

INSPIRE!africa 2022 Year in Review

Projects we supported in 2022

Below is a summary of projects that we supported in 2022, please refer to [INSPIRE!africa website](#) for more detailed description of the projects. Our 2021 Fundraiser raised \$48,000 from many generous donors. In consultation with our partner, Survivor's Fund, (SURF) we prioritized three projects to fund in 2022.

Vocational Training Program



- 33 second generation survivors received support for vocational training in trades such as mechanics, tailoring, hair dressing, catering and construction.
- For the past 4 years, INSPIRE!africa has targeted their vocational training funding towards children born of rape. Most of these youth are raised by single mothers and do not have the means to pay for school fees.
- Children born of rape do not qualify for government funding offered to youth survivors to attend university, even though they are the most vulnerable population. This is because they were born after the genocide ended. It is estimated that there are a total of 20,000 children who were born of rape.
- The cost of attending a vocational training program is only \$650 USD including travel to school and school materials.

Helpline

- Hundreds of survivors benefit each year from the legal and mental health counselling support offered through the Helpline. It is estimated that 35% of survivors have mental health issues. INSPIRE!africa provides funding for one of 4 helplines supported by SURF that reach callers across the country.
- Since its inception in 2013, the Helpline has assisted over 1,000 survivors regain their property, taken as a result of the genocide, worth a total of over \$965,000 USD
- By providing legal and counseling support services countrywide, the Helpline has filled a necessary gap in support for vulnerable young survivors suffering from trauma or outstanding legal disputes. This is one of the only free and accessible

services for young survivors who are incapable of affording to take their legal cases to court, or they lack the confidence or ability to find someone to talk to about a mental health issue.

COVID-19 Relief through Livestock

- Through our partner, Survivors Fund (SURF), families received livestock including chickens, pigs and goats.



- Livestock provides families with a modest income to pay for food, medicine and everyday items. It also provides them with companionship and a purpose. In addition, beneficiaries contribute a percentage of their profits from the livestock to a micro-credit loan program that others in their communities can access.

- In the coming year, the Board will review how the operations at our partner, Solace has recovered from the impacts of COVID-19 and its ability to deliver the livestock program, in the future.

Fundraising Activities

16th Annual Fundraiser – For the 2022 fundraiser, the Board of Directors had considered the first in-person since the pandemic. We were planning to host Sam Munderere, Chief Executive of SURF in Calgary to meet the INSPIRE!africa supporters who have generously contributed to INSPIRE!africa and many of SURF’s projects over the past 16 years. After much debate, taking into account ongoing issues related to COVID-19 as well as travel realities in November, the Board decided to instead host a live conversation with Sam via Zoom.

The event was held on Saturday November 19 and was well attended. Participants were pleased to have the opportunity to meet Sam, even if virtually. Sam provided an update on the various projects supported by INSPIRE!africa, as well as an update on life in Rwanda given the pandemic and described the ongoing need to support survivors in Rwanda. We were so pleased to raise \$52,000. The event was recorded and can be accessed through our website.

Volunteer Trip to Rwanda

Plans were initiated for a volunteer trip to Rwanda in May 2023. This would be the first trip since 2018.

Board Updates

- The Board continues to receive regular updates from our partner SURF and the projects INSPIRE!africa is supporting. With input from SURF, we continue to adjust the areas for our support recognizing that the needs and issues of survivors change as economic and health needs change.

- The Board continues to review the ways donors can contribute to the Foundation to ensure that we are up to date with the various donation platforms, and are taking advantage of matching funds and new ways to donate. Currently donors can donate to the Foundation in the following ways: directly by cheque or via EFT, and through Canada Helps, PayPal Giving Fund and Facebook Fundraisers. The website includes links and descriptions of the ways that donors can make a contribution to the Foundation.
- The Board notes that this year marks the 28th anniversary of the Genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

In a year where resources were tight for so many people, we are very grateful for our loyal and new supporters who enabled INSPIRE!africa to achieve these results.

2022: [Link to financial report](#)