty reflects ongoing collaboration with our community which allows us to learn alongside those we serve.

Where We Work

BURUNDI LACKS BASIC HEALTH CARE...

1 in 33 women in Burundi will die during pregnancy or childbirth

The infant mortality rate in Burundi is 40 deaths per 1,000 live births

1 physician per 20,865 people

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES...

50% of children complete primary school

Only 3.5% of the population completes secondary school

AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY.

Over 80% of the population is living on less than $2 per day

Burundians survive on $274 per capita GDP, the lowest in the world

Only 3% of the rural population has access to electricity
Implementing our Model

2021 – 2025

In 2020, VHW created a strategic plan that outlines its vision: “VHW is embarking on an ambitious program with five objectives that seeks to address these problems where it works and in the country at large. At the heart of the initiative is a new health center, the Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion, and a school, the Kigutu International Academy. Building upon VHW’s strong foundation as an integrated, grassroots, community driven model, these institutions will serve as a hub for care, learning, and research that can have a meaningful local, national and regional impact.”

Health Care

Health care is at the heart of what we do. Our goal is to provide a full continuum of care, from home visits by Community Health Workers to state of the art surgical techniques, while also increasing our focus on medical education and research. Through community health programs, primary care, and inpatient services, we improve the community’s health and facilitate training, learning and research.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2021-2025:
Open a teaching hospital to provide a full continuum of care and increase our focus on medical education and research.

Education

Our comprehensive program for excellence and innovation includes strengthening our community education initiatives through school feeding, professional development of educators, after-school enrichment, student support services, and regular parental engagement. On a national level, we seek to develop a new generation of problem-solvers, change-makers, and ethical entrepreneurial leaders for Burundi through an innovative, interdisciplinary curriculum based on experiential learning.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2021-2025:
Develop a generation of ethical problem-solvers and entrepreneurial leaders and build the capacity of educators.

Food Security & Nutrition

Our model programs enhance access to nutrition and increase food security in our community. We encourage a community-driven sustainable food system that prioritizes nutrition-sensitive agriculture in order to create opportunities for economic growth and the development of healthy eating practices for the community at large.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2021-2025:
Enhance access to nutrition services and increase food security in our community.
Community Engagement

The community we serve is the inspiration and driving force behind everything we do, as well as the means through which we deliver every element of our programming. Our integrated approach recognizes the interconnectedness of problems and solutions, which we address by fostering resilience, social cohesion and community building.

**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2021-2025:**
Promote resilience, social cohesion and community-building by maintaining a strong connection with those we serve.
Our Response to Covid-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has taken the lives of nearly four million people worldwide and millions more have seen access to health care restricted, increased hunger as food systems are strained, and collapsing economic security as they remain out of work. When the first Covid-19 cases were confirmed in Burundi’s capital in late March of 2020, Village Health Works prioritized safety while addressing the human dimensions of the pandemic. With support from international partners and community members, we focused on local production of hand sanitizers, the procurement of gloves, N95 respirators, diagnostic equipment, and supporting our sewing cooperative in making face masks from the local kitenge cloth. We distributed masks on campus to help patients comply with health regulations requiring use of a sterilized cloth mask at all times as well as temperature checks and sanitization through hand washing at entry. Physical distancing was enabled through improved screening and triage procedures, new tents with hand washing stations set apart from the main clinic areas, and the spacing of prenatal and other routine visits throughout the week to limit the number of patients congregating in waiting areas. We also provided enough medicines, such as HIV drugs, and food supplements for multiple months to reduce the number of patients traveling to pick them up on site.

As a result, we were able to maintain the essential health care and support services that thousands rely on while keeping our staff and community members safe. Training was provided to sensitize our team about how Covid-19 is transmitted and the recommended measures to prevent potential spread. Throughout the pandemic our Community Health Workers (CHWs) continued to use the mhealth app Medic Mobile on a regular basis to track their activities, as a resource to guide their work, and to and stay in communication with VHW staff. We were even able to provide Covid-19 remote learning for CHWs through Medic Mobile to mitigate the impact of the pandemic by allowing our CHWs to have up-to-date information without the need to travel to campus.

