

**Abunzubumwe "Unity" Kigembe Empowerment Group, Rwanda, Jan. 2023 – Dec. 2025**  
**Partnered with St. Luke's UMC, Orlando and Pasadena Community Church**

**FIRST YEAR GROUP REPORT AS OF FEBRUARY 2024**



*Members of Abunzubumwe Group weeding their maize farm.*

### **GROUP INCOME PROJECTS**

**Table banking project:** After receiving business grants from Zoe, Abunzubumwe Group started a table banking project so that participants could access loans at a low interest of 5%. The returned interest payments will be distributed to participants after a period of accumulation. Loans are usually used to boost small businesses, purchase household materials, and address the needs of siblings.

**Maize growing project:** As a group income project, the members grow and sell maize on land they rent. Zoe provided seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, sprayers, and watering cans. The profits from the harvest are shared among the group members and used to boost their businesses and address the needs of siblings.

### **GROUP ACTIVITIES**

The group conducts mutual help activities to support each other and people in the community. The following are examples of what they have accomplished so far:

- All households helped each other establish kitchen gardens, plant crops, dig compost pits, and make dishracks
- 11 households were helped in house plastering
- 18 households were helped in toilet construction
- 5 members from the community outside of the Zoe program received support in crop planting, and one received help in brick making for house construction

## HOUSEHOLD INCOME GENERATING ACTIVITIES (heads of household and siblings)

Vocational businesses	Farming and/or livestock*	Prepare & sell food/drinks	Service businesses	Retail of food or dry goods	Total IGAs
0	12	5	8	3	28

\* Families often earn additional funds from their agricultural activities, but they are not considered businesses

### Vocational training

Two youths are attending vocational training through apprenticeship in tailoring using their own resources.

## HOUSEHOLD AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Before Zoe, the families struggled to get enough food in quality and quantity, often children went hungry. None of the families had vegetable gardens or owned livestock, and the few who tried to grow crops were not successful due to lack of knowledge and inputs. Now, most families in Abunzubumwe Group can eat at least one satisfying and nutritionally balanced meal every day and 85% are considered food secure.

**Crop production:** All 24 households plant crops. Harvests have been good and families got enough for consumption and had surplus to sell. The money will be used to address household needs.

- All households planted beans and sweet potatoes
- 15 households planted green bananas
- 10 households planted green peas
- 5 households planted arrowroots
- 18 households planted sorghum
- 18 households planted cassava
- 5 households planted peanuts

**Kitchen and/or vegetable gardens:** All 24 households have kitchen gardens and three families also have vegetable gardens in marshlands. (Zoe provided vegetable seeds.)

**Livestock:** Zoe initially provided all 24 households with pigs or goats according to each family's choice. The youth also bought additional livestock using their group savings fund and their business profits. These are current holdings as of January 2023.

- 17 households have pigs (18 in total)
- 5 households have goats (12 in total)
- 5 households have hens (19 in total)
- 12 households have rabbits (15 in total)

## OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- All Abunzubumwe group members have joined the Ejoheza pension program
- 18 households now have modern beds so they are not sleeping on the floor

## Abunzubumwe "Unity" Kigembe Empowerment Group, Rwanda

24 households and a total of 99 children



### **Aline (f) 20**

Aime (m) 12

### **Charlotte (f) 18**

Jacqueline (f) 18

Charlotte (f) 16

Charles (m) 15

Charline (f) 6

### **Christian (m) 16**

Emile (m) 12

Fiston (m) 4

### **Claude (m) 18**

Valentin (m) 14

Cecile (f) 12

Mukeshimana (f) 7

### **Clementine (f) 17**

Jean Paul (m) 15

Jean Bosco (m) 13

Alex (m) 11

### **Clementine (f) 19**

Elie (m) 9

### **Egide (m) 17**

Eric (m) 12

Adris (m) 4

### **Emelyne (f) 18**

Pacifique (m) 13

Joyeuse (f) 4

Samuel (m) 2

### **Emmanuel (m) 16**

Claire (f) 10

Fabiola (f) 8

Delphine (f) 5

### **Fabrice (m) 17**

Valens (m) 13

Kevin (m) 10

Delphine (f) 6

Christian (m) 4

Denise (f) 2

### **Ferdinand (m) 20**

Elise (m) 14

Ariane (f) 8

### **Gilbert (m) 18**

Jean Claude (m) 16

Claudine (f) 13

Daniel (m) 1

### **Hyacinthe (f) 18**

Solange (f) 17

Aphrodis (m) 13

Divine (f) 8

Donatha (f) 5

### **Jean Claude (m) 19**

Bagarirayose (m) 16

Xaverine (f) 9

Jean Claude (m) 7

Jean d'amour (m) 5

### **Jean Claude (m) 18**

Divine (f) 15

Jean de Dieu (m) 13

Benitha (f) 2

Alexis (m) 1

### **Jean de Dieu (m) 18**

Sabine (f) 12

Kevine (f) 10

Clementine (f) 6

### **Jean Pierre (m) 16**

Divine (f) 14

Nsengimana (m) 11

Pascaline (f) 4

### **Josiane (f) 19**

Thacienne (f) 14

Christine (f) 11

Arnaud Ornella (f) 8

Promesse (f) 1

### **Marie Alice (f) 19**

Jean Marie Vianney  
(m) 16

Marie Claire (m) 5

### **Odile (m) 17**

Beathe (f) 10

Fiston (m) 8

Niyonteze (m) 2

### **Sarah (f) 19**

Innocent (m) 17

Samuel (m) 15

Jacques (m) 10

Dorcas (f) 8

Isaac (m) 7

Deborah (f) 5

Esther (f) 4

### **Shumbusho (m) 20**

Jean Claude (m) 10

Jean Pierre (m) 10

Eric (m) 8

Valentine (f) 5

### **Theophile (m) 19**

Gilbert (m) 15

Augustin (m) 12

### **Vital (m) 20**

Augustin (m) 17

Angelique (f) 15

Vincent (m) 6