# Cultivating a Brighter Future

A new phase of impact



Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village Annual Report

# Another great year.

Our students have astounded us with their energy, creativity, and level of accomplishment.

This past year has been filled with achievements that are creating powerful momentum for the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village.

Agahozo-Shalom marked a pivotal and milestone year in 2012. The Village thrived, functioning at full capacity with 500 kids. We operated with a full complement of programs, engaged highly professional staff to implement them, graduated our first class of students, and developed a system to monitor and evaluate the success of our alumni moving forward.

Born as a response to great tragedy, Agahozo-Shalom has become a place of great hope and joy. Thanks to a dedicated team of Agahozo-Shalom community members, the Village not only makes a difference in the lives of those who live there, but also has a significant impact on the surrounding communities, Rwanda as a whole, and across the globe. Joy is restored, minds are cultivated, dreams are envisioned, and progress is made. The impact is palpable, and will continue to spread as our graduates leave the Village and begin the next phase of their lives. Our graduates are changemakers who leave the Village gates filled with potential, hope, and a belief in themselves, ready to impact the world and share their wisdom, talents, and skills.

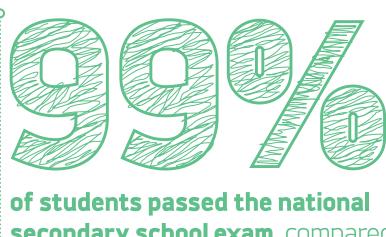
These successes remind us how far we and these kids have come, affirm our efforts, and strengthen our resolve to continue enhancing and evolving the Village.

With ongoing help from our friends, fans, and supporters, the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village will continue to flourish. We believe that our kids have the right to a future with enormous potential—a future that is looking brighter because of the transformational work being done in our Village.

<u>Thank you</u> for joining us in cultivating a brighter future.







of students passed the national secondary school exam, compared with 88% nationwide and 71.5% of students in private schools.



**STAFF EXPANSION** In 2012, we focused on <u>capacity-building</u> <u>through expansion of and training f</u>or the ASYV staff.









# ACCOMMODATING

**NEW STUDENTS** 

We have also hired <u>8 additional</u> <u>family mothers</u> to accommodate the 128 new students.

student was

chosen to join

the **Open A Door** 

cohort to gain a

US University

**STREAMLINING OPERATIONS** We have hired an Operations &

<u>Procurement Director to streamline</u> operational processes and procedures in the Village, and to procure

needed items for the Village





students completed the **One Laptop Per Child** intensive training and received an "international certificate."

REACHING FULL CAPACITY

<u>128 additional students</u> joined the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village in 2012, bringing it to <u>full capacity of</u> <u>500 students</u>.









graduates enrolled in the Akilah Institute Hospitality Management diploma program.





students were chosen as Bridge2Rwanda Scholars.

### STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER

We have hired a new <u>Career</u> <u>Development Coordinator</u> to work with current students as well as recent graduates as they prepare to transition into life outside the Village.





**BUILDING A TEAM** 

We have hired a <u>Human Resources</u> <u>Director</u> to recruit, build, and retain a strong Village team.



students have been awarded MasterCard Scholarships. **3 will attend McGill University** and **1 will attend the University of British Columbia**.



# Our Holistic Philosophy

In their four years at ASYV, our kids are creating new possibilities and opportunities.

ASYV is a place where the rhythm of life is restored, and some of the most challenging problems facing Rwanda (and the world) are addressed by a dedicated team of faculty and staff members.

ASYV is a living, learning, and healing community. Our holistic approach promotes emotional and intellectual growth, practical skills, and a commitment to give back.



Our



nne Heyman hears lecture and connects the orphan situation in Rwar da to the solution that was created in Israel for orphans of the Holocaust







Sifa Nsengimana joins as Executive Director. Sifa, Anne, Tina, Gideon and Ethiopian graduates of Yemin Orde travel to Rwanda to share the model with stakeholders.

Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village Rwandan Advisory Board assembled to s officially launched as a special guide development of the Village and project of the American Jewish *its programs, travels to Israel to help* pint Distribution Committee create the ASYV

Every student at the ASYV is monitored throughout their time in the Village through individual evaluation. Family mothers, big brothers and sisters, long-term volunteers, and formal and informal educators all monitor students' progress through a continuous process of evaluation that is implemented from the moment they walk through our gates. Our community members are continually assessing and adjusting individual plans so that every student realizes their full potential.

# Family

Caring for children when

they are sick

Encouraging extracurricular participation

Teaching each child

Monitoring

sleep schedules

## Healing

Our kids are learning, through principle and practice, the value of Tikkun Olam, mending the world around them. Our graduates will eave ASYV as balanced adults who not only care for thems but are committed to making t unity, their country, and rld a better place. ur ultimate goal is to equip ou to become healthy, self-suf and engaged in the rebui their nation. Our program designed around Tikkur hem arow both umulate at the Village are i elp them at every le

the successful parenting of our children, ensuring their families are cared for, loved, and supported. Like parents in any family, the mother is responsible for:

Living

Family Mothers are central to

Following

academic

progress

Making sure homework is

completed

Tracking each child's emotional wellbeing

> Providing material needs

> > ducation gives students the

Learning

derstanding, creativity, and wisdom to tackle the grand challenges that they will face in the future. Critical thinking helps students think for themselves, build confidence, express themselves, and communicate more effectively informal educational opportunities family/home life, after sch enrichment programs and job readiness, professional skill building, and alumni support Our kids are able to receive the individualized utilize—the skills necessary to forge a healthy and fulfilling life after Agahozo-Shalom.



Liquidnet Family makes first trip to begin training Village staff

local landowners, groundbreaking occurs, and construction begins





Development of formal and

Agahozo-Shalom opens its doors to first 128 students, with completion of 8 family houses, a dining hall and 

Israeli Village Director hired to launch ASYV

Directors of formal and informal education hired

### Chores at Home

We wake up at 6:00 a.m., do our household chores, and get ready for school.

## Walk up the Hill

Once we have chores out of the way and we're ready to learn, we walk up a steep hill flanked by coffee trees and tiny colorful birds.

## Eat Breakfast

Halfway between our family homes and school, we stop at the dining hall/community center for breakfast in order to fuel our minds and bodies. Sorahum porridge, tea, and rolls are served each day at 6:30 a.m.

## Liquidnet Family **High School**

At the top of the hill, we arrive at the Liquidnet Family High School and prepare for the day. Our official school day begins at 7:30 a.m. with a homeroom check-in with our teachers.

### Classes

At school throughout he day, we study man subjects, including:

lents in critica

Score

## Lunch

We love school, but by the afternoon we're ready for our lunch! We walk down the hill with our friends and eat lunch together with the entire ASYV community.

## Enrichment

### Programs (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> years)

After lunch, our after-school enrichment programs start. Each term, through enrichment, we learn more about what we're passionate

about, and what we might want to do with our futures and careers. In our Science Center, for example, we

gain hands-on experience in disciplines such as physics, optics, electronics, biology and web design

### Sports and Volleyball the Arts

We get to choose one sport and one art

activity per term.

### Tikkun Olam (2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> years)

Once a week, we travel to nearby wns to work on service projects. Tl teaches us that we have the powe to make change and that whatever we learn during our time at ASYV, we must reinvest in our community, our country, and our world

### lob Readiness

We know that we need to be prepared for the workplace, so we study Akazi Kanoze, learning important skills like how to prepare for an nterview and write a résumé

### Enrichment Programs

medical staff i the local clini

(3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> years) While the younger kids play hone their passions, we are

We also learn specific rofessional skills to ensur our futures in Rwanda.

pursuing ours with the help of Professional Skills training.

Clubs

Evening

By this time, we're ready to have a little fun and care for each other and our community.

