

WE-ACTx for Hope in Rwanda

WE-ACTx for Hope, our Rwandan affiliate, works in collaboration with WE-ACTx's medical clinics, trauma counselors, and 24 Rwandan NGOs. It also operates the **Legal Project**, which educates people affected by HIV/AIDS and others about their legal rights, and empowers them to take action to resolve legal problems they may face.

The Legal Project's Rwanda **Director, Joseph Mafurebo**, can be reached at:

WE-ACTx for Hope
P.O. Box 5141
Kigali, Rwanda
mafurebo@yahoo.fr
Tel. 250-08-618384



www.WE-ACTx.org

Who We Are

Women's Equity in Access to Care and Treatment (WE-ACTx) began working in Rwanda in early 2004 in response to an urgent request for help from networks of genocide rape survivors. An estimated 60% to 70% of 250,000 Rwandan women survivors who were raped during the 1994 genocide are HIV+, some deliberately exposed to HIV as a "slow poison." Our community-based programs fall under Rwanda's national AIDS plan.

Our Mission

Our mission is to increase women's and children's access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and services, education, and training in resource-limited settings at the grassroots level. We partner with community groups and work to empower HIV+ women and girls to take charge of their lives and become leaders in the fight against HIV/AIDS.



photo: Jon Wallen/WE-ACTx ©2006

Our Rwandan staff run three medical clinics in greater Kigali and provide trauma counseling. As of June 2008, we have served over 6,000 patients.

WE-ACTx

Women's Equity in Access to Care and Treatment

MOBILIZING WOMEN TO FIGHT GLOBAL AIDS



photo: Jon Wallen/WE-ACTx ©2006

Legal Project

www.WE-ACTx.org

Our Legal Project

Responding to a Need

All Rwandans have a right to health care, equal treatment under the law, and many other human rights. All these legal rights belong to people with HIV/AIDS, too. The first step to getting necessary legal help is knowing that a person does have legal rights.



The **Legal Project** works with 24 partner NGOs, Rwandan lawyers and law schools, and other groups in Rwanda to provide community training and support on topics ranging from medical care, gender-based violence, women's rights, children's rights, stigma and discrimination, among others.

Project Activities

Legal Project activities include legal education and training to community advocates who provide legal support for their clients, with a special focus on HIV/AIDS and gender-based violence. We currently train grassroots community leaders, trauma counseling staff at WE-ACTx, and law students at Rwandan universities. Our "train the trainer" approach is building the local capacity of our partner NGOs to respond to clients' needs.

The **Legal Project** also assists WE-ACTx trauma patients and makes referrals for legal representation.

Dufatanye Network

In 2006, the **Legal Project** helped launch a new grassroots human rights network in Rwanda, **Dufatanye**, whose members are community advocates trained to do legal support at the local level.

We are also networking with groups in Congo and other countries to share our legal resources and adapt our Rwandan community legal education handbook.

Know Your Rights Community Handbook

WE-ACTx for Hope has developed a nationally-approved handbook on healthcare rights and other laws, working closely with Rwandan NGOs, the legal community, and government ministries. This easy-to-read and understand handbook is available in English and Kinyarwanda and is aimed at a community audience. It provides a valuable overview of laws that can be used to help Rwandans advocate for their rights. The handbook can be downloaded at www.we-actx.org/community-legal/.

We are currently developing a children's rights handbook to help orphans and families with especially vulnerable children.

Support Us!

Our **Legal Project** welcomes tax-exempt donations. Please send donations earmarked "Legal Project" to WE-ACTx at the U.S. address below.

Contact Us

For more information, please contact:
Donna Rae Palmer, Executive Director
WE-ACTx
584 Castro Street., #416
San Francisco, CA 94114
Tel. (415) 563-4676 x3
Fax (415) 401-7270