

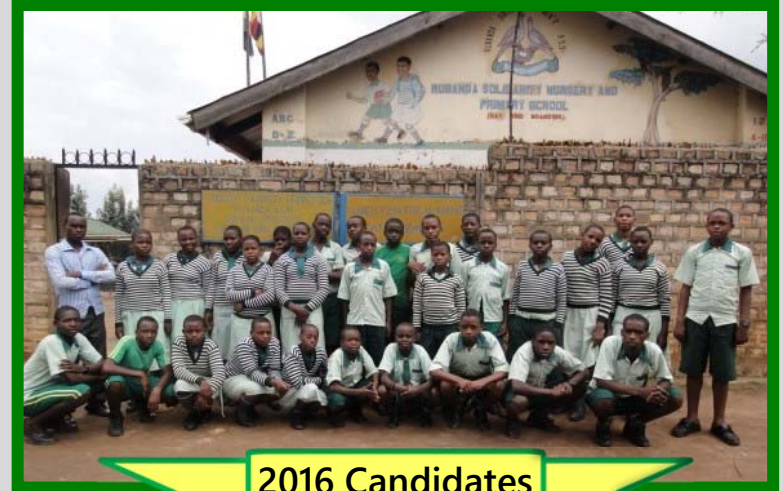
Rubanda Solidarity School



2016 Kindergarten Graduates



2017 Candidates



2016 Candidates

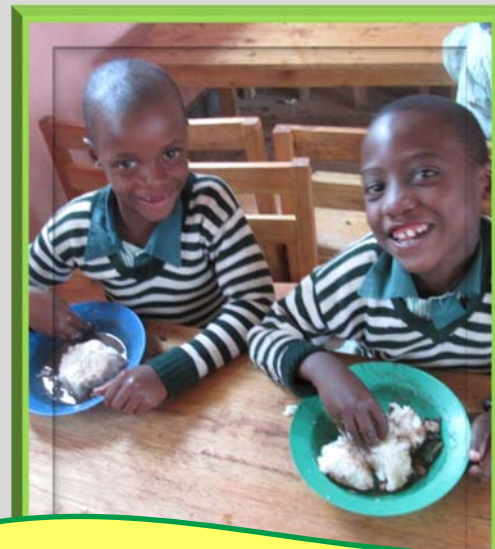


The future!

*To find out more about our mission or
to make a donation, please contact us:*

Rubanda Solidarity
P.O. Box 1050
Kabale Uganda
+1.971.272.7001
+256.39.290.0394

domtumu@yahoo.com
rubandasolidarity@yahoo.com
www.rubandasolidarity.blogspot.com
www.yambaabaana.org



Twelve Years Later...

From Our Director—Fr. Dominic

Twelve Years of abundant Blessing



This year marks the twelfth birthday of Rubanda Solidarity School. I once again would like to stop and reflect on Rubanda Solidarity as a gift and a blessing from God to Rubanda community, a new district. So many miracles have since happened that I can't explain. God uses each of us, in his way, to serve humanity, and in my case he has used me as an Apostles of Jesus, missionary of latter days to be a channel to serve. This missionary spirit gave me an opportunity to travel, enjoy adventures, learn to give and take back with each day being a new chance to give back. I am very grateful.

Life is a gift to share and Jesus came to show us how. For he came so that all may have life, have it in all its fullness. Cf. John 10:10. It's Christ therefore, who inspires and motivates his people to live for others and not get lost in themselves. Hence, our individual lives are like a loaf of bread broken into little pieces and shared out to make others whole. This is the way we strive to contribute to building Kingdom of Christ until he returns. God does miracles. For instance, have you ever thought of how much our family poor background can be inspiring? It continues to inspire me to work hard, learn from any opportunity and take advantage of each and every blessing God provides each day to make a difference in life. I have a belief that life can be better with hard work, in solidarity and love of others. And a caring soul God will always provide.

