**PROJECT CONCEPT NOTE**

**0. Project title: Empower teenage mother survivors of sexual abuse In Rwanda**

**July13, 2018**

**1. Implementing entity and key partners:**

1. HELP A CHILDINITIATIVE is a growing, a locally-lead Non-Governmental Organization with
2. an excellent reputation in the community. Registered under Number 134/NGO/RGB/2014,HELP
3. A CHILD INITIATIVE is committed to provide quality child care and education programs
4. specialized for orphans, abandoned children, victims of violence, separated children with
5. families and chronically disadvantaged in a safe, nurturing lifelong family environment for a
6. hope of a happier and successful future.
8. Based in Rulindo District, Northern Province of Rwanda, HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE exists
9. to educate families, parents and community to fulfill their moral responsibilities towards children
10. and we are working to strengthen parents 'indestructible ties with their children, working to
11. remove the underlying causes that prevent children from having a better lives and a brighter
12. future.
14. Since its inception in 2013, HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE has earned a reputation as reliable
15. and enthusiastic organization that has been helping to move children from institutional care
16. providing them lifelong family care and holistic approach to education.
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Since its inception in 2013, HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE has earned a reputation as reliable and enthusiastic organization that has been helping to move and educate children from institutional care providing them lifelong family care and holistic approach to education. Our reputation rises from the fact that 80% of our beneficiaries under our care are girls.

Once everybody is seated around one table, it is important to get formal commitment, which a number of partnerships have solved through the signing of a partnership contract. Here there was National Commission for Children, Organization “ENFANT-MERE”, several local companies and 2 faith-based organizations. It is an important step forward when organizations of different background formally sign an agreement to reach out across their respective responsibilities and interests and to co-operate on this issue girls ‘sexual abuse and then caring of survivors.

**2. Project time frame**: 3years from September 2018 to September 2021

**3. Grant requested for this application: $35,000**

**4. Project summary**

Education prevents re-abuse and restores hope and dignity to survivors of sexual violence. This project will enable 60 teen mothers, mostly affected, who are survivors of sexual violence to attend school for 3 years in a safe learning environment in Rwanda. HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE provides holistically educational opportunities for our scholars which include tuition fees, health care, psychological counseling, leadership development, and advocacy platforms.

**5. Challenge or a problem**

Sexual violence among girl’s children is a pandemic that must be stopped. Pregnancy among teenage girls aged 11-17 indicates an increase from 6.1 percent to 7.3 per cent according to the demographic and health survey 2014/2015, an issue that nobody should turn a blind eye to. According to mostly recent figures from Imbuto Foundation, about 17,000 young girls, most of them under age got pregnant. This makes it urgent for everyone to play their role in reversing the trend to save the adolescent girls from possible effects.  All the above lead to undesirable consequences such as children on the street, child abandonment, child marriages, child labor, increased school dropouts, prostitution, diseases, sometimes resulting to death etc. which affect particularly the teenagers and their newly born babies, families and the Government generally.

**6. The way HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE addresses the problem**

HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE focuses on a holistic approach to rehabilitation and has adopted the "Caring, Healing and Teaching" framework. We take care of our girls with their babies by providing them with basic needs, e.g. food, clothing, shelter, residential care. We help our girls heal through psycho-social interventions, counseling, and therapies, medical and dental provisions. We teach our girls non-formal and alternative basic education, life skills training, income generating projects, and spiritual and values clarification and help them attend high schools where possible.

**7. Expected Long-Term Impact**

Education breaks the cycle of violence by providing survivors of sexual abuse with new opportunities and a shift in the lifestyle that made them vulnerable to abuse. It empowers survivors to be bold with their stories to help prevent abuse to other women and girls. We hope that through the "caring, teaching, and healing" framework, we are able to help end the cycle of abuse for a young girl, her family, and her community.

**8. Budget**

We request $35 000 budget for our” "caring, teaching, and healing" framework to enable 60 teen mothers, mostly affected, survivors of sexual violence to attend school for 3 years in a safe learning environment. HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE provide holistically educational opportunities for our scholars which include tuition fees, health care, psychological counseling, leadership development, and advocacy platforms and support the care of their babies.

**9. Contact information**

**Name of organisation**: HELP A CHILD INITIATIVE

**Mailing address**: P.o.Box 91 Kigali- Rwanda

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**Telephone number**: +250783095467