



African
Oasis
Foundation

VISION TRIP REPORT



January 7th -13th, 2025

INTRODUCTION

From January 7 to January 13, 2025, the African Oasis Foundation hosted a transformative Vision Trip in Rwanda. This journey provided participants with a profound opportunity to witness the Foundation's initiatives in action, interact with beneficiaries, and participate in various impactful activities.

The week was characterized by a spirit of compassion and collaboration. Each activity provided a unique insight into the Foundation's mission and the profound impact it has on the communities it serves.

The visitors were involved in key AOF events, such as the groundbreaking ceremony for the new school and the Oasis Cup football final. Additionally, they participated in cultural and community engagement activities, including visits to schools, home visits, and a safari in Akagera National Park.

This report outlines the activities during the trip, highlighting the objectives, outcomes, and the impact of each experience.

WELCOME CEREMONY

The Foundation's leadership provided an overview of the week's activities, highlighting the significance of each event and outlining the goals of the Vision Trip.



VISITING THE MEMORIAL SITE OF THE 1994 GENOCIDE AGAINST TUTSI IN RWANDA



In the afternoon, the group visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial. This poignant visit allowed the visitors to gain a deeper understanding of Rwanda's history and its journey of healing and reconciliation. Laying flowers on the general grave was a meaningful gesture that resonated deeply with the group.



TEEN MOTHERS MEETING

Later, the group visited the AOF Kamabuye office to meet with teen mothers, many of whom are beneficiaries of AOF's community empowerment initiatives.

The visitors participated in testimony sharing and encouragement sessions, where stories of hope and resilience were shared, highlighting the impact of AOF's programs on the lives of vulnerable women and children. Each mother received shoes and clothes as gifts from visitors.



HOME VISITS AND SCHOOL ENGAGEMENTS



The next days involved traveling to Kamabuye and surrounding areas for home visits and school tours. The visitors were able to interact with the families directly supported by AOF's sponsorship programs.

Visiting 20 families in total over two days, the group witnessed the profound changes that AOF's support has brought to these households, from providing school fees for children to medical and nutritional support for families in need. Visitors distributed packages containing

foods (rice) and bar soap to each visited family.

During school visits, the visitors toured several local schools, such as GS Nyakayaga and Ndama. These visits included meetings with head teachers, sponsored children, and attendance at class sessions, which allowed the visitors to understand the importance of AOF's involvement in improving educational standards in the region. It was a chance to witness the children's gratitude for the opportunity to attend school, an experience that many of them would not have had without AOF's intervention.



CHILDREN'S DAY CENTER EVENT

Visitors facilitated art, music, and craft sessions, allowing children to express their creativity and build confidence.

Each child received a Bible and a personalized gift, fostering spiritual and emotional growth. The children showcased their talents through skits, dances, and songs, leaving visitors inspired by their potential.

AFRICAN OASIS CUP FOOTBALL FINAL



The culmination of the visitors' trip included attending the final and third-place matches of the Oasis Cup football tournament, which was an important community event. The football games were attended by a large audience, including local leaders, especially the Executive Secretary of BUGESERA District and police representatives.

Over three months, the tournament engaged young people across the region, promoting physical wellness and spreading the gospel.

Visitors teamed up with sponsored children for a lighthearted game, showcasing unity and sportsmanship.

Kamabuye Sector claimed victory over Ruhuha Sector in an electrifying final, cheered on by an enthusiastic crowd. It was a good time also to preach during this event. Pastor Ryan from McDowell Community Church led a baptism ceremony for 54 individuals, celebrating their newfound faith as a result of the tournament's outreach efforts.

GROUNDBREAKING OF OASIS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY



On January 10, the visitors participated in the groundbreaking ceremony for Oasis Christian Academy, a key project in AOF's long-term vision to provide quality education to children in the region. The ceremony was attended by local dignitaries, including the Executive Secretary of Kamabuye Sector (delegated by the Mayor), army representatives, and members of the community.

This event marked the beginning of a transformative project for the region, and the visitors played an integral role in symbolically marking the start of the construction.



HOUSE CONSTRUCTION & DONATION



During this trip, visitors worked alongside local builders and volunteers, contributing to the construction of the house for one of the AOF's beneficiaries. The completed house was officially presented to the family in a moving ceremony that included prayers, speeches by local leaders and AOF staff members.

The family shared how this home would provide them with security, dignity, and a stable foundation for their children's future.

BAPTISM OF NEW BELIEVERS

In a deeply spiritual moment, the visitors witnessed the baptism of 54 new believers at a community service event in Kamabuye. The baptisms were led by Pastor Ryan from MacDowell Community Church, and they followed a series of outreach events and evangelistic activities that had taken place during the Oasis Cup football tournament.

This event highlighted AOF's commitment to not only physical empowerment but also spiritual growth within the communities it serves.



SAFARI & CULTURAL EXPLORATION

A woman wearing a bright pink sleeveless dress and a black headscarf with a yellow pattern is smiling and showing a small, intricately carved wooden object to a man. The man, seen from the back, is wearing a dark blue t-shirt and glasses. They are in a shop filled with various Rwandan handicrafts, including wooden carvings of people and animals, woven baskets, and colorful textiles. The background is filled with shelves of these items, creating a rich cultural atmosphere.

The weekend offered the visitors an opportunity to explore Rwanda's natural beauty. On January 12, they traveled to Akagera National Park for a full-day safari, which allowed the group to witness Rwanda's incredible wildlife and landscapes. The safari was a refreshing break from the more structured activities, providing a chance for relaxation and reflection.

GOODBYE EVENING & GIFT PRESENTATION



On the evening of January 11, AOF staff organized a special "Goodbye Evening" to thank the visitors for their participation and partnership during the trip. The evening included a dinner, where everyone shared reflections and memories from the trip.

As a gesture of appreciation, AOF staff presented the visitors with carefully chosen gifts, including handmade crafts and symbolic items representing Rwanda's culture and the work of AOF.

This thoughtful gesture was a meaningful way to honor the visitors' contributions and engagement throughout the trip.

DEPARTURE & REFLECTION

On January 13, the final day of the trip, the visitors engaged in some final shopping in Kigali.

A final debriefing session allowed the visitors to reflect on their experiences, share their thoughts, and discuss the potential for future partnerships with AOF.

Afterward, the group had an early dinner out in Kigali and departed for Kigali International Airport, marking the end of a successful and impactful Vision Trip.



CONCLUSION

The Vision Trip provided the visitors with an in-depth understanding of the significant work being done by the African Oasis Foundation. From the groundbreaking of Oasis Christian Academy to witnessing community empowerment through sport, education, and spiritual growth, the trip highlighted AOF's holistic approach to development. The visitors left with a renewed sense of commitment to support AOF's mission, including sponsorship programs, the Oasis Christian Academy project, and other initiatives that are making a tangible difference in the lives of children and families in Rwanda.

AOF's commitment to sustainable development, community engagement, and spiritual upliftment continues to resonate with international partners, and this trip has opened doors for future collaboration and support for the foundation's transformative work.



RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Expand Engagement:** Encourage greater participation in future Vision Trips by offering tailored opportunities for volunteers, sponsors, and donors.
- **Track Long-Term Impact:** Develop a system for monitoring the ongoing effects of initiatives highlighted during the trip.
- **Enhance Awareness:** Utilize stories, photos, and videos from the trip to inspire global support and engagement.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We extend heartfelt gratitude to all participants, volunteers, and partners who contributed to the success of this Vision Trip. Your support is changing lives and building a brighter future for communities in need.





African Oasis Foundation

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January 16, 2025