Rubanda Solidarity came as a dream that slowly becomes a reality. Its fruits are getting ripe each day that passes. In 2004, the study carried out with 70 kids found that lack of enough food was the major cause for school dropout. We pursued it and started a school that would start to offer meals and boarding services to vulnerable children. Since then life has never been the same. The school dropout went down to zero, enrollments gradually went up from 70 in 2004 to over 300 in 2016. Our excellent academic performance in national examinations has produced 137 students enrolled in higher institutions of education since 2012. We have not had any dropouts or failures. Our local and foreign partnerships have also grown each year..

In this New Year 2017, we want to continue to strive to make a difference in the lives of our vulnerable children. We continue to offer quality education that includes prioritizing health, academics, and spiritual values in a holistic spirit. It's amazing to see how God walks with us in life and we want to remain his vehicle. Let solidarity, community involvement and participation remain our vital means to development of a community like Rubanda whose poverty levels have gone beyond an individual's strength. Solidarity has come to offer new hope and new source of success.

Thank you all our donors and friends; your support has brought us thus far. The Yamba Abaana US and Croce Del Sud and all other partners deserve our greatest appreciation. Without your great support, we would have little to celebrate today. Please do not get tired. Much has been done and more still remains to be done. I hope you know that Rubanda community is very grateful for all your efforts and generosity as they know that any great success depends on "Solidarity" and unity. Together we can make it.



Peace & Bosco



Board Members - Rebecca Brown, Bruce Murray, Bob Busch, Steve Voehl, and David Sharp



Honoring the participation of the community

Yamba Abaana

Yamba Abaana-USA is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization founded in 2012. We assist the mission of Father Dominic in providing a quality educational and spiritual experience for the children of the Rubanda Solidarity Primary and Nursery School. We now have more than a hundred friends and donors who generously support us. In the past 2 years we brought fresh, clean water to the school and town through construction of the first well in the area, built a new nursery boarding school campus for 60 children ages 4-6, and expanded our roster of child sponsorships to 58. These sponsorships benefit disadvantaged kids who, without the generosity of sponsors from around the world, would not be able to pay their tuition, fees, and boarding costs (\$360/year). We now have child sponsors from across the USA, as well as from Australia, and Taiwan. All of the 320 children now have new mosquito nets over their beds, and we have supplied more than 50 Kindle e-books, preloaded with 100 books each that are culturally and age appropriate.

We work in partnership with the school administration, PTA, teachers, and children to promote projects that they feel are needed to improve the educational experience. The children, with teacher support, made more than 200 beautiful handmade lacquered paper bead necklaces that have brought in enough donations from our supporters from around the world to pay for new solar panels at the nursery school. We hope that will be an ongoing project in the coming years.

This was a year of joy as well as sadness. Peace, our wonderful Yamba Abaana employee at the school, got married this past September. She helps organize and supervise our projects at the school and is responsible for the sponsored children staying in touch with their donors through personal letters sent at least twice a year. She is invaluable to us and we wish Peace and Bosco many years of happiness. On a sad note, Bob Busch passed away in November, 2016 after a long illness. Bob was a founding member of YA and served as our treasurer on the Board of Directors these past 5 years. He was a very close friend of Father Dominic and passionately loved the Rubanda Solidarity school project (he is pictured in the center in the group photo). He will be greatly missed by so many people here and abroad.

This coming year promises to be a wonderful one for Yamba Abaana. We hope to start a new dormitory project at the primary school and to continue to expand our child sponsorship base. Please check our websites (yambaabaana.org and rubandasolidarity.blogspot.com) for more information and how to join our organization. Best wishes and God Bless all of you in 2017 and beyond!

“Dr. Bruce” Murray, M.D., DTM&H

President, Board of Directors, Yamba Abaana

Our Beautiful School

Like Home...and much more: A parent's perspective

Rubanda solidarity nursery and primary school is a precious gift to the community. Through it, God is blessing so many families and the individual children whose life will be forever transformed because they have had a unique opportunity to study in a caring and quality school. The quality may not necessarily be in terms of physical structures but in the care, the faith, the values and the education that the children get while they are there, and carry within themselves wherever they go.

