



Newsletter

Word of Greeting

"For so many years we have suffered hardship and oppression; let us now experience as many years of joy!"

Psalm 90:15 (Hope for all)

Dear friends,

Anyone who has always lived in prosperity, never lived in a war zone and never experienced oppression can hardly understand Moses' prayer. God's people Israel suffered greatly during their slavery in Egypt. They longed for joy and freedom. Anyone living in Gaza, Israel, Ukraine or eastern Congo today identifies with this prayer.

The survivors of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda are also praying today after 30 years: "Let us now experience just as many years of joy!"

Pray with us for the world, that the traumatised and suffering people will receive help and that oppressed people will experience freedom. For the people of Rwanda and the Great Lakes region, that they may live many years in joy, love, forgiveness, reconciliation and with peace in their hearts.

Thank you very much for your support,

Iriba Shalom International e. V.

Together for the survivors of the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda and the new generation



From left: Elisabeth Kürsten, Andreas Brachmann, Denise Uwimana Reinhardt, Victor Adrian, Monika Meier und Kerstin Dietermann

We are the board team of Iriba Shalom International e. V.! Our heart beats for the widows, orphans and the new generations in Rwanda. We are closely connected to the local people through shared experiences, visits, contacts and, above all, through our deep faith and prayer. Our association has been growing here in Germany since 2015 and now has 38 members in Germany, as well as groups of friends worldwide, for example in the USA and the UK. We are particularly proud of the successful projects in Rwanda and the many success stories that have emerged from them.

In order to pause for a moment after so many years and focus on our past achievements and future goals, we held an inspiring retreat in Kassel in May. These days brought us even closer together as a Board and as individual personalities with different life paths, ideas and backgrounds. We have recharged our batteries for our voluntary work in the association and are ready for the next steps. We have realised that we are dependent on committed members and friends who want to actively support us. Don't worry, it's not about a place on the board or managing a project.

Even small contributions, such as the willingness to publicise our association and our work in communities, among friends or in your own company and to be proud of the successes we have achieved together, are invaluable. Do you feel that you would like to join us? Then we look

Change a life through sponsorship

With a sponsorship from our organisation, you can support one or more people and make a lasting difference to their lives. An impressive example of this is Prince, who has been sponsored by Kevin Hüvelmann, co-founder and member of Iriba Shalom International e. V., since 2015:

"When my father died, I was just two years old. My mother struggled to provide for me and my four sisters. The dream of continuing my education after primary school seemed unattainable due to financial constraints. But Kevin's sponsorship changed my life. With his support, I was able to attend school without having to constantly worry about unpaid fees. The sponsorship covered my school fees and allowed me to focus on my studies and participate in enrichment activities. This financial support not only relieved the burden on my family, but also inspired me to strive for excellence. Today I am a university student. The sponsorship I received made this achievement possible and broke the cycle of poverty for my family. I am very grateful for this opportunity and feel a responsibility to give back to my community. This support has enabled me to pursue my dreams and reach new heights." – Prince

Prince not only received financial support from Kevin, but the two also got to know each other personally. Kevin visited Prince several times in Rwanda, and at Iriba Shalom International e. V. we attach great importance to these personal contacts. Photos, letters and small gifts can be sent to Rwanda, and of course it is also possible to travel there.

However, we do not only offer sponsorships for children and young people. Widows who survived the genocide against the Tutsi are also happy to receive support and a friendly connection to Germany. In addition to these individual sponsorships, there is also the opportunity to sponsor a place in our new retirement home together with several people - whether as a family, youth group, sports team or work colleague - or to take on a job sponsorship. The latter secures a job with one of our partner organisations in Rwanda.

We would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to sponsor a child and would be happy to advise you on the best sponsorship for you! Simply send an e-mail to: sponsorship@iriba-shalom-international.org.



Kevin with Prince and two of his siblings (April 2024)

We are looking for a sponsor. Help us and our families.



Physiotherapy for Ineza Hero King

This is Ineza Hero King! At 3.5 years old, he already carries a heavy burden as he has both mental and physical disabilities. He lives with his mother, his HIV-positive grandmother and six other siblings. Thanks to a generous sponsor, the family's basic needs are covered, but we need your help to give Hero King the chance of a better future.

Hero King urgently needs specialised physiotherapy treatment to improve his physical abilities. However, statutory health insurance only covers 90% of the treatment costs. In addition, the costs for occupational therapy (€200) and meals for mother and child (€96) remain uncovered during the treatment period. In total, the family lacks **around €300 to start treatment**. This is an enormous sum by Rwandan standards, where the average income is around €74 per month.

Your support can make all the difference! We want to help provide Ineza Hero King with the necessary treatment and give him the chance of a dignified and pain-free life. Every donation counts. Please state **"Ineza Hero King"** as the intended purpose. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



Ineza Hero King, 3,5 years

Our senior citizens' home in Mukoma

Our major project, the senior citizens' centre in Mukoma on Lake Kivu, continues to make great progress. All the buildings for the senior citizens have now been plastered, fitted with windows and doors and beautifully painted. Thanks to numerous donations, the interior furnishings are now almost complete. However, as we have not yet collected the full amount of € 15,000 for the furnishings and equipment, we are still happy to receive donations with the purpose **"Senior Citizens' Centre"**.

As soon as the new centre has become a safe and liveable home for the 16 widows in need of care, our focus will be on the 12 jobs that will be created. From nurses to cooks to cleaners, these positions need to be filled and financed. To this end, we would like to offer two new forms of sponsorship.

On the one hand, there are job sponsorships. Individuals or groups can sponsor a position in a retirement home. The monthly costs are:

40 €	cook, security staff, gardener or cleaner
60 €	Medical assistant
150 €	Administrative staff
220 €	Trained nurse
440 €	Centre management

If you are interested and have any questions about these sponsorships, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Another form of sponsorship is the sponsorship of the 16 care places that are being created in our retirement home. The monthly costs per place amount to €200 - €250, which can also be covered by a group. We look forward to your interest here too: sponsorship@iriba-shalom-international.org

Together we can make a difference and enable widows in need to lead a dignified life.



A senior citizen (left) who will receive a place with social worker Ahsterie (right)

Computer course for young adults

Helping people to help themselves - generating their own income through education and skills. This is one of our major goals, especially for the young generation in Rwanda. Thanks to a generous donation from *Cents for help e.V.* (the joint campaign of employees and companies of the BOSCH Group in Germany), we can start a computer project this autumn in Rwamagana (approx. 50 km east of Kigali) together with our partner organisation Shalom Ministries, which focuses on precisely this goal. Within six months, 40 young adults will undergo an intensive computer course. The best of them will then receive further training in business management to acquire the necessary expertise to stand on their own two feet and build a successful business.

Thanks to the donation from *Cents for help e.V.*, we can purchase the necessary technical equipment, such as laptops and software. However, there are still costs for the premises, electricity and staff. We need around €5,000 for this, which we would like to raise through your generous donations. Our aim is to start another course after the first one and thus utilise the hardware efficiently and provide even more young people with a sound technical education.



Proud graduates of our computer course in Mukoma (Iriba Shalom Rwanda)

Experience from Mukoma, where computer courses are held regularly in our multifunctional centre, has already shown impressive success. To offer the economically weaker region of Rwamagana such an opportunity, we are hoping for numerous donations with the purpose: **Computer course Rwamagana.**

Together we can give young people in Rwanda a better future!

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Iriba Shalom international e.V.

Evangelische Bank
IBAN: DE86 5206 0410 0000 8104 44
BIC: GENODEF1EK1

Please indicate the purpose of your donation and when making your first donation, please provide your address for the receipt.

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