



Problem

Generally, alcoholism has been a major issue in Rwanda for a long time, becoming a leading cause of death in the country. In recent years, there has been a sharp increase in alcohol consumption among Rwandan adolescents, along with alarming rates of prostitution and other forms of substance abuse. Longitudinal studies have correlated this reality with the fact that many adolescents here are desperately looking to escape poverty, dealing with mental health issues, and living in unstable home environments. These youth often choose getting drunk or high for relieve, especially when they have lost heart and their future aspirations have died. When compounded with the fact that **young people here in Rwanda who graduate from senior secondary school must first wait to receive their final examination scores before they are eligible for college, university, or non-menial employment (a period that can last for several months)**, this issue poses an enormous threat to the socioeconomic development of the country.



What

An intervention program for local adolescents between the ages of 17 and 19 years old who have graduated from secondary school, replacing the period of idleness that comes after secondary school with meaningful time spent acquiring comprehensive, holistic training and skills development

How

Via a weekly, five-part curriculum centered around **five key priority areas: self-expression & confidence, self-sufficiency & care, financial literacy, digital literacy, and career readiness & employability**

Benefits

- Participating youth will have the ability to **survive and thrive in a range of different environments and/or circumstances.**
- **The window of idle time for participating youth is shrunken, limiting time for them to engage in deviant behaviors.**



Core Values

Loyalty
Effort
Audacity
Persistence