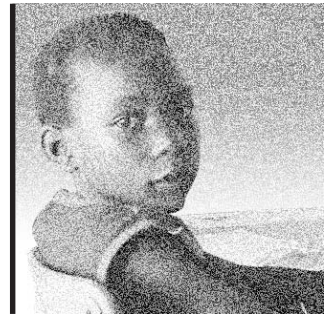


ZAMBIAN CHILDREN'S FUND CHISHAWASHA NEWSLETTER



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Facing Daily Challenges at The Chishawasha Learning Center

KATHE PADILLA

The Chishawasha Learning Center currently has four classes with 83 students in our school. Ms. Mwanza, our "Head Teacher," is teaching the beginning accelerated class third and fourth grade. We have a mid-level accelerated fifth/sixth grade class and last year's Kindergarten and First Grade classes have moved up to First Grade and Second grade. I am proud to report that we have First Graders reading English at the beginning of the school year!

Because AIDS, malaria, TB and poverty are taking such a high toll on the teaching profession, we are finding it difficult to hire quali-

fied teachers. Most experienced Zambian teachers have come from the public school system in which a primary school class contains 60-80 students and are taught only a few hours a day before the next class rotates in. Public school teachers frequently teach two or three completely different classes of students every day. They never have the luxury of ensuring that each student understands the material because they have such a limited amount of time for each class, making it difficult for teachers to adjust to having the same 20 students from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. every day. When you teach a primary school class only two or three hours a day, a lot of material is not included. Our teachers are not always equipped to teach an eight hour day.

We also face the challenge that many of the children in our accelerated classes speak different languages. The necessity of translations by one student to another means the children are frequently talking to each other while the teacher is trying to speak at the front of the class.

While getting experienced American teachers to volunteer for a year is one way of solving the problem, it creates a number of its own difficulties. "Americaneese" is quite a different language than Zambian English—and we Americans have such a strong, very foreign accent. Then, both the American teacher and the students need translators for the first few months. But as our little school grows, we do hope to find American school teachers willing to volunteer for a school year or two.

The hardest part of my recent trip to Zambia was created because our little school has become such a success that everyone in the Shifwankula District, where we live, wants to enroll their children, grandchildren and/or orphaned children into our school. I spent much of my time in January and February turning children away from the Chishawasha Learning Center. All too frequently when the child was accompanied by their Mother or Grandmother, it was very difficult. Sometimes children who had been turned away, came to school for the next four or five days, just in case I would relent and allow them to stay. We can only afford to feed, clothe and educate a limited number of children, but turning poor children away who really want an education was very hard to do.



Refurbished Cornell Computers Find New Home at Chishawasha

SUSAN EYMANN

Three years ago, Al Heiman, a computer laboratories coordinator for Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, had a brainstorm. Al was pondering the incredible wastefulness of sending hundreds of the no longer used Cornell computers to a recycling center. He was certain that these computers could find new homes where they would be used and valued.

His first impulse was to try to donate computers to sub-Saharan orphaned African children. Al had taught first grade in Lusaka, Zambia a number of years ago, so he knew first-hand about the paucity of equipment in many African schools. Al embraces Zambia as his adopted country, so he was as pleased as could be when the Ithaca Working Group of the Zambian Children's Fund

approached him before Christmas to see if he could supply Chishawasha with computers.

Al quickly replied yes. Last year, Al's computer recycling project took a giant leap forward when Al and a Cornell student, Zaks Lubin '07, organized a student *Computer Reuse Club (CCRC)* to expand the computer re-use program. Now thirteen CCRC members spend their free time reformatting hard drives and reinstalling operating systems for new users. When they were told of the need for computers at Chishawasha, the students spent hours cleaning off computer hard drives and reloading them with state-of-the-art software.

The first crunch was to get some laptops to Tucson quickly so that Kathe Padilla, Dr. Mary Hotvedt

and Dr. Bob Garrett could hand carry them to Chishawasha in January. The laptops arrived intact and Chishawasha children are already taking turns acquiring new computer literacy skills.

