



Bridge of **Hope**

Welcome to our Monthly

NEWS LETTER

May 2026



www.bridgeofhope.org.rw

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DEAR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

May 2026 marks another period of continued commitment for Bridge of Hope in advancing support for vulnerable children and their families through initiatives that create sustainable opportunities for their future.

This month highlights key efforts to strengthen early childhood development, expand access to educational support, and collaborate with partners to enhance child protection and promote inclusive learning.



We acknowledge the valuable contribution of all partners and stakeholders whose collaboration strengthens these efforts and enables meaningful progress in responding to the needs of children and families.

Bridge of Hope remains committed to building strong foundations that foster sustainable outcomes and create pathways for every child to access opportunity, protection, and growth.

HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- **URUHONGORE ECD ACTIVITIES**
- **RISING STARS SPORTS CENTER (RSC)**
- **WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW**
- **ECD WORKING GROUP MEETING WITH RENC**
- **RWANDA WORLD WITHOUT ORPHANS (WWO) MEETING**
- **WATER FILTERS DISTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS**

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URUHONGORE ECD ACTIVITIES

Children at URUHONGORE ECD Center continue to thrive in a safe and supportive learning environment through Bridge of Hope's Early Childhood Development program. With guidance from committed teachers and engaging activities, children are developing essential academic, social, and emotional skills that build a strong foundation for their future learning journey.

This May, as we reach the middle of the school term, learners are steadily progressing through key learning milestones while preparing for upcoming assessments. At this stage, children are being guided to review what they have learned and strengthen their understanding in preparation for tests, building both confidence and readiness.



Learning at URUHONGORE ECD Center goes beyond the classroom, as children participate in structured lessons, creative arts, storytelling, music, and group play activities that nurture curiosity, communication, and social development.

This balanced approach continues to strengthen early literacy, numeracy, emotional awareness, and essential life skills, laying a solid foundation for future academic success and empowering children to thrive both inside and outside the classroom.

RISING STARS SPORTS CENTER (RSC)

Throughout May, activities at Rising Stars Sports Center (RSC) were delivered in a consistent and structured manner, with children actively participating in weekend football training sessions focused on both football development and personal growth.

Bridge of Hope continued implementing its Education Through Sports approach, using football as a tool to support children's education, encourage school attendance, and promote academic success alongside sports participation. Training sessions went beyond football skills, helping children develop discipline, teamwork, leadership, and positive character.



Children improved their football skills, fitness, teamwork, and confidence, while also developing positive values such as respect, responsibility, perseverance, cleanliness, and self-control. This contributed to improved discipline, behaviour, and cooperation.

Weekly mentorship sessions further strengthened discipline, accountability, goal-setting, and commitment to education.

To encourage academic excellence, Bridge of Hope introduced awards for participants who achieve at least 70% in their end-of-year academic results.

Overall, the program successfully used football as a tool to promote education, positive character development, and the holistic growth of children at RSC.



WORKING GROUP ON THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

As part of our ongoing commitment to promoting children's rights and safeguarding their well-being, On 12 May 2026, Our Executive Director participated in a workshop organized by Coalition Umwana ku Isonga with UNICEF Rwanda and OHCHR focused on strengthening the implementation of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations on children's rights in Rwanda.

The workshop acknowledged Rwanda's progress in advancing children's rights while highlighting ongoing challenges such as child labour, teenage pregnancy, school dropout, and violence against children. It emphasized the need for stronger multi-sector collaboration to improve child protection systems.

Bridge of Hope proudly contributes to this impactful UPR report and continues its efforts to advance a safer and more inclusive environment for all children through targeted child protection initiatives.



ECD WORKING GROUP MEETING WITH RENC



Bridge of Hope team participated in an ECD Working Group meeting on 12 May 2026 that brought together education stakeholders to coordinate efforts, share updates, and align on priorities to improve early learning outcomes. The meeting focused on ongoing interventions and practical ways to expand access to quality early childhood education.