While 2020 was an extremely challenging time for everyone, we are proud to say we continued to work with the community to provide dignified and comprehensive care to every person that we serve. The Community Health Worker program continued to play an important role in improving community health within our catchment area, and was a vital bridge to our population as access to the clinic was curtailed. In December of 2020 VHW joined forces with many other global health organizations working with CHWs as a member of the Community Health Impact Coalition (CHIC). The aim of the coalition is to improve Community Health Worker programs and provide access to evidence-based research, which would help make informed decisions for better community health care, and we are thrilled to be working in collaboration with our partners towards this goal.
Protecting Our Communities from Covid-19

One of our strongest links to the community is our group of Imbonezas. Imbonezas are community leaders that work to bring the training, knowledge and support provided by VHW to their communities. In parallel, they bring the voices, thoughts and feedback of the community to VHW. Nestor Ndayambaje is an Imboneza in Busebwa colline. As Covid-19 prevented VHW from hosting as many activities on campus, VHW staff relied more heavily on Imbonezas and their crucial role as a bridge between VHW and the community. “I am a primary school teacher but also work as an Imboneza for VHW. We encourage community members to work together and to look out for one another. I have been an Imboneza since 2012 and have greatly benefited from the training at Village Health Works. I love being able to use my newfound knowledge to help my community members solve problems. Through the training, I have learned how to create a fish farm, cultivate diverse crops to fight malnutrition and optimal hygiene practices to prevent illness. Even during Covid-19, I was still able to help community members find the care they needed to remain safe and healthy. “

Village Health Works was only able to continue providing quality, compassionate, and dignified health care to our communities with help from generous and collaborative partners. We responded to the present while investing in the future, using emergency funds to secure PPE for our frontline staff, invest in digital services and additional hygiene supplies, and provide necessary training and assistance to our Community Health Workers. In the uncertainty of the pandemic’s early months, VHW was fortunate to have resource partners that helped us respond to the new challenges we faced. We are especially grateful for gifts that not only addressed immediate needs but help us better prepare for the future of care should the number of Covid-19 cases in Burundi increase. In particular, we are grateful for support that reinforced an area that has proved essential in responding to this pandemic: oxygen. In addition to immediately expanding our ability to provide oxygen at our clinic, they have allowed us to ensure the oxygen infrastructure in our hospital is now ready for any patient that might need it—including any future Covid-19 patients.

Donors to Resource Partners

Village Health Works was only able to continue providing quality, compassionate, and dignified health care to our communities with help from generous and collaborative partners. We responded to the present while investing in the future, using emergency funds to secure PPE for our frontline staff, invest in digital services and additional hygiene supplies, and provide necessary training and assistance to our Community Health Workers. In the uncertainty of the pandemic’s early months, VHW was fortunate to have resource partners that helped us respond to the new challenges we faced. We are especially grateful for gifts that not only addressed immediate needs but help us better prepare for the future of care should the number of Covid-19 cases in Burundi increase. In particular, we are grateful for support that reinforced an area that has proved essential in responding to this pandemic: oxygen. In addition to immediately expanding our ability to provide oxygen at our clinic, they have allowed us to ensure the oxygen infrastructure in our hospital is now ready for any patient that might need it—including any future Covid-19 patients.

- **232,682 PPE supplies**
  procured, including 18,800 N95 masks and face shields

- **199 Community Health Workers**
  trained in Covid-19 protocols and new mobile tools (113F/86M)

- **48 Clinical staff**
  trained on Covid-19 protocols

- **72,000 households**
  reached with Covid-19 information and guidance
The belief that our community members deserve to lead healthy and fulfilled lives is the guiding ethos of our health programming. Village Health Works follows a patient-centered approach which addresses limitations to human development and unity in the community through a focus on both prevention and treatment across five care departments: maternal and infant health, child health, non-communicable diseases, infectious diseases, and mental health. Rising to the challenges of 2020, our clinical team worked across programs in order to maintain the same level of dignified health services we have always provided despite the new circumstances. They were joined by our team of over 200 Community Health Workers who provided referrals and guidance to our community members where they live.

