

Don't forget to check www.friendsoftubeho.org for all the latest news!

In this Issue:

- Tubeho Executive committee creates microlending program
- FoT in 2009: reaching more orphans, increasing our impact

Other FoT Stories:

- Gift ideas 2
- Volunteering 2
- New program! 3

10 Tubeho Orphans head to school in 2008

During the 2007-2008 school year, our efforts, and our donors' generosity, allowed 10 Tubeho members to attend secondary school or university. We are so pleased to share this great news with you, but no one can explain our impact better than the recipients of scholarships. Their comments follow...

"Before receiving a FoT scholarship, I really didn't think that I would continue

my studies, but God has shown me that there are people who are thinking of me...I thank you with all my heart."

--Ramla

"You helped me to convince myself that the genocide failed. "Who saves only one life, saves the world" this is what your assistance does. Your generosity has a great positive impact on many people's lives."

--Elise-Rida

"I can tell you that the

good heart you showed me, is a good gift and example to follow. This is why my own heart will be there for the others who are in need each time I will have the possibility to do something for others."

--Alexis



Microlending Structure Assures Sustainability

As the school year began in Rwanda in February, the volunteer Tubeho Executive Committee made final decisions about the beneficiaries of Friends of Tubeho's scholarship fund for 2008. All beneficiaries had to adhere to strict guidelines and be ineligible for other forms of financial aid, but the Executive Committee wanted to make sure that all students took responsibility for their education.

They decided to have all scholarship recipients sign

a contract. This contract states that the Tubeho member has received a specified amount of money to pay fees associated with school/university, and stipulates that the student will pay back the funds starting a year after graduation. This decision ensures that Friends of Tubeho's fund will provide for Tubeho's orphans for years to come.

FoT is proud to support this microlending program!

Uburere buruta ubuvuke.

Education is more important than the conditions of one's birth.

--Rwandan proverb



Give the Gift of Education!

When my parents opened their Holiday card this year, they didn't see a picture of Santa Claus, a Christmas tree, or even snow. They opened the envelope to find images of Tubeho orphans and the Friends of Tubeho logo.

Don't we all have enough STUFF? Wouldn't it be nice to give a generous AND meaningful gift to your loved ones? Friends of Tubeho has the

answer!

When you make a donation to FoT, you may make it in someone's honor. When you do so, we will send your loved one an ecard to let them know that you care enough to donate to a worthy cause in their name.

This is the gift that keeps on giving! Both you and your loved one will receive

Friends of Tubeho newsletters and updates for a year after your donation, so that you can both track your investment's impact and read stories from the orphans whose lives you touched.

To honor your loved one with a gift to Friends of Tubeho, visit: <http://friendsoftubeho.org/donate.htm>.

"Don't we all have enough STUFF? Give the gift that keeps on giving with a donation to Friends of Tbeho!"

Friends of Tubeho Wants YOU!

Imfubyi yumvira mu rusaku.

The orphan listens to everything; nothing gets by him.

--Rwandan proverb

We at FoT are proud to support the Tubeho orphans and ensure that they obtain quality education, but between our jobs, family commitments, and our other interests, there is much left undone.

Would you like to help us with our to-do list? Here are some ideas on how to get more involved...

1) Talk about FoT in your faith community.

Introduce an initiative at your church or place of worship to support Rwanda's orphans!

2) Hold a bake sale for education.

Your homemade treats will taste sweeter when people realize that they are helping children obtain education by indulging in a chocolate chip cookie!

3) Host a FoT movie night!

Screen "Sometimes in April," or "Beyond the Gates" at your home and ask your friends to invest in FoT.

We can provide you with talking points and other materials for all of these events. To get involved, contact Amy Marczewski, Director of Development, at Amy@friendsoftubeho.org

We're on Facebook! Go to www.causes.com/friendsoftubeho to join our cause!



FoT Ambassadors Increase our Impact!

During the summer, while most people were enjoying the weather or heading on vacation, Tubeho alumnus Berthe Kayitesi organized a small fundraising drive in the camp where she spent part of the summer. Berthe was also busy finding people eager to help FoT to expand our impact.

Berthe's dedication gave birth to the Friends of Tubeho Ambassadors program. While we are happy doing the work that we do, we recognize the urgent need to do more to provide access to

education. In order to reach three hundred donors and double the money available for presenting opportunities for people like you to invest in Tubeho orphans' futures, we need a network of advocates to support us. FoT Ambassadors will serve this purpose.

FoT Ambassadors spread our message to ever-increasing numbers, and we know that our ambitious goals will be met with their help.

As we set a goal of providing 20 orphans with

access to education for the 2009 school year, the FoT Ambassadors will help to ensure that we reach many people and grow our scholarship fund to include more orphans in 2009!

If you are interested in becoming a FoT Ambassador, contact Amy Marczewski at amy@friendsoftubeho.org.



"FoT Ambassadors will help us grant access to education to 20 orphans during the 2009 school year."

A Note from Board President Alexandre Dauge-Roth

Thanks to the generosity of just 100 donors we raised around \$12,000 in 2008. This relatively small amount of money funded 10 microloan scholarships for this academic year. Your donations allowed one member of 10 different reconstituted families to pursue his or her education. This year, the Executive Committee of Tubeho hopes to extend this opportunity to some of the 80 other families who live in the orphan village, and we are working hard to help them.

Our goal for 2009 is to reach three hundred

donors and double the money available for scholarships. If we reach this goal by the end of January, the 10 current students will continue to pursue their education and 10 more students from 10 other families will be able to do the same.

To meet our ambitious goals, we have established an online giving presence via Network for Good. You can now donate with the click of your mouse!

I will travel to Rwanda in April and May for the 15th commemoration of the

genocide and visit Tubeho's community. This will also be an occasion to assess students' progress, identify specific needs, and evaluate the feasibility of future projects for Tubeho.

I thank you all for your generous donations. You have allowed these young orphans to dream of a bright future. I hope you will be inspired by the resilience and commitment of these young orphans and continue to support what you have started to make possible. *Murakoze cyane!*



FoT Board President Alexandre Dauge-Roth with Tubeho Executive Board President Jeannette Mukandinda



Lynn Tirrell Joins FoT's Board

FoT's focus this year has been on increasing our reach and raising awareness of our work. Part of this effort has involved recruiting new, motivated members to our Board of Directors.

Lynne Tirrell teaches philosophy at University of Massachusetts, Boston, and works primarily in the philosophy of language, feminist theory, aesthetics, and literary theory. Her work on hate speech in the U.S. led her to study changing linguistic practices in Rwanda before, during, and after



the 1994 genocide of the Tutsi.

Her scholarly interest and role in education makes her a natural fit for our Board, and we are thrilled to have her working with us for the orphans of Tubeho.

Join our Cause on Facebook at:
<http://www.causes.com/friendsoftubeho>

Donate online at:
www.friendsoftubeho.org/donate.html



On behalf of all ten 2008 Friends of Tubeho Scholarship recipients - Elise, Innocent, Annoncé, and Alexis thank you for your generous support!

Friends of Tubeho, 933 High Street, Bath, ME, 04530

<http://www.friendsoftubeho.org>

Make checks payable to "Friends of Tubeho Scholarship."