Participants emphasized the importance of coordinated action to address key gaps in the ECD sector, including teacher capacity, learning materials, and community engagement, reinforcing the need for sustained collaboration to ensure all children receive a strong foundation for lifelong learning and development.

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RWANDA WORLD WITHOUT ORPHANS (WWO) MEETING

On 21 May 2026, child-focused and family-based care partners convened at The Peace Plan Rwanda Head Office for a Rwanda World Without Orphans (WWO) collaboration meeting aimed at strengthening coordinated action in child protection and family-based care.

The meeting focused on aligning partners around a shared roadmap, setting clear priorities, and strengthening collaboration to reduce duplication of efforts and increase collective impact.



Discussions highlighted existing coordination gaps, opportunities for stronger partnerships, and the need for more structured collaboration among stakeholders at national and regional levels. They also emphasized strengthening ongoing advocacy efforts to promote child care and protection through improved coordination, joint action, and enhanced collaboration among partners.

Breakout sessions further reinforced shared priorities, with emphasis on intentional information sharing, joint planning, and improved alignment of ongoing initiatives to strengthen collective action and coordination among partners.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to strengthen coordination mechanisms and sustain structured engagement among partners, laying the foundation for more aligned and accountable action for children without parental care in Rwanda.



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WATER FILTER DISTRIBUTION TO SCHOOLS

As part of the Water for Every Child Project, Bridge of Hope, in collaboration with Zoe Foundation, successfully carried out a water filter distribution activity in Kamonyi District on May 28, 2026.

The initiative aimed to improve access to clean and safe drinking water in schools while promoting better hygiene and healthier learning environments for students.



Water filters were distributed to five schools in Kamonyi District GS Rukaragata, City Light Academy, GS Good Family School, GS Ecosse Musambira, and GS Muganza improving access to safe drinking water for thousands of students and helping reduce the risk of waterborne diseases.



A total of 6,071 students benefited from the initiative, including 3,056 boys and 3,015 girls. School leaders and teachers expressed their appreciation for the support, highlighting the positive impact that access to clean water will have on students' health, concentration, and academic performance.

Bridge of Hope and Zoe Foundation remain committed to supporting communities through sustainable initiatives that improve children's lives and create safer, healthier, and more inclusive learning environments for all.



UPCOMING INITIATIVE: KICK FOR JOY 2026 (SEASON 3)



Bridge of Hope will implement Kick for Joy 2026 (Season 3), a community-driven sports and child development initiative engaging 8 schools in Rwamagana District through structured inter-school football competitions. The program will culminate in a Grand Finale and Christmas Celebration on 19 December 2026, bringing together schools, families, and community stakeholders.

Using football as a powerful platform for social change, the initiative integrates interventions focused on:

- Education motivation and school retention
- Child protection and safeguarding awareness
- Community health screening
- HIV prevention and health education
- Youth life skills development and positive engagement

The initiative is expected to reach:

- 5,000 direct beneficiaries
- 20,000 indirect beneficiaries through community outreach and media engagement

Kick for Joy 2026 is more than a football tournament; it is a community impact initiative that uses sport to promote education, health, child protection, and youth development.

Bridge of Hope invites partners and sponsors to support this initiative through financial contributions, in-kind donations, and strategic partnerships to expand its impact and ensure long-term sustainability for children and youth.

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PRAISE

We thank the Lord for His faithfulness and guidance over Bridge of Hope. We are grateful for the children we serve and the schools and communities we support.

We also give thanks for the progress achieved through our education, sports, and community development programmes, which continue to create positive change.

We are thankful for our partners, teachers, caregivers, and supporters who faithfully walk with us in serving vulnerable children.

**THANK
YOU**

PRAYER REQUEST



We humbly ask for God's continued guidance and strength for our team and programmes, and for stronger partnerships and open doors to new supporters for this mission.

We especially pray for compassionate sponsors to support the education of vulnerable children, so that no child is left behind due to lack of support.

May God grant sustainability, protection, and lasting impact in all our efforts to transform children's lives and communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT BRIDGE OF HOPE.

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