

# Caritas Rwanda Newsletter

July – September 2024



**Assisting people in needs and promote  
their integral human development**





**WELCOME TO OUR**

# July - September 2024 Newsletter

Dear Reader,

We are excited to share with you the latest updates, including stories from our diverse programs and projects.

Your unwavering support has enabled us to make a significant impact, and we are truly grateful for your contribution. Together, we are striving to build a brighter future for those who are most vulnerable.

We are eager to continue collaborating with you as we embark on this journey together.

**Caritas Rwanda Team**



## Caritas Rwanda participated in the 21st National Catholic Youth Forum and the youth Jubilee celebration



Group photo - 21 National Catholic Youth Forum

The 21st National Catholic Youth Forum was held at the Diocese of Ruhengeri from the 21st to 25th August 2024, bringing together approximately 5,000 youth across Rwanda and participants from DRC Congo. The theme of this year's forum, "Rejoicing in Hope," was a lively celebration of faith, learning, and community that united the vitality and aspirations of Rwanda's youth under the guidance of the Catholic Church. This year, the forum had added significance as it coincided with the celebration of a dual jubilee.

The National Youth Forum 2024 provided a holistic platform for spiritual growth, doctrinal education, and youth empowerment. It offered a unique opportunity for youth to deepen their faith through daily Masses,

prayer sessions, and reflections designed to bring them closer to Jesus Christ.

### **Educating for a Purposeful Life, Building Bonds and Creating Networks**

Education on Catholic doctrine and moral teachings was a key component of the forum. Through workshops, seminars, and panel discussions, youth were equipped with the knowledge needed to navigate the moral complexities of modern life. These sessions emphasized the importance of living according to Catholic values, fostering a generation that is not only spiritually grounded but also morally responsible.

**READ MORE**



## Collaboration meetings between Caritas Rwanda and diocesan Caritas



To increase the Charity month contribution, the diocesan Caritas have used different strategies. Some raised awareness through Radio Maria Rwanda programs, bus stations and market radios adverts, others conducted field visits in parishes and schools, produced and distributed flyers, while others engaged in door-to-door mobilization and spreading messages using speakers to invite people to contribute to the Charity month.

In August and September 2024, Caritas Rwanda had collaborative meetings with Caritas Ruhengeri, Caritas Byumba, Caritas Kabgayi, Caritas Butare, Caritas Gikongoro, Caritas Rusizi, Caritas Kigali and Caritas Kibungo. These meetings aimed to exchange on the fundraising strategies for the Charity Month, evaluate the implementation of recommendations stemming from the 2023 Caritas Rwanda General Assembly, the Caritas Rwanda's strategic plan 2020-2024, and to begin the process of developing a new strategic plan for 2025-2030.

In addition to the collaborative meetings, the joint team (in every field visit) paid a visit to the centers that care for vulnerable people including orphans, disabled and elderly people. In total 9 centers were visited.

**To read more, visit our website**

[News, page 2](#) >>>

[News, page 3](#) >>>

## Mahama: 50 HH Sudanese refugees / Asylum seekers and other minority nationalities to be supported for their livelihood promotion

To enhance the self-reliance and livelihoods of 50 Sudanese Refugee/Asylum seekers households and other minority nationalities in Mahama Refugee camp, starting from September 2024, a four-month project is being implemented by Caritas Rwanda, with funds from MasterCard Foundation through the UNHCR Rwanda.



The project will specifically target 46 Sudanese households, as well as one household each from Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Chad. The activities will be conducted following the 4 pillars of the Graduation Approach namely Social empowerment, Social protection, Financial inclusion and Livelihood promotion.

**[READ MORE](#)** >>>



### The PRM/PAC Project was officially concluded



Caritas Rwanda and partners, visiting the PAC participant who was exhibiting their income-generating activities.

After three years of implementation, the PRM/PAC Project which was implemented by Caritas Rwanda since August 2021 under coordination of World Vision Rwanda coordination was closed on 23rd July 2024 in Nyabiheke Refugee Camp and on 26th July 2024 in Kiziba Refugee Camp.

The PRM/PAC project focused on four main pillars: social protection, livelihoods, financial inclusion, and social inclusion.

The project was designated to build the resilience of 1500 most vulnerable households of refugees of Nyabiheke and Kiziba camps (70%) as well as their host communities (30%) by utilizing the graduation approach.

