

# 2020 Regional Report

## GREAT LAKES:

Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda



**impact one.** together we can impact many

### OVERVIEW

2020 has been a year like none other. As government restrictions were put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19, ministry has been impacted, and Young Life staff and leaders have had to adapt. New ways of reaching teens have been developed through online clubs, video call campaigner groups and old-fashioned phone calls.

While traditional Young Life camps could not take place once shutdowns occurred, Young Life leaders were still reaching teens in Burundi, the DRC, and Rwanda, sharing the hope that Jesus offers.

THANK YOU for your partnership that spurs on this ministry. We are so grateful to have friends like you who are covering us in prayer and sacrificing time and treasure to impact teens in this part of the world! Read on to see how God worked in the Great Lakes region during the past year.

### FROM THE STAFF

In the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), we've had our share of ups and downs this past year. Many difficult circumstances have affected our families, ministries, and our country, including a resurgence of militia groups, outbreaks of Ebola and Cholera, terrible flooding, and worst of all COVID-19.

However, this did not draw our attention away from the Lord and doing what He' called us to do. We've come together and forged ahead for the sake of the Kingdom. Through this, we have felt the love of our Sovereign God and our leaders have reflected this love to kids, reaching out to 13,848 kids by phone during the lockdown. 1,148 have accepted Christ. We give all the glory to God who vows never to forget us no matter the circumstance!

**James Mungai Kamau**  
**SENIOR REGIONAL DIRECTOR, DRC**

Though the year was full of uncertainties, we managed to host 21 out of the 26 camps that were planned, before COVID-19 shut in-person ministry down. More than 4,000 kids went to camp and almost half of them gave their lives to Christ.

Currently, more than 4,500 kids have been reached through phone and video calls, and many have given their lives to Christ. Through it all, we give Glory to God as we continue to do ministry through online platforms.

**George Bataringaya**  
**ASSOCIATE REGIONAL DIRECTOR, RWANDA**



# THE IMPACT...

59,605\* teens known by name



\*Burundi - 2,409 | DRC - 50,576 | Rwanda - 6,620

## RWANDA OUTREACH CAMP

Rwanda hosted a very unique outreach camp before COVID-19 hit. Leaders put on this particular camp once a year, referred to as the “Young Life Festival” and is essentially a very large talent show! Kids come from all over Kigali to watch dance, singing, comedy and even a fashion show. Young Life staff and leaders invite different famous gospel singers in Rwanda to help judge the competition. This year the talent was outrageous! All the campers came very well prepared and the crowd was made up of 275 kids! One person goes home with a grand prize. Throughout the night, the Young Life program team does skits in-between talents and at the end, the gospel message is shared. Kids are sitting at the edge of their seat so ready to hear this message. This year, 118 kids were saved! Most of the kids who got saved were those who came to the festival to just have fun. After the event, staff and leaders had a meeting with the 118 who accepted Jesus to help them to know the way forward in their new decision to follow Christ.



Join us in praising and thanking God for this incredibly fun and holy time. We ask you to join us in praying for the 118 who accepted Jesus - that they would walk faithfully with Him every day for the rest of their lives. We pray for the spirit of wisdom and revelation for their leaders and we pray that God would be glorified in their lives.

## THE NUMBERS

### STAFF

<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>
BURUNDI	DRC	RWANDA

### VOLUNTEER LEADERS

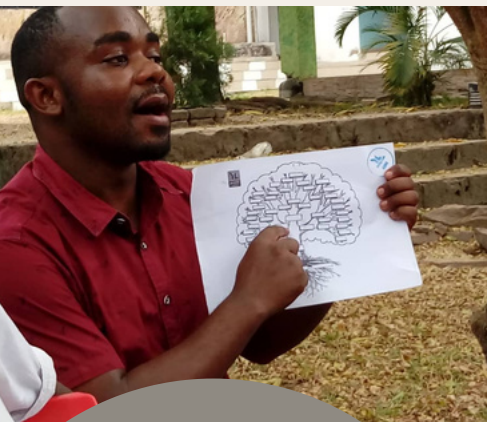
<b>113</b>	<b>1,055</b>	<b>528</b>
BURUNDI	DRC	RWANDA

### KIDS IN CLUB/WEEK

<b>1,041</b>	<b>11,801</b>	<b>8,744</b>
BURUNDI	DRC	RWANDA

### KIDS IN DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS/WEEK

<b>338</b>	<b>4,579</b>	<b>4,587</b>
BURUNDI	DRC	RWANDA



## DRC TEAM LEADERS MEETING

Young Life DRC held a day-long meeting with a small group of team leaders. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the vision of the new ministry in the neighborhood of Kinshasa. The leaders created a map of the neighborhood of Kinshasa, and prayed over the map, asking the Lord for a new vision of which new neighborhoods Young Life should begin ministry. In addition, the leaders shared about recruiting new volunteer leaders through the leadership tree model. Each team leader was given encouragement and were called to give that same encouragement to the leaders in their own areas.

**289\***

TOTAL MINISTRIES

\*Burundi - 21 | DRC - 174 | Rwanda - 94

## IN HIS WORDS

"Burundi now has 14 clubs throughout the country. In general, there are 45 to 50 kids in each club and there are at least four or five Muslim kids on average at each club. God is glorified and the life change is so evident."

- VIANNEY, BURUNDI COUNTRY DIRECTOR