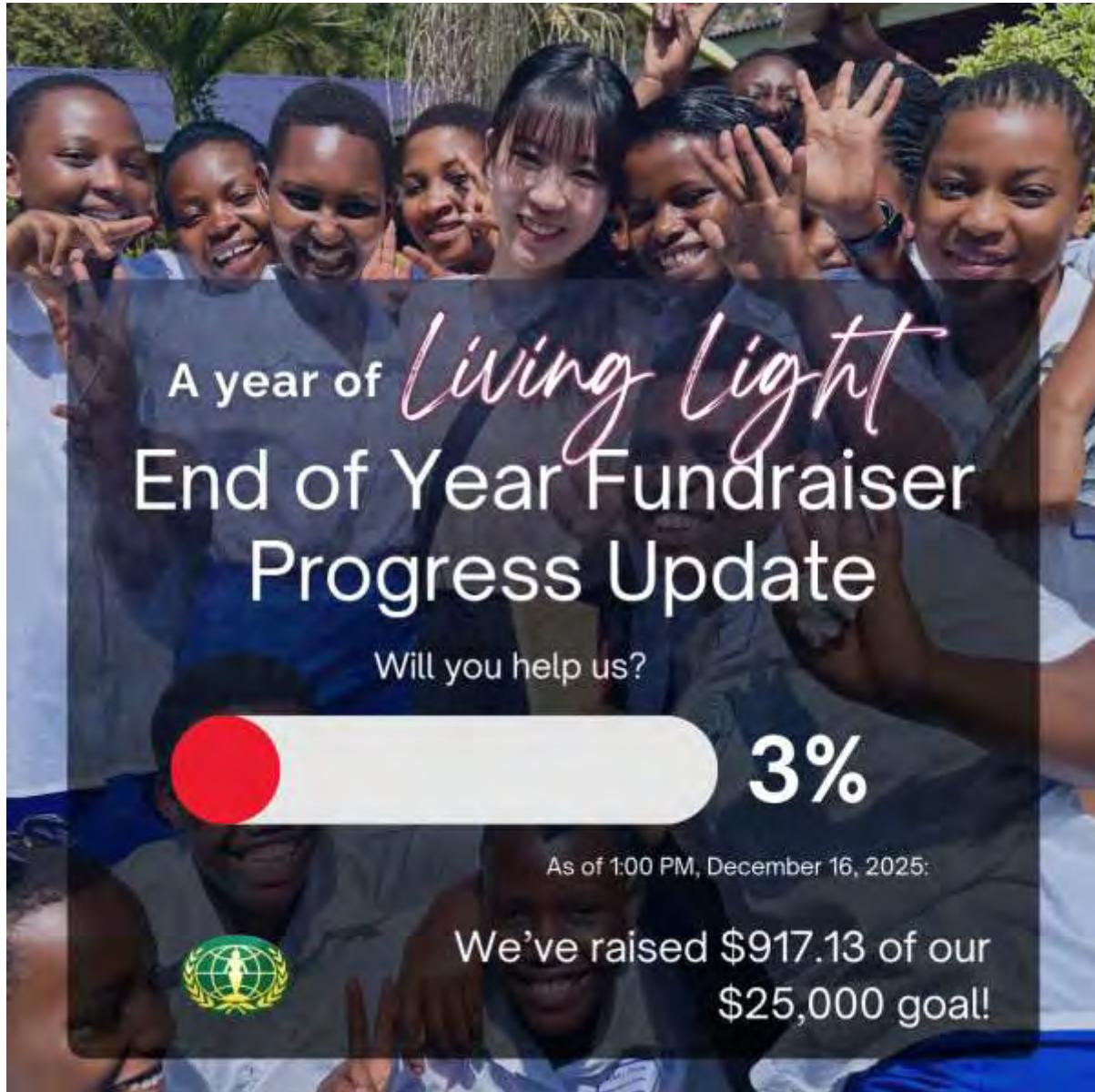


## WFWP USA: A Journey That Changed Lives - And How You Can Help Continue It

Katarina Connery  
December 16, 2025



*WFWP USA's First Schools of Africa Service  
Trip — Rwanda, November 2025*

A Journey of Heart, Hope, and Healing in Rwanda

In November 2025, a small group of seven volunteers from WFWP USA traveled across the world to Rwanda to take part in our first-ever Schools of Africa Service Trip. What unfolded over four unforgettable days became far more than a visit—it was a journey into the heart of healing, resilience, and hope.

Led by WFWP USA President Dr. Katarina Connery, the team was welcomed by WFWP Rwanda members with flowers, songs, and open arms at the Kigali airport. One volunteer shared,

“I was embraced warmly and sincerely... I felt the pure hearts of WFWP members.”

## Confronting History, Choosing Hope



*Honoring the past while committing to a peaceful future.*

The journey began at the Kigali Genocide Memorial, where the true weight of Rwanda's history could not be avoided. What unfolded in 1994 was not a spontaneous conflict, but the result of outside colonial and political forces that deliberately elevated one group above another, weaponizing identity and planting seeds of hatred.

