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"Helping Rwanda's children have a future."



NIYONEZA DIDIER - dedicated to the children of Rwanda

Sarah and Douglas Kakooza manage Aid for Education from the UK. But it is Niyoneza Didier who keeps the organisation running smoothly on the ground in Rwanda. Didier is responsible for following the children's progress at school and at home, ensuring they are provided with school materials and medical cards as well as purchasing and distributing goats to families as an income generating project.

Thanks to money raised by friends in Greenock, Aid for Education bought a motor bike for Didier to carry out his work. It has proved very useful and makes visiting the children and travelling round the villages easier. Before, Didier would visit around 5 families a day. Now with the motorbike, he can visit more than 10 a day.

Didier came to Aid for Education as the Field Worker, with convincing credentials. The 28 year old, from Rwamagana, where Aid for Education is based, completed two years at university studying economics and management, and worked as a social worker, a finance coordinator and an income generating manager in a street children's organisation before joining Aid for Education.

With his small salary, Didier supports his mother, two young brothers and sister. His mother is in her late 60s. Like many working Rwandans, Didier commits a large percentage of his income to helping his family. His mother has land that she digs to grow food but sometimes Didier pays labourers to cultivate for her. He also pays school fees for one of his younger brothers and supports the other who is at university.

However, Didier is equally committed to the children of his region, whose lives are blighted by poverty. "Aid for Education is doing a great job helping children access education. At the moment, education is the key to a good future and I think Aid for Education has chosen the right way to help Rwanda's children," he says. He thanks Aid for Education donors and says, "I assure you that in the next few years, you will be amazed to see how your donations will have helped the children."



Didier (back row, right) with some AfE boys

Didier organised a rigorous timetable for Sarah and Douglas's time in Rwanda over the summer, visiting Aid for Education children at school and in their homes. After seeing Sarah and volunteer Hannah Swift give English and maths lessons, as well as games, Didier decided to set up a dance troop for the girls and a football club for the boys to take place every weekend. The children also take part in debates and practice their English with him.

"We really value Didier's work. He makes possible a lot of things that we'd never be able to achieve from the UK. And he's just great with children," say Sarah and Douglas.

Drop-in centre

Help us buy a building for a drop-in centre

Fundraising

Recent fundraising events

Fundraising afternoon

Join us when we bring a part of Africa to Greenock!

A new house for Bosco

This summer, Aid for Education helped build a new house for Ishimwe Bosco and his grandmother. They had been living in a small one-room grass roof house, but people from the local community joined together to build the new home and pupils from Gourrock High School, Scotland, raised money to buy iron sheets for the roof. The new house is bigger than the old one, so Bosco and his grandmother can now enjoy more privacy.



Ishimwe Bosco and grandmother outside their old house



Larger and with more privacy: the new house

Goats



Bosco receiving a goat from another family

The goat income-generating project is proving a success. Fourteen out of the twenty-nine goats donated so far, have given birth and families who received goats have commented on how they have been able to grow more crops, thanks to the goat's manure. With your help, the number of families receiving goats has been growing steadily. Some kids that have been born are now old enough to be given to other families like Ishimwe Bosco and his grandmother.

School materials and results

In July, Sarah, Hannah and Didier met the children when they received their school reports. What could have been a nervous time soon became one of celebration. They were encouraged to see how many children achieved pleasing results in the second term – a few coming first in a class of 60 pupils! The children are now in their third term and Didier has been busy ensuring they have all the necessary school materials.



Children receiving school materials

We would like to thank all of you who support our work. However, we do need more sponsors. Become a child sponsor for only 40p per day, and join us in making a difference.

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Drop-in centre

Help us raise £16,000 to buy a drop-in centre in Rwamagana.

Many children live in severe poverty and poor shelter. Some are forced to leave home when their house is damaged by rain or if there is not enough room for the whole family. A drop-in centre would be a secure place for them to stay until safe and secure accommodation is found.

A part of the building will be used as an office and volunteer accommodation for those of you who are interested in visiting Rwanda with Aid for Education.

Visit www.aidforeducation.co.uk to donate.

Fundraising

Thanks to Gordon and Jenna Tyler who raised money for Aid for Education by completing the 2 mile Clyde Swim this summer,

Why not organise an event on your own or in a group? Here are some suggestions:

- Coffee morning
- Car boot sale
- Sponsored events e.g marathon, walk

We can give you posters, sponsor forms, and other materials.

REMEMBER, you can also collect CDs, DVDs, ink cartridges and mobile phones to raise funds.



Gordon and Jenna after completing the Clyde Swim

Fundraising afternoon

Join us on 15th October for our Rwandan fundraising event.

Help us raise money to buy a drop-in centre.



- Rwandan music
- Crafts
- Buffet
- Raffle prizes

Tickets £12 (15 years and under FREE)

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