**Health Care**

- **45,504 patient consultations**
- **74,857 home visits** by Community Health Workers
- **100% of HIV patients** on ARV treatment
- **12,343 educational sessions** conducted at clinics and in villages

Mothers and their children wait in our pediatric ward to be seen by physicians.
Tremendous Progress Made through All Mothers and Children Count Grant

The year 2020 marked the end of the All Mothers and Children Count (AMCC) grant, awarded to Village Health Works in 2016 by Global Affairs Canada (GAC) through the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), the development arm of the Anglican Church of Canada. Throughout these four years, our monitoring and evaluation team was able to collect concrete data that demonstrates our progress over the past four years, and will serve to direct our vision for future interventions. The AMCC project allowed us to set three broad sweeping directives for the increase of delivery, utilization, and access to Village Health Work’s medical services. These goals marked areas of incredible progress for VHW programs, reinforcing the efficacy of the methods used. Please see the chart below for some highlights of our progress.

Support through AMCC also generously provided an opportunity for Village Health Works to modernize the technology that will be available to the WHP’s doctors, nurses, and laboratory staff. Purchases of ultrasound machines, incubators, an automatic extractor as well as a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machine and CD4 machine will allow the WHP to provide the highest quality services to beneficiaries in southern Burundi and beyond. It also provided new structures on our campus. In addition to housing for nurses and other staff, a new nutrition center serves as a place for training and distribution of food, while expectant mothers’ houses will allow women at risk of experiencing complications during birth to stay close to the hospital once it opens. The AMCC grant, totaling over $4.3 million between 2016-2020, provided the opportunity for VHW to expand, improve, and modernize the health services which we provide.

Ferdinand’s Story

In 2017, VHW introduced mental health services—which are nearly non-existent in Burundi. Many Burundians suffer complex traumas linked to the country’s history of conflict, and VHW provides appropriate counseling, medication and social support for those facing challenges with mental health. VHW cares for around 900 mental health patients with the help of skilled doctors, nurses, and Community Health Workers who regularly monitor patients receiving at-home treatment. Ferdinand is one of many patients that benefit from our Mental Health Program. He was a third year university student at the University of Burundi when he started experiencing manic episodes. Diagnosed with bi-polar disorder, he was committed to a facility in Bujumbura, the nation’s largest city. After two months of treatment, he was discharged. He returned home where his mother struggled to care for him. Thankfully a VHW Community Health Worker advised her to send him to our clinic where he was able to receive appropriate medication, counseling and support. Ferdinand’s mother shared, “VHW’s dedication to Ferdinand and his continued care gives me hope. I know that I am no longer alone in this fight.”
Kigutu Hospital &
Women’s Health Pavilion

BUILDING COMPREHENSIVE, HIGH-QUALITY INPATIENT CARE

We are building the Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion (WHP) to provide life-saving surgical, obstetric, gynecologic, and pediatric care to the people in our catchment area while simultaneously laying the groundwork for an improved health system for decades to come. Our accomplishments in improving health care access have been rooted in a holistic approach that embraces the connections between the many challenges faced by our community members—and finds solutions as varied and comprehensive as those challenges. The capabilities of the WHP will dramatically expand the possibilities of our holistic model. Serving as both a teaching and healing space, it will provide dignified care while training the next generation of health professionals and reinforcing the effectiveness of our many other initiatives—including many yet to be developed.

The ward where women will recover after delivering their baby is nearing completion with beautiful floor-to-ceiling windows that look over Lake Tanganyika.
ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Top: Burundian construction workers continue to work tirelessly to build the WHP despite Covid-19 setbacks.

Bottom: From this aerial shot you can clearly see the left wing of the hospital which overlooks the nutrition center and garden that will help feed the patients in our care.

The construction of the WHP is a physical representation of the challenges faced over the course of the past year, and of our commitment to completing the project despite these challenges. After a close evaluation of the circumstances, we have decided the responsible course of action is to delay the planned late 2020 opening of the WHP to mid-2022. The eagerness of our community members for the lifesaving care that the hospital will bring made this a difficult reality to accept, but the delay has provided a sense of perspective and appreciation for the successes that were possible despite many challenges last year:

- We ensured that the delay in opening the WHP did not translate into delays in the training of our staff by sending doctors to an established hospital in Zanzibar to continue their education in advanced medical procedures.
- Disruptions to supply chains and closed borders caused by the pandemic compounded the usual difficulties in procuring both necessary construction materials as well as the larger medical equipment for our remote location. Nevertheless, the concrete shell is complete and has been sealed against the elements, and the mechanical, electrical and plumbing (MEP) work continues at a steady pace.

