

# AMAHORO HUMAN RESPECT

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NYARUGENGE DISTRICT

NYAKABANDA SECTOR



## ORGANIZATION FACTSHEET

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## **1. Background**

Amahoro Human Respect (AHR) is a not for profit and non-governmental organization that promotes human rights education and provides legal assistance to underserved communities like youth and teenage mothers, Female Sex Workers (FSWs), People Living with HIV (PLWHIV), sexual minorities and People who Inject/Use Drugs (PWIUDs) in Rwanda through advocacy, awareness-raising, capacity-building & strengthening; and legal empowerment.

The organization started in 2014 by the group of young people and got its certificate of compliance in 2019 under registration number N<sup>o</sup> 438/RGB/NGO/LP/02/2019 from the government of Rwanda through The Rwanda Governance Board (RGB).

## **2. Identity**

**2.1. Vision:** A healthy and prosperous young generation free from all forms of injustices.

**2.2. Mission:** To promote youth livelihoods through capacity building, advocacy, economic empowerment and access to good health as well fighting all forms of stigma.

**2.3. Values:** The core values of Amahoro Human Respect:

- **Equality**
- **Accountability**
- **Partnership**
- **Transparency**
- **Sustainability**
- **Humanity**
- **Gender sensitivity**

## **3. OUR PROGRAMS**

Amahoro Human Respect is currently running the following programs:

### **3.1. Educational programs**

- We hold sensitive trainings for the local media about how to portray and talk about minority groups in a positive light.
- We hold sensitivity trainings for members of local government bodies and police forces to educate them about the discrimination faced by minority communities. In this context, we explain the importance of their leadership to protect and encourage integration of all Rwandans into a productive and flourishing society.
- We work with local media groups to educate them about the strengths and needs of minority populations, including sexual minorities.

### **3.2. Employment and community living skills**

- We run an entrepreneurship program that includes teaching youth financial literacy, marketable skills, and health and safety in the workplace.
- We offer entrepreneurship trainings for various minority communities including people living with HIV and sexual minorities so that they can gain skills to help them find or create jobs.
- We offer workshops to sexual minorities teaching skills useful in their work places and communities.
- We hold trainings for members of minority communities on basic self-defense techniques

### **3.3. Advocacy**

Our advocacy work is organized by a theory of change which influences spheres of religion, civil society, business community, media, government, healthcare, and the academy.

### **3.4. HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment**

- We advocate for the rights of HIV+ people and educate the general public about what AIDS is, what it means to have the disease, and how people with positive HIV status can effectively contribute to society when supportively integrated.
- We counsel people who already have a positive HIV diagnosis on ways to manage the disease.
- We work with HIV+ people to make sure they get the healthcare they need and the funds to pay for that care.
- We follow up with participants after initial counseling to ensure that they understand how to properly take care of the disease, to troubleshoot problems they've encountered, and to provide further support.
- We advocate for the rights of HIV+ people and educate the general public about what AIDS is, what it means to have the disease, and how people with positive HIV status can effectively contribute to society when supportively integrated

### **3.5. Research:**

AHR focuses on evidence-based advocacy and therefore actively seeks input from the local community to find and address critical needs. Listening to people who are directly impacted by policies and gathering personal stories helps us determine the steps that will best mitigate challenges faced by minority communities. We use data as well as personal stories to educate the public, the media, local authorities and respected leaders so they can understand better the challenges and dangers experienced by sexual minorities, street children, sex workers, and drug users in the community. These stories also highlight the strengths marginalized community members can bring to society through their work and positive social impacts. *Research as an anchor for our advocacy work.*

