

# LLCCM – Let the Little Children Come to Me

Traditional Dance Group Project

## What is LLCCM?

LLCCM stands for Let the Little Children Come to Me. This phrase, which was once said by Jesus, represents the orphan centre's mission: LLCCM supports children and their families. The centre includes members who live with their parents affected or infected by HIV as well as orphans who live in adoptive families. In total LLCCM supports about seventy families and pays the children's school fees. Besides supporting these basic needs, LLCCM offers other activities such as regular meetings on Saturdays where the children pray together, play games and discuss daily problems. There are also special and temporary activities for children that change from time to time such as English courses or workshops for HIV prevention.

## Our current plan is to start a traditional dance group.

### What is traditional dance in Rwanda?

Traditional dance is an important part of Rwandan culture. In the past, Rwandans danced for the king. Today, it is part of weddings and many types of official ceremonies. The dance demonstrates different parts of Rwandan culture. Baskets and other tools present examples of traditional fields of labour such as cultivating. Male dancers perform the "Intore" (elite) dance. They wear blonde wigs, which symbolize lions. The Intore represents fighting and hunting. Specific motions also show elements of the culture. When the girls put their arms up, they imitate the traditional cow, which is an honoured animal.

### Why do we want to learn traditional dance at LLCCM?

Traditional dance in Rwanda is still very important and often performed by young people. It is a chance for our students to learn more about their culture and to experience it. An activity like dancing makes it possible for our students to forget their daily struggles for a while and to focus on the music, the rhythm and their bodies. Learning traditional dance is specifically important for our students who often have limitations because of their illness. Performing is a way for them to appear the same as anyone else and to show their strength through their new talent. By learning the basic steps at LLCCM, it will be easier for them to join a different group once they go to university. In the future, having a traditional dance group can be beneficial to LLCCM because groups are often paid to perform at official ceremonies.

## Why do we need your help?

Due to the sickness that most of our children are struggling with, it is important for us to provide a proper meal before every dance lesson.

We want to facilitate the transport costs for our coach who is a student at the National University of Rwanda and will come to LLCCM once a week to volunteer.

We would like the opportunity to improve the equipment available to the children.

## You can help!

With only 5 Euro we can facilitate the transport for our coach for 2 months of training. That means if we find six people donating 5 Euro we can provide the transport for one year of weekly training for our coach.

With 40 Euro you will support a proper meal for every child for one practice.

To make our project sustainable we would like to make sure that we have enough money to guarantee the essential needs for the dance group for one year. Therefore, we are thankful for any amount of money we receive.

What informations do you need?

If you decide to help us your money can be transferred to the following account. The account is a dollar account.

I & M Bank

Let the Little Children Come to Me

Swift number: BCRWRWRW

00017-0036938.01.90

For more information visit us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/LetLittleChildrenCometoMe?ref=ts&fref=ts>

For any further questions

write an E-Mail to our intern Miriam Gandras:

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left: saturday activities at llccm; middle: group picture of children; right: traditional dance group of the University of Rwanda at a performance; big picture: training of traditional dance group of University of Rwanda