**The PRM/PAC Project has established 51 saving groups with 1,348 participants who were trained and received cash grants (Rwf 800,000 each) and started income generating activities. The 51 saving groups Rwf 210,854,693.**

Close out of the PAC Project in Nyabiheke

[READ MORE](#) >>>

Close out of the PAC Project in Kiziba

[READ MORE](#) >>>

### BK Foundation to support 200 youth in pursuing the TVET program through the 5 USAID-funded Igire IPS by 2027

An MOU was signed this 6th August 2024 between BK Foundation and the Igire Implementing Partners at Ubumwe Grande Hotel, marking a significant partnership in supporting 200 youth from OVC and DREAMS supported districts to pursue TVET program throughout 2027.

As a pilot phase, this activity will be implemented in five districts namely Muhanga, Kayanza, Kicukiro, Rwamagana and Nyamasheke targeting 200 youth from OVC and DREAMS-supported districts. The prioritized districts have a bigger youth population that

TVET scholarship and the majority are adolescent girls and young women.



Group photo - Signing MOU between BK and 5 USAID-funded Igire IPS

[READ MORE](#) >>>



## The official launch of Tubeho Neza Aheza Project

The Tubeho Neza Aheza project, which aims to promote a decent life and equality in a healthy environment in Rwanda, was officially launched on July 5, 2024, by Pascasie Umuhuza, the Vice Mayor of Karongi District responsible for Social Affairs.

This project is funded by Caritas Slovenia and the Slovenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and will be implemented by Caritas Nyundo/Kibuye in coordination with Caritas Rwanda. The Tubeho Neza Aheza project aims to tackle challenges related to access to natural and financial resources and reduce gender inequality and gender-based violence (GBV), with a focus on women and girls in 1,595 impoverished households from the Rugabano, Gashari, Rwankuba, and Mutuntu sectors.



Group photo / Official launch of Tubeho Neza Aheza Project- Karongi District

During this event, Vice Mayor Pascasie Umuhuza expressed her appreciation for the project's contribution to improving the lives of beneficiaries through its planned activities. She extended her gratitude to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia, Caritas Slovenia, Caritas Rwanda, and Caritas Nyundo Kibuye for their past contributions, which have significantly enhanced the lives of the people in Karongi District. She also pledged their continued collaboration throughout the implementation of this project.



Vice Mayor Pascasie addressing participants in the official launch of Tubeho Neza Aheza Project

**READ MORE**





## The USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose Program hosted various guests who came to learn its interventions



The guests visited the Kabindi Village in Gahunga sector, highlighting the importance of feeding children a nutrient-dense diet within ECD facility.

In collaboration with Burera District, on 30th July 2024, the USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose Program welcomed a delegation from the District Plan to Eliminate Malnutrition secretariat and USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose nutrition team from 9 districts. This visit was organized to facilitate the exchange of innovative ideas and best practices in preventing stunting and promoting inclusive nurturing care, as implemented by the USAID Gikuriro Kuri Bose program in Burera District.

The team visited the Rugarama Nutritional Center in the Rugarama Sector and benefited from the presentation of the Continuous Quality Improvement Project through which children affected by malnutrition are

rehabilitated in close collaboration with the community, the Sector Plan to Eliminate Malnutrition and Child Development (SPEM-CD) and partners including GKB. The Nutrition Rehabilitation Fund (Ikigega cyo Kondora umwana) operating at the SPEM level plays a great role in providing financial support for lacking food commodities.



At the Rugarama Nutritional Center, participants are following a presentation of the Continuous Quality Improvement Project.

**READ MORE**







## From Farming for Living to Potential Farmers' Buyer

Ethan Jean Bosco is a young Burundian refugee living in Mahama refugee camp. He sells fruits, vegetables, honey, various flours, cereals, and other types of food in Mahama market II. Ethan attributes the success of his income-generating activity to various trainings and a cash grant worth Frw 800,000 that he received from Graduation, a UNHCR-funded project implemented by Caritas Rwanda.

*"I was used to cultivating other people's land to earn an income to survive. However, after receiving the cash grant in June 2023, I started buying and selling the products of those who used to be my employers. I am happy to say that I now contribute to the livelihoods of 2 employees, each earning a monthly income of Frw150,000,"* testifies Ethan. Ethan's life has changed for the better; his relationship with the savings group and microfinance institutions has improved, and he now has capital worth Frw 3,000,000, which is more than enough to meet his family's basic needs.



Ethan sells various fruits, vegetables and other items in Mahama II market.