Group Formation
When ZOE first enters a community to help children, we begin by engaging the local leaders. Staff members explain how ZOE is an empowerment program, enabling children to move from crippling poverty and dependency to economic and social self-sufficiency. After the youth are identified for the ZOE program and are placed into empowerment groups, they immediately begin forming their strategy to overcome extreme poverty.

During the first meeting the youth elect leaders, make rules to guide their meetings, choose a group name, and decide when and where to hold weekly gatherings. Immediately, they begin training on topics such as food security, health and disease prevention, business management, and child rights. If they have access to land they receive seeds to start gardens and plant crops. If siblings are not attending school, ZOE provides uniforms and other resources to get them back into classes. Children who have skills are provided grants so that they can start small businesses, others begin vocational training. To strengthen peer bonds, groups begin shared income activities and agricultural projects.

Name List
Before an empowerment group name list is created, ZOE staff members take time to get to know the youth. They make home visits to record information about the children, their dependents, and caregivers. They assess if any emergency interventions are required to alleviate health issues, abusive conditions, or inadequate shelter. Once they have confirmed who is eligible for the ZOE program, and have allowed time for children who are not interested to drop out and others to join, then the staff creates the name list.

On the following page is the list of names and a picture of your specific group. The names in bold are heads of household, followed by their siblings and dependents. Please note, children joining the ZOE program often have no parents or birth documentation, and have suffered multiple traumas in their young lives. Sometimes they are suspicious of the outsiders asking questions. For these reasons, the children occasionally provide erroneous information which we later correct.

The children are encouraged and strengthened by the knowledge that their ZOE Empowerment Group Partner is not only supporting them with resources, but also with prayer and in the belief that they are capable of great things. Thank you for making this journey of transformation with them.
Ubuntu Group, Rwanda
36 households and a total of 104 children (heads of households pictured below)

Pascasie 17
Pascal 14
Pascaline 12
Chantal  8

Patrick 17
Elizabeth 9

Valentine 19
Valens 17
Clementine 15
Claudine 13
Angélique 11
Sandrine 7

Jean Claude 16
Françoise 14
Ariane 7
Alice  5
Solange 4

Verène 18

Murindangabo 17
Nyomugabo 13
Vedaste 3
Niyonsaba 2
Eugénie 1
Josée 18
Evode 10

Philomène 19

Claude 15
Claude 12
Uwitonze 10
Anastase 7
Hishamunda 6

Jean de Dieu 17
Eugène 4

Jean Paul 15
Jean Pierre 12
Nkuriza 10
Mudage 8

Patricie 20
Donathile 15
Daniel 14
Jeannette 10

Clarisse 19
Emmanuel 15
Alphonse 14
Uwayishimira 10

Olive 19
Claudine 14
Nadine 12
Pacifique 8
Patience 8
Elissa 1

Consolée 16
Uwamariya 15

Joselyne 18
Athanase 16
Sarah 4
Sandrine 4

Théonille 20
Françoise 15
Denyse 4

Josephine 18
Ndayisenga 7

Jean Claude 16
Nyomugabo 21
Jean Baptiste 12

Ezechiel 18
Samuel 20
Valens 18
Sylvestre 2

Emmanuel 16
Marcia 17
Abraham 5

Donatha 15
Bizimana 20
Marie 7

Clarisse 16
Esther 13
Bertin 18

Angelique 15
Sandrine 14
Vincent 19

Félix 17
Aimé 12
Sandrine 9

Jean Marie Vianney 16

Jean Claude 15
Jean Baptiste 11
Patrick 5

Jean Claude 15

Eric 15

Olive 15
Nadine 20
Emmanuel 10
Sept 4

Ntanshuti 15
Angélique 20
Dusengimana 12
Béatha 3