



# RISE

*The Imprint of Humanity*

## ROTARY ESWATINI BOOK CENTER PROJECT

### Project Profile



#### WHO WE ARE

Rotary International is a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders that provides humanitarian service, encourages high ethical standards in all vocations, and helps build goodwill and peace in the world. There are 35,000 plus Rotary Clubs (RC) located in over 200 countries working to achieve these goals. In Eswatini, there are five (5) Rotary Clubs: RC Manzini, RC Mbabane, RC Mbabane-Mbuluzi, RC Malkerns, and RC Matsapha.

The Rotary Club of Manzini was the first club established in Eswatini and is the initiator of the Book Centre Project. All Rotary Clubs are now involved in this Book Centre Project. The members of Rotary Clubs, who are all volunteers and professionals in different professions around the Kingdom, identify social needs and then work towards solving these needs. In terms of performance, duties are assigned to members best equipped for the specific function.

#### THE BOOK CENTER PROJECT

This project exists to address the social need of education and literacy of children in Eswatini. As such, the Rotary Book Centre was established over a decade ago with the aim to inculcate the reading culture in young people. Books, furniture and other schools supplies are donated from the Second Wind Foundation, Texas, U.S.A. and the Rotary Club of Grand Bend, Ontario, Canada. The donated items are shipped in containers and are stored in the same. Schools send formal requests for books and other school supplies and are then invited to collect these items. Once the containers are empty they are converted to container libraries and donated to schools.

Another identified need is in the healthcare sector. Currently, medical supplies such as wheelchairs and other medical assistive devices are included in shipments. These are being distributed through partnerships with various organizations in the country such as the Municipal Council of Mbabane, Family Life Association of Eswatini (FLAS) and others.

Since its inception, many people in Eswatini have benefitted from this project. The beneficiaries of this project have consistently increased from 10,000 in 2017, to 15,000 in 2018 and in 2019, 38,000 beneficiaries. We wish to raise this number in 2020 and beyond.



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## FACTS & FIGURES

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- 136 wheelchairs have been donated since 2019
- Wheelchair recipients to date:
  - Cheshire Homes (7)
  - AMICAALL (6) *(These were given specifically to members in communities around Mbabane)*
  - Mbabane Government (10)
- 363 medical assistive devices including crutches, walkers and canes
- Commodes and bed tables are among the medical supplies distributed
- 117 tables, 174 student desks and 263 chairs are currently available to be distributed
- Over 2000 desks and chairs requested from 30 schools in the country
- Black boards, filing cabinets, book cases are also among the items donated, though in limited supply

We seek sponsors to assist with the Book Center Project as part of their CSI in kind and financially.

**Kobla Quashie**

**TO SUPPORT THIS PROJECT CONTACT RISE**  
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