Our family has had four children in this school, one just completed primary seven and three are still going on. They returned home thrilled for their first holiday and said something unforgettable; “The school is very good; **they give us enough food.**” You have to understand our context in Africa in order to appreciate this statement, “...they give us enough food.” Rarely do children feel they have had enough food especially at school. A big thank you to the administration and all who are involved in providing for this very basic need that keeps the children healthy and doing well in class.

I visited the school in 2015 and I was impressed by the warm welcome, joy and hospitality from the faculty, staff and the students I met. What a great place to teach and raise our children. I observed with great appreciation, so much hard work, good will, collaboration and improvement.

Thanks to you all our dear donors who from the depth of your hearts continue to reach out to our community to make the lives of these children and consequently of their families better. Thanks for your loving hearts that embody the providence of God which is gradually transforming the little seed sown by Fr. Dominic Tumusiime many years ago into a big tree that continues to bear abundant fruit year after year. May each one of you hear these words of Christ re-echoing in your hearts; “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” Mt. 25:40

Sr. Resty Nyinoweitu

Croce Del Sud



Time flies. It's now twelve years since our first friends of Croce Del Sud (the Cross of the South) funded our first project in 2005 to purchase the first piece of land on which our primary school stands today. They also funded the construction of our first existing two permanent classrooms and office and have since then remained our friends in both good and hard times. The Croce

Del Sud Association was founded by Ms. Francesca Polonini (L), a friend to Fr Dominic, as an inspiration to support the cause of Rubanda Solidarity and many more projects with disadvantaged children around the world.

They believe in solidarity as a key principle for development with an impact. With a steadily growing number of members, they all pull their energies together and work hard to fundraise. Dear Croce Del Sud, you started dressing Rubanda Solidarity up when we were still fragile and a child learning to walk. We are proud of you for you have indeed become our partners of all seasons. You brought a smile on our faces twelve years ago and have made sure we keep smiling. Without you, we would have little to talk about today. Thank you.



Our Family in Maranello Modena

In 1995 I made my first trip to Italy in Europe. It was not an enjoyment venture but seeking medical help after a serious motor accident. Providentially I was received and hosted by two great families. The family of Mario and Denatella Domenighinni of Ospitaletto Brescia introduced me to the realities of Europe and Italian language. Eventually, I met Claudia (second L) and Giovanni Caselli (R) a couple that hosted me in Modena, near Bologna. Giovanni is a brother to Sr. Chiara Caselli with whom I was working in the mission in Ethiopia, the place of the accident. My stay with them developed a close friendship that spread like a wildfire and involved many others.

Soon, a project of sponsorship under this family's initiative began with four children and gradually expanded to 15. That was back in 2005. Today, some of those students are in the university and colleges. On the sad note, this great couple had one son - Simone Caselli. Simone loved and greatly enjoyed snow riding for years until he met untimely death almost two years ago. It was a great devastation to the family. No child can replace your child. However, the love and generosity of the two fully involved in the coordination of our fifteen students for years has sustained their hope. We can't thank you enough Gianni and Claudia for your great support and an infirmity contribution fund that you set up in memory of your beloved son Simone Caselli. May Simone rest in eternal Peace. We love you.



Skills Project

Yamba Abaana UG Skills Project

Teacher Immaculate Tumuhimbise (standing L) and Ms Peace Uwimana (not in photo) are working hard to engage our students into various life skills. Our kids just love skills for they know its real life in practice. Since 2016 we have embarked on necklace making to be followed by a rosary making project this 2017. These projects are unique. They provide economic incentive, boost school social life, care for environment by recycling



used papers and plastics, earn income and sustain children's education and school efforts to provide quality education. Our first project has had huge impact on our students who participated in the program. Each child received substantial amount of cash for school scholastic needs while the other money was used to provide solar panels for the new nursery students who were in the dark. We can't thank you

enough teacher Immaculate and Peace for all your efforts to provide our children with life skills. To our friends of Yamba Abaana USA, our children are so excited and grateful that their skillful art work is so admired and appreciated by friends far from home with donations we receive through you to make our life better. Thanks so much.



