

Milk Collection Centre



There is a proposal to open up two milk collection centers in the Kigeme Diocese as part of the Food Security Program. A milk collection center is, as the title implies, a center where the local people can bring their milk to be purchased, then, the milk is processed and resold to the general population for a profit.

There are two centers already in existence with all the equipment present and ready to use. The centers closed previously as they had poor managers in the past. World Vision now owns these properties and equipment and it is willing to give these to the Kigeme Diocese to use.

Other milking centers are running in different areas of

Rwanda with great success and profit. These centers are helpful to an area as they provide a source of jobs for the local people and income for the farmers as it is a place where they can sell their milk.

The Udder Project was given a proposal when we visited in August, 2017 for the Milk Collection Center that Food Security had presented to World Vision. Based on the proposal and revenue expected from these centers, it is anticipated that there would be enough income to support the rest of the Food Security Program once these centers are up and running. This is exciting for the Udder Project as, it has always been our goal to “work ourselves out of a job” and to see the Food Security Program run under its own steam.

World Vision has also given the Food Security Program funds to support the training of 49 veterinary assistants who will be used in various areas around the Kigeme Diocese to help farmers with their cows' health and ensure adequate milk is produced and delivered to the Milk Collection Centers.

There is a start-up cost to the Centers though that the Food Security Program needs to supply. This start-up cost includes things like salaries for the employees, electricity, water, bikes for transport of milk from the farmers to the centers by the veterinary assistants and testing supplies for the milk. The start-up cost is 6, 607, 000 Rwf which is equivalent to approximately \$10, 160 Canadian.

The Udder Project, as a partner to the Food Security Program is looking to raise the money for the start-up costs. We are planning a few potential fundraisers such as craft sales, bake sales and a Silent Auction in Edmonton and Sechelt where Rachael and Carolyn Spence will attend.

So, we are asking you, as our loyal supporters to keep your eyes out for these fundraisers and attend. In addition, if any of you feel inclined to donate to the Udder Project to help us reach the goal of a self - sustainable Food Security Program in Kigeme, Rwanda please let us know. Tax receipts will be given to any donations. Donations can be made by Pay Pal on our website, etransfers or cheques payable to the Udder Project and sent to the Society address or by contacting either Carolyn or myself.

Thank you for your continued support,
Rachael Spence
Udder Project Coordinator