

The Gracious Hand of God

The gracious hand of God is already upon this project. Land for the center was donated by the Muslim governor of Gitega, who recognized the tremendous healing that has taken place through THARS. The construction of the administration building and chapel are already underway.



Training Center Site

Administration Building

The administration building is almost complete. This building will have offices for the director, professional counselor, accountant, and secretaries, and a meeting room.



Administration building under construction

Chapel

The chapel will be a place for all of the students and trainers to meet together for lecture and large group exercises. It will contain a large auditorium capable of holding 150 people, restrooms and a storage room. It is also under construction.



Chapel Foundation overlooking valley

Who is THARS ?

THARS was founded by Burundian pastor David Niyonzima, whose bible students were killed before his eyes in 1993. Led by God to forgive his students' killers, David has been anointed to lead others to this forgiveness. THARS has been recognized and supported by such diverse groups as the Friends Church of America, the Burundian government, the United States Agency for International Development, and the European Union.



THARS founder David Niyonzima and friends with Site Master plan

How can you help?

- Pray for THARS, that this ministry would grow and effectively bring healing and reconciliation to Burundi.
- Short-term mission teams are needed to help build some of the facilities.
- Funds are needed to construct the training center. Would you or your church be able to fund one of the needed Phase I facilities? All donations are tax-deductible.



For More Information

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To Make A Donation

Make a Check out to: Sherwood Community Friends Church
Memo Line: THARS Burundi Training Center

and mail to: Sherwood Community Friends Church
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Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services (THARS) Training Center Gitega, Burundi



Division and Death

Among the poorest countries in Africa, Burundi has been torn apart by cyclical genocide and civil war the past 40 years. Hundreds of thousands have been killed and maimed. Fortunately, now tired of the violence, free elections have been held, a unity government has formed, and a fragile peace exists. But deep wounds, generational ethnic hatred, and desire for revenge are hard to leave behind. These dark seeds of future cycles of violence lay waiting in many hearts today.



Will they live in Peace?

Healing the Heart

THARS (Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services) brings deep holistic healing to victims of this suffering. THARS listens to people's anguish, helps them see their own sin and need for forgiveness, and leads them to the forgiver and healer - Jesus Christ. Thus healed, they are able to forgive and love their enemies - sowing the real seeds of a lasting peace in the heart of Africa. But a country of 7 million people needs more than the current 20 THARS counselors.

THARS Training Center

A training center is needed to lead the hurting to Christ, set them free, and train them up to go out and counsel others. Recognizing the effective healing THARS is doing, the government has given a 5-acre (2 hectare) site on which to create such this center. The site is in a peaceful, beautiful valley in the cool, mountainous heartland of Gitega, far from the noise and confusion of the city.



Site Master Plan

In Phase I, the training center will consist of:

- + Six Student Cottages for 100 counseling students
- + Trainer Cottage for 8 skilled teachers
- + Listening building for counseling and training
- + Chapel for large meetings
- + Administrative building
- + Director's Home

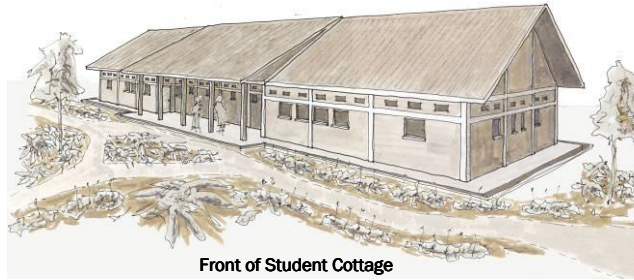
Listening Building

One-on-one counseling will occur in the listening building. A trainer will help the student process through the trauma they have experienced. The student's own need for healing and forgiveness will be gently revealed to them. As they embrace Christ and realize how much they have been forgiven, they will have the spirit to forgive their enemies. Each listening room opens onto a healing garden of God's creation, which testifies to His eternal nature and divine power to forgive and restore.



Listening Rooms opening onto Garden

Student Cottage



Front of Student Cottage

The students will live and gather in the student cottage during training. Each cottage is made up of two duplexes, each capable of housing 16 students in four bedrooms. These sixteen students will meet and eat together in their duplex's gathering room – creating a community that is conducive for group teaching, sharing and forgiveness. A front veranda will overlook a peaceful valley below. The trainer's cottage will be a single duplex with four bedrooms for 8 trainers.



Floor plan of Student Cottage

Director's Home

A director will live onsite to provide full time leadership to the trainers, administrative and support staff. The home will have adequate living space for a couple with children, as well an area as to entertain visitors, friends and staff.

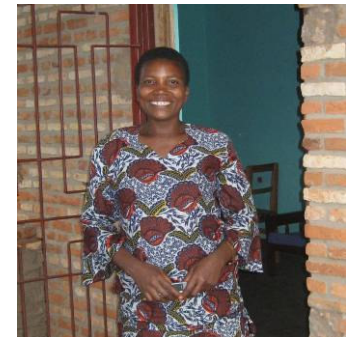


Veranda of Director's Home

Cost Estimate

	Cost (BIF)	Cost (US \$)
Admin. Building (finish construction)	BIF 8,000,000	\$8,000
Chapel (finish construction)	BIF 30,000,000	\$30,000
Listening Rooms Building	BIF 46,000,000	\$46,000
Boundary Wall	BIF 47,000,000	\$47,000
Student Cottage 1	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Student Cottage 2	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Student Cottage 3	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Student Cottage 4	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Student Cottage 5	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Student Cottage 6	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Trainers' Cottage	BIF 52,000,000	\$52,000
Directors House	BIF 53,000,000	\$53,000
Amphitheater	BIF 5,000,000	\$5,000
Recreation - Basketball & Volleyball	BIF 4,000,000	\$4,000
Generator / Maintenance Building	BIF 9,000,000	\$9,000
Ravine Improvements and Bridge	BIF 9,000,000	\$9,000
Total Phase I Facilities	BIF 575,000,000	\$575,000

This cost estimate is based on designs prepared by Engineering Ministries International in conjunction with THARS. Costs were estimated from typical Burundian unit building costs as of February 2007. Estimate includes structure, finishes, fixtures, plumbing, electrical, and infrastructure, but do not include furniture.



Consuela - former torture victim, and current THARS Counselor

Future Phases

As the Training Center develops, there is room on the site for additional facilities:

- + Group therapy building
- + Meeting hall
- + Dining hall
- + Staff houses
- + New administration building
- + Amphitheater

There is also the potential for the government to grant additional land to THARS as the ministry grows.