

Quarter 3 Issue

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A Quarterly Insight On How We Are Transforming Lives



SIMPACT FOUNDATION
TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH SOCIAL IMPACT INVESTMENTS

Transform

A word from Banja >>>

Transforming Lives Through Sustainable Aid

As the year draws to a close, I can't help but look back at the steps we have taken to achieve our vision which is: To bring hope to the most vulnerable women and children living in poverty through transformational social impact investment. During the year, through our education programmes we launched our pilot **school feeding program** that will help increase school attendance and provide basic nutrition to many vulnerable children coming from poor households. I am excited that during the quarter we were able to launch our Book fund campaign – **“Every Child Deserves A Chance, It Begins With One Book.”** Through this campaign we will provide basic textbooks to over 20,000 vulnerable children that attend poorly funded community schools. As we transform the lives of vulnerable children and women we are mindful that we have to forge **new partnerships** with like minded organisations that share our passion and values to impact the most vulnerable women and children. As we embark on this exciting journey as an organisation we are committed to implement our programs with Integrity aligned to our value of Transparency as this impacts our credibility to do what we do. I do hope that you do find our Quarterly newsletter insightful.

Every Child Deserves A Chance, It Begins With One Book Book Fund Campaign Launched

It's estimated that nearly 25 percent of Zambian children attend overcrowded community schools which are plagued with poor infrastructure and limited learning tools. On October 14th we launched our Book Fund campaign through which we intend to improve the learning conditions for over 20,000 children in community schools mostly located in the rural areas. Through the support of our partners we have so far been able to provide textbooks and Teacher's guides that will benefit 2,689 children in 11 community schools mostly in rural areas with a few schools located in poor neighbourhoods in Lusaka,

Even though it only costs about ZMW56.64 (US\$3.20) per child sharing, children in most of these schools have to learn without the required textbooks or often have to share a book amongst many children.

*Over 20,000
vulnerable children
will benefit from the
Book Fund Campaign*



It Begins With One Book>>>>



Based on UNICEF Zambia 2018 report 60 percent of Zambia's children live in poverty with most of the children in community schools coming from these poor households.

'Education is the most powerful thing we can use to change the world.' - Nelson Mandela

The community schools unlike public schools are severely underfunded as they rely on limited contributions from poor communities. Based on UNICEF Zambia 2018 report 60 percent of Zambia's children live in poverty with most of the children in community schools coming from these poor households. We will continue to focus on schools in the rural areas because the depravity of the learning conditions is much more than urban areas while almost 23% of children in rural areas fail to attend school because of limited learning facilities. Through the book fund campaign we will help transform the lives of many vulnerable children through better quality education in order to help them to step out of the cycle of poverty. In the words of Nelson Mandela – "Education is the most powerful thing we can use to change the world." And we are doing that **One Book at a time!**

740,000 school aged children do not attend school. (source: UNICEF Zambia)

Help Educate a Child One Book At A Time



Tree at Kamwala Magodi Community School where Early Years learners attend class

A Day In The Life of A Child in A Rural Community School

During our program fieldwork we visited community schools in Lundazi rural area in eastern province. Our field trip was with our partner CCAP revealed how severely underfunded the community schools in the rural areas are. The infrastructure was either dilapidated or in very poor condition with most buildings incomplete. Some of the schools we visited, Katondo and Kamwala Magodi in Chasefu, the early years learning class have to learn under a tree because of limited classroom capacity. Kamwala Magodi has over 251 learners and despite being in existence for over 23 years it still only has 2 classrooms with severely limited desk seating space that some children had to seat on the floor to learn. The schools we visited were built by the community assisted by CCAP. Usually the community contributes about 10-20 percent of the cost of building which includes clay bricks, building aggregates and sometimes roofing sheets. However, since these are very poor communities, resources are limited and the classroom environment is in an extremely poor state.



Learners attend class in a makeshift classroom at Katondo Community School in Chasefu district, eastern province, Zambia.

Despite learning in such difficult environment the learners could still afford a smile and were enthusiastic to learn. What was humbling was that community schools in the rural areas, despite being located in communities with higher poverty levels compared to their urban counterparts, the community showed more commitment towards contributing towards their children's education.



While some of the teachers were trained and supported by government funding most of the teachers were untrained and had no teaching guides to help deliver lessons to the learners. Close to only 20 percent of the teachers in community schools are trained while teaching guides are lacking in most of the schools therefore further compromising the quality of education.

Having spent a day in the life of a child attending a community school in the rural parts of eastern province it is tragically apparent that children in these schools already have the odds stacked against them as they strive to earn an education that can unlock their full potential.



