

Community transformation

The Mwumba community in the Ngozi province, Burundi



Helping the community to overcome its basic needs to provide focus for health and education.

Background

Mwumba has been identified as one of the most neglected and poverty stricken communities in Burundi. War has left the Mwumba infrastructure in ruins and has destroyed the confidence and the self respect of the people.

The community has a density of 603 people per square kilometre which makes it one of the most densely populated parts of the world. Although there is some education, teachers are unreliable, children don't have appropriate latrines and there are very few materials. Many children drop out of school because of poverty, to either help their parents cultivate the small land they have, or go to the city to look for work.

The good news is that the community is now stable and some degree of normality is returning to the security situation.

Proposal

Over the next 10 years Fh will work with the Mwumba community to support them in lifting themselves out of abject poverty. The top priority for the work is to provide love and care for those orphaned by war, HIV / AIDS, and natural death.

One of the most encouraging factors in Mwumba is that people are available and willing to work with the FH staff to design a program. This work will be integrated with other projects run by Fh such as agriculture and health.

Although the project will focus on direct help toward 500 children the long term beneficiaries will also be the families of these children and over time the whole community.

The FH program will collaborate with parents, leaders, local churches, and other local associations in improving the education of children,



Target population

A community of 77,628 people

Time frame

This programme is based on a long term approach to community transformation, designed to last for 10 years, estimated to begin in May 2009. Trained FH staff will be living in Mwumba, working with leaders and volunteers from the community.

Finance

Each year this programme costs approximately £25,000.