Adapting and Learning

The delayed opening of the WHP has led to some feelings of frustration among staff and leadership—but for Dr. Khelia Mahoro, the delay motivated her to become a better healer. Dr. Khelia prefers to take time with her patients to ensure they understand the consequence of their treatment plan, saying, “The drugs that they are on, their blood pressure and glycemia numbers are specific to them. What works for one person might not work for another. I teach them and try to really empower them to know more about their health.” Dr. Khelia’s dedication to teaching her patients helps them own their treatment and is critical to their long term health. She continued, “The patient is at the center of everything we do. Their education is part of their treatment. I have so many patients with chronic conditions who can now better manage their illnesses and even share their knowledge with other patients.”

Dr. Khelia Mahoro’s Story
Education

POVERTY HAS MANY ROOTS, BUT IT IS INEXTRICABLY INTERTWINED with access to education. As a result, any comprehensive approach to addressing poverty in Burundi will also need to address an education system that results in some of the lowest education levels in the world. Our comprehensive program enhances the quality of teaching and learning through critical support services to students, professional development for educators, and revamped educational infrastructures to help our young people realize their full potential.

1% Global Acute Malnutrition Rate among preschooled children in VHW feeding program, versus nearly 5% nationally in Burundi

Less than 1% Dropout Rate (84% decrease from 2020 and 99% less than the Burundian national average)

99% Completion Rate among primary school children, versus 50% completion rate for children nationally

99% of adolescent girls classified as having adequate knowledge on Sexual and Reproductive Health, following participation in MUTIMA program

Ciza Laurent, a Drummer on the Arts and Culture team.

KIA students participate in “Connections” a series of conversations with KIA supporters from around the world. These conversations allowed them the opportunity to practice their English and to build relationships with the more distant members of the KIA family.
The Building Blocks of Education

In addition to direct instruction, our comprehensive program for excellence and innovation includes strengthening our community education initiatives through school feeding, professional development of educators, after-school enrichment, student support services, and regular parental engagement.

The Kigutu International Academy (KIA), which opened in October of 2020, seeks to develop a new generation of problem-solvers, change-makers, and ethical entrepreneurial leaders for Burundi and beyond through an innovative, interdisciplinary curriculum based on experiential learning.

Our Early Childhood Development program creates the foundations for future academic success by supporting our youngest community members in their critical early years.

Through the ECOFO and Preschool in Kigutu we provide students from preschool through Grade 12 with the tools they need for future success.

Our Girls’ Empowerment Program, Mutima, provides Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) education to 13-21 year-old females in the community, eliminating barriers to quality education and creating access to opportunities. Participants also learn life and leadership skills and engage in confidence-building activities taught by older women.

Our school feeding program for Preschool through Grade 12 students, with food appropriate to the nutritional requirements for each age group, ensures that no student misses school due to food or nutrition-related concerns, and is accompanied by healthcare screenings.

In partnership with the United States Embassy in Bujumbura, the English ACCESS Microscholarship program allows outstanding students to learn and develop skills and knowledge in the American English Language, improving their ability to compete for future educational and employment opportunities.

We encourage regular parental engagement and conduct home visits to families of malnourished children and students who drop out of school, to discuss barriers with families and provide potential solutions to them.

We provide ongoing teacher training and assessments to both government and Village Health Works instructors, helping them deliver high-quality and student-centered instruction to the children at their respective schools.

Meet Don-Chanel

Don-Chanel Ikabiba, an alumnus of our ACCESS program, is also a recent graduate of the prestigious and highly selective African Leadership Academy (ALA) in South Africa. He provided some reflections on his journey so far. Don-Chanel: “The Village Health Works campus is close to my home, and my elder brother was a member of the first cohort of the ACCESS program. I became an ACCESS scholar soon after, in 2015. The program granted me the opportunity to learn English and share experiences with students from different schools and regions. Through my participation in ACCESS, I learned about ALA. I recently graduated from ALA, completing the two-year diploma program. I learned from other leaders driven by the desire to bring about positive changes in their communities. The program inspired me to be the change that I wish to see and helped me develop my critical thinking and decision-making skills. I look forward to further developing skills and gaining more experiences in business and entrepreneurship to work to make a positive impact.”
In October 2020, amid the pandemic, we officially opened the doors to the Kigutu International Academy (KIA). The Academy seeks to develop a new generation of problem-solvers, change-makers, and ethical entrepreneurial leaders for Burundi and beyond.

