

The families participating in the IBS Rwanda program have made considerable progress on their road to self-sufficiency. All have begun their new income generating activities, and some have had surplus funds to use for other needs.

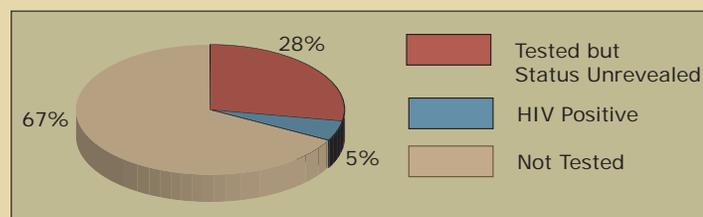
We hope you are as heartened as we are about the progress taking place in Rwanda. We are also excited about the strong financial support we have received for the village program. Our fundraising has reached \$46,000, and we thank all of you for your gifts.

School Support

One goal of IBS Rwanda is to ensure that all the beneficiary children of school age attend primary, secondary or trade schools. Primary and secondary school students all received uniforms and school materials in the first months of the program, and village staff paid their tuition fees for the 2007 school year. At the start of the new school year in January, 194 children started primary school, 40 started secondary school and 7 were enrolled in vocational training centers.

HIV/AIDS

Training and awareness sessions continue to be held regularly to help decrease discrimination against HIV-positive people, encourage prevention of HIV/AIDS and to provide testing. At the end of September, 108 people had been tested for HIV. During the second quarter, an additional 70 beneficiaries chose to be tested. Out of the 178 tested, 25 have been found to be HIV-positive—20 adults and 5 children. For these, IBS Rwanda staff provide psychosocial counseling and connections to treatment centers. Currently, 11 adults and one child who are HIV-positive are receiving antiretroviral treatment.



Status of HIV testing to date.



Income-Generating Activities (IGAs)

During the fall rainy season, the families desired help with their planting for food and, accordingly, were provided seeds for vegetables and beans, along with tools. At the same time, IBS Rwanda staff worked with the families through training sessions to encourage them to choose another income-generating activity.

Most of the beneficiaries (76 families) chose to focus on raising pigs. Two families decided to sell commodities, one to sell shoes and one family chose to raise goats. In October, the households were provided with in-kind grants to begin their IGAs.

Already, these activities are generating incomes, and several families have used their surplus income to purchase materials for house repairs.

Beneficiary Groups

The IBS Rwanda families have been organized into ten beneficiary groups to form economic safety nets for the families. Families in each group contribute funds to a savings account, so that in the case of illness or death of one of the primary caregivers, funds will be available to help the family.

Additionally, the beneficiary groups each participate in a collective income-generating activity and

assist each other with daily tasks. Construction or repair of houses or sheds are common activities where the group members will help each other.

Community Support

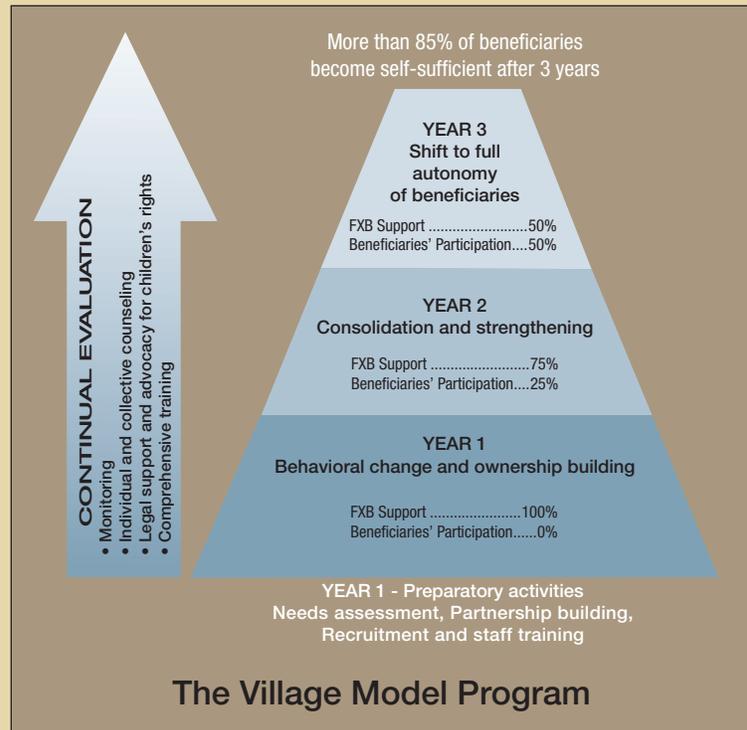
The IBS Rwanda staff maintain a community center which provides a safe haven for beneficiaries and where they can receive counseling from the nurse counselor. On average, 15 beneficiaries seek counseling each day. Issues include domestic violence, children’s rights and the effects of living with HIV and AIDS.

Group	No. of Members	Collective IGAs	Total Savings 1st Quarter	Total Savings 2nd Quarter
Binunga 1	6	Maize growing	\$8.28 USD	\$37.49 USD
Binunga 2	8	Maize growing	\$15.56 USD	\$40.10 USD
Binunga 3	7	Maize growing	\$9.46 USD	\$80.02 USD
Kanyanza 1	8	Maize growing	\$7.64 USD	\$43.95 USD
Kanyanza 2	9	Maize growing	\$4.73 USD	\$28.13 USD
Rwamugoroba 1	9	Maize growing	\$8.82 USD	\$39.73 USD
Rwamugoroba 2	8	Maize growing	\$7.82 USD	\$43.87 USD
Kigaga 1	7	Maize growing	\$5.91 USD	\$24.17 USD
Kigaga 2	6	Maize growing	\$7.892 USD	\$44.18 USD
Nyagatovu	12	Maize growing	\$9.33 USD	\$95.18 USD
Total	80			

The beneficiary groups have made considerable progress in building their savings.

Our Thanks

IBS thanks each person and family who have helped launch and sustain this endeavor. Your support is helping restore hope and health to our families in Gatenzi, and we are most appreciative of your giving.



IBS Rwanda is a partnership between IBS and FXB International. IBS provides 100 percent of the funds required to support the activities of the IBS Rwanda village. FXB International supplies trained staff that design and carry out the activities of the village and provide the human caring so necessary in the success of the village's families.