

RWANDA RISING: ONE OF ITS SHINING STARS

Emmanuel's story is one of many that exceed all expectations, but his is special. We met him 8 years ago as a 14 yr old double orphan barely surviving with his younger sister in a two room mud hut. We put him in boarding school and three years later he graduated near top of his class of 500. He came to say thanks and ask if we would sponsor him to apprentice in a tailor shop in town. The happy agreement we reached that day is obvious in this photo.



Several months later, Emmanuel received notice that he had earned a National Merit Scholarship. It covered tuition only so we promised to provide him \$50 per month; just enough for scraping together a room and food. That was only half of what he needed to survive but he managed and was accepted into an accelerated track to be a doctor. He has been the equivalent of Class President and for two years has been President of the University Community Service Club that provides health education and intervention in villages of his District.



Last month, Sept, 2018, he was one of three Rwandan students invited to do a residency program at Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia. From his mud hut to this gathering in Philadelphia has been a long climb indeed. He stands on far left.

Emmanuel is a shining example of success achieved through hard work and irrepressible spirit. He along with 180 others we have put through

secondary school, and 10 through university, will contribute through out their lifetimes to the growing peace and prosperity in Rwanda; a hundred fold return for what we have contributed. Every year there are more Emmanuel's emerging from mud huts with hope that one of us will have made a contribution for him or her. A mere \$300 pays for a year of quality education, nutrition, security, the comfort of clean water, light, and an ordered life.

Tax receipts are issued for donations, 100% of which goes to beneficiaries in Rwanda. I spend 2 months of every year in Rwanda to oversee the project and continue staff development.

Donate at: www.InnovativeCommunities.Org Foundation, click "Rwanda" and leave a note on the "info page" or mail Can Post to: ICO, c/o The Dock, Suite 300, 722 Cormorant St, Victoria, BC, V8W 1P8