

## Musanze District



In collaboration with:



### Welcome Note

Welcome to the September 2010 edition of the Musanze District Health Newsletter. In this edition, we would like to provide an update on an ongoing project that highlights the continued partnership between the District of Musanze and the Access Project: the establishment of the first public library in the District of Musanze. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in the District of Musanze who have worked tirelessly over the past year to support turning this idea into a reality.

### District of Musanze to Open First Public Library

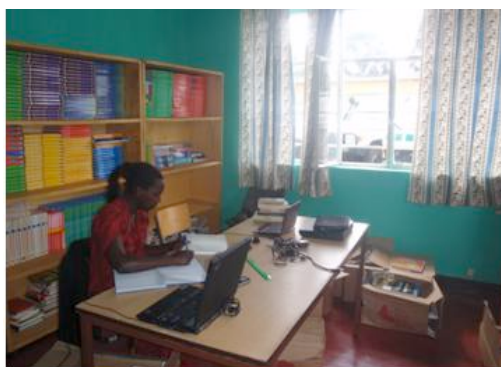


Above: Boxes of donated books arrive at the library space in September 2010

In October 2010, the District of Musanze will open its first public library, providing the entire district with a critical new resource for children, students and working professionals. Almost 2,000 books and three computers have been provided by the Rwanda Books for Peace Project, developed by Peace Corps Volunteer Jessica McGhie. The project was supported strongly by the District of Musanze, which has provided a space for the library and hired a librarian, as well as the Access Project, which provided funds to cover Musanze District's share of the shipping costs. Books the community will be able to find in the library include encyclopedias and dictionaries, textbooks

in math, science and health, and leisure reading books for children and adults. The library's goal is to give the community of Musanze the ability to improve their English and Information Technology (IT) skills, as well as to foster a culture of reading throughout the district.

The library will be housed on the first floor the Musanze District Office and will be supervised by librarian Gilbertine Umutesi, with support from Peace Corps Volunteer Amy Studenic. The library will be open to community members of all ages, and the library's leaders hope to offer both English and IT classes for interested individuals in the future.



Above: Librarian Gilbertine Umutesi catalogues and sorts books at the library



Above: Peace Corps Volunteers Jessica McGhie and Amy Studenic sort books at the library