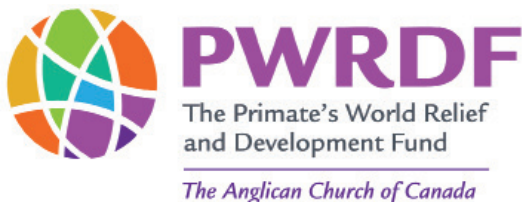


# Voices OF HOPE

## Burundi

A new era of maternal health care in rural Burundi began in 2018 with the opening of two Expectant Mothers' Houses. The state-of-the-art facility, built by local NGO Village Health Works (VHW) and supported by PWRDF and the Government of Canada, will serve women with at-risk pregnancies. The maternal mortality rate in Burundi is 712 per 100,000 live births, compared to 530 per 100,000 in other East African countries. The Expectant Mothers' Houses contain 48 beds and aim to decrease preventable and premature deaths related to unsafe surgery and unsanitary conditions. They will accommodate women who live far from health centres and hospitals or face other geographical barriers such as flooding, lack of transportation or other common issues faced by families in rural Burundi.

“The Expectant Mothers' Houses will help save the lives of countless women who face arduous health challenges when bringing new life into our world,” says VHW CEO Deogratias Niyizonkiza, who founded the life-changing community health program in 2006. “VHW is grateful for the generous support of Global Affairs Canada and PWRDF and their commitment to building a healthier and more just world.”



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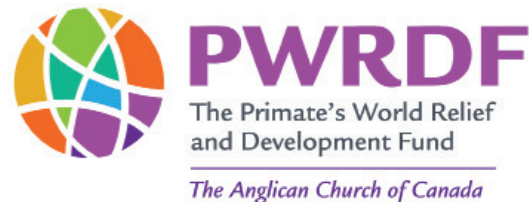
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