# **2019 ANNUAL UPDATE** The Story Unfolds

Photo © Wurzbach Fisher Photography for Africa New Life



## **DEAR FRIENDS,**

I vividly remember when we found sponsors for the first 29 children and opened our first little preschool in 2001. These were small efforts, but I dreamed that God would use them to transform a nation. Today, thanks to your partnership and generosity, 10,000 Rwandan young people are sponsored and there is holistic and transformative work shaping their lives.

Over the years, we have learned about what creates community and individual transformation—discovering a model that honors the Lord, meets children's greatest needs, and invests in local communities in healthy and responsible ways. Our hope and prayer is that the care and support provided in each community we serve prepares young people to become catalysts of growth among their families and neighbors.

Given everything we have learned, we believe now is the time to expand this work into many more communities and to reach many more students. As you read this annual update, I invite you to join with us in celebrating the highlights of this past year and to learn about where we are heading next. Thank you for being part of this unfolding story.

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Dr. Charles Mugisha Founder & President Africa New Life Ministries



For further financial details, visit www.africanewlife.org/impact

### AFRICA NEW LIFE EXISTS TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND COMMUNITIES.

What happens when Africa New Life is invited into a community? Transformation unfolds through a variety of investments.



We invest in the spiritual lives of the students and families we serve by building churches in each community, staffing them with compassionate, biblically-trained pastors, and equipping pastors and ministry leaders at Africa College of Theology.

#### HIGHLIGHTS



More than 1,200 students and parents made decisions for Christ in 2018

A new church building was completed in Kayonza



344 ministry leaders, pastors, and high school students graduated from Africa College of Theology programs in September



PASTOR JAMES

BASSASSI ....

James Mugisha grew up a Rwandan refugee living in challenging conditions in the Ugandan forest. He lost his stepfather when he was ten years old and had to take on a father's responsibilities from that time on. The pressure led him to start drinking heavily. He realized his problem one day when he fell into a drunken stupor near a hot stove while on a job. He wanted to change, and after visiting a nearby church, decided to receive Christ.

"After seeing the transformation, the way I changed and what God was doing in me, my family started to see that my God is powerful."

James attended Africa College of Theology for two years and began assistant pastoring at New Life Bible Church Rwisirabo (Kageyo A), a church he describes as full of life despite daily hardships faced by its congregants. Now he serves as Senior Pastor. He desires those he serves to experience what he experienced.

"I want them to know Christ deeply. Second, I want to see change in their lives—changing from the life they were living."



We invest in children's education through the schools we manage, through tutoring and teacher training, and most of all, through educational sponsorship.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**



10,000 students are sponsored across Rwanda

More than 350 students are pursuing university or post-secondary vocational programs



New educational facilities in Rubavu and Bugesera are underway



LAMBERT GIVEN THE BEST

"My life began from this school."

As one of ten children in his family, Byiringiro Lambert has seen the challenges that poverty brings, but he has also seen possibilities. At an early age, Lambert began attending New Life Christian Academy in Kayonza. Thanks to sponsorship, he has remained at the school for thirteen years, receiving a high-quality education and being spiritually discipled at New Life Christian Church Kayonza.

"For me to be alive today, to be able to talk, it's because my life was transformed. So now I've developed a sense of transforming other people's lives."

Lambert is now in his final year of high school and hopes to go on to university and become a doctor. In the meantime, he is the school's head boy, a position that allows him to serve as role model and advisor for his fellow students and to support them as he has felt supported.

"It's the least I could do to provide the best for these students... because I was offered the best, and my life was transformed."



We invest in the health and thriving of families and communities by providing meals, gardens, vocational training, and medical assistance in the communities we serve.

#### HIGHLIGHTS



More than 6,400 students were treated by community nurses last year



2.3 million meals were provided to children and families in our programs



The Dream Medical Center opened to the public and the first baby was delivered there in November



More than 120 women and young children participated in New Life Family Center programs



HILLARIE sewing hope

"My body was falling apart, but God protected me and I did not die."

Niyomahoro Hillarie was a little girl in 1994 when the Rwandan genocide broke out. Lace-like scars running up and down her body bear witness to the day attackers set fire to her home while her family was inside. She was the only one to survive.

Life after the genocide was not easy. In 2014, she found herself with no way to provide for her two boys and nowhere to sleep at night. In desperation, she turned to Africa New Life. She spent a year learning sewing and business skills at the New Life Family Center while her children attended the Dream Daycare. Today, Hillarie works with several other Family Center graduates in a thriving clothing co-op.

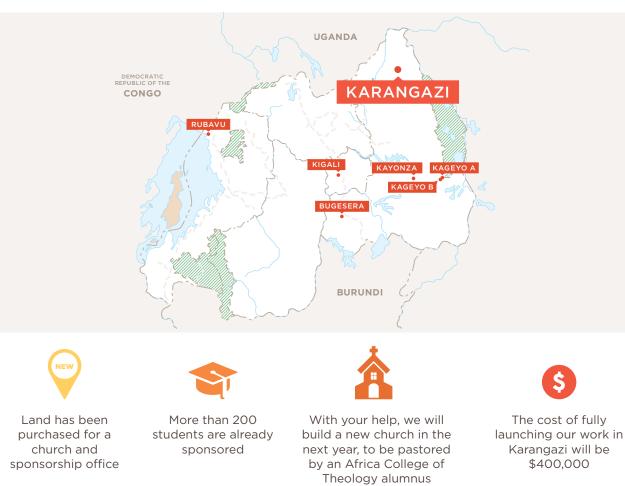
"Before, there were designs I couldn't do alone. When I joined other women, we equipped each other. I taught them what I had learned, they taught me what they had learned."

Hillarie knows there will be new challenges ahead, but she refuses to be discouraged. She believes that the God who protected her as a child has many more blessings in store.

## THE FUTURE UNFOLDS

We've seen transformation unfold in six communities across Rwanda so far. Now, God is taking us somewhere new.

In the country's far northeast is a community called Karangazi. At the invitation of community leaders and parents, we are preparing to launch our newest sponsorship community—the first of many to come—in this beautiful region.



You can help unfold the transformative work in Karangazi with a gift to our Impact Fund today. Visit us at africanewlife.org/impact to give!