



Newsletter



Launching Sunflower Cooperatives in Nyagatare District

Eight Cooperatives have been funded by Grace Girls Coalition

Since last year, GGC has fully funded eight girls' cooperatives, four in Nyagatare District and four in Musanze District. Four cooperatives specialize in fashion design, while the other four operate hairdressing and beauty businesses.

Today, these young women are not only generating income, they are rebuilding confidence, restoring hope, meeting their basic needs, and supporting their families. Watching them grow from girls who once felt hopeless into confident business owners with purpose has been one of the most beautiful and humbling journeys to witness. Every step they take reminds us why we started. This is living proof that when a girl is given an opportunity, she can change her own story and uplift everyone around her. We are deeply proud of how far they have come, and even more excited for the future that lies ahead of them. This is only the beginning.



In this newsletter you can expect:

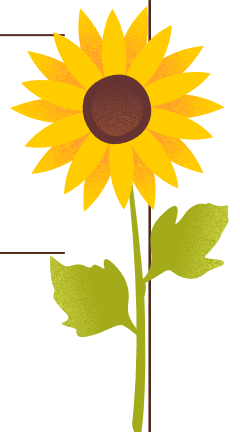
Program Highlights

Recent Events

Learning Camps updates

Vocational Training

Next steps





Sunflower Fashion & Salon “ Transforming learned skills into real businesses

Through cooperatives, 100 GGC graduates have successfully transformed their skills into real, income-generating businesses. What once started as dream and hope has now grown into tangible impact, young women are now confidently running fashion, hairdressing, and beauty enterprises, creating sustainable livelihoods for themselves and their families. Each business represents a story of resilience, determination, and growth.



All these girls once dropped out of school due to poverty or early pregnancies, and at one point, they had lost hope for their future. But today, watching them bloom has become one of our greatest success stories. What once looked like the end of their dreams has turned into a new beginning, where they are rebuilding their lives, gaining confidence, and stepping into entrepreneurship with courage and purpose. Their transformation is a reminder that with the right support and opportunity, a girl's story is never over it can always be rewritten into something powerful and beautiful.





25 Girls completed our recent Girls' Camp in Bugesera District (Nyamata & Musenyi Sectors)

This year, we expanded our impact to Bugesera District, making it three districts where GGC is now operating. Girls' school dropout remains a challenge in our country, and through GGC's work, we hope to contribute to meaningful and lasting change in our communities. We believe no girl's future should be limited by poverty, early pregnancy, or lack of opportunity. Together with communities, partners, and supporters, we are creating opportunities for girls to learn, grow, discover their potential, and build brighter futures



GGC Bugesera Girls showcasing their talents - Girls Camp Graduation Day



Other updates



Recently launched Bicycle project in Bugesera District - One Bicycle per Girl

One of the biggest challenges we have been facing is the long distance our girls walk to attend trainings. Most of them walk more than two hours each way, which has often led to late arrivals or missed classes. We are grateful to share that we have finally found a solution, all girls who walk more than an hour have been provided with bicycles to support their journey to training. 🚲 This simple but powerful change is already improving their attendance, energy, and overall learning experience. We are deeply thankful to all our donors and partners who continue to invest in our girls' dreams and make solutions like this possible



A Note from our Founder - Marie Grace Uwingabire

GGC will be turning two years old in just a few days. Reflecting on this journey, it has been both challenging and deeply transformative. I started this mission with no formal experience, only love and a desire to empower girls in rural communities, because I was once one of them. Looking back, it is incredible to see how far we have come: over 200 girls directly impacted, more than 800 lives reached indirectly, 8 cooperatives funded, 10 dedicated staff members, and work now across 3 districts. As we look ahead, we remain hopeful for even greater impact. We sincerely thank all our partners and donors for making this journey possible. A special appreciation to the Laraine K. Harrison Charity Fund for their unwavering support.





Upcoming Programs

2026 has been an exciting year so far, with even more impact ahead. 🌻

Three more camps are planned this year, including:

- Nyagatare District (Mimuli Sector): 30 girls have been selected, and the camp is scheduled for July.
- Musanze District: 40 girls are being selected, with the camp planned for August.
- Bugesera District: 30 girls will be selected, and the camp is scheduled for November.

There is a plan to expand our bicycle project to other districts. This will help more girls reduce the long distances they walk to training, improve attendance, and ensure they can fully focus on their learning and growth

Partnerships & Support

We are grateful to:

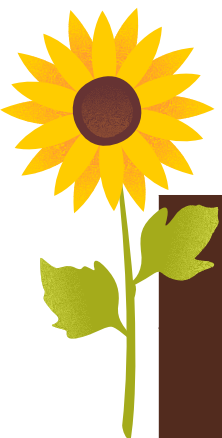
- Nyagatare, Musanze & Bugesera Districts leadership for their collaboration.
- Our Donors and partners for believing in our mission and joining this transformation journey.
- Local Organizations and TVET schools for skills development partnerships.

Get Involved

You can support GGC's mission through partnerships, mentorship, or financial contributions. Every effort counts in helping young girls achieve independence and dignity.

- Cover school fees for a girl to attend practical skill training - \$300
- Cover lunch for the 30 girls at our upcoming Learning Camp - \$500
- Buy a bicycle for a girl - \$150

Thank you for reading!



MARIE GRACE UWINGABIRE

**FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR
GRACE GIRLS COALITION**

www.gracegirlscoalition.org

info@gracegirlscoalition.org