



News Highlights

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Meet Yvonne, a powerful testament to Impact Hope's sponsorship program, from high school through to university.

Yvonne's Next Step

Yvonne's journey is a powerful reminder that finishing high school is not the end: it is only the beginning.

To escape war, Yvonne fled with her family from DR Congo to Rwanda as a child. Even today, her family still lives in a refugee camp. Despite the limitations of camp life, Yvonne worked hard in school and discovered a clear calling: she wanted to become a nurse.

Through Impact Hope, Yvonne was given the opportunity to attend Rwankeri Adventist Academy, where she studied nursing prerequisites in secondary school. She graduated in 2025 with strong marks and a good foundation. But like many students, her future was uncertain.

For four long months after graduation from high school, Yvonne waited in the refugee camp, applying to universities and praying for a way forward. Without additional support, she knew her education would stop, limiting her to low-paying work as a nursing assistant.

"It was a very difficult time," she shared. "I was praying to God to make a way."

Even in that uncertainty, Yvonne stayed focused. She studied hard and passed her national nursing exam. She continued to hope.

Then, the answer came. Moving in faith, Impact Hope leadership approved Yvonne to start attending the Adventist University of Central Africa (AUCA).

Yvonne's story highlights a growing need: next steps after high school.

Yvonne's Story Continued

Even though a sponsor was not in place, some University Assistance funds were used to help get Yvonne started.

Today, Yvonne is pursuing her nursing degree with a vision to serve others and continue her education even further.

Her story highlights a growing need. Each year, more Impact Hope students graduate from high school ready to take the next step. But without sponsorship and support, many cannot continue.

Yvonne is still in need of a sponsor. Her journey continues because we believe in her potential to provide for herself and impact others as a well trained nurse.



Students like Yvonne can move from survival to becoming skilled professionals who will strengthen their families and support their communities.

Sponsor a University Student

Sponsor a student like Yvonne and walk alongside them on their journey through university—providing consistent, personal support that makes their future possible.

Learn more or become a sponsor today at [impacthope.org/sponsor](https://www.impacthope.org/sponsor) or scan the QR code to get started. Search "University" under Sponsorship Type.



Elephant Air Conditioning

Elephants huge ears aren't just for show: they're packed with blood vessels. By flapping them, elephants cool their blood and regulate body temperature in the hot East African climate.

From Classroom to Calling

Eric's educational journey has been a challenging one. Like many Impact Hope students, Eric worked hard, knowing that education was his pathway forward. He developed a growing confidence in his studies, especially in English, a skill he knew would be critical for his future. English did not come easily, but he pushed himself, practicing, asking questions, and steadily improving.

After graduation from high school, Eric returned to the refugee camp where his family lived. For months, he waited. "I didn't know what would happen next," he said. "I saw other students before me who had finished school, and they were still there. I felt discouraged, even hopeless. The future I had worked toward felt so distant."

But instead of withdrawing, Eric made a different choice. He began tutoring younger kids in the camp. Having already completed high school, he understood the subjects they were struggling with. So he sat with them, helped them learn, explained lessons, and worked through math problems together. What started as a simple way to help others became something more. "As I helped them," Eric shared, "it helped me too. Serving others gave me purpose and it lifted my spirits." In a season of waiting and uncertainty, it reminded him that his life still had meaning, and impact.

Then, the opportunity came. Through an Impact Hope sponsor, Eric received support to attend university. Today, he is studying at the Adventist University of Central Africa, where all of his courses are taught in English: the very skill he once struggled to learn.

But Eric didn't leave his tutoring behind. Even now, as a university student, families from the camp still reach out to him.



In the evenings, parents send him messages asking for help. Sometimes they text photos of difficult math problems. Other times, they call him so he can walk their children through solutions step by step. What began as a simple act of service has grown into lasting relationships. Eric is no longer just a student, he is a mentor, a guide, and a source of encouragement to many.

Eric dreams of starting a technology company that improves access to services, especially healthcare, for refugee communities. But even now, he is already living out that vision. By serving others. By lifting others. By turning his waiting into purpose.

And that is the power of opportunity. When one student is given a chance, that impact does not stop with them. It multiplies.

Judith - Director, Impact Hope Rwanda

When Impact Hope first began, the goal was simple: help refugee students complete high school. At that time, many young people in the camps could only study up to 9th grade in or around the refugee camps. Giving them the chance to complete high school in a safe, Christian boarding academy was life-changing.

But over time, as we walked closely with these students, we began to see something more. Finishing high school is important—but it is not enough. Many of our graduates return to the camps without real opportunities for work or self-reliance. They have worked hard, but without further education or skills, their future remains limited.

This realization shaped the next steps. Impact Hope began supporting a small number of students in university, and then launched the Center for Hope to provide vocational training for others. Both pathways are valuable. But the need is still much greater than what we can currently meet. Every year, hundreds of capable students graduate. Many are ready for university. Yet, with limited funds, only a few can go.

What encourages me most is their determination. They believe in Impact Hope. They work hard, hoping for a chance. Even graduates from past years continue to ask if there may still be an opportunity.

Our dream is that we can expand, so that more students can continue beyond high school. We are seeing the need more clearly, and with your support, we can respond more fully. Please support our University Assistance fund to empower more refugee youth to get a college education.

Learn more or donate to the university fund at [impacthope.org/university](https://www.impacthope.org/university) or contact us at



Ways YOU Can Make an Impact

SPONSOR A STUDENT

\$50 monthly provides a safe education at a Christian boarding school and all living essentials.

DONATE

Make a monthly or one-time donation of any amount that empowers refugee youth.

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