



**SOS CHILDREN'S  
VILLAGES**

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### Your sponsorship for Françoise

Dear Sir or Madam,

With pleasure, I send you updates on SOS Children's Village Gikongoro. First, a brief update on COVID-19 and your sponsored child.

In Rwanda, COVID-19 is still influencing the lives of the children, young people and families that we support. The situation changes regularly and we are doing our very best to make sure that the children, young people and families stay healthy. We follow official guidelines to make sure they can continue to grow and develop, and can continue to go to kindergarten, school or training and take part in other activities. Enjoy your reading other updates.



A new hope.

Francoise is a lovely young lady. Her movie taste lies in Indian movies because they teach her the art of staying patient, loving one another and treating everybody you meet with respect regardless of his looks. She has the talent of playing sketches and theatres.

#### Happy faces

It is your delight when children say, 'We now have food, health insurance and school fees', says Dorine, a pupil in primary school. I wish you could see how young mothers' children are enjoying life!

Solange is one of them. She dropped out of secondary school due to early pregnancy.



On the way to greatness.

'Before I got support from the village, I was unable to pay food, health insurance and school fees for my son', she says.

After the training, Dancilla, Solange and Claudine opened their own hairdressing salon. Thanks to the start-up kits they received from the village, their saloon surpassed all the saloons in the area.



The young mothers are grateful for the training fees, accommodation, uniforms, school feeding, school materials, internship fees and start-up kits provided by the village.

Empowered to empower.

'Being self-reliant, I am also proud to empower others', Claudine says. Today, this hairdressing saloon is giving internship to the beneficiaries supported by the village. 'The village is our parent. My twin baby boys will have a better life', says Dancilla.

These young ladies joined a saving and credit group in order to expand their business. Nowadays, apart from straightening and shaving hair, they also make hair braids. This year, the village has supported such 29 families. With your support, many more children from these young mothers can smile.

A new idea

Becoming self-reliant is the dream of all young people. Do you still remember the story about the young people making doughnuts in the village and young farmers?

These young entrepreneurs expanded their activities to a field of potatoes. The good news is that more young people joined the group after seeing the benefits.

Young people finally came up with an idea of creating a saving group in order to manage the money they get from pets, manure and crops. At the end of the year, they share the benefits. Most of them buy more rabbits or pigs. They also save money for the people who look after their farm.

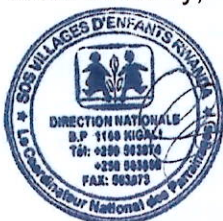
The village gave this group a trainer on the management of a saving group, a register, a veterinary and the land for their activities. The village also help them look for customers.

Today, the group took the name of Youth Innovators. 'A penny saved is a penny earned', says Mary, the president of the group. On a regular basis, these young people meet to share news about the progress.

As mentioned previously, your support to the village helps children and young people make their dreams a reality. Thank you.

Note that I have changed all the names in the text for data protection sake.

Yours sincerely,



Gaspard TWAMBAZIMANA  
National Sponsorship Co-ordinator