

KAGENO
A Place of Hope



2017
ANNUAL
REPORT



A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Kageno Supporter,

We're so excited to celebrate Kageno's 15th anniversary with you. Conceived in 2003, Kageno has grown from one community in Kenya to a three communities total, an additional in Kenya and a large village in Rwanda. Together with community members, we have implemented a myriad of programs that have improved the quality of life for tens of thousands of individuals on Rusinga and Mfangano Islands in Kenya and in Banda, Rwanda.

Kageno focuses on programs in four key areas: **Education, Healthcare, Ventures (Income Generation), and Conservation**. All of our programs are woven together to revitalize communities as a whole and provide benefits on an individual level. Most community members participate in one or more of Kageno's programs spanning our four focal areas.

In Kenya, parents of children attending the schools we started have helped build new classrooms. On Mfangano Island, parents paid teachers so their children could continue to have access to local education after they leave Kageno's nursery school.

In Rwanda, Kageno's programs have jump-started the local economy. Banda has become a bustling and productive village. Our success has attracted notice: Kageno staff are now asked to share optimal practices in agriculture with a number of other organizations and the government. Our medical outreach and advocacy efforts have been so successful that the government has agreed to establish a full service maternity clinic in the village.

In addition to deep collaboration with community members, we have built a network here that brings together a group of individuals who believe in the work we do and have invested in the future.

In 2018, Kageno is looking back on the successes of the past 15 years and ensuring that we lay a strong foundation for the future.

We look forward to your continued partnership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Frank Andolino', written in a cursive style.

Frank Andolino

JOSEPHINE MUKAGAKWANDI

Success Story

Josephine Mukagakwandi is an example of Kageno's involvement in the fabric of the community. A 53-year-old mother of five, she lives in Banda village. Her husband has a physical disability that limits his ability to work. Josephine attended training classes with Kageno's agriculture team and received plant seedlings.

Beginning in 2011, she grew amaranth to feed her family and also to sell. She maintains a kitchen garden using the system of crop rotation that Kageno advocates, which provides vegetables year-round. The steady supply of food ensures that her family is well nourished, something that was otherwise beyond her capability.

Josephine's two youngest children, David and Ruth, attend Kageno's Nursery School and receive daily meals there. Her three older children, Mercianne, Joel, and Isaie attended Kageno Nursery School, and are now enrolled at Groupe Scolaire Banda, a local secondary school. There they receive a daily meal through Kageno's feeding program supported by our sponsor, Table for Two.

This family, along with many others, achieved balanced nutrition, skills, and education through Kageno's programs. They now face a future filled with greater opportunities.



**JOSEPHINE
ATTENDED
TRAINING
CLASSES WITH
KAGENO'S
AGRICULTURE
TEAM**



KAGENO
A Place of Hope

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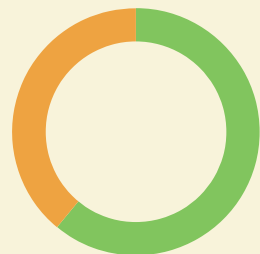
Table for Two International

KAGENO RWANDA

The Hive Group
Joint Action Development Forum (JADF) Nyamasheke
Kibogora District Hospital
Peace Corps Rwanda
Rwanda Development Board (Eco-Tourism
and Conservation)
Rwanda Environment Management Authority (REMA)
Rwanda Ministry of Education (Line Ministry)
UNICEF
Wildlife Conservation Society
World Connect

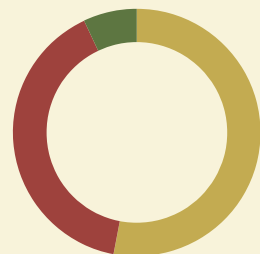
KAGENO KENYA

Badilisha Trust
Rusinga Christian Child Funds (CCF)



INCOME

Grants	\$255,114
Private Support	\$160,156
Total	\$415,270



EXPENSES

Total Expenses Kenya	\$181,874
Total Expenses Rwanda	\$135,822
Total Expenses Worldwide	\$24,146
Total	\$341,842

2017 Donors

TRIBAL CHIEF (\$10,000 AND ABOVE)

Nick and Marybeth Defabrizio
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THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Conservation

Two consecutive years of drought have left Kenyans in need of food aid, and children in danger of acute malnutrition. Many of the people who Kageno trained in environment-friendly farming techniques were able to rely on their gardens for a portion of their food needs, lessening the impact of the drought. The start of 2018 has brought some relief, and we hope for more rains throughout the year. Still, we expect the best practices in agriculture Kageno has taught will continue to help the community members recover quickly.

In Rwanda, we continue to develop our agriculture and conservation programs – from training to kitchen gardens to water infrastructure. In 2018, we are expanding our conservation efforts to begin a bee-keeping program with ten hives. The bees will provide a source of income for Kageno and those managing the hives will contribute to the diversity of the ecosystem.

Berthilde Uwingabiye has lived in Banda since she was a child, and is now a teacher at the one of the local schools, Groupe Scolaire Banda. Until she was a young adult, she had to travel to the river to collect water for her family – a difficult chore that delayed her arrival to school and then work. The river water also was not clean, and Berthilde and her family suffered a number of gastro-intestinal illnesses as a result. Now, she has a tap installed in her compound and uses that water for her household. Berthilde also has water to irrigate the crops she learned how to grow from Kageno. Her family is healthier and she is able to devote more time to them and to her work.