Alumni Association (RSAA)

The Rubanda Solidarity Alumni Association (RSAA) was formed in 2014. It was launched by the school director during the former first students' long vacation of 2014. The association was formed to continue to provide an opportunity to our former students and staff to be students and employees in our school. The association membership is growing steadily from the first class of 22 in 2012 to 137 in 2016. Its objectives are among others, to come together, share, learn and inspire one another for life and build a network for future support of the mission of their former school. For "Unity is power to success".

Class of 2012



Class of 2013



Class of 2014



Class of 2015



Class of 2016



Our New Nursery Home

For 12 years, our nursery school students enjoyed the hospitality of our primary students. It was not to be forever. Time had come to be in their own school when providentially the Yamba Abaana USA came to our assistance and funded our project in 2015. In less than a year, we saw our new nursery home complete. It opened its doors with a capacity of 60 beds at the beginning of second term 2016. On that day, one of the teachers is said to have overheard a jubilant nursery student shouting, "We have gotten our own new school. We will now be free from big students and away from their noise. We will also shower, sleep and eat enough, alone, with calm", Prosper whispered. Teacher Kesande Joy, the new nursery head, with all her staff, gratefully convey the appreciation of the whole school community to all those who made it a reality for our children. "It's a safe and an excellent place where parents should not miss to bring their cherished children or recommend a friend", she says before adding her commitment to make sure the new school becomes a home and a bank for each child and a bank for quality education.



Sponsorship Program

Our Sponsorship project is one of the vital projects in Rubanda Solidarity School. We know that many families struggle to go through the day. We also know how much potential the children have if they have the necessary support against the growing poverty levels in each and every family in the community. In spite of the good intentions parents may have to provide quality education to their children, many can't afford it. Those are the children and families Rubanda Solidarity is thinking about and looking for in our sponsorship program. We passionately want to support these people who are in need and are willing to participate. It's not an easy project at all, for everyone in our school is needy and the number of sponsors is limited. Drawing on experience from the past ten years, we could not wait to have someone fully engaged on site to coordinate this program. I am thankful to introduce and appreciate the good incentive Ms Peace Uwimana has brought in since she joined us as a representative of Yamba Abaana USA. Uwimana, besides other things, is to coordinate Yamba Abaana USA with our school on site. I am very grateful to the Board of Yamba Abaana USA who thought of this and made it a reality. I am glad when I read the children's letters to sponsors and hear and receive feedback from them. They acknowledge the amazing art of English writing they would not expect from our kids. Thank you Peace and welcome to Rubanda Solidarity.



2016 Candidates



Ainemamikama
Bruno



Ainembabazi
Moricia



Akampurira



Akankwasa
Anthony



Akatuhumuriza
Catherine



Amanya
Precious



Arineitwe



Atukwase
Brenda



Atukwase
Robert



Ayebare
Elian



Ayebare
Jovita



Friday
Onesmas



Kabahimba
Florence



Kamusiime
Odeciaus



Karuhanga
Ronald



Kiconco
Pascal



Mafaabi
Jovan



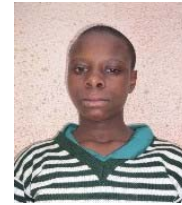
Muhumuza
Isaac



Muhwezi
Patrick



Musasizi
Denis



Nahabwe
Gertrude



Nasasira
Kevin



Natukunda
Evalyne



Natukunda
Immaculate



Niwagaba
Charles



Niwagaba
Onesmas



Niwaha
Apophia



Niwarinda
Daphine



Nitwawine
Anitah



Niwebyoona
Rugambwa



Tumwesigye
Desire



Twinomugisha
Olivias



Twinomugisha
Primah