Our inaugural class consisted of 32 promising girls and boys, whom we identified as among the most outstanding young leaders in the country. They represent 8 of the 18 provinces in Burundi and include writers, musicians, poets, entrepreneurs, innovators, and aspiring doctors. These young change-makers have already seen immense personal and academic growth. With heightened skills in critical thinking, entrepreneurial leadership, collaboration, and communication, their accomplishments in the classroom, their communities, and beyond are already noticeable.

KIA’s innovative curriculum and world-class instruction engage students in an interdisciplinary education through experiential learning, granting them an unparalleled educational experience. Our outstanding teaching team, composed of leading international educators hailing from France, Kenya, the United States, and Burundi, provided a multicultural and diverse learning community. The dedicated educators leveraged their diverse interests, backgrounds, and experiences to adequately equip the students with the tools and knowledge needed to become successful global change-makers and impactful leaders.

The Academy’s program prepares the students to lead locally and allows them to collaborate and compete with the best in the world, providing pathways to top programs and universities across the globe. The students will be guided by a powerful life-long network, which will connect them to high-impact career opportunities across Burundi and beyond.
Members of our inaugural class recount their most memorable early moments and share why they love KIA:

“\[\text{My ‘aha’ moments happened at different times. Firstly, I saw the planet Mars and I was really happy. The second time I saw the Orion Arm. Back home, when I told my parents that I saw them, they did not believe me. But I know that I saw them, and I am proud of myself.}’’\]
–Bella Amie

“\[\text{KIA is different in the way they teach. At my old school, we would just memorize things without understanding the point. Here, we do hands-on learning. We practice what we study in the classroom.}’’\]
–Herve

“\[\text{My ‘aha’ moment is the KIA Connections Program. It helped me to improve my English speaking skills, to better express my ideas with others. It also helped me to know how I can lead my life because the other people in the program give me some useful advice. Thanks!}’’\]
–Fabrice

“\[\text{My most memorable moment at KIA was when we got our computers. It helped me to know many things, to search for many things. It also helped me to do my homework.}’’\]
–Toussaint

One of the most distinguished guests we have welcomed to the KIA campus was the Honorable Melanie Higgins, United States Ambassador to Burundi. During the visit, she attended meetings with our faculty and administration and saw incredible performances by the students.
Campus Expansion

The VHW campus has grown substantially since our first days—and our ambitious plans for the next five years will see even further growth. This map provides an outline of what our campus looks like now as well as how it will be expanding in the years to come.

Satellite image from 2005.

1 Kigutu Hospital and Women’s Health Pavilion
   Opening 2021
2 Medical Education and Research Institute
   Opening 2022
3 Hospital Kitchen
   Opening 2022
4 Nutrition Center
5 Demonstration Gardens
6 Demonstration Gardens and Farm
7 Clinic
   Converting to Outpatient Facility in 2022
8 Blood Bank and Offices
9 Community Center
10 Sharon McKenna Hall / Kigutu International Academy
11 Tuberculosis Isolation Ward
12 Administrative Offices
13 Patient Family Kitchens
14 Staff Housing
   Additional Housing Planned for 2021 and 2022

