



**comfort  
international**  
a little can change a life

# FEEDING PROJECTS 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# COMFORT INTERNATIONAL FEEDING PROJECTS



## The Need

There are still children going hungry in Rwanda. In Bisesero, many families cannot afford to pay for school meals for their children. Sometimes they need to choose which child can eat for the month. Nursery children are showing signs of malnutrition, stunting their development. All of this impedes their health, opportunities, education and happiness.

## The Solution

Comfort International Feeding Projects are supporting families to pay school meals, providing nursery meals for children at risk of malnutrition and fighting child hunger in Rwanda. Your one-off and monthly donations are changing children's lives forever. In this report we detail the difference you've helped make. Thank you so much for being part of the solution.

## Why feeding projects?



### Malnutrition

Children who suffer from malnutrition can experience its effects for life.

### Education

Hunger makes it more difficult to study and achieve the full potential of the child.

### Happiness

Children shouldn't have to worry about where their next meal is coming from.



# BIRARA NURSERY NUTRITION

Your donations have been providing nursery meals to those most at risk of malnutrition in this area of Bisesero. This area of Rwanda was the only area of Rwanda to form an official resistance against the genocide in 1994. Historically, in this area, Tutsi children were bullied and excluded from schooling. As a predominantly agricultural area, many of the children were encouraged to stay home and help on the family farm. We want to help encourage children to go to school and providing nursery meals is a big part of this. The school prepares a nutritious porridge in the morning which helps the children to stay healthier, grow stronger and study better.

**73 children  
supported**

The chart below shows that following your support of this project, there are now no children in the nursery showing severe signs of malnutrition, and the number of children showing any signs of malnutrition has been drastically reduced. The nursery expects that, if this trend continues, then by the end of the school year there should be no children showing any signs of malnutrition.



Children in good health showing no signs of malnutrition



Children with some signs of malnutrition

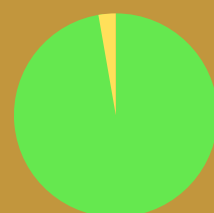


Children with multiple, severe signs of malnutrition

**Before CI help  
(Sep 22)**



**After CI help  
(March 23)**



# SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME



The Rwandan government subsidises school meals for children, but families are still required to pay a fee set by the school, which can be as low as about £2. However, in an incredibly rural and poor part of the country, Bisesero, some families cannot afford this monthly expense for some or any of their children. This means that some pupils must go the full day at school without eating anything. In some cases, brothers and sisters must watch as one sibling per month is able to eat school meals. This is not a situation or choice that any family should have to make, and it leads to low attendance and poor performance in school, distraction and unhappiness. Your donations have been paying for school meals for children, meaning they don't need to worry about where their next meal is coming from, and can instead focus on being kids - playing with friends, learning new things, reaching their potential and building opportunities for the future.



At the start of the year, our partners at Good News International in Rwanda, who facilitate this project, took some baseline data from 40 children enrolled on the project. We went back after these children were supported to receive school meals for one term and the results were astounding.

**41.3%**  
increase in  
attendance

**13.7%**  
improvement  
in grades

**100% now**  
say they are  
"happy"

**Now >90%**  
attendance  
on average

# SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Aaron\* was attending school around 40% of the time, on average two days a week. His parents and teachers reported him as having bad behaviour. His test marks were down at 30% and he described himself as unhappy. Not being able to eat all day at school takes a toll. Sometimes it was easier just to stay at home, and when in school, it was hard to concentrate.

