

Dear Donors and Supporters,

I have carefully tried to think of the exact words to use which could mean what I have to say but I could not find the precise words. For what you have done in my life and in my community, the words of mouth cannot give the appreciation you deserve. You are unique people in my life time!

When I was six I left my home I was taken to a refugee camp and had no hope for either happiness or for love from other people. Hardship in life had fully convinced me that since no one loved me while in my home country, nothing better would happen now that I had left it. I never thought that I would have people like you in my life. I never thought of ever being told, "Joseph, we think you are important" nor did I imagine being told words such as, "Joseph, we love you." I hardly believed that someone would listen to me like Jennifer did when I first met her at the African Leadership Academy.

You have done all of this for me. From a distance, you've listened to me and have seen through Jennifer. I have heard you saying "Joseph you are special and we love you." I have seen your hands reaching for me and acting kindly to rebuild my community. You've been so good, so caring to my heart and my mind. I don't know what to say.

I thank you because what you've done has changed my mentality. You have set a foundation for my hope. You have restored my confidence and the many others who your help will enable to get a quality education. You have bridged a gap which would block the way for many potential entrepreneurs, doctors, politicians, leaders, and responsible citizens needed for a better Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa and the globe. You have showed us love when you have never seen us. We now feel cared for because you gave part of what you could have used for your children, your friends and yourselves. I just say THANK YOU.

Thank you for recruiting many souls back into the society that is humanity. You have loved us not because you expect something from us but because you really care, thank you. Thank you for accepting us the way we are. Thank you for welcoming us as your children, your brothers, your sisters and your friends.

Many of us did not experience love from our parents; they left us when it was time to play with us, laugh with us and share good memories with us. It's almost been a decade and a half since love became a strange word in our daily communication, since we have lived without smiles or real joy in the refugees' camp. Through your donation, regardless the quantity, you have taught us, loved us and thereby taught us how to love. You have planted a seed which will yield lots of smiles to many faces; I just say Thank you

Your support has come at a crucial instant; it will enable a number of children to go to school. Surely, this is a permanent foundation you've laid down for the future generations. Even though he was suffering from Malaria, Jacob felt empowered and smiled when Jennifer told him that he will go to school in February 2010 and his mother was silenced by the joy that filled her heart t now that her son would have the chance to, and will be, successful. The other nine kids who have got this chance with Jacob will also be successful and will also be very important people. At their age (7-10 years) they dream of becoming doctors, nurses, teachers and so on. I can assure you now that your help has come at the right time; they will dream and with your support their dreams will come true. Thank you.

Your donation will be used to construct a class room block which will be a primary school with quality education availed to orphans and refugees kids who could never ever afford to attend the cheapest schools. The donation will also be used to purchase ten sewing machines and other supporting materials for the Anti-violence group (girls of between the ages of 15-20 years who never got opportunity to go to school). Many of the girls are now eager to learn skills for life and after learning they will be able to earn for their future lives and educate their children. Your donation will significantly contribute to the strong minds, labour, skills and capital necessary for the community's transformation.

On behalf of Jacob, Moses, Ayinkamiye Ester, Grace, Naomi Ester, Nshimiye Joseph, Ntakirutimana Uzamukunda, COBURWAS, Anti-violence group and the Kyangwali community at large, I am humbled to say a huge thank you to you for loving us. Thank you for trusting Dr H Jennifer and for encouraging her to come to us. She found us very far and brought us so close to you – to good humanity.

We invite you to take a tour to Africa, Uganda and reach us in Kyangwali refugees' camp. You will not find us crying as one would think of refugees but rather, you will find us with smiles on our face. We will show you around the camp and tell you about the power we now have to make changes in our communities. We will sit on the same table, eat together and tell you how much we appreciate your support. Before you leave us for your flight back home we will say thank you for loving us with smiling faces.

Your Brother and Son,

Joseph Munyambanza.