

## **Hunger is a goalie protecting us from the goal of zero hunger.**

A little boy stands on the side of the road, begging for just one bite. He hasn't eaten in 5 days. His stomach growls, commanding him to eat. He collapses his tears turning the dusty ground to mud. He stifles his last breath, he's gone. Hunger is a growing problem that can't be ignored, it must be stopped. Hunger has taken the lives of many people just like you and me. It is time we take it down. With my grant I will work hard in a small place called Burundi where zero hunger will become a reality instead of a fantasy for once and for all. Burundi is a small place in Central Africa. In 2016 it had a population of about 10.52 million. It is a very poor country due to civil war. According to The Hunger Project, "Not every poor person is hungry but almost every hungry person is poor." To stop hunger will be a challenge but not an impossible challenge.

Most of us never think twice about asking for a snack, but for others it's the complete and utter opposite. According to Sustainable Development Goals, "There nearly 800 million people who suffer from hunger worldwide..." This is bad. Hunger is one of the most harmful forms of poverty today it kills about 3 million kids a year. According to United Nations: zero hunger, "Globally, one in nine people in the world today (815 million) are undernourished." It is simply unacceptable. One of the other big problems we are facing with hunger is nutrition. According to the World Food Programme, "...more than 7,000 malnourished children under 5 years of age receive corn-soya blend as a supplement to their meals."

Imagine walking through a place bustling with people begging for food, welcome to Burundi. Burundi is a place in central Africa where year-round 2/3 of all family income is spent on food, including farming season. I choose Burundi because they need our help! Burundi has

gone through many years of civil war, and extreme poverty it has had a negative pull on Burundi. According to World Food Programme, “Only 28% of the population is food secure...” and 58% are chronically malnourished. Also, according to the World Food Programme, “Burundi is one of the country’s identified by both the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP) as being among the most affected by soaring food prices.”

To take down hunger, we must take down hunger together. With my grant I will work to get more crop production by 25% and start loans that can travel around small villages or communities like Burundi. How it will work is it will start at any one family then they will use the money to buy something to help a business or company. In the book *One Hen* by Katie Smith, Kojo's mom uses the money to get wood to make a cart to bring stuff to the market. There is a little money left over so Kojo's mom let him use the money to buy a chicken. Kojo sells the eggs at the market each Saturday and in two months he can pay back his mom. Then they pass on the money to another family. In another two months he has enough money to buy another chicken. This goes on and on then he has enough money to go back to school. He works hard in school and with his hens. He eventually can afford collage and that's just the start. Next, getting more crop production. I will get more crop production by educating farmers on how to use chemicals to keep parasites that destroy plants off their crops without hurting the environment.

In conclusion, hunger is not unstoppable, but it is a challenge, and don't just stand there and watch your beautiful world fall to pieces in front of your own eyes help the world because the world helps you. You should contribute to the amazing planet you grew up in by donating to

a local food bank or with money online to trust worthy websites that are not scams. Also remember every little bit helps. One of the many ways to improve our future is by achieving zero hunger. Sustainable Development Goals stated that, hunger is "...a key piece in building a better future for everyone." Therefor if you would enjoy a better future for all of humanity then get behind zero hunger and make it a reality worldwide.

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