Through our 23 clubs, we can all participate in the maintenance and leadership of our Village. Our clubs offer something for everyone, with focuses such as:

# Family Time

After dinner each night we have Family Time. There we share our thoughts, feelings and struggles and discuss important family issues. Sometimes we just enjoy laughing and singing and spending our time together.

> **On Wednesdays** we always have debate nights in our houses.

**Every Friday after** dinner a dance party is held, DJ'd by ASYV students.

## Village Time

Every Friday evening, the Village Time Club organizes a gathering of the whole Village community where we can sit together in the spirit of a real family to share our talents, reflect on the week and discuss Village life.

and computer skil at local schools

Mentoring kids and teaching English

### Professional Skills

Modern Agriculture, l'1 & Hospitality

128 new students to its cohort,

ringing the student body to 256

he number of family houses to 16

Service Learning trip program ASYV doubles in size as it welcomes aunched with Tufts University

> Official dedication of Liquidnet amily High School, Edmond J. Safra ommunity Center, and Majora Carter

The International Theatre and Literacy Project enters a 4-year partnership with the ASYV to conduct playwriting



Liquidnet Family High School

begins operations and after-school

Enrichment Program is launched



SYV digs its first borehole to supply consistent water to the Village and local ommunity residents



asketball Courts

workshops for students and teachers Tamar Copeland ioins as

Executive Director

first New York Headquarters



# Restoring the rhythm of life

ASYV is filled with a bustling community. From the state-of-the-art high school where our kids study to our Health & Wellness, Science, and Art centers and our fully operational farm, we provide an engaging environment for our kids to learn and grow.

Our kids participate in 20 different enrichment programs centered on athletics, hands-on science, and the arts. We also have 23 student-led clubs that both keep our Village running and give our youth a stronger sense of ownership over their community. We have a Job Readiness Program and 3 Professional Skills Training Programs, designed to provide students with the tools they need to enter the job market after they graduate.

the Art Center, practicing guitar in the Music Center, washing clothes, chatting with friends, playing sports, working on homework, borrowing books from

The Farm

Saturday mornings, you'll always

find us on the farm with our teachers, parents, and staff.

Farm Club makes sure that things

go smoothly, managing rotation of

deciding who does:

ssignments among the houses,

the library, learning about our post-ASYV options at the Student Resource Center, or resting in our rooms. We also organize our own choirs and teach each other music and harmonies that carry across the whole Village

Recreation

In our free time, we can be found

singing along to the radio, drawing in

Weekend

Mucaka

Mucaka

Saturday mornings begin at sunrise as families gather for

our weekly <u>Mucaka Mucaka run</u>

organized by the Sport Club. Foi 30 minutes we run through the

Village and neighboring streets,

singing and chanting.

& Choir

### Movie Night

On Saturday nights we watch a movie selected by the Movie Club. It is very relaxing and a nice change of pace from the busy week.

Dedication Ceremony for he Lily Safra Amphitheater



Another 128 join the ASYV ommunity, bringing the total umber of students to 384 and he number of family houses to 2



Carnegie Mellon University's TCinGC Technology Consulting in the Global Community" program sends students to the Village to assist with T-related projects



Jean Claude Nkulikiyimfura ioins ASYV as its first Rwandan Village Director



25% of Village food

The Farm is producing

# Continuing our momentum

We are heartened by the accomplishments of our kids over the past year, and the celebration of our first graduation reminds us how big an impact we can have on our childrens' futures. We are actively looking to keep our momentum going. With your help, we can continue to make infrastructure, operational, and programmatic strides to make the Village a sustainable, ever-stronger force for a brighter future.