Additional Housing Planned for 2021 and 2022
15 Staff Kitchen
16 Pharmacy, Warehouse, & Sewing Collective
17 KIA Knowledge Commons
   Opening 2022
18 Athletic Field
   Opening 2021
19 Preschool
20 Garage, Maintenance, and Fueling Station
21 Drinking Water Treatment Center
22 Energy Center
   Opening 2022
23 Oxygen Generation Plant
   Opening 2022
24 Waste Water Treatment Facility
   Opening 2022
25 Not pictured: Kigutu Community School
26 Not pictured: Additional Agricultural Area
27 Not pictured: Expectant Mothers’ Houses
28 Not pictured: VHW Micro-Hydroelectric Plant
BURUNDI HAS AMONG THE MOST SEVERE FOOD SECURITY CRISSES in the world, with rural areas (such as the one we serve) being particularly vulnerable. Lack of access to sufficient nutritious food, limited dietary variety, and unimproved agricultural practices have led to chronic malnutrition in our community. This compromises the health and well-being of all members of our community, but particularly the patients in our clinic and the students at our school. The VHW Food Security and Nutrition program works to break this cycle by providing highly nutritious food to our students, patients, and community members while empowering community agricultural cooperatives and economic enterprises to provide more nutritious food to every community. Through our model farmers training program, community members learn sustainable, innovative, and productive agricultural practices. Further training in other valuable skills such as baking, cooking, sewing, and basket-weaving are paired with training in skills that help build an entrepreneurial mindset, empowering them to successfully launch viable businesses to generate income for food or other necessities.

Ndaisenga Dynamique, a member of our food security team, fishing at a VHW fish pond.

Food Security & Nutrition

Stanley Ndikumwenayo can now feed and support his family thanks to the guidance of a VHW model farmer.
Renate’s Story

Renate is a 45 year old model farmer from Gatete colline. While many of her neighbors only farm cassava and palm trees for the palm oil, she has been a champion for diversifying crops and a diet that includes many different fruits and vegetables. Her garden is lush and overflowing with tomatoes, onions, potatoes, mandarins, lemons and even a small section for herbs like rosemary, basil and thyme. She also maintains a chicken coop with a partner that holds over 500 chickens. Her success in farming and animal rearing has been an incredible example for others in the community. She helps them create small, easy to manage kitchen gardens that help them better feed their families by efficiently growing a variety of nutritious food on a small amount of land.
Community Engagement

A STRONG CONNECTION WITH OUR COMMUNITY is at the center of everything we do. The trust we have built with our communities has guided the evolution of our holistic approach, which recognizes the interconnectedness of problems and solutions, to effectively address actual needs.

This year, necessary restrictions caused by the pandemic shifted our approach from frequent, direct contact with community members to a focus on training and health-related outreach. Nevertheless, our community engagement programming was still able to connect the members of our community with VHW—and those connections in turn allowed us to be more effective in addressing the new circumstances we faced. Through community mobilization, training in parenting and interpersonal skills, and the preservation of Burundian art, culture, and sports we worked to strengthen community ties and ensure VHW activities are meeting community needs.
Supporting the Wellbeing of our Community Through Interconnected Programs

Ties within the community are strengthened by the Twiyugurure (which means “Opening Up” in Kirundi) program, a three-month workshop providing education and psychosocial support to local families to support stronger relationships. Sessions on self-esteem, teen pregnancy, co-parenting, and child and domestic abuse help family members better understand each other and provide healthy ways of resolving conflicts.

While our youngest members were not able to continue engaging with Burundi’s cultural traditions through dance and music due to pandemic-related restrictions, they were able to come together and safely participate in a number of sports-related activities outdoors. Throughout the pandemic, we made sure that the connections with our community remained strong—and those connections in turn allowed us to be more effective in addressing the new circumstances we faced.

Violette and Amos’ Story

“During my first session with Twiyugurure, I realized I had been treating my family as though I was a general in the army and they were my soldiers. I used to be too rigid and intense; I gave directions and rules and lacked empathy and compassion. Twiyugurure has helped me be a better communicator. The sessions have helped me listen to my wife and children. I realized not only are my children happier when I am listening to them, they are able to share thoughts and insights that have great value. I now love so freely. I am able to show my wife and children how much I love and appreciate them. Twiyugurure has helped soften me and allowed me to welcome more joy and love into our home.” -Amos Kabura

18,092 community members volunteered on the VHW campus

38,361 community members trained in social and cultural issues

5,500 youth mobilized for cultural and sports activities

74 Twiyugurure graduates

All 18 collines participated in WASH training session to help their communities learn better water safety techniques
# Financial Statement

For the year ended December 31, 2020.

