Burundi Friends International

Fighting Poverty. Educating Youth. Providing Hope.

Annual Report 2015

Founder's Message

Since the beginning of 2015 to today, Burundi is facing significant political unrest. I assure you that despite this dire situation our organization continues working in creative ways to find relief and hope for the people of Burundi. BFI is more committed than ever to fight poverty in Burundi.

Because of your support, our English Clubs have continued to expand reaching over 3,500 students. However, several of our projects were delayed due to the circumstances in the country. Our container of English Books and computers was not sent until early in 2016. Our medical cargo with Project CURE also won't arrive in Burundi before mid-2016. We have also postponed the launch of our financial literacy programs with PCI Global to a later date this year.

Finally, I am happy to announce that 2016 brought us a great opportunity to move our dedicated volunteer for the past 6 years, Julie Marner, into a part-time position as the first Executive Director for Burundi Friends International. I can't think of anyone who is so passionate, dedicated and ready to move our group and carry the mission to the next level.

Thank you for keeping Burundi and its people in your hearts. Your financial support enacts the hopes of a better future for Burundians. Needless to say, the demand for BFI's services and support is critical as the country struggles to maintain its identity and regain its political footing. I'd like to close with words from Fabrice Bizimana who received the Mandela Washington Fellowship award within President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative,

"Change has 3 components. There is no change without knowledge. The other components are attitude and practice… It's possible to change the world. It's possible to change Burundi."

Sincerely,

Jeanine Niyonzima-Aroian

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Education:

English Clubs, Scholarships, Community Development

Through our education pillar, we saw **our first college graduate, Karorero Xavier**! Your donations also provided tuition for 9 other college students.

We Supplied BFI English teachers with bicycles and cell phones that will help them continue educating our 3,600 youth. Our goal for 2016: 5,000

"I'm so pleased when I'm teaching in my English class though sometimes it's a bit hard to work like I wished. We sometimes hear gunshots while it's time of studying but I'm always surprised by some of my students who come to learn English. And that encourages me to work hard and to inspire my generation." –Amani Esperance

On December 27th we opened our BFI Library in Bubanza, Burundi! **Students aged 4-64** have been learning English in this province.

BFI funding provided new doors and windows in Ityazo Elementary School serving **600 students**.

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Healthcare:

Maternal Clinic at HIV/AIDS Center, Medical Container

In Burundi, as in all impoverished countries, when one is hungry or sick, he/she is unable to learn or work. This is why we continue to support several medical endeavors.

BFI spent $25,000 on various health care projects, including supporting a maternal clinic at an HIV/AIDS institute in Burundi

Due to the unrest in 2015, our medical container was delayed in shipping until May of 2016. This shipment of medical equipment will serve two clinics and a teaching hospital serving thousands of Burundians in need of healthcare.

BFI also continues to support medical education and peer to peer teaching surrounding issues in family care, HIV, gender violence and psychological support for the vulnerable.

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Economic Empowerment:

