

Background

The bilateral exchange program was pioneered by Dr. James Plumb in the early years of the 21st century.

In 2007, the first group of 8 Jefferson students, members of JeffHEALTH-Helping East Africa Link to Health, including the pioneer's daughter, went to Rwanda to do community and public health education alongside their counterpart from the University of Rwanda who were members of Rwanda Village Concept Project now known as Rwanda Village Community Promoters (RVCP).

In the same year, the first group of students from the University of Rwanda came to Jefferson for clinical observership and community health within JeffHEALTH and JeffHOPE: Health Opportunities, Prevention, & Education.

2007-2024: more than 100 Jefferson students and faculty members spent time in Rwanda and about 40 visiting trainees from Rwanda have spent time at Jefferson.

Welcome to Jefferson - Murakaza Neza mu Rwanda

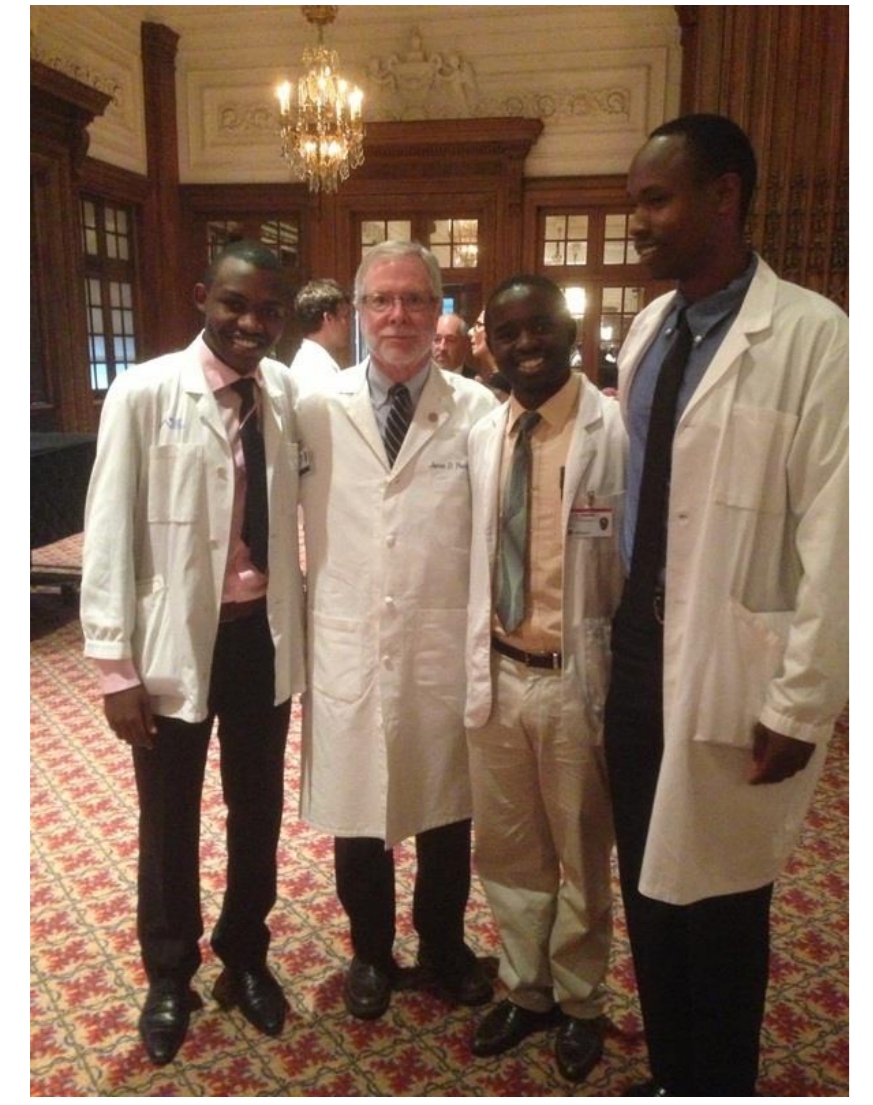
Distance Philadelphia-Rwanda: ≈ 7100 miles



Area: 10,169 square miles (26,338 square km)