## Statement of Activities

### Changes in Unrestricted Net Assets

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Support &amp; revenue:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; grants</td>
<td>$2,605,736</td>
<td>$2,137,743</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events, net</td>
<td>$222,740</td>
<td>$141,568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacy revenue</td>
<td>$80,408</td>
<td>$61,735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>$2,542</td>
<td>$6,386</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-kind revenue</td>
<td>$688,842</td>
<td>$592,849</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>$4,005,170</td>
<td>$3,940,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total support &amp; revenue</td>
<td>$7,605,438</td>
<td>$6,880,990</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$4,629,727</td>
<td>$3,587,697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management &amp; general</td>
<td>$582,487</td>
<td>$504,733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$449,359</td>
<td>$547,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total supporting services</td>
<td>$1,031,837</td>
<td>$1,052,302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>$5,661,564</td>
<td>$4,639,999</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Increase in unrestricted net assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>$1,943,874</td>
<td>$2,240,991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Loss on impairment of property and equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>--</td>
<td>$1,294,061</td>
<td>$1,294,061</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Increase in net assets without restrictions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in net assets without restrictions</td>
<td>$1,943,874</td>
<td>$946,930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Changes in Restricted Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; grants</td>
<td>$3,280,700</td>
<td>$4,414,923</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>$(4,005,170)</td>
<td>$(3,940,709)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in net assets with restrictions</td>
<td>$(724,470)</td>
<td>$474,214</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Increase in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increase in net assets</td>
<td>$1,219,404</td>
<td>$1,421,144</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Assets - Beginning of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$16,363,218</td>
<td>$14,942,075</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Net Assets - End of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$17,582,622</td>
<td>$16,363,219</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Statement of Financial Position

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$5,677,957</td>
<td>$5,693,920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contributions &amp; grants receivable, net</td>
<td>$645,687</td>
<td>$1,083,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property &amp; equipment, net</td>
<td>$11,212,224</td>
<td>$9,361,601</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventory</td>
<td>$378,240</td>
<td>$329,586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$1,736</td>
<td>$1,736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$17,915,844</td>
<td>$16,470,044</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Liabilities & Net Assets

#### Liabilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accounts payable &amp; accrued expenses</td>
<td>$333,221</td>
<td>$106,825</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net assets without donor restrictions</td>
<td>$11,898,070</td>
<td>$9,954,196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets with donor restrictions</td>
<td>$5,684,553</td>
<td>$6,409,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total net assets</td>
<td>$17,582,623</td>
<td>$16,363,219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Liabilities & Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$17,915,844</td>
<td>$16,470,044</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**TOTAL REVENUE**

- **In-kind Revenue**: 9%
- **Government**: 8%
- **Foundations**: 35%
- **Individuals**: 47%
- **Pharmacy**: 1%
- **Other**: 0%

**TOTAL EXPENSES**

- **Program Expenses**: 82%
- **Management & General Expenses**: 10%
- **Fundraising Expenses**: 8%

**TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES**

- **Clinic**: 82%
- **Education**: 11%
- **Agriculture**: 3%
- **Economic Development**: 1%
- **Other Programs**: 3%
Building a Movement

Thank you to our generous partners and friends whose gifts of $1,000 or more made between January 1 – December 31, 2020 are reflected here with our profound gratitude.

$500,000 - $999,999
Anne Peretz
Sharon Jacob and Bill Jacob
The Pharo Foundation
The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund

$100,000 - $499,999
Addie Guttag
Alexandra Shor
Anonymous
Crown Family Philanthropies
George Stephanopoulos and Ali Wentworth
Lesley and Bill King
Paul English
Segal Family Foundation
The Deerfield Partnership Foundation
The ELMA Relief Foundation
The Mastercard Foundation
The Wagner Foundation

$50,000 - $99,999
11th Hour Project
Anonymous
Bill and Paula Clapp
Chang Park
Clair Evans and David Brown
Goldman Sachs
Jozelyn and Peter Davis
Patrick and Margaret Grace
The Toni Garrn Foundation

$25,000 - $49,999
Amy Rao
David and Susan Rockefeller
Fidela Chiang and Mu Wei
Intelligent Cross
Jonathan Goldberg
Liz Heron and Brian Marsh
Megan Newman and Matthew Greenberg
Michael Aldridge and Devon Bauer
Neeraj Gupta and Dominic Wu
Patricia Feighan and Stephen Zenczak
Robert Gips
Schonfeld Group Holdings
Sherill Heron
William and Ginger Nemerever