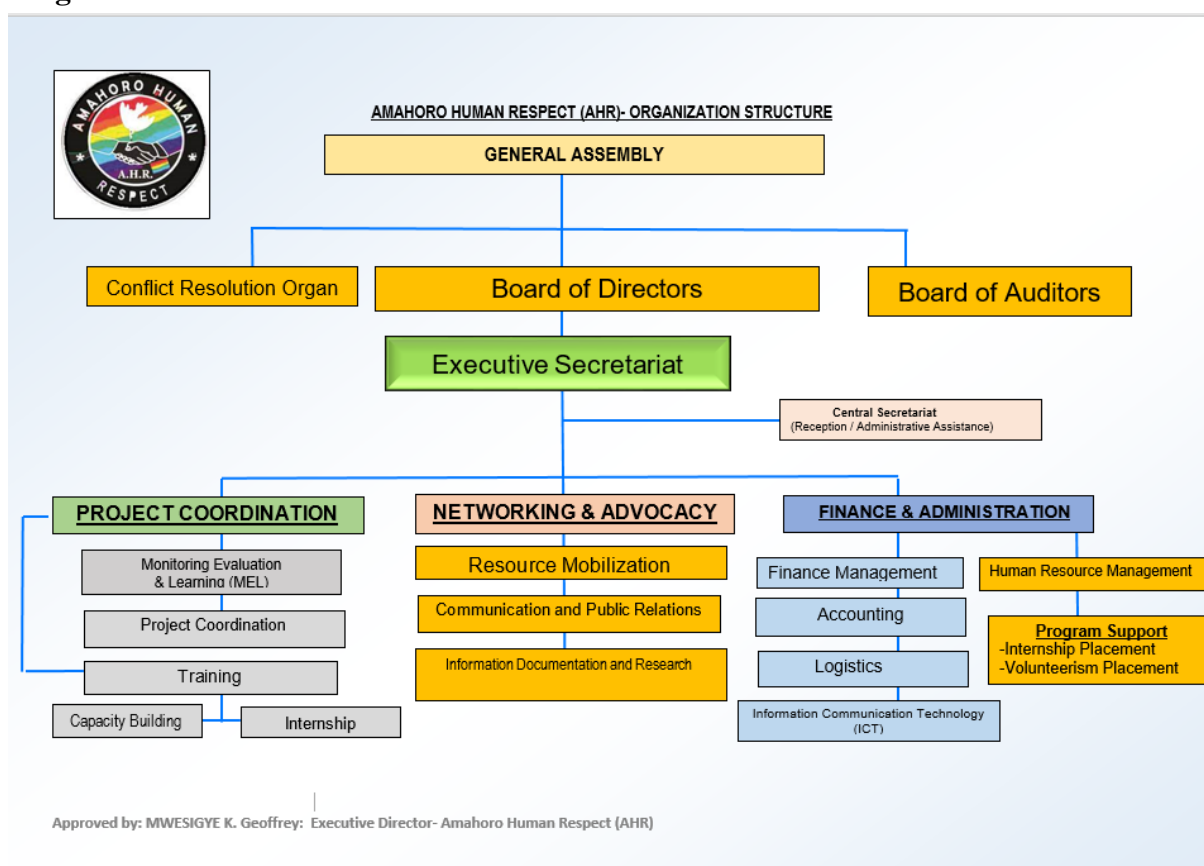
### 3.6.Sports outreaches:

- We do sports and recreational activities among which include Music Dance and Drama, football and YOGA in addressing mental health issues especially among our members in vulnerable communities among which include LGBTI+, sex workers, young mothers street kids and drug users. Mental issues include stress, depression, self-isolation trauma and keep bodies and brain healthier and active.

### 3.7.Legal aid support:

- We do documentation of the cases of violence, stigma and discrimination, we provide legal support to members whose rights have been violated in this we provide lawyers to support any member who rights have been violated.

## 4. Organizational structure



### 4.1.General assembly

The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Organization. It is composed of all effective members of the Organization, GA does the following; Nominate and vote in board members, nominates and lay off members of executive committee, admits, suspend and exclude a member.

### 4.2.Board of directors

The B.O.D is made up Chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary and treasurer. it is headed by a chairperson. The chairperson is the legal representative of the organization. B.O.D is responsible for

Executing the decisions and recommendations of the General Assembly, Follow up the daily management of the Organization, Negotiate financial support with the partners. Recruit, nominate and dismiss the personnel of different services of the Organization.

#### **4.3. Conflict resolution committee.**

The committee is composed by 3 persons elected based on their integrity.

The committee has the following duties:

- to receive and examine complaints from Members in order to find solutions to such complaints if it finds they are well founded;
- to always search for solution of problems through dialogue and mutual understanding
- to promote mediation, to provide guidance and initiate correction before resorting to regulations of the organization and Rwandan Law
- This committee meets any time it is needed convened by its president or its vice-president of resolution conflict committees.

#### **4.4. Our staff**

The organization has an active staff of eight members who are paid on monthly basis, one-part time employee, with four official volunteers who help AHR is working towards the set goals.

- Number of members, AHR has 52 active members,
- registration status. 2019 — Amahoro received permanent official registration status as an organization with the Rwandan Governance Board
- Amahoro is a founding member and president of Isange coalition, the coalition of Rwandan LGBTI+ organisations.

