



## Newsletter May 2025

### Report of the conversation on Saturday, April 12, 2025 between the board of Jyambere, the children and the supervisor

The video call started at 11:00 a.m. and ended at 3:45 p.m.

Present:

- Three girls from high school
- A boy and a girl from 9 Years Basic Education (9YBE)
- The supervisor

One-on-one conversations were held.

#### Interview with three high school students

Summary:

Children and their supervisor sincerely thank Jyambere's donors and volunteers.

#### **Financial Needs Before End of High School:**

Jyambere only pays the statutory school fees per student. To ensure that this quarter runs smoothly, an additional **268,000 Rwandan francs (€165)** is needed for the children.

Students who take state exams stay in school for 2 weeks, for which RWF 15,000 per person is requested. This is necessary for personal care such as toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, washcloth, and food.

In addition, additional costs are required for activities. 2 out of 3 students also need money for health reasons.

See details per child below. Jyambere paid the amount.

#### **Contact after graduation**

Jyambere's wish is to stay in touch with the children, even after they have graduated. In this way, the foundation stays informed of the development of its sponsored graduates. If one of our sponsors can find an organization willing to provide a scholarship, the graduates can apply for it.

For this reason, they must have a telephone and/or e-mail. Domina has a phone and e-mail. She has already sent a WhatsApp message and can write English well. We received her first message as a

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test. However, Joyce and Valentine do not have a phone or e-mail. Ms. Liberata will help them create an email account.

### Financial needs with regard to the termination of secondary education

The state exams will take place in July 2025. The students of the last year of secondary education stay at school for two weeks, while the other children are on vacation. The accommodation costs are RWF 15,000 per person. Their figures will be known in December 2025. Collecting the diploma is not done on the same day by all students. Each student makes an appointment to pick up his diploma.

#### Joyce

Joyce indicated that she had no health problems. She works hard at school, but her performance is hampered by her mother's situation. Her mother is very poor, which makes it difficult to get food. Although Joyce is in boarding school and eats at school, she is constantly worried about her mother. During the holidays, she has less to eat.

Joyce is therefore very grateful for Jyambere. Without the support of the foundation, it would not have been possible for Joyce to even complete primary school. Now she is getting her secondary school diploma. She can hardly believe it and thinks it's a dream.

Joyce's financial needs

- a. 15,000 RWF for the purchase of school materials to be used during the state examinations.
- b. 15,000 RWF for catering during the state exams.

**The total amounts to thirty thousand Rwandan francs (30,000 RWF).**

#### Domina

Domina works hard and gets good grades. However, she has had stomach problems for a long time. She has received a prescription from the doctor, but cannot afford the medication. That is why she has asked for financial help from Jyambere. In addition, she has a debt to the school because of extra costs that are invoiced in addition to the school fees.

Domina's financial needs

- a. 78,000 RWF extra costs for school activities.
- b. 15,000 RWF for catering during the state exams.
- c. 15,000 RWF for the purchase of school materials to be used during the state examinations.
- d. 5,000 RWF to buy medicine because of her stomach problems.

**The total amounts to one hundred and thirteen thousand Rwandan francs (113,000 RWF).**

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### Valentine

Valentine works hard at school, but her performance is hampered by eye problems. She needs glasses, but cannot afford them.

Valentine's financial needs

- a. 15,000 RWF for the purchase of school materials to be used during the state examinations.
- b. 15,000 RWF for catering during the state exams.
- c. 95,000 RWF to buy glasses because of her eye problems.

**The total amount is one hundred and twenty-five thousand Rwandan francs (125,000 RWF).**

### Conversation with 2 children from 9 years Enock and Belize

Enock and Belize have received financial support from Jyambere for their primary school education. Given their grades at the end of primary education, they were not admitted to regular secondary education, but to the 9 Years Basic Education (9YBE) system. As a result, Jyambere's sponsorship has stopped.

### Secondary education in detail in Rwanda

#### A. The 9 Years Basic Education (9YBE)

**The 9 Years Basic Education (9YBE)** in Rwanda is an education system designed to provide universal access to primary and lower secondary education. This program comprises **six years of primary education** and three **years of lower secondary education**. The aim is to reduce school dropout and increase access to education, especially for children from vulnerable communities.

The training is not free like primary school. They have to pay school fees and uniform and school materials are also more expensive than in primary school.

After completing the three years of lower secondary education, students have several options:

- Secondary education: They can continue to upper secondary education, where they can specialize in general academic subjects or technical and vocational training.
- Technical and Vocational Training (TVET): Apprentices can opt for vocational training to acquire practical skills that prepare them for the job market.
- Direct employment: Some students may choose to enter the job market directly, especially if they have already gained practical skills during their education.

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### B. Normal secondary education

Secondary education in Rwanda follows a **3-3 structure**. This means:

1. **Lower Secondary Education (Ordinary Level)** – 3 years
  2. **Upper Secondary Education (Advanced Level)** – 3 years
- **Lower Secondary Education (Ordinary Level):** Students take a wide range of subjects and take a national exam at the end of the third year. This determines whether they can continue to upper secondary education.
  - **Advanced Secondary Education:** Students choose a subject combination, such as **Mathematics-Physics-Computer Science (MPC)** or **History-Geography-Literature (HGL)**. At the end of this phase, they receive a national exam, which determines their admission to the university.

### The two students of 9 years ask for financial help from Jyambere.

The two students are in danger of having to leave their school because they cannot pay the costs. They have asked for help from Jyambere because after three years of community education they can move on to upper secondary education. Therefore, they request Jyambere to resume their financial support.