



grace RWANDA

*Bringing children together
brings the country together.*

Greetings to our special supporters. We've got exciting changes at Grace Rwanda. Together we're bringing literacy to Rwandan children!

A NEW CHAPTER IN RWANDA

Grace Rwanda's writing a new chapter in our story of fostering literacy in Rwanda. Our charity's leadership is moving to Rwanda later this year to set up an office in Kigali so we can launch bigger projects and create stronger partnerships with country's national literacy movement. Grace Rwanda will be working through its local affiliate charity, the Ineza Foundation, a philanthropic social enterprise registered in Rwanda. The plan is to create and operate an Employment Training Centre/Ecolodge, called the Centre de Formation Twifashe, in Gisozi outside of Kigali. Grace Rwanda is seeking funding from the Department of Foreign Affairs, in concert with the B.C. Council for International Cooperation, to expand into health literacy and to create and run this new operation. This centre would ultimately funnel proceeds to sustainably fund Grace Rwanda's literacy and community development work within Rwanda. This green-built complex would be ecologically-friendly, operating on solar power and using the latest environmental conservation technologies.



Conceptual drawing of Centre de Formation Twifashe in Gisozi

It will provide youth and women with entrepreneurship skills so that these trainees in turn can find employment and work toward sustainable development. In this way, we could improve education, empower youth and women, and increase literacy and social equality for participants. Grace Rwanda's goals are to improve national literacy and enhance the opportunities of girls and youth through our YEGO youth library and school books programs. Ineza's wider objectives build on these, aiming to foster personal growth and social responsibility, local employment and strategic partnerships. With this innovative plan, we'll create synergy between Toonies4Change, Grace Rwanda and the Ineza Foundation, to build a holistic, sustainable funding loop that supports our literacy and education work in future. Visit Inezafoundation.org to learn more about this exciting growth of our mission!

A NEW ADDRESS

As part of our move overseas, Grace Rwanda has a new Langley address. We're now at: Grace Rwanda Society, #13 - 19889 96 Ave., Suite #182 Langley, BC V1M 3C7.

RECENT B.C. EVENTS

Grace Rwanda attended Missions Fest in Vancouver in February and Missions Fest in Powell River in May. We outreached to churches and faith-based groups and networked. Learn more at MissionsFestVancouver.ca or PowellRiverMissionsFest.com.



Our affiliate the Ineza Foundation



Our booth at Missions Fest Vancouver



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OUR SCHOOL SUPPORTERS

Thanks to Oaklands Elementary School in Victoria and their support of our Toonies4Change school partnership program. These dedicated students raised funds to provide 1,520 books for children in need at Biti Elementary in Muhanga District. Find out how your school can host a Grace Rwanda assembly or partner with a Rwandan school to foster cross-cultural learning at Toonies4Change.org.



Youth at Biti Elementary thank Oakland Elementary students.



FUNDRAISING FUN

We'd like to thank members of the UBC African Awareness Initiative and SFU's African Students Association for their charity challenge, The Giving Competition, earlier this year to benefit Grace Rwanda. Together these students raised funds to provide more than 300 books for our literacy programs. Much appreciated!

JOIN OUR TEAM

As we grow, we're looking for a fundraising coordinator with professional experience in non-profit fundraising and

grant writing. We're also looking for a video editor to help us craft footage from our last mission trip to Rwanda into short videos about our work. And we're still recruiting board members. Contact us if you are interested in making a difference. Check job postings at GoVolunteer.ca or email info@gracerwanda.org.



Mersedeh Ghassemieh

WELCOME VOLUNTEERS

Grace Rwanda warmly welcomes our newest board member, Mersedeh Ghassemieh. She is a member of the Iranian diaspora who is finishing her PhD in Education in London, England and will be returning to Coquitlam. The SFU and Trinity Western grad has fundraised to build homes in Ecuador with the Jonathan Foundation and volunteered with World Vision. Her skills in education management and social justice will be an asset!

CONNECT WITH US

Visit GraceRwanda.org and Toonies4Change.org. Follow us on [@GraceRwanda](https://www.instagram.com/GraceRwanda). Join us on [Google+](https://plus.google.com/GraceRwanda). Like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/GraceRwanda). Watch videos on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/GraceRwanda). View photos on [Flickr](https://www.flickr.com/photos/GraceRwanda).