

# 2020

## ANNUAL REPORT



**BRIGHT LIGHTS  
FOR AFRICA**

OPENING DOORS. INSPIRING  
CHANGE. & EMPOWERING LIVES

# LIGHTING PATHWAYS TO CHANGE

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Every day, there are millions of individuals around the world that are living in poverty.

According to the World Bank approximately 73% of the Democratic Republic of Congo lives on less than \$1.90USD per day. In Canada, Canada Without Poverty reports that 1 in 7 Canadians is living in poverty.

## OUR VISION

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To see the underprivileged uplifted and shine in society.

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## OUR MISSION

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To empower the most vulnerable people regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity or gender in East Africa and Canada. To create lasting change with people and their communities by tackling the root causes of poverty. By developing opportunities for people to build livelihoods they advance their skills and knowledge, as such creating jobs, promoting resiliency, and developing their communities.

# OUR PROGRAMS

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Our current initiatives tackle root causes of poverty, encourage self-sufficiency and empower the vulnerable in society.

Locally and internationally our programs are focused on:

- Economic Empowerment
- Healthcare
- Education
- Disaster Relief
- Childhood Nutrition



# HIGHLIGHTS

# PROJECT

## CANADA

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### **COVID-19 Relief/Food Drive Initiative**

In conjunction with our strategic and community partners, as well as volunteers, we handed out food hampers to individuals, families and organisations across the city of Calgary.

In November and December, we successfully delivered approximately 22,656 lbs of food items!

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

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## Empowering Widows in Goma

For families where the breadwinner of the family has passed away, women and children face extreme challenges gaining access to the basic necessities of life.

We raised funds to support 20 widows to purchase raw material to weave baskets.

The women are actively weaving baskets, selling them and providing a sustainable income for their families during these uncertain times.

With sufficient income gained through the sale of the baskets, mothers were able to provide food for their families, pay school fees as well as their rent.

We couldn't have supported these women without the help of our kind donors.



HIGHLIGHTS  
PROJECT

# STRATEGIC PLAN

## OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

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### **Local Partners**

Investing in a community means liaising with local experts that know the issues faced by the community and the best approaches. We have carefully chosen to partner with organisations that can assist us in creating community-centred strategies.

### **Diverse Solutions**

Each country has its own unique needs and conditions, and as such, we adapt our response. Together with our partners, we use existing resources and other solutions to serve the communities best.

### **Concentrated Impact**

Our current focus is in East Africa and Southern Alberta, Canada. We can efficiently and effectively reach more people by focusing on these communities. The concentrated impact also gives the community a chance to get acquainted with us and develop more community-based approaches to impeding and alleviating poverty.

# HIGHLIGHT PARTNER

## SECOND HARVEST

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As Canada's largest food rescue charity, Second Harvest redistributes nutritious, unsold food to charities, non-profits, and indigenous communities across Canada.

Through their services, Bright Lights for Africa has distributed tons of pounds of food to many individuals and families in the Greater Calgary area experiencing food insecurity.





**OUR  
BOARD**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Jenny Rutayomba Moto, Founder and Director

Michelle Bella

Joseph Ndekwe Mukuba

Carl Baily

Grace Wai-Wai

## **OFFICERS OF THE BOARD**

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Jenny Rutayomba Moto, Chairperson

Michelle Bella, Secretary

Grace Wai-Wai, Treasurer

Dzifa Owusu, Programs Manager