

## 2021 Fundraising – Something New for this Year

2020 and 2021 are years like we have never seen before. We now have virtual instead of in-person events, work from home, and have learned medical terminology that many of us had never heard before. Hopefully you have enjoyed the opportunities which COVID-19 has brought: for life to slow down a bit – but not too much, to spend time with family during quarantine, for reflection, and to perhaps find different ways of doing things. Thankfully things are opening up now and it looks like soon many of the restrictions will be removed.

Given that we may still be living with some uncertainty this fall and we don't know how people will feel about gathering in large groups, we have decided to look at a different way of fundraising for 2021.

**Instead of us planning one big in-person or on-line fundraising event, we are asking that you make your annual donation anytime before the end of 2021.**

Throughout the year we will provide you with information on what life is like in Rwanda, how our projects are doing, and ask for your help for Rwanda's survivors.

We will miss seeing you this year, but as we transition towards our new normal, we believe this is the most economical and safest way for us to support Rwanda's survivors. We have a strong base of compassionate and understanding donors, and we are confident we can rely on your continued support.

## You Pick How You Want to Donate

	Fee to INSPIRE!africa	Monthly Donation Option	Tax Receipt Issued from	Notes
e.transfer to <a href="mailto:info@inspireafrica.org">info@inspireafrica.org</a> or send cheque to 102-520 Cedar Cres SW, Calgary, AB T3C 2Y8	None	No	INSPIRE!africa –  *see note below on sending an e.transfer	You can allocate your donation to one of our projects: helpline, vocational training etc.
Paypal Giving <a href="#">Inspire!africa</a>	None	No	Paypal Giving	You must have or create a Paypal account
Canada Helps <a href="#">inspireafrica-foundation</a>	4% of your donation	Yes	Canada Helps	This option is best if you want to set up monthly

				donations and specify where you want your donation to go to.
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**Note regarding e.transfer:**

- In the space for a personal message, include your e-mail address and what program you would like your donation to be applied, if applicable.
- Recipient’s email address is [info@inspireafrica.org](mailto:info@inspireafrica.org).
- Security Question - say “What is the password I sent you?” then send us an email with your password to [info@inspireafrica.org](mailto:info@inspireafrica.org). Please include your name, mailing address, and phone number in your email for your tax receipt.

**Do It Yourself Fundraising**

**Facebook Special Occasion Fundraising:**

When your birthday or other event is coming up, consider setting up a Facebook Fundraiser in support of INSPIRE!africa. This allows your friends and family to recognize your event, while supporting Rwanda’s survivors.

Setting up the fundraiser is quick and easy. First go to your Facebook homepage. On the far left is a list of functions. Click on the *See More* button and then scroll down to Fundraisers. Click on the *Fundraisers* icon and it will take you to the Fundraiser page. Once you are on this page you will see a box "*Raise Money for a Non-profit*"

Click on the *Select Non-Profit Button*. In the Search box enter INSPIRE!africa. Select INSPIRE!africa once it appears and you will be taken to the page where you can set up the fundraiser. On the left hand side you can choose what event you want to celebrate, how much you want to target etc. Complete the fields and then the *Create* button to finish. Then send the information about the fundraiser to all your friends!

If you need help contact us at [info@inspireafrica.org](mailto:info@inspireafrica.org)

**A Word From Our Rwandan Partners**

**Solace Ministries Livestock Donations**

Our Rwandan partner Solace Ministries has been busy distributing livestock purchased with your donations. Solace selected survivors - mainly widows - from remote rural areas that are not usually reached by other charities to distribute the animals.

Because of your donations, so far they have been able to distribute 36 pigs, 17 goats, and 99 chickens with more to come. Here are some of their stories.



**Mukarubuga Liberathe** is 76 years old, a genocide survivor from Ntongwe community.

She lives with her 2 grandchildren. She was happy to receive a goat because she is going to get manure for fertilizing her lands. The goat will help her make some income when it has offspring. Also, rearing a goat is easy and not costly, making it perfect for an elderly widow.



**Gasiribanyi Pascal** is 73 years old.

He lost 10 children and his wife in the Genocide against the Tutsis in 1994, but he remarried and now has 3 children. He says that he will use the eggs for feeding himself and his family and if he has a surplus, he can sell them to the market.



**Nyiransengimana Meriane** is 51 years old and has 4 children.

She says that the pigs reproduce quickly and can give birth to 5 or 6 piglets. She will sell the piglets to the market and use the money to buy things she needs like clothing.

She is thankful for this donation and wishes many blessings to INSPIRE!africa.

### **Update from Our Partner, Survivors Fund (SURF)**

During the last few weeks restrictions have been reduced to allow travel between different districts, so the SURF team can now travel out of Kigali to provide support to survivors in the rural communities. Survivors are now permitted to visit memorial sites and carry out commemoration exercises in small numbers. Last year this was not possible due to the lockdown.

They have now resumed providing youth who have attended business training with small grants to start their businesses. The youth attending vocational skills training have resumed their studies and will be graduating this September. At that time SURF plans to sponsor another group of youth with skills training.

Generally speaking, SURF is now able to do the business of supporting survivors without limitations of the COVID-19 preventative measures. They continue to work with survivors' organizations to support them.

### **COVID-19 and Rwanda**

Like everywhere else in the world, Rwanda has been affected by COVID-19 and its restrictions. Unfortunately, Rwanda has recently experienced a spike in infections and has brought in stricter measures. The government, on Saturday, June 12 announced new measures to curb the spread of Covid-19, among which the daily curfew has been extended by one hour, running from 9 PM to 4 AM. In addition, public transport (buses) will be allowed to carry passengers only at 50 percent of their capacity, while public offices will function at 30 percent capacity - mainly allowing only essential staff in their premises. Cafes and restaurants will also operate at a 30 percent occupancy limit, while gyms will operate at 10 percent of their venue capacity. All businesses will close at 8 PM. All these measures will be taking effect starting from Monday, June 14 and will be reviewed after a period of 2 weeks.

Vaccinations have begun, giving hope to Rwandans as it has to Canadians

As of May 25, almost 400,000 people in Rwanda have received their first dose of vaccines, which represents only 3% of the population. Approximately .5% are fully vaccinated. On May 28 Rwanda received 247,000 doses of AstraZeneca vaccine from the COVAX facility and 117,600 vaccine doses donated by France. These vaccines were immediately distributed to health centres across the country marking the beginning of the second countrywide campaign. While many of us have had our first or even second dose of COVID-19 vaccine, Rwanda plans to vaccinate 30% of its population by the end of this year and 60% by June 2022.

### **Follow INSPIRE!africa on social media!**

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Twitter: [@INSPIREafrica2](#)

### **Take Care**

COVID-19 reminds us how connected we really are to each other. We are all in this together. Take care of yourself and each other, and stay safe.