REFUGEE GIRLS NEED YOU

Currently Rwanda have several refugee camps that house thousands of people. Some refugees fled political conflicts, others are Rwandans who due to the country history, were in Tanzania and returned back after a number of years. In 2013, UNDP reported that the majority of camp occupants are young girls who are generally exposed to multiple challenges among them pregnancies at young age, early marriage as well as risks to be infected by diseases. These young girls are not connected to women in the Rwandan or their communities to be able to share, to learn or get inspiration.

CATEGORY

Social Inclusion of Vulnerable Populations

LOCATION

Rwanda

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE OR NEED YOUR PROJECT WILL ADDRESS AND WHAT INNOVATIVE METHODS WILL YOU EMPLOY?

Describe the specific need or challenge that your team will address with this project
Currently Rwanda have several refugee camps that house thousands of people. Some refugees fled political conflicts, others are Rwandans who due to the country history, were in Tanzania and returned back after a number of years. In 2013, UNDP reported that the majority of camp occupants are young girls who are generally exposed to multiple challenges among them pregnancies at young age, early marriage as well as risks to be infected by diseases. These young girls are not connected to women in the Rwandan or their communities...
to be able to share, to learn or get inspiration.

**Briefly describe the specific solution or approach to address the need or challenge and explain why it is innovative**

Despite efforts done by international and non profit initiatives to support refugees, there is a gap in building their confidence and connect them with women locally and internationally. Teenager girls faced multiple challenges such as depression, early pregnancy, etc.… This initiative will provide special support to teenager refugee girl focusing on connecting them with mentors, other Rwandan teenage girls and successful Rwandan women born or living abroad as refugees to promote their personal development through mentorship and encourage them to dare have dreams despite their situation.

**How will the project impact your community? What changes (in people, institutions, attitudes, practices) do you think you will see?**

- Actually refugee tend to be ignored by other communities, this project will initiate the spirit for creating mutual collaboration between local young girls and refugee’s young girls allowing them to learn from each other.
- Through the project, refugee teenage girls will be exposed to knowledge that will help them tackle with challenges they face (early pregnancy, depression, etc…)
- That mutual connection will remove loneliness and help young refugee girls to have access to local and international opportunities.
- At the end of the project, an estimated 300 teenage girls stories will be shared with the world through the online platform to allow them get more advices.
- For the project sustainability, the local community will continue to engage collaboration with teenage refugee girls.
WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

Beneficiaries: who are your target groups (or communities) and how many people will directly benefit from your project?

Based on the Sweden UNHCR report, the three Rwandan refugee camps (Gihembe, Kiziba, Kiyanzi) have an estimated number of 3500 teenage girls among which each camp has an estimated number of 1166 girls.
Refugee girls needs you project will train 300 teenage girls ranging between 12-18 years of age in a 3 rounds mentorship training throughout a year where topics to be learnt will include personal development, communication skill, self reliance, etc.... For each camp, three rounds of trainings will be done to train all 300 participants (100 in each). Each refugee camp will have 9 days of training.

Local partners

Project implementers are members of Rwandan women's initiatives that promote girls education (Girls in ICT, Techwomen Alumnae):
- We will identify young women in the local community who had also lived as refugees to encourage them to build a strong personality
- We will identify young girls who benefited projects from those initiatives (girls in ICT, Techwomen...) to facilitate as role models for their co-fellow refugees girls.

Alumni team

We will use our extended network to select 11 Techwomen alumni who are able to actively participate in the mentorship training as mentors, facilitators and implementors to create an online platform, which will give a voice to share their stories worldwide.
The team will be made of:
-3 Project Coordinators: in charge of coordinatind all the activities and implementaiton of the three camps,
-3 Project planners:in charge of Planning, designing curriculums, monitoring and Evaluate the project impact.
-3 financials managers: responsible for budgeting, managing all transactions, cash flows and
- 2 strategic managers: in charge of overseeing project implementation, review all the above teams and develop a strategic plan to be followed.

**Proposed Project Dates:** June 01, 2015 - October 31, 2016

**HOW AND WHEN WILL YOU IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?**

**Implementing Plan and Timeline**

**June-August 2015:**

1. Introductory meeting with camp leaders and other key people who will be involved in the project implementation.
2. Visit above engage also pre-survey to help get more information of what is mostly needed to be included in the curriculum.
3. Program curriculum update based on information collected from survey above and sie visit.

**August-October 2015:**

1. Sending courrier with issuing letter to camp management requesting for training and informing about the project impact and plan.
2. Identification of refugee young girls, local young girls, mentors, facilitators, role models and partners.
3. Signing MOU with partners and organize a meeting/networking event with mentors, facilitators and all projects implementers.

**October-Feb 2015:**

1. Conduct first round of training in Gihembe, Kiziba and Kiyansi refugee camps
2. Invite and host speakers (women who lived abroad as refugees, successfull women
professionals and other Rwandan teenage girls) to share insights and inspiration to refugee girls

3. Create community groups committee made of among refugee girls to help in the program follow up of the mentorship

4. Distribute First round (quarter) communicatin fee to camp leaders and girls committe for continous interaction

March-May 2016:

1. Conduct second round of training in Gihembe, Kiziba and Kiyanzi refugee camps
2. Finish building, testing and hosting the online platform that will be used to share their stories.
3. Conduct survey about the mentorship to young girls to get information on the project impact.
4. Distribute second round (quarter) communicatin fee to camp leaders and girls committe for continous interaction

June-October 2016:

1. Conduct third round of training in all three-refugee camps.
2. Start portraying girl’s stories on the online platform for refugee girls visitbility and support.
3. Distribute third round (quarter) communicatin fee to camp leaders and girls committe for continous interaction

Communication Plan

-Creating a Facebook page and a Twitter hash tag for sharing about the project.
-Outreach program with a Press release to be shared to local newspapers in the country; radio and TV will also be used.
-Posters in camps explaining about the projects and encouraging them to participate.
-Interview with local province radio will be done to advert and give details about this project.
Women’s initiative such as Girls in ICT, Techwomen Alumni, her2voice will be used to advert about the project to help get more mentors and facilitators.

- Create partnership with high schools to increase the number of Rwandan young girls who will help in the implementation.
- Videos posted on the online platform with girls feedback and thought of the project impact.

Evaluation
Observation:

Camps visit will help us to observe the real life of refugee young girls identify what is mostly needed to improve their personality.

Interview: we will collect information in the interview. This involves the oral and vocal questioning technique or discussion.

Questionnaire:

The project success will be evaluated against preset quantitative and qualitative indicators, analysis tools through social media (Facebook, twitter, YouTube).

An overall evaluation will be done to measure training impact between camps based on potential indicators such as pregnancy, early marriage, early occupation (house girl), external opportunities benefited from their interaction other communities.

Sustainability

Through “REFUGEE GIRLS NEED YOU” project we believe young girls from local communities will be transformed by the experience acquired from the project, after building the collaboration with refugees, parents/guardians will be involved, this project will create a spirit of support among communities of all ages.

Globally the world will know about these young girls and find a better place to help them.
(online platform). The platform will connect them with worldwide and they will benefit advices and testimonies.

**TOTAL FUNDING REQUESTED**

$25,000.00

**PROPOSAL DOCUMENT:**

[Download budget]