

## **The contribution of livestock/domestic animals in fighting against malnutrition.**

In partnership with Caritas Byumba and World Vision International/Rwanda in its Positive Deviance Hearth Model Project, Caritas Byumba works as to fight against malnutrition in collaboration with different actors.

One of them is Family commission at Byumba Diocese level that jointly meet many people/couples that make the family. On their celebration day different organizations meet to sensitize about about Infant feeding practices and fighting against malnutrition every where in communities. On the 29/12/2024 this ceremony took place at Bungwe parish where it was introduced by the holy mass and attended by His Lordship Papias MUSENGAMANA The Bishop of Byumba Catholic Diocese and attended by Mayor of Burera district.

### **How were dialogues after the holy mass?**

The dialogues was done by the intervention of different leaders including from the church and the Rwandan government. This is to mean the Caritas Byumba/Implementing partner of WVR, Burera district and other local leaders where they all talked about caring children, their nourishment and strategies that will be taken to implement these activities of malnutrition fighting. It was good chance to meet many families and in charges of families because they had more time of dialogues and being reminded about responsibilities of good nutrition teachings and practices in community, fighting against alcohol abuse.... ***“ we always think about the family development and we struggle for its development as leaders. We thank God who help us in all. Our families is essential in all and we are based on it. Fighting against malnutrition is started from the first minute when a woman is pregnant. Nutrition of child is started by there until the child become old. We have to fight against alcohol and have good nourishment in a family and a family become safe.”*** Madam Mayor of Burera district, Northern province.

His His Lordship Papias MUSENGAMANA The Bishop of Byumba Catholic Diocese in his speech at the family day celebration and community sensitization about infant feeding practices event, he insisted more on the children protection, respect of life and its protection and fearing sins: ***“Be based on values of evengile and conrtuct a family that are interested in their good values without being addicted by sins. Let your chidren growth in christian values and you become their exemplars. Family is where life is protected. You have to care for that life and become safe. This is why Caritas Byumba, WVR, Diocese Byumba family commission are ready to contribute to fighting against malnutrition among families, among childre. Lets join hand and have target of eradicationg malnutrition by thinking about the hygiene, balanced diet and their values. We need good changes in our children’s nutrition”*** His His Lordship Papias MUSENGAMANA The Bishop of Byumba Catholic Diocese

### **How are domestic animals contribute to fighting against malnutrition?**

In this stakeholder dialogue, the participants discussed about the importance of raising the cheapest domestic animals in their capability and be able to access the balanced diet cheaply. Some of those animals are chicken, pigs, goats, rabbits, cow, sheep ...

Around 18 poor families got the support of chicken so that they will be able to have eggs for children (particularly) and get out from malnutrition where any.

In this dialogue, there were children, parents, leaders from the government and local leaders in Rwanda and they appreciated this partnership in fighting against malnutrition to 0 malnutrition in community.