

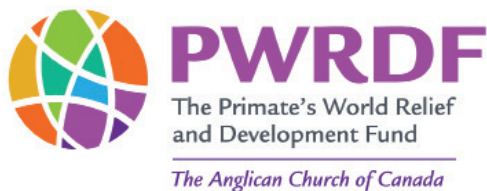
Voices OF HOPE

Democratic Republic of Congo

Maison Dorcas is part of the Panzi Foundation, established in 2008 by Nobel Peace Prize winner Dr. Denis Mukwege in South Kivu, where the rate of sexual and gender-based violence is the third highest among the 25 provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo. These crimes are rarely reported for fear of repercussions and stigma, resulting in few consequences for offenders. Many victims suffer in silence as they are shunned by their families and communities alike.

Maison Dorcas was created to address these issues and is a safe haven for victims of violence and those needing extended medical care. Women at Maison Dorcas continue their healing journey along with other vulnerable women from their communities in a setting where they are safe and heard. They actively participate in their own decision-making, empowering them and building up their self-esteem.

PWRDF supports Maison Dorcas in providing women with essential skills such as literacy, numeracy and small business training. The aim of this training is to empower victims of gender-based and sexual violence and to ensure that their livelihoods improve.



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