

PREGNANT WOMEN PROJECT

« TWITEHO AMAGARA Y'UMUKENYEZI N'IKIBONDO

TESTIMONY FROM WOMAN BENEFICIARY OF THE PROJECT



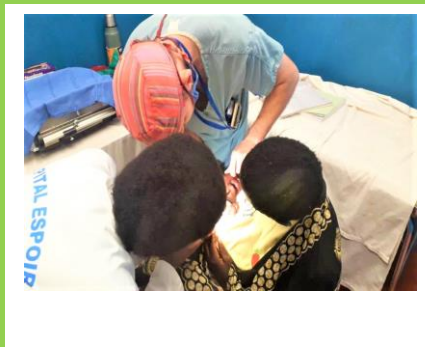
«*This project was like a divine intervention for my family.*» said Mrs MPAWENAYO

“My first baby, my daughter Benitha was born with a” cleft lip ”deformity in the mouth. Due to this deformity my daughter could not breastfeed properly, she needed the assistance of powdered milk to survive. Due to the degree of poverty within my family, my husband and I were unable to cover the cost of purchasing his milk. Thanks to this project, our Baby Benitha received milk assistance which allowed him to survive. At 6 months of birth, this same project supported us for a surgical operation on Baby Benitha to correct the malformation at the KIBUYE Hospital where an American surgeon was in charge of the operation... »

"Today our Benitha is a healthy, very fulfilled girl whose joy and hope for life can be read through her smile!"

“We chose the name " Benitha " which means “blessing” because God used this project to come to the rescue of our baby and this little angel is a great blessing for the family.»

Mrs MPAWENAYO-BENITHA’S MUM



WOMEN ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

TESTIMONY FROM A VSALs WOMAN MEMBER - (Village Savings & Loan Association)

NSHIMIRIMANA ALINE

«I am a member of the group / VSLA "Twitezimbere", I live on the hill of KIBIMBA with my husband and my 4 children.

I have already made savings of 21,000F.

On 02/15/2021, I took a loan of 20,000F to buy seeds of a new variety of beans for 5,000F, fertilizer for 15,000 F. Through this loan, my husband and I were able to cultivate a larger part of our fields which had not been able to be cultivated in previous years due to lack of financial means to buy seeds and agricultural inputs. The training I received on Savings and Loan motivated me a lot to start saving as much as possible. Of the 8 acres cultivated this year, part of the harvest will be used to feed my family and another part can be sold to meet other needs. Today I feel very proud to have been able to contribute to enhancing family life through this Savings and Loan program ! It gave me more esteem and values in the eyes of my husband and my in-laws.

I thank Shekinah Centre, the initiator of the VSLAs groups in my community who as a woman offered me this opportunity to contribute to the socio-economic development of my household. In time of financial need, case of financial, the VSLA has become my help.



• **TESTIMONY FROM NIYONKURU ALICE, VSALs MEMBER (Village Savings & Loan Association)**



NIYONKURU ALICE,

"I live on Rusaka Hill with my husband and our 2 children.

I am a member of the VSLA group "TWIYUNGUNGANYE".

"I see the Savings and Loan activity as a great way to lift my life and that of my family out of poverty.

Since the start of the VSLAs groups in December 2020,

- I have already made savings of 55,000F.
- On 12/14/2020, I took a loan of 5000F to buy cabbage vegetable seed and this loan was refunded. Part of the harvest of vegetables served as food for the family and another part of vegetables was sold for a sum of 15,000F.
- On 4/01/2021, I requested a new loan of 20,000F to buy selected seeds of potatoes, to cultivate on a space of 4 ares whose harvest is scheduled for the month of April 2021. This loan was already reimbursed. With the proceeds from part of the expected large crop that will be sold, I plan to buy 2 piglets for breeding in order to produce much more manure for the fields. The rest of the harvest will be consumed by the family.
- On 03/01/2021, I took a 4th loan of 75,700 F with which I rented a space of 100mx40m and I planted potatoes there (far from the family estate). This credit has been fully reimbursed
- On 03/15/2021, I contracted a 5th loan of 100,000F to buy agricultural intrats for the next growing season.

Thanks to these Savings and Loans program, in the space of 3 months, my economic life as well as that of my family has been completely enhanced. Seeing the advantages of my membership in the VSLA Group, my husband decided to support me by joining me in savings. This transformation of the economic life of my family is a subject of admiration in my village. I have become "Mama MUCO" "Lightning Mum" for those around me. Many thanks to Shekinah Centre for initiating VSLAs in my community. »

