



2014

PARTNERS AND PROJECTS

SURF (Survivors Fund)

Youth Entrepreneurship Program (YETP)

INSPIRE!africa donations helped to fund this youth entrepreneurship program which provides orphaned university students with training in all aspects of business development. From managing time, money and staff to creating marketing and business plans. These students learn what it takes to develop and run their own businesses. The program also includes a job readiness component where students learn how to prepare a resume, practice interview skills and how to job search.

In 2014:

- 300 students received the 4-month entrepreneurship and job readiness training program.
- Many of those graduates received a loan through this program and have created their own business
- INSPIRE!africa has committed to fund the training and loan program for the next 3 years

Helpline

INSPIRE!africa donations were also used to fund a helpline which offers trauma counseling for university students who are still dealing with the trauma from the horrors they witnessed during the genocide. On the helpline, they could also receive free legal advice on matters such as dealing with land disputes as a result of the killers taking their parents land away.

In 2014:

- Legal advisors have responded to 315 legal cases and 51 students requiring trauma counseling
- The Help Line received over 1000 calls
- 10,000 secondary and university students attended presentations by SURF on topics such as knowing their legal rights and how to recognize the symptoms of trauma

Widow's Houses

Many widows live in substandard housing and do not have the capacity to do the much-needed renovations themselves. In 2014:

- 5 houses were renovated

Solace Ministries

Livestock for Widows

The widows benefiting from this livestock program now have an income well above the poverty line and can pay for food, education for their young ones, health care, decent clothing, and much more. The livestock program also sustains a micro credit loan component. A small percentage of a widow's earnings from her livestock is reinvested into a loan program so that cooperatives in her community can be established.

In 2014 widows received:

- 45 goats
- 14 hives with bee colonies
- 1 cow
- 15 mature pigs
- 100 chickens

Rwanda Multi Learning Centre (RMLC)

In 2014 INSPIRE!africa subsidized the salary for the 4 full time teachers at the Learning Centre and donated 24 laptops during the volunteer trip in June.

INSPIRE!africa has been a minor funder over the 6 years since the RMLC began, and we will be completing our commitment at the end of 2014 due to the RMLC's primary funders not continuing.

We are pleased that through donations from INSPIRE!africa:

- 700 orphans and disadvantaged youth benefited from free education
- Classroom furnishings, IT equipment, curriculum materials will continue to be used by other educational projects supported by INSPIRE!africa

Student Sponsorships

During the 2014-2015 school year, INSPIRE!africa is supporting 11 students. 1 graduated, and 3 new students began their programs in Fall 2014. The students who have been sponsored by !a have created their own support group called the "Rwanda Family Welfare".

Fundraising Activities

8th Annual Fundraiser- “Remember, Unite, Renew” 20 years after the genocide.

Our annual fundraiser was held at Webster Galleries. Lucky Elijah Gasangwa, a local artist and Rwandan shared his experience from 20 years ago. Roy Christie’s short film “Making a Difference” was filmed during the volunteer trip in June. A new series of Rwandan inspired animal art prints was unveiled, with artist Graham Diehl in attendance.

We were entertained by Rwandan dancers; plus a huge silent auction and sales of original crafts and art cards were a big part of the evening. We raised over \$114,000.

Primates a Go Go

Merrill Genereux was a participant in both the 2012 and 2014 volunteer trips to Rwanda, and worked with Aspire Rwanda (a woman’s organization in Kigali) to produce unique bags, jewelry, and Christmas ornaments made from beads and colourful fabrics. The proceeds of her sales go towards INSPIRE!africa projects. primatesagogo.com

Volunteer Trip

12 volunteers participated in the trip to Rwanda from May 23 to June 7. Several volunteers used Facebook to document their time along with excellent pictures: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/111283675568571>

A full report about the trip is on our website in the August newsletter <http://inspireafrica.org/index.php/newsevents/161-august-2014>

INSPIRE!africa Administration Activities

This year we welcomed Monica Ha as our newest Board member, taking on the role of Treasurer. We thank Craig Rubie for his many years of service on the board.

Canadahelps.org- INSPIRE!africa has enrolled in this service so supporters have the choice to donate online. Although convenient, INSPIRE!africa promotes using cash or cheque as Canadahelps does require an administrative fee.

[View financial report](#)

Total Revenues \$191,011

Disbursed: \$232,555