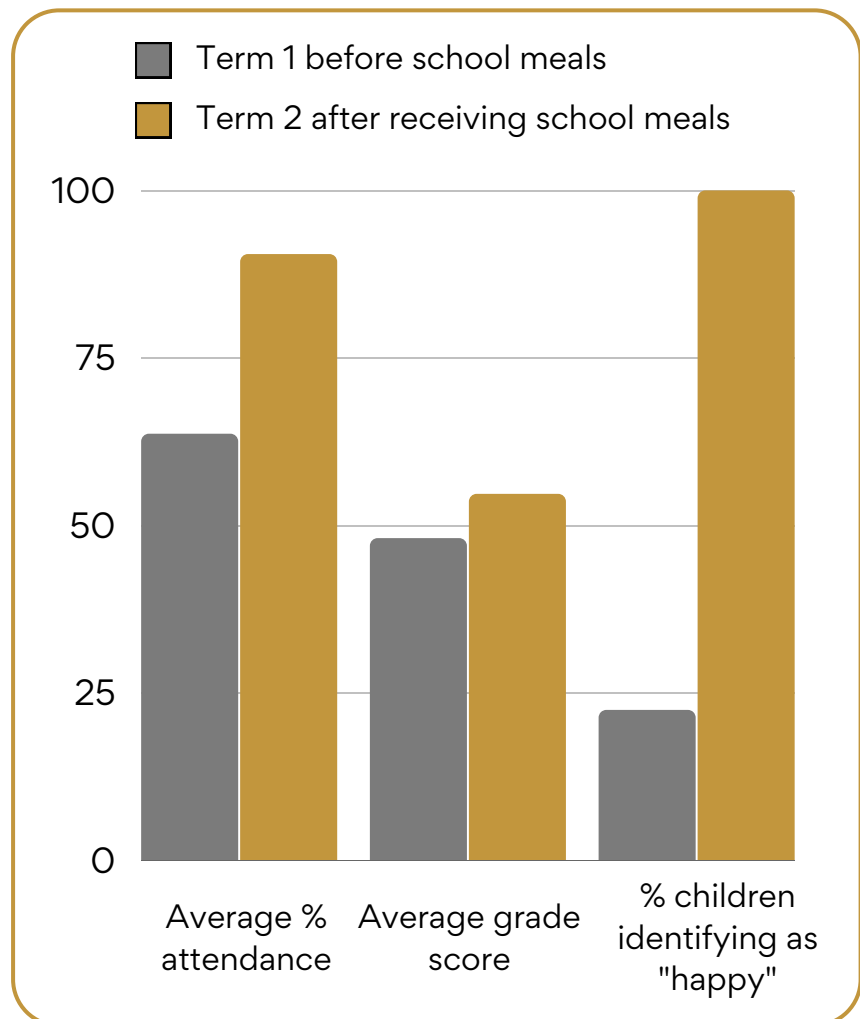


After being supported to receive daily school meals, Aaron's attendance shot up to 88%. His grades followed and in one term he improved his scores by 38%. Not only that, but everyone noticed a difference in his demeanour. His behaviour improved and he and everyone around him reports that he is much happier.

**80% of children  
behaving  
better  
according to  
their teachers**

**More than  
an extra day  
in school a  
week**

**Inequality  
in class  
drastically  
reduced**



\*Name and picture changed to protect identity

# Thank you ...

... your support has changed hundreds of lives already. Together, we can help feed more children every day through Comfort International Feeding Projects

These projects have been incredibly successful at helping transform lives throughout Rwanda. Comfort International is continually striving to reach those most in need through our partner organisations. Due to the success of these projects, we will be rolling out funding to provide nutritional support throughout a number of projects, including Street Kids Rescue Projects in Rwanda, DRC and Burundi, Children of Liberty (ex-child soldiers), the nutritional wing at Central Hospital Rusayu, DRC and child support in South Sudan, as well as continuing to support nursery nutrition at Birara Nursery and School Feeding Projects. You can find out about these projects by checking out our website or getting in touch with us. All of these will help us continue to fight child hunger in some of the world's poorest countries. If your donation has been specifically designated, 100% of the funds will go to that project. If your donation is undesignated, it will be used where it is most needed.

## How to get involved



### Give a one-off donation or fundraiser

For £10 you could feed 20 children in nursery for a week



### Set up regular giving

Provide school meals for a child throughout the school year for as little as £2 a month



### Spread the word

We'd love for you to tell people about it!

100% of all donations designated for the feeding projects will go directly to providing food for those who need it most.

## For more information and to donate

 [enquiry@comfortinternational.org](mailto:enquiry@comfortinternational.org)

 [comfortinternational.org](http://comfortinternational.org)

   [@comfortinternational](https://www.facebook.com/comfortinternational)

**Keep up to date! Follow us on social media and sign up to our newsletter!**

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