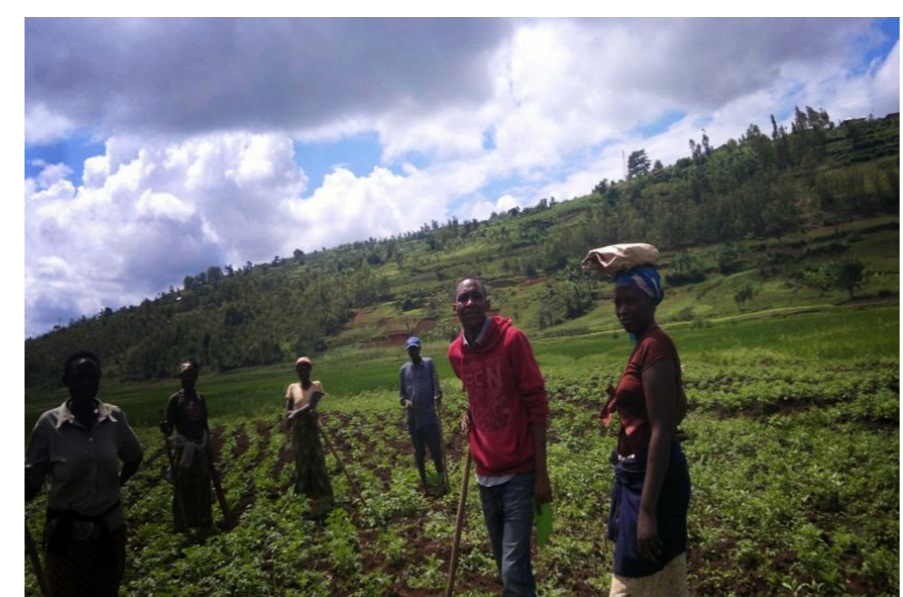
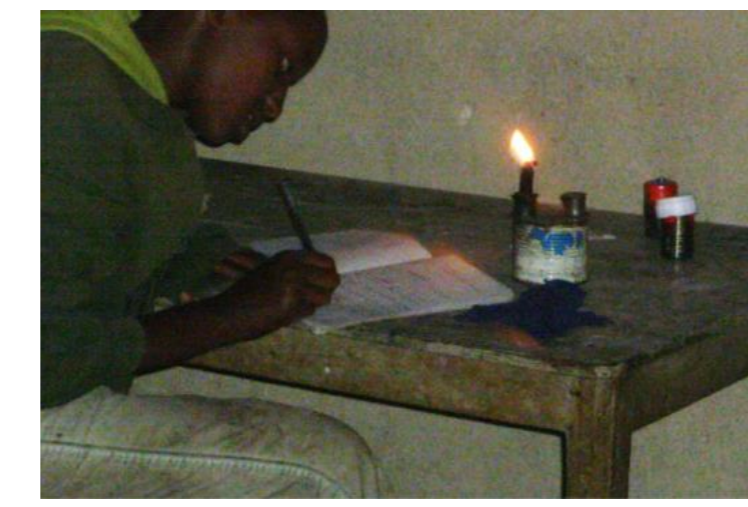


Population: 13 millions, >45% are <18 years old



Life in the Villages of Rwanda

"Education is the great engine of personal development. It is through education that the daughter of a peasant can become a doctor, that the son of a mineworker can become the head of the mine, that a child of farmworkers can become the president of a great nation."
 – Nelson Mandela, Long Walk to Freedom



Jeffersonians in the Villages of Rwanda

Riding Bicycle taxi



Riding Motorcycle taxi



Born at Jefferson – Playing in Rwanda



Fetching water



Jefferson Student playing guitar in Rwanda



Jefferson & Rwanda for Global Public Health

- To co-educate about:**
- Nutrition and vitamin deficiencies
 - Maternal and child health
 - Family planning
 - HIV prevention and treatment
 - Sexually transmitted illnesses
 - Hepatitis prevention and care
 - Diabetes prevention and management
 - Breast and Cervical Cancer care
 - Fistulas prevention and care
 - Oral Hygiene
 - Soil transmitted helminths



A Win-Win Exchange Program

- ✓ Global public health service experiences increase cultural humility learning
- ✓ Intercultural experiences prepare health care trainees to provide culturally sensitive care
- ✓ Bilateral exchange programs between high- and low-income countries reduce spatial stigmatization in education and health



Acknowledgment

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