Forging New Partnerships>>>



This quarter, we continued to forge new partnerships with organisations that share our vision to bring hope to vulnerable children and women. At the end of the quarter we signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Church of Central Africa Presbyterian (CCAP) Synod of Zambia which will see us work together to transform the lives of 5,492 vulnerable children in about 30 community schools through our education support programs which includes access to better quality education that will include funding learning tools such as basic textbooks, desks, classroom infrastructure among other things. Our collaboration will also result in piloting our homegrown school feeding program that is premised on our sustainable aid approach. This season we will fund agricultural inputs that will be used to grow grains like Maize, soyabeans and groundnuts for the school feeding program at Katondo community school in Chasefu district.

Working with CCAP we will pilot a school feeding program that will not only be sustainable but will improve basic nutrition for the learners at their most critical growth stage. The school feeding program will also reduce the income poverty burden of the households that most of the children come from.

The partnership will also result in 2,200 women benefitting from our women economic empowerment initiatives aimed at not alleviating poverty but increasing gender financial equality. With over 70% of the world's poor being women this is an issue that our organisation is committed to helping address which is aligned to the development goal SDG5 – Gender Equality. Financial inequality is one of the key focus areas that we hope we can address in the communities that CCAP works in by working with the women village savings and loan association groups through innovative capital access initiatives that are viable. Our partnership with CCAP is aligned to our collaborative values which we will continue to drive in order to achieve transformative social impact.

our heroes...

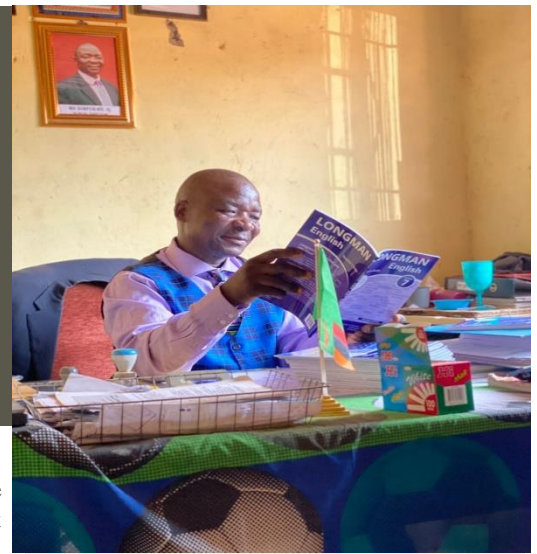
Meet Godfrey Simfukwe, Principal and Founder of Chitulikwa Community School

'It doesn't matter how much or how little you have, what matters is that we can each in our own way make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.' - Godfrey Simfukwe

Godfrey Simfukwe, the Principal and Founder of Chitulikwa Community School was born in a rural remote farm settlement of Kawambwa district in Zambia. He started his 1st Grade at 7yrs old and like many children in his village he had to walk over 15kms for 3hours to get to school. Unfortunately, this is the reality of many school going children in rural Zambia. Godfrey recalls that he often had to carry farm produce to the market before proceeding to school on an empty stomach and would often only have his one meal when he returned home from school. Even as a boy he believed that he could have a better life through acquiring an education and so he endured the long walks hoping for a brighter future. Upon graduating from High School, Godfrey moved to the capital city in Lusaka and acquired an artisan certificate and managed to find work in construction. Moved by a deep need to help others, Godfrey noticed that in the poor community of Kabanana where he settled in Lusaka there were many vulnerable children from extremely poor families who were unable to attend school.

Despite his limited resources, Godfrey worked hard to provide for his family and not only build a home, but he also put aside some of his family savings to set up a Community School in his neighbourhood. After 18 years of striving to make his dream a reality, Godfrey was able to establish Chitulikwa Community School that allows over 170 children from Early Years to 9th Grade to attend school. The school like most community schools is severely underfunded with poor infrastructure and relies on the school children's parents' contributions which are hardly sufficient to run the school. Unfortunately, most of the parents can hardly afford to put food on the table let alone afford the monthly school contributions which are supposed to be used for running of the school.

According to Godfrey, 'it doesn't matter how much or how little you have, what matters is that we can each in our own way make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.' 'We are grateful for Simfact Foundation's Support to Chitulikwa Community School, it gives us hope that together we can really make a difference in the lives of many vulnerable children in Kabanana.'



coming soon >>>

In The Next Issue

>Using Financial innovation for sustainable social impact program funding.

>Unlocking Financial Women Empowerment through Financial Innovation.

>Community schools Transformation journey.



SIMPACT FOUNDATION

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