Building a Solid Foundation of Growth and Hope

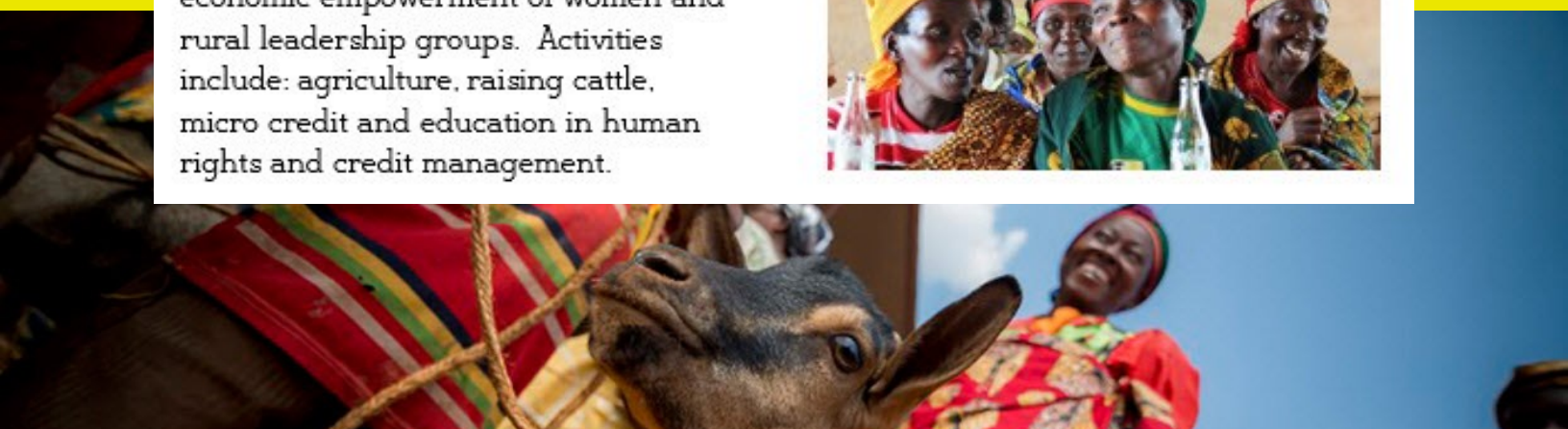
BFI invested $32,000 in 2015 providing economic empowerment to various groups including women, young people, and refugees in Burundi and in San Diego, so they may be able to take care of themselves in the future.

We invested to help local Burundians by providing education and market skills which fostered the development of self-sustaining business opportunities within the community.

We sponsored self-sustaining agriculture (chickens, pigs, hens, feed) and other initiatives supporting our main objective: food security and economic empowerment of women and rural leadership groups. Activities include: agriculture, raising cattle, micro credit and education in human rights and credit management.

We continue to support our partners at Project Concern International's Women Empowered (WE) Program. We are expanding this program into rural areas in 2016, training groups of business women to self-govern, self-regulate their collective savings and equally promote self-esteem and community building.

The focus for 2016 is on two forms of partnerships: both here in the US and locally in Burundi. This is the path forward.



Financial Information:

89% Of Every Gift Is Invested Directly in Burundi

2013 BFI Budget: $ 45,118

2014 BFI Budget: $ 96,910 (215% Growth)

2015 BFI Budget: $169,000 (174% Growth)

2015 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Balance Sheets

Current Assets

Cash	$66,128
Total Assets	$66,128

Equity

Beginning Balance	$48,909
Current Year's Operating Income	$17,219
Total Equity	$66,128

Operating Statements

Contributions Received	$140,408

Expenses

-Fund-raising	$ 4,270
-Program	$109,718
-Administrative	$ 7,503
-Insurance	$ 1,698
Total Expenses	$123,189
Operating Income	$ 17,219

Cash Flow Statements

Beginning Cash Balance	$48,909
Operating Income For the Year	$17,219
Ending Cash Balance *	$66,128

* - $40,000 Reserved for Financial Literacy Program

For additional information visit our website: http://bufri.org/2015-financial-statement/

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Board of Directors:

Experience. Leadership. Commitment. Passion.

BFI Officers

Jeanine Niyonzima-Aroian
Founder & Chair of the Board

Julie Marner
Executive Director

Barbara Kelly
Secretary

Graham Jones
Treasurer

BFI Board Members

Liz Clarke

Ann Moorman

Prosper Gahungu

Leonce Ndikumana

Lara Lam

Nicole Velasquez

Carolina Martin

Thierry Yungenge

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"It's possible to change Burundi" – Fabrice Bizimana

When you make a gift, you join our mission to fight poverty in Burundi.

Ways to give today:

- Monetary gifts with pledges, and corporate matching gifts
- Become a pillar of support through monthly giving
- Make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one
- Donating professional services
- Remember Burundi Friends International in your will

Annual, Monthly and Honorary Gifts in support of BFI are tax deductible and can be made online at www.bufri.org

Send a check made out to:

Burundi Friends International
P O Box 927356
San Diego, CA 92192-7356

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Thank you