$10,000 - $24,999
Alexander Rinke
All People Be Happy Foundation
Andy Pforzheimer
Arien Mack
Axioma, Inc.
Blakely and John Stinebaugh
Cashel Family Fund
Christina and Chris Combe
Colin Rust and Jeanine Tseng
Drew and Karen Levinson
Elizabeth Kaido
FHI 360 Development
Frank and Brinna Sands
Frederick St Goar and Anne Friedlander

$5,000 - $9,999
ALA USA
Alexia Leuschen
Alice Greif
Amy Carter
Andrew Frame
Catherine Lignelli
Charmaine Morton
Dawn Palo and Tacho Sandoval
Elizabeth and Robert Pitts
Fondation d’Harcourt
Gregory and Mary Zenczak
Hong Suh and Ross Garon
Julie Tung
Kathy Surace-Smith and Brad Smith
Lee and Luis Lainer Family Foundation

$1,000 - $4,999
Abigail Bogdan
Adam Schwarz
Alan Mace
Alan Sorkin
Alec Steinberg
Alex Burns
Amanda Moretti and Greg Lee
Amelia Terkel
Amy and John Griffin
Amy Bensinger
Amy Edmondson and George Daley
Amy Moritz
Anne Bugge
Anne Fitzgerald and Thomas Ford

Liz Heron is a longtime board member who dedicated all of 2020 to help guide us on creating our strategic plan. She kickstarted the process by visiting campus before the pandemic hit to meet with key staff and begin the process of identifying our strategic goals and the steps necessary to achieve them. Using her past experience as a consultant and as someone who has worked on strategic plans for companies such as Starbucks, we are so grateful for her knowledge and help in shaping our strategic plan.
Toni Garrn has been a dedicated partner and ardent supporter of KIA, as her foundation focuses primarily on helping improve girls’ access to school. She visited our campus in 2020 and subsequently organized a beautiful KIA fundraiser right before Covid-19 hit that raised nearly $50,000. As the school continues to grow, she is now graciously funding the KIA campus extension. While the pandemic prevented her from visiting Burundi, she participated in Zoom calls with the KIA students, focusing specifically on building relationships with the female students.

The ELMA Relief Foundation has been an incredible partner in our Covid-19 relief efforts this year. Their support, centered on providing the oxygen infrastructure for the hospital, has greatly strengthened our ability to provide treatments and care for our community should the pandemic spread to our communities. It will also form an essential part of the advanced care - from surgeries to ICU care - we will be able to provide once the hospital opens. Their support in deeply uncertain times helped us withstand unanticipated shocks that had the potential to derail progress, helping us keep on track despite the many challenges. We are deeply grateful to ELMA Philanthropies for its multifaceted support this year!
With all in-person events halted due to Covid-19, our board had to get creative when it came to hosting our annual luncheon. Board members Sharon and Bill Jacob stepped up and helped us create a compelling virtual luncheon that showcased all of the incredible work being done by staff on the ground in Burundi and staff, board members, and VHW advocates across the globe. Despite the severe limitations placed on everyone due to Covid-19, we hosted an exciting conversation on the current state of and future work that needs to be done in the field of global health.

The conversation featured Dr. Paul Farmer, Co-founder of Partners in Health and VHW Board Member and Deogratias Niyizonkiza, Founder and CEO of VHW. The discussion was facilitated by Author, Comedian and Actress Ali Wentworth. We raised over $300,000 to support the opening of the Women’s Health Pavilion and Kigutu Hospital.
Village Health Works is a 501(c)(3) organization based in Burundi and New York. All donations are tax deductible to the extend permissible by law.*

BURUNDI
PO Box BP 1604
Bujumbura, Burundi

USA
45 West 36th Street, 8th Floor
New York, New York 10018
917-546-9219

Thank you to Bill Bullard, Lara Meguid, Manuela Gikora, Katie Yeagley, Mack Kigoda and Wade Zamechek for their photographic contributions. Thank you to Bright Ubachukwu Dikko, Samantha Mayo, Sonja Bergquist, Imogen Brown, Katie Hacker, Katie Yeagley, Kristian Harrington-Colón, Melchiade Ninganza, and Wade Zamechek for assisting with creating this year’s Annual Report. Designed by Ritual Made.

*Tax ID: 45-0545435