# With your help

Ensure safe, accessible water for those who formerly had to spend a good portion of their day walking to and from Conduct market contaminated water sources research to determine the continued Create visitor Create a network efficacy and viability opportunities of active and engaged of professional skills. for engagement programming and volunteering re a visiting artist/ scholars program as Replicate our Liquidnet part of the after-scho partnership by engaging enrichment progra with other corporations Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, Inc, is a non profit, tax-exempt charitable organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code 2 Credit card donations are accepted over the phone 3 Make checks payable to: Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, Inc



Hiring of: Operations & Procurement Director Career Development Coordinator. Health & Wellness Center Coordinator, luman Resources Director



The Career Development Center is created



National exams are administered to graduates and 117/118 pass



501(c)(3) status attained

# Donate

to help us continue our trajectory for success

Visit asyv.org/donate<sup>1</sup> or call 646.381.7863 to contribute.<sup>2</sup>

Or get a donation card at www.asyv.org/donate and return to:

Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village, Inc.<sup>3</sup> 498 Seventh Avenue, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10018

### Visit the Village to see the work being done.

We welcome individuals and groups interested in supporting our work and offer day visits to our site.

You will learn about the development of the ASYV, the history and culture of Rwanda, and engage in meaningful discussions and learning sessions.

volunteer@asyv.org

\dminister a comprehensive and consistent preparatory process for the National Exam

Help with job and internship placements, university and professional school placements, and scholarships through the development of a robust network in Rwanda and abroad

**Develop and implement** a strategy to build pedagogical leadership among the Liquidnet Family High School staff

Create projectbased volunteer opportunities for people with specific

Conduct an assessment of the recruitment process for incoming classes

**Provide comprehensive** physical and psychological treatment and care to ensure healing, health, and happiness for those who have only known trauma

ASYV graduates its first class!





Sustain 32 family homes that house 17 family members and create a safe, secure living environment

ovide a high-quality secondary school education that transforms the lives of our students and others who wouldn't otherwise have access

Provide clothing to those who  $\rightarrow$  arrive at the ASYV with only the clothes on their backs 

Vith more to come

Offer 3 nutrient-rich meals a day for those who have struggled to afford and access even one

# Murakoze cyane

### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS

Carnegie Mellon University International Theater and Literacy Program The Liquidnet Family

### THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD AND STAFF

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### THANK YOU TO OUR PHOTOGRAPHERS

Barrett Frankel Shira Liff-Grieff

lerrod Popham Isabel Shaw

WHERE DOES THE MONEY COME FROM?

Thank you very much for your invaluable support, advocacy, and contributions.

We share our successes with you. Our accomplishments and ability to continue to move our mission forward are critical to the 500 students in the Village, as well as the many vulnerable and marginalized youth in Rwanda waiting for their opportunity to be transformed at the Agahozo-Shalom Youth Village.



students now live in our Village.



of money raised goes toward Village programs and volunteer services.

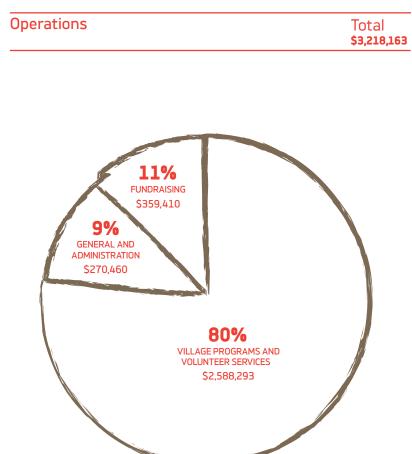
### Sources Total Operations \$2,587,748 0.1% 0THER \$3,461 17% SPECIAL EVENTS 5% 32% FEE REVENUE 9% \$440.858 INDIVIDUALS \$117,486 \$819,078 15% CORPORATIONS \$394,612

31%

FOUNDATIONS

\$812,253

### WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?



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In Rwanda, there is hope in the form of a Youth Village. A Village that offers a holistic approach to healing the trauma of vulnerable children, providing them with a warm and loving environment. An environment in which they live, learn, heal, and dream.

An environment where they can prepare for a hopeful future. The result is whole and healthy individuals who, with the help of new families, believe in themselves and learn to make contributions to their community and the world.

Website: asyv.org Facebook: AgahozoShalom Twitter: @asyv YouTube: theASYV