Highlights

174,288 liters of clean water used daily by 11,619 people in Banda.

8825 kg of fruits and vegetables grown in the Kageno gardens in Banda.

801 trees planted in the Banda community, including at schools participating in the feeding program.

315 kg vegetables and grains grown on Rusinga Island.



Highlights

301 students in Banda

216 students in Rusinga

133 students on Mfangano

4968 students fed almost every day

Education

UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION AND LEARN THE FUNDAMENTALS

In all of our schools, the leadership works with the parents to establish a small fee to be paid to ensure the community's investment in the school, and to initiate the process of making the schools self-sustaining.

In Kenya, we run two nursery schools with a total of 397 students who depend on strong involvement from the community. Kageno contributes a portion of the costs. The parents, now understanding the importance of the schools, have built additional classrooms and pulled together to pay additional teachers, so that more children have access to the benefits of early education.

In Rwanda, we run one nursery school that serves 300 of the most-needy children in the village. As in Kenya, we encourage parent involvement in the various programs that we offer to strengthen the ties between all of our programs.

Access to nutrition – even just reliable meals – is one of the most basic needs in all three communities, particularly for the children. Thanks to a strong partnership with Table for Two International, in 2017 we fed over 4000 students at least one meal almost every day. This enables them to focus on their studies and provides a strong incentive for their families to send them to school. Reports from parents, teachers and students show that students are more likely to attend school when they are fed there.

In 2018, the feeding program in Kenya will expand to three additional local primary schools – resulting in an increase of 927 students. Kageno will provide regular meals to approximately 5000 students, many of whom have no other dependable daily meals.

Peter Niyonkuru was one of the first students at the Kageno Nursery School when it opened in Banda. He is now 15 years old and attends the Group Scolaire school nearby. He credits much of his success so far to Kageno's nursery school. This is where he first felt a desire to study, began to understand the importance of education and, most importantly, learned the fundamentals that prepared him for further education. He is looking forward to attending university and hopes to become a District Education Officer.



Healthcare

On Rusinga Island in Kenya, the health clinic that Kageno founded was turned over to the community and is being successfully run without further investment from or dependency on Kageno.

In Banda, our health clinic has been vital to the development of the community. It has provided prenatal care, vaccinations, and regular healthcare to thousands of individuals. Two years ago, the government reached out to us to initiate maternity care for uncomplicated deliveries. In 2017, we managed safe deliveries for 126 women and 128 babies. In 2018, we hope to sign an MOU with the Rwandan Government and begin construction on a maternity center that will provide safe birthing facilities, even complicated deliveries.

Pascasie Nyirahabimana is a resident of Banda village who exemplifies the impact of Kageno's work. She and her husband have attended many training sessions offered by the Kageno staff – family planning, basic nutrition, and growing a kitchen garden. Because of their awareness of family planning, she and her husband have carefully spaced the births of their three children and plan to have only one more.

Pascasie's youngest child was born at the Kageno Maternity Center. She compared that experience, being close to and cared for by her family and friends, to her prior births at the district hospital. Because of the distance, she had to spend time away from her family before, during, and after the births of her first two children – a total of two months. It was a difficult and lonely time that women in the village will no longer have to endure.



Highlights

5887 appointments at the clinic

1221 took advantage of HIV testing and counseling

466 received prenatal care

126 mothers gave birth to 128 healthy babies



**BUILD THEIR OWN BUSINESSES
AND SUPPORT THEIR FAMILIES**

Ventures

Highlights

6485 work days
provided in Banda

70 casual jobs created on
Mfangano and Rusinga

40 women involved in the
microloan program with
\$2420 circulating

When we first envisioned our Ventures program, we wanted to provide both long and short term work opportunities for community members. Currently this ranges from micro-loans in Kenya to one-day work opportunities in all of our communities.

In Kenya, the \$460 that we invested in micro-loans to ten women in 2011 has grown to \$2,420 in the hands of forty women and six men. They continue to pay back and reinvest in the program, ensuring its ongoing expansion.

In Rwanda, our programs employ a large number of community members, both part and full time, which provide economic security for many residents. In addition, we focus on teaching skills, such as agriculture, that allow community members to build their own businesses and support their families.

Eunice Adhiambo was part of the first group of micro-loan beneficiaries in Kenya. She had been widowed while pregnant with her third child and was left with very little means to tend to her family's basic needs. After discussing and refining her business plan with Kageno staff, Eunice applied for a loan for textiles and supplies. She borrowed a sewing machine and began sewing for the community. She now owns her own sewing machine and tailors uniforms for many of the local school children. Thanks to her ongoing business success, she has been able to pay the school fees for all of her children and make improvements to their house.



A young child with dark skin and short hair, wearing a white button-down shirt, is looking directly at the camera. An adult's hand is visible on the left, holding the child's hand. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with greenery and a building.

KAGENO
A Place of Hope

Kageno Programs Give Members of the Community The Ability to Develop Skills and Start New Businesses, Create Jobs, Invest in Their Environment, Control the Spread of Infectious Diseases and Ultimately Live Better, Healthier Lives.

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To donate by credit card, visit our website
at: www.kageno.org

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