



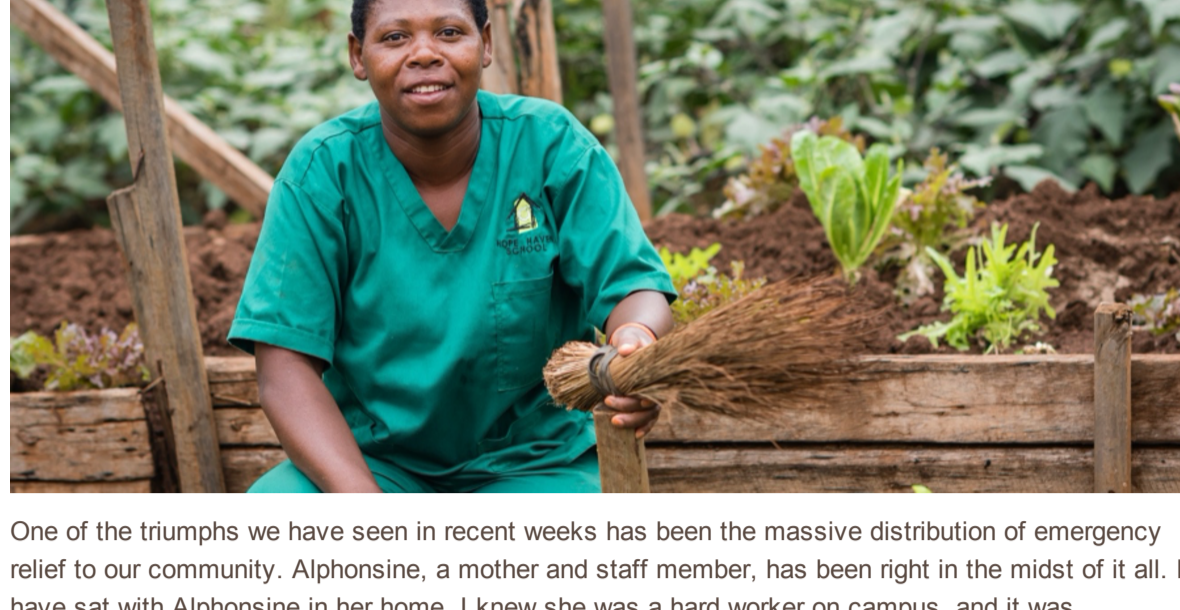
"For" or "With" God?

In a book that my mentor asked me to read a week ago, the author asks an astute question. The same point was also clear in [a national article about Hope Haven Rwanda](#) published by Kigali Today last week. Here is the question:

Am I working "for" God, or "with" God?

God may be trying to tell me something. In fact, He might be trying to tell many of us something. This has been a season of trials and triumphs. We have each had to wrestle with the global pandemic in different ways. Some of us are living with more fear than usual, others are living with more faith. For most of us, it is a mixture of both.

Let me explain a bit more about the question. I'll use a brief case study as an example.



One of the triumphs we have seen in recent weeks has been the massive distribution of emergency relief to our community. Alphonine, a mother and staff member, has been right in the midst of it all. I have sat with Alphonine in her home. I knew she was a hard worker on campus, and it was wonderful to watch her care for her family at home. In a very difficult context, Alphonine serves her family as the primary breadwinner and caretaker.

Alphonine's son, Jacque, recently spent a year traveling the U.S. as part of the His Little Feet International Children's Choir, our partner organization. Jacque joined his mother for part of the distribution last week. Can you imagine the contrast Jacque is witnessing? He is watching emergency food and soap distributions at Hope Haven Rwanda when he recently dined in many of our homes in the U.S.



One of the challenges we face as an organization is that our photos feature beautiful, clean and happy children. They are so precious in God's sight and we love them so much. The challenge is that viewers do not have the opportunity to see where and how they live when they are not on campus. It is impossible to reflect the poverty they experience every day. The dirt, the gnawing hunger, and the fear. This is why we work so hard to deliver hope to them.



Alphonine is a beautiful example of someone who lives in a very tough context but is learning to work "with" God to help her family and neighbors. Alphonine is not only serving on campus. At the request of Rwandan government officials, she helped deliver the food we purchased throughout our neighborhood. She is a huge part of what one of our teachers, Job referred to as Hope Haven "shining as a light on a hill" (Matthew 5:14).

