

Voices OF HOPE

Democratic Republic of the Congo

On five hectares of farmland in the southeast corner of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, women are learning to make compost and plant seeds to grow eggplant, cabbage, beans, corn and plum seedlings. The program in Kaziba, run by Maison Dorcas of the Panzi Hospital, supports 100 survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

The women work in solidarity groups, which also include men. This community-integrated approach empowers women and challenges long held beliefs that women are not strong. Agricultural training has enabled several women to leave precarious household situations and regain their livelihoods.

PWRDF supports several other activities at Maison Dorcas that have increased incomes for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. When their livelihoods improved, it encouraged other others to either join the project or seek training to achieve the same outcomes and results.




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