



**RISE International**

### **Mission**

RISE builds primary schools in rural Angola to educate children, empower communities and contribute to the rebuilding of the country. Bringing the opportunity to receive an education to thousands of children, RISE embraced a dream to impact Angola through education – one child, one classroom, one school at a time.

### **Impact**

Every child should have the chance to go to school, to learn to read and write. It is estimated that at least 2 million children in Angola do not have access to primary education. Since 2003, RISE has built 180 rural schools (with several under construction), providing the opportunity for education to over 128,000 children each year. The greatest achievement lies with the lives impacted, the children who are now in school, and the ripple effect in their families and communities. The tangible accomplishments, those measurable pieces, represent the efforts of many schools, churches, individuals and groups working together, both in the U.S. and in Angola. The intangible impact in the lives of those on both sides of the ocean is beyond measure.

### **History**

RISE, formerly ARC (African Refugee Committee), was founded in 2001 in response to the overwhelming needs among Angolan refugees in Namibia and Zambia. With the arrival of peace in Angola, ARC changed its name to RISE International in 2003, and began to operate primarily within Angola. The 27-year civil war left a generation without education, unable to read and write. Education is the driving force behind any strong economy and a key factor in social and economic growth and well-being. RISE responded to an emergency need, building schools with a simple mud block design, and shifted to a more permanent structure in 2007. RISE works with the Angolan Ministry of Education to expand their efforts in rebuilding the educational system, building schools in remote and nearly inaccessible villages. RISE has built schools and contributed to rebuilding the education system for over fifteen years, and has a network on the ground which results in additional benefits including school feeding, wells and clean water, the establishment of libraries in 5 RISE-built schools, and jobs, for our leadership teams, building teams, teachers and principals, which serves as a stimulus to the local economy.

### **Partnership**

Through a simple partnership, with a spirit of collaboration and common purpose, schools get built. RISE provides the funds for building materials, supplies and labor. RISE Angola leadership oversees all that happens in Angola - they establish leadership and construction teams, assess needs, select sites, cast vision for partnership and responsibility, give oversight, purchase and deliver materials, establish relationships with local administrators and the Ministry of Education, host US teams and submit required documentation and reports. Local volunteers participate, establishing a sense of ownership, commitment to the process and to the education of their children. The local government supplies textbooks, desks and chalkboards, and the Ministry of Education hires and pays the teachers.

- Built 180 schools in rural Angola since 2003; several are under construction
- Provide the opportunity for education to over 128,000 students each year
- Received government recognition and facilitated strategic partnerships

### **Relationship**

RISE began as a result of personal involvement and relationship. This remains a key element, critical to the growth and impact of the organization – many that have been involved become a voice for RISE, inspiring and engaging others to become involved. Individuals, groups, schools and churches come together to make a difference. Eyes are opened to issues of compassion and justice, and RISE is uniquely able to "report" and communicate how funds are being used as well as their impact.

### **Funding**

\$350 – Gives 1 child the opportunity to go to school

\$3,500 – Helps 10 children receive the opportunity for education

\$35,000 – Funds the cost of a classroom and brings education to 100 children

\$175,000 - \$280,000 – Funds the cost of a school, 5 – 8 classrooms

**Build a school. Educate a child. Empower a community.**

[www.riseinternational.org](http://www.riseinternational.org)