



Page 2 | Rwanda Culture Corner

Page 3 | Sewing Hope for Local Children

Page 4 | 7th Graders Join Impact Hope



Culinary Student shows bread made in class.

Summer Training Experience

This summer, 180 refugee youth came together for Impact Hope's Summer Training Program. It was a special time of learning, growth and connection. Your support made this experience possible.

These students will all begin their senior year of high school this month, making this an important time in their lives.

With your support, students chose from a variety of hands-on trades, including tailoring, culinary arts, hairdressing, plumbing, electrical work, and permaculture. Hairdressing proved to be the most popular choice, followed by culinary arts.

The students also strengthened their English, learned about healthy living through a

NEWSTART program, and participated in activities such as volleyball, mural painting, and guitar.

For Gervais, the permaculture class was about much more than learning how to grow food. It gave him hope for his family's future.

"I chose to take Permaculture for my morning class because I want to learn how to grow food and make land productive." Gervais said.

"My father has told me that our family has good, fertile land back home in the DR Congo. But because of the ongoing conflict, it is not safe for us to return and use the land."

Continued on page 2.

Summer Training Experience Continued



"I want to learn as much as I can about permaculture so that someday, if the war ends and we are able to return home, I can develop our family's land into productive gardens. Because of what I am learning here, I am confident that I will be ready to manage our land and make it produce abundantly to provide for our family in the future." -Gervais

Gervais' story captures the deeper purpose of Summer Training. These young people aren't simply learning skills for today. They are preparing for the day when they can use those skills to support their families, serve their communities, and build a better future. Each day included morning and evening worship, giving students time to grow spiritually as well as practically. Throughout the program, they were encouraged to develop not only their skills, but also their character, confidence, faith, and vision for the future.

Fourteen volunteers from the United States joined Impact Hope this year to make the program possible. They taught practical skills, guitar, and life-skills classes, while also spending time encouraging and mentoring the students.

It was a busy summer—and a meaningful one. The students embraced every opportunity to learn something new, try something different, and take another step toward their future.

For refugee youth, opportunities like Summer Training can make a lasting difference. Because of your support, these 180 students were able to gain practical skills, strengthen their confidence, deepen their faith, and prepare for their final year of high school.



Rwanda Culture Corner

Rwandans place a high value on community. There is a saying in Rwanda, "Ubumwe ni imbaraga," which means "Unity is strength." Working together and helping one another are important parts of daily life and have played a key role in rebuilding the country in recent years.

Sewing Hope for Local Children

Center for Hope Update



Our Center for Hope tailoring students are learning more than how to sew. They are learning how to serve others.

This year, students in the Tailoring Program worked with three local primary schools to make new school uniforms for 111 children (58 boys and 53 girls) from low income families who could not afford them.

First, the students and their teachers visited the schools to take each child's measurements. Then, back at the Center for Hope, they carefully made a new uniform for every child.

After all the uniforms were completed, the children came to the Center for Hope for a

special celebration. Many arrived wearing old, worn-out clothes or faded, mismatched uniforms.

The boys and girls were presented with their new uniform and given a private place to change. Soon, they came back smiling and laughing as they wore their crisp new uniforms for the first time.

Seeing these children leave with confidence and joy was a special moment for everyone. We are proud of our students for using their new skills to serve others. They are not only learning a trade, they are sharing hope and making a difference in their community.



Amazing Trunk

An elephant's trunk has about 40,000 muscles. It can pick up a tiny blade of grass or lift a heavy log.

Hope Can't Wait

Back to School Campaign



This year, we are taking an exciting new step. For many years, Impact Hope has focused on providing education for refugee youth from 10th-12th grade. This fall, we are beginning to take refugee youth starting in the 7th grade (S1 in Rwanda).

Why start earlier? By meeting students three years earlier, we can walk with them longer, providing Christian education, nutritious meals, discipleship, encouragement, and a safe community. We believe this early support will help students grow in faith and character, succeed in school, and gain the confidence they need for the future.

For these special young people, going to a Christian school will be a life changing experience. Jesus said if we have "done it to one of the least of these, we have done it to Him."

If you would like to sponsor any of these 7th-grade refugee youth, please visit: ImpactHope.reachapp.co/campaigns/back-to-school-2026 or scan the QR code.



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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