The temptation for many of us is to get so busy working "for" God that we try to do it in our own strength. That is not the path to an authentic and healthy ministry. As reported in the Kigali Today article, Alphonine, and many others, are not working in their own strength. It is clear that what they are doing is "with" God.

Listen to what one of the beneficiaries, Odette Mukashyaka, told the reporter. "I am thankful for this school for having accepted to work with God to give us food." Did you notice what Odette said? We are working "with" God.

May God give each one of us the grace we need to join Him in His work, in His way. Let's work "with" God, instead of trying to work "for" Him.

Thanks for standing "with" us as we try to serve "with" God during this crisis!

Dr. Jason Peters, CEO

You can watch a video interview with our Director of Families, Priscillah Kembabazi (in English the first minute) and hear from Alphonine in the native Kinyarwanda. [Click to watch.](#)

Stay Informed

Visit our website for updates received from the Leadership Team in Rwanda. We have also included a recording of a webinar we hosted on April 3, 2020.



OUR PROMISE

C **Compassion:** We will continue to love those who are suffering deeply.

O **Outreach:** We will reach out to anyone in need with open hearts.

V **Vigor:** We will work tirelessly to meet the needs of Rwandan families.

I **Intentionality:** We will deliberately serve without withdrawing.

D **Dependence:** We recognize we are all utterly dependent upon God.



CARES Act

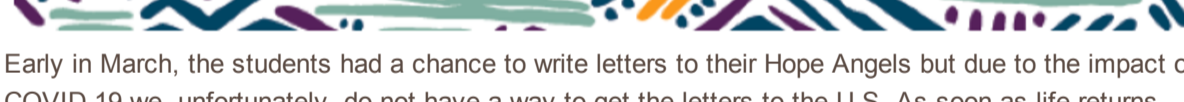
The historic CARES Act, which became law on March 27th, created higher limits for charitable contributions in 2020. [Learn more on our website](#) or ask your tax advisor for details.

As our team met, prayed together and discussed possibilities, we concluded that we need to cancel the Fabric of Hope event scheduled for April 22nd.

Plans are already underway for next year and we look forward to seeing you at the Fabric of Hope on April 21, 2021!



KUGABA Korney



Early in March, the students had a chance to write letters to their Hope Angels but due to the impact of COVID-19 we, unfortunately, do not have a way to get the letters to the U.S. As soon as life returns back to normal, we will coordinate efforts to retrieve your letters and mail them to you as soon as possible. Thank you for your understanding!

In the meantime, we are collecting videos of hope from Hope Angels to share with their Kugaba child once school is back in session. If you would like to send an encouraging message to your child, please email a short video (60 seconds or less) to Paige@HopeHavenRwanda.org. Your video will also be shared on our social media sites (unless you request otherwise) as an encouragement to others to join The Kugaba Initiative family!

As of today, 204 students are sponsored! We are so grateful for your commitment to your Kugaba child and our school and we would love to have your friends and family involved too! If you know someone who you think would make a great Hope Angel, we invite you to encourage them to be a part of our story and [form their own relationship](#) with a student at Hope Haven.

Please keep praying for your Kugaba child and their family and friends in our community.



Watch Your Mailbox

The first issue of our *Hope Haven Rwanda* magazine will be in your mailbox soon. We pray that these exciting stories will inspire and encourage you. In this initial issue, we will invite you to join us on a journey of celebration, discovery, and unity!

If you would like to add or change the address we have on file for you, please email

Info@HopeHavenRwanda.org.

Donate Your Tax Refund

A new line on the tax form for 2020 (2019 tax year) called the "Donate to a Colorado Nonprofit Fund," will allow Colorado taxpayers to donate part or all of their tax refund to any nonprofit registered in Colorado. All the taxpayer will need to do is write or type in the amount of the donation and provide information to identify which nonprofit will receive the donation.



Thank you for considering *The Hope Haven Charitable Trust* as you complete your 2019 tax return.



Stay Inspired!

[Subscribe](#) for a quick dose of encouragement in your inbox each week with our "HOPE-full" blog.

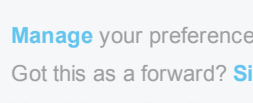


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