**Neighbors were turned against neighbors, as friends, coworkers, and even family members were incited to brutally murder those they had once lived alongside—simply because of how they were labeled.**

**In just one hundred days, over a million lives were lost, leaving the country shattered.** Bodies filled streets and homes, entire families were wiped out, and survivors emerged from hiding to find everything destroyed—no homes, no loved ones, no sense of safety. Fear lingered, trust was broken, and people lived with the trauma of what they had seen, what they had lost, and, for some, what they had been forced to do.

Survivor testimonies, including that of Georgette Umubyeyi, President of WFWP Rwanda, made clear that the horror did not end with the violence. Survivors were left to rebuild their lives in a nation where victims and perpetrators had to find a way to live side by side.

**Yet signs of renewal emerged at New Hope Technical Institute, where students' joy reflected not forgetfulness, but resilience—a nation choosing healing over hatred and unity over division as one Rwandan people.**

### Learning Together, Seeing the Reality



*Education opening doors to confidence and opportunity.*

The next morning, volunteers spent time teaching English lessons, singing songs, and exchanging stories with students eager to learn. Gifts collected in the U.S. were distributed, bringing moments of joy and laughter.

Later that day, the group visited the homes of several scholarship students, witnessing firsthand the harsh reality of poverty many still face. **“Each person said ‘food’ when asked what they needed most,” one volunteer shared. “How can they survive eating once a day, if that?”**

Moved to take action, WFWP USA sponsored a meal plan for the students as soon as the team returned, helping to meet these essential needs and bring the students’ wishes to life.

These visits deepened the team’s commitment to expand scholarships, meal programs, and sustainable support for New Hope students, ensuring hope and opportunity reach even the most vulnerable.

### Give Now to Support Women Building Peace

#### A Beginning, Not an End



*New Hope Technical Institute — where education becomes healing.*

**New Hope Technical Institute is more than a school. It is a living testimony to reconciliation, international friendship, and the healing power of education.**

Many students come from backgrounds marked by trauma or extreme hardship—yet they pursue their studies with courage and hope.

“I cried all the way to the airport,” one volunteer admitted. “I didn’t want to leave. I feel called to help tell their story.”

## Help Us Continue This Work

This first Schools of Africa Service Trip marks a beginning—not an end.

Your donation today helps WFWP USA strengthen the **Schools of Africa Project**, nurturing hope, opportunity, and long-term healing across communities. Through this initiative, WFWP supports not only education, but the foundations of a thriving future by providing:

- **Scholarships** that open doors for students in need
- **Meal and lunch programs** that nourish both body and mind
- **Educational resources and vocational training** that build skills and confidence
- **Long-term, sustainable community development** rooted in dignity and resilience

## Give Now to Support Women Building Peace

Together, these efforts help young people grow, learn, and dream—empowering communities to rise stronger and more united for generations to come.



### Our Contact Information

Women's Federation for World Peace USA  
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New York, NY 10001  
[www.wfwp.us](http://www.wfwp.us)



THIS YEAR, WOMEN ACROSS OUR COMMUNITIES HAVE CARRIED LIGHT INTO PLACES THAT NEED IT MOST—LIFTING SPIRITS, HEALING DIVIDES, AND IGNITING PEACE.



**\$1,596.93**  
achieved

**\$25,000.00**  
goal



Choose Your Gift

One Time  Monthly



Add a little extra to help with fees (\$3.60) 





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Thanks to your friendship and support, this has truly been a Year of Living Light. Together, we've carried hope into communities, uplifted women and families, and strengthened the mission in remarkable ways. As we look ahead, we're filled with renewed purpose and aim to raise \$25,000 during our Giving Season Appeal to carry this light into 2026.

Every gift helps us expand our programs and amplify our impact in three key areas:



### LIGHT OF HOPE

40 women leaders joined WFWP USA's first Korea Pilgrimage to celebrate the opening of Cheon Won Gung, experiencing deep sisterhood and unity across different backgrounds, religions, and cultures.



### LIGHT OF AWAKENING

155 women participated in Awaken Retreats nationwide, reconnecting with their inner value and wisdom as women and daughters of Heavenly Parent.



### LIGHT OF TRANSFORMATION

WFWP USA led its first service trip to Rwanda's New Hope Technical Institute, witnessing resilience, reconciliation, and the power of education to uplift students and heal communities.

[Click to Read the Full Report](#)

THESE ACHIEVEMENTS WERE ONLY POSSIBLE WITH SUPPORTERS LIKE YOU.

As we look towards 2026, your end-of-year gift will help us expand HerTribe, increase our Awaken Retreats, strengthen our Global Women's Peace Network, and reach more communities with hope, healing, and empowerment.

Together, let's carry this light forward and make 2026 a year of even greater impact.



WFWP Leader Resources

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