



 *Development & Research Innovations, Inc.*

Partnership for Trauma Healing in Africa



Burundi 2013

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Partnership for Trauma Healing in Africa—2013



The Need

The people of Burundi are struggling to rebuild and heal after decades of civil war, genocide, refugee displacement, disease, and extreme poverty. Everyone in the country has been touched by the destruction, and many suffer from anxiety, depression, and trauma related disorders as a result. Many fear the conflict will restart if peace efforts, reconciliation, and psychological healing are not emphasized and widespread.

The Story

As the region works hard to transition from conflict to peace, local organizations have mobilized, responding with peacemakers and psychosocial outreach programs. Trauma Healing and Reconciliation Services (THARS; www.THARS.org; Burundi) was founded by a mental health professional who is also a survivor of ethnic violence in Burundi.

The region needs healing.



The Partnership

DRI established a partnership with THARS in 2010 to collaborate with the efforts of THARS. Our mission is to work with THARS to provide mental health professionals, community leaders, and families in Burundi and the region with resources, training, and continuing education to work towards peace, reconciliation, and psychological and emotional healing.



The Action

DRI sent a team of educational and psychological professionals to the region in the summer of 2011, to collaborate with local professionals and organizations including THARS in Burundi and The Friends Peace House in Rwanda. Based on the success of that trip, DRI has been invited to return in the summer of 2013. DRI plans to provide:

- Therapeutic and educational equipment, supplies, and resources for training centers
- Resources for counselors and other community leaders
- Clinical workshops, educational outreach, psychosocial programming, and group therapy activities



The Response

Would you consider being a significant part of DRI's efforts to support and promote healing, reconciliation, peace and mental health in the Great Lakes region of Africa?

Your financial support is instrumental in providing the resources, training, workshops, and supplies that are critically needed in Burundi.

Please consider partnering with DRI as we work together with THARS to promote peace and healing in the region.

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