



HOPE HAVEN  
RWANDA

April 2021

### Making up for "Lost" Time

The one-year anniversary of the beginning of the global pandemic has come and gone. We're definitely a changed people – around the world. When this "ends" and things are able to return to "normal," it's doubtful much will ever be the same – including how we as human beings think about a lot of things. This isn't necessarily all bad, but many of us are grieving lost time with others, events that were cancelled or missed, and much more.

For the 750+ students at Hope Haven Rwanda, the vast majority lost out on almost an entire year of education, physical nutrition, spiritual growth and development, and relationship building. Learning from home wasn't possible for the most vulnerable and impoverished students, which is a majority of our students.

**We are thrilled to report that all grades of Hope Haven resumed in-person school full time in late February.** The older students (4th grade through 8th grade) had returned in November, but had to stop attending again in mid-January when case counts spiked in the capital region and schools once again had to close. However, since late February, ALL grades have been back in school full time! This includes all three levels of preschool, all six grades of elementary school, and our two secondary school grades (7th and 8th).



The campus is once again bustling with activity and teeming with children who are hungry to learn! They are picking up where they left off and working diligently to learn all of the required material for their grade level. In fact, many grades are attending school six days a week in order to have more time for learning activities. This was requested by the Rwanda Education Board, and the teachers and staff at Hope Haven are adjusting their other commitments to accommodate Saturdays on campus for the next few months. The sixth graders are working especially hard on preparing for the national exams this July. **Please pray for a continued safe school environment and effective and uninterrupted learning.**



We have also broken ground on the new Hope Haven Secondary School building! We are still raising some of the needed funds, but we have enough to start the important work of getting the ground ready, applying for building permits, finishing design work, and ordering materials. We are already at capacity for the existing school buildings and classrooms. We will make some adjustments and accommodate one more class of

incoming preschoolers this fall, but in the September of 2022, we would absolutely be out of classroom space. Because we were able to start the new classroom building early this year, it will be ready just in time for the start of the 2022-2023 school year next September. **Praise God for His amazing provision! God's timing is always perfect.** Please pray for continued donations to support the completion of the building as well as a safe and productive construction site.

Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to talk about what's going on at Hope Haven Rwanda recently! There's certainly a lot to discuss. We are making up for lost time, and taking advantage of the gift of each and every day – something we have learned not to take for granted anymore.

In Christ,

Wendy Raffaeli, CPA  
Director of Investor Relations

## KUGABA Korner



When the students returned to school in late February they were greeted with letters from their Hope Angels! What a special treat. Hopefully by now you have received your letter and are feeling reconnected and encouraged by their updates. The next round of letters will be due June 1st.

Your gift of raincoats were a huge hit. The students were beaming in their new yellow jackets. Thank you for your generosity.



As you can imagine Letter Writing Day is bittersweet at Hope Haven. We still have hundreds of students who are waiting to be matched with their Hope Angel. Maybe you or someone you know are ready to invest in a child, their family and help transform a community. [Click here to learn more.](#)

### Coming Soon!

The second issue of the Hope Haven Rwanda magazine will be in your mailbox soon.

We pray that these exciting stories will inspire and encourage you. In this 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](mailto:Info@HopeHavenRwanda.org).



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