#### **5. PROJECT PORTFOLIO FOR 2020/2021**

Amahoro Human Respect successfully implemented the following projects in 2021:

- Organization of IDAHOT 2020 (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia) in collaboration with Isange, supported by TFAM Global and several foreign embassies in Rwanda among which the Dutch embassy, the Canadian High Commission, the Swedish Embassy and the EU Delegation to Rwanda.
- Organization of an interconnected Justice Forum which brought together different stakeholder in Rwandan society with LGBTIQ community leaders.
- Civic Education to both LGBTIQ communities and organizations, wider civil society and governments in Rwanda.
- AHR in collaboration with TFAM church Organized the International AIDS day.
- Training of pastors from 22 churches on preaching an inclusive gospel in Rwanda. Supported by European Union through HDI in partnership with GRET.

- Research of knowledge and perception around LGBTI in Rwanda
- Institutional capacity building supported by TFAM Global
- Sensitization program through Radio talk show.
- In partnership with RIFA, the organization implemented of the project LILO (Looking In Looking Out), a project to empower LGBTIQ activists in Rwanda
- The organization Implemented of the project ‘Go Far? Go Together!’, a project on organizational development of Rwandan LGBTIQ organization.
- The organization implemented project “*Institutional capacity strengthening and training of staff and members on internet and social media skills*” funded by UHAI
- Self Help Group support/groupe de parole support by through HDI
- Organized dialogues with local leaders of Kigali area, 4 times per year.
- We provided Emergency food support to 150 most vulnerable LGBTI individuals and Sex workers in Kigali in responding to food crisis caused by COVID-19.

### **5.1. Amahoro Human Respect is currently implementing the following projects:**

- Implementation of the project “improving the well-being of Key populations in Kigali city through sport”, in collaboration with We Act For Hope, supported by Comic Relief. 2020-2022
- In partnership with Hivos, the organization is implementing the project ***Free To Be Me*** the project funded by the ministry of foreign affairs Netherlands
- The organization is implementing project “Living free and equal”. *priding sexual orientation and gender identity* **project funded by Amplify Change**
- Health Awareness. We continue to encourage people to do HIV testing in order to know their HIV status as well as providing counselling to persons with mental issues.

We do sensitize all people to obey the precautions set up the Rwandan ministry of Health in an effort of fight the spread of COVID among which include; social distancing, putting on face masks, frequent washing of hands and among others.

## **6. PARTNERS**

We have collaboration with the following organizations to implement our projects and activities:

- Isange.
- We Act For Hope <http://www.we-actx.org/>
- Health Development Initiative (HDI) <https://hdirwanda.org/>
- Centre For rule of Law (Cerula)
- Human Rights First Rwanda (HRFR) <http://www.rightsrwanda.com/>
- Akazi kanoze <https://www.akazikanoze.org/>
- GLIHD <http://www.glihd.org>
- ANSP+ <https://ansp.org.rw/>

- Rwanda Biomedical center (RBC) <https://rbc.gov.rw/>
- Rwanda NGO Forum on HIV/AIDS
- RRP+ / Rwanda Network of People Living with HIV (RRP+) <https://rrpplus.org/>

All our achievements were possible with the financial support of the following organisations:

- TFAM Global <http://tfamglobal.org/>
- COC Netherlands <https://www.coc.nl/>
- CAVARIA <https://cavaria.be/>
- LGBT Denmark (through Positive Vibes) <http://lgbt.dk/english-2/>
- Comic Relief <https://www.comicrelief.com/>
- UHAI-EASHRI? <https://uhai-eashri.org/>
- Open Society? <https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/>
- ALLOUT <https://allout.org/>
- Frontline AIDS <https://frontlineaids.org/>
- HIVOS <https://hivos.org/east-africa/>

We are member of the following organizations:

- Rwandan Network of the NGO Forum on AIDs & HIV (RNGOF) <https://www.eahealth.org/directory/search/organisations/rwanda-ngos-forum-on-aids-and-health-promotion-rngof>
- Pan African ILGA <https://panafricailga.org/>
- Isange Rwanda.
- Rwanda Men's Resource Center <https://rwamrec.org/>
- Rwanda Men-Engage Network (RWAMNET) <https://menengage.org/country/rwanda/>

## 7. Contact Information

Amahoro Human Respect

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## 8. Organisation Social Media Platform

- Twitter : @AmahoroR
- Facebook : Amahoro Human Respect Organisation



