



"I am here getting everything because of Impact Hope, but there are still children who are crying like I was crying before. They need someone to see their tears." Bosco, Head Boy at Gahogo Academy



MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF REFUGEES | October 2021

You Turn Bitter Pasts into Bright Futures

"I was the first time I ever slept in a bed since fleeing my home when I was a young boy."

Bosco was born in the tropical Democratic Republic of the Congo. His father, a farmer, provided him and his six brothers and sisters with produce from the land. Fresh fruit and vegetables lined their tables and filled their bellies each day. His mother, a nurse who practiced with traditional medicine, cared for her children. Life for nine-year-old Bosco was good.

That all changed when the rebels came into his town, a once peaceful and bustling

village quickly became a death zone due to civil unrest. Bosco and his family were forced to desert their beautiful lives and escape to Rwanda for safety. Forced to become refugees relying on the help of others. Living on 24 cents a day, Bosco's belly was no longer full.

Bosco's upbringing led him to be diligent and do his best in everything. When he was selected as an Impact Hope student he was overjoyed. It was his first time to sleep in a bed and his first time to eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner in one day, since leaving (Continued on inside page)

(Left picture) Bosco at the 2019 vocational training program learning maintenance and electricity.

Programs Launched Because of YOU!

Did you know that Impact Hope is going on its sixth year of serving refugee youth? That's because of YOU! We are so incredibly grateful for your support.

Because of your continued gifts, Impact Hope has been expanding its efforts to help refugee youth. While high school education continues to be the primary focus, we have developed and are implementing programs that guide current and graduated students to become successful tradesmen and business owners. Take a look at how these programs empower refugees!

Summer Trade Program:

Starting in 2017, Impact Hope has held a summer trade program each year (with the exception of 2020). This program allows students to spend part of their summer break in a safe, Christ-centered environment, while learning useful skills that will help them succeed after graduating.

This summer, **289 junior Impact Hope students** participated in a five-day empowerment program located at three different Adventist academies in Rwanda. The goal of this program was to help students develop a growth mindset for their dreams and see themselves as a part of the solution to ending poverty. Students were encouraged to find value in their own identity and create a vision for their future. They also learned entrepreneurship skills, how to develop a business plan, and reproductive health.



2021 Summer Trade Program



Graduate student is now a plumber for a local school district.

Vocational Trade School:

After students graduate high school, they are given the opportunity to go to a one-year vocational trade school. Trades include hairdressing, permaculture/agriculture, sewing, plumbing, maintenance/electricity, and culinary arts. This year, in addition to the graduated students, Impact Hope is sending **50 new young people** from the refugee camps to go to a vocational trade school. These refugees have already graduated high school and went through a qualified selection process to be one of the 50 people supported by Impact Hope. They will also be receiving ongoing entrepreneurship training.



Graduate student runs her own food market.

Small Business Training:

The biggest hope for refugees is to be self-supporting. After attending the one-year vocational technical school, students are encouraged to start their own small businesses. Graduates now have an on-the-ground Impact Hope staff member that coaches and mentors them as they start their businesses.

*"As someone thinks with-
in himself, so he is."*

Proverbs 23:7



Graduate student owns his own tailoring shop.



Maintenance students at vocational trade school.

(Continued from front cover)

the Congo. He acknowledges, "My past was bitter, but my future is brighter because Impact Hope has built the foundation for my life!"

He is now the head boy and one of the top students at Gahogo Adventist Academy, and it's easy to see why. He is driven, responsible, and has a huge heart for helping others. During the summer vocational training program, he studied maintenance and electricity and now uses his new skills in the refugee camp to work and save money during his holiday breaks. Bosco's dream is to be a businessman and to help others in need, "I am here getting everything because of Impact Hope, but there are still children who are crying like I was crying before. They need someone to see their tears."

Your support of Bosco and the other Impact Hope students gives them the power to change their lives. It allows them to have an education which leads to a livelihood. It turns bitterness into bright futures!



A Former Refugee Shares His Family's Desire to Spread Blessings!

My wife and I were impressed by the life-changing transformational work your Impact Hope team is doing, as noted in the July 2021 Adventist Review. Offering hope to refugees is especially meaningful to me, personally having been born in a refugee camp myself after WWII. My family had lost their home, property, siblings, and most personal possessions beyond what transported them by horse and wagon hundreds of miles to another European country. God answered my parents' prayers, and our family was offered sponsorship to the USA by a very generous and kind SDA physician in Michigan when I was age 3. God has blessed my family and me beyond measure. We wish to spread some of that blessing to others and feel privileged to participate with you in your team's efforts. Thank you for what you are allowing God to do through you.
-HFF

Back to School

Students return to school in October. Join us in praying for the them as they begin a new school year!

Gift Catalog

Can you believe the Holiday season is around the corner?! We are so excited to share with you the first ever Impact Hope gift catalog that will be delivered right to your mailboxes and found on the website. More information is coming soon!

Student Missionaries

Pray for Impact Hope student missionaries from Southern Adventist University, Elias and Trenton. They arrive in Rwanda this month to begin their one-year service as teachers to Impact Hope students. We pray for safe travels and that their service will bless both them and the students.

Gift Policy

Please note Impact Hope can only receive letters to take to the students. We are no longer able to make accommodations for taking gifts.

Three Ways You Can Help



PRAY

Support Impact Hope as a Prayer Partner by signing up at:
www.Impact-Hope.org/prayer-partners

SHARE

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram, sign up for our email updates, or invite us to speak at your church or event.

GIVE

Sponsor a student, support our operations, or donate while you shop. Visit www.impact-hope.org.