



The Ntarama Community Centre & Health Clinic

INSPIRE!africa aims to lessen the impact of the 1994 genocide through education, training and access to health care.

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The Clinic will have full-time Rwandan doctors and nurses giving community care and dispensing routinely needed pharmaceuticals.

Trauma counseling and other mental health services, including testing for HIV/AIDS, will also be offered.

The Centre will have electricity which will allow the community somewhere safe with electric light to study, work or meet.

The devastating impacts of the 1994 genocide are still very evident in Rwanda. Most Rwandans (97%) witnessed the horrific violence that occurred over 100 days, and now suffer from the debilitating effects of trauma which perpetuates a cycle of poverty. Many have no access to healthcare and are also at a disadvantage because they missed out on opportunities to complete their education or learn a trade. INSPIRE!africa aims to lessen these impacts through education, training and access to health care.

The Ntarama Community Centre and Health Clinic are located in a deprived area of rural Rwanda which was severely impacted by the genocide. The local community consists of 3,000 and, like most Rwandan villages, has no electricity, health clinic or community centre. After 6pm, when it is dark, there is nowhere to study, work or hold meetings. The nearest medical clinic is a 2 hour walk away. Malaria and opportunistic infections take a massive toll on families, killing infants and limiting the productivity of adults.

Construction of the Ntarama Community Centre and Medical Clinic was completed in September 2008 with the support of INSPIRE!africa. The buildings include a multi-purpose hall, four classrooms, and a basic health clinic. With our partners, we are in the process of stocking the facility, conducting a needs assessment and hiring doctors, nurses, psychologists, teachers and managers.

The Community Centre will offer courses in literacy, vocational training, computers, micro-finance and health promotion, including HIV/AIDS mitigation. The Centre will have electricity which will allow the community somewhere safe with electric light to study, work or meet.

The Clinic will have full-time Rwandan doctors and nurses giving community care and dispensing routinely needed pharmaceuticals. Trauma counseling and other mental health services, including testing for HIV/AIDS, will also be offered. Volunteer opticians, dentists and specialists from overseas will also support the clinic.

This project was developed in response to the needs as assessed by the local people. We are pleased to partner with two of Rwanda's most respected development groups--SURF and IBUKA--both established in 1995. Together they have already built and successfully operate two similar centers in other parts of Rwanda.