Members of the Ithaca Working Group joined Al at the Cornell computer center to help label, pack and send the remaining desktop computer systems, including monitors and cables, to Tucson in time for the spring container shipment to Zambia. When the container arrives, Chishawasha children will again discover precious cargo, thanks to the work and dedication of a group of Cornell students, the vision of their advisor, Al Heiman, and the support of the Ithaca Working Group.



THE AMBUYA PROJECT

A Great Way to Honor Your Mother

Mother's Day is just around the corner and our Ambuya Project would be a great way to honor your Mother or Grandmother. With a donation of \$100, the person of your choice can become an Honorary Ambuya and help a Zambian Ambuya (Grandmother) as they struggle

to raise as many as 20 or more orphaned grandchildren.

Send us your check along with the name and address of the person or persons you want to honor. They will receive a special button and gift card as recognition of your gift.

Our Container is Ready and Overflowing...

BARBARA GOLDSCHMID

It started when a few boxes began to fill our office space as donations began to arrive two years ago. Lots of you sent clothes, kitchen supplies, books, tools, toys and school supplies. Now we have a 10 foot by 20 foot storage unit filled to the brim and we can barely walk in our office.

New Spirit Lutheran Church in Tucson has been collecting boxes of books from Bookman's Used Book Store. Joel Keller has spent hours every week sorting and packing and now has more than 350 boxes of books waiting to be shipped.

We are finally ready and overflowing. We need to get the container to Zambia ahead of the rainy sea-

son. A University of Arizona Fraternity is on stand-by to help us gather everything from various storage places and pack the container, which must be packed in just a few hours.

One important item is missing: the money. We don't have the full amount needed to ship the container. Once again we need to turn to our faithful supporters who continue to make Chishawasha Orphanage a reality for the children of Zambia. We need to raise \$8,000 immediately so we can send Chishawasha all the clothes and supplies that are so badly needed to keep the children, the homes and the school going for another two years.

ZCF Chishawasha Children's Home 2007 Budget

OPERATIONAL BUDGET

ZCF in U.S.

Salaries	\$ 57,000
<i>(Exec Director, Admin. Asst, Bookkeeper)</i>	
Admin/Fund Raising	9,000
Travel	<u>6,000</u>
Total in U.S.	72,000
<i>(13.3% of Operations & Capital)</i>	

Chishawasha Operations:

CCHZ employee pension	2,000
Container to Zambia	<u>15,000</u>
	17,000

Living/Housing costs

Food	40,000
Utilities	10,000
Admin	3,000
Maintenance	16,000
Garden	1,500

Salaries:

Mothers (10)	16,550
Administration	6,400
Nurse	6,000
Guards	<u>5,200</u>
	104,650

School

Teachers (5)	15,650
Cook/Janitor (5)	8,870
Driver	3,300
Food (2 meals/day)	20,000
Operations & Supplies	8,000
Vehicle (2)	20,000
Secondary School	12,000
Home Based Support	<u>10,000</u>
	97,820

Total Operational Costs \$ 291,470

CAPITAL BUDGET *Items in order of priority*

Clinic, stock & furnish	20,000
2 houses complete in May	30,000
Site Plan, Water & Electric upgrade	21,000
Security Wall	20,000
2 houses complete in August	70,000
Security Garage	8,000
Furnish (4) houses	30,000
Complete Storage bldg.	25,000
Cash Reserve (1 mo)	<u>25,000</u>

Total Capital Expenditures \$ 249,000



Check out our new website at: www.zambianchildrensfund.org

...but what can I do?

BARBARA GOLDSCHMID

If you're like me, when you read about the AIDS orphans of Zambia struggling to survive, you say, "What can I do?". That's exactly what Kathe Padilla said when she read an article in the Arizona Star in 1999. What she did was start **Chishawasha Orphanage** in Lusaka, Zambia. Now 39 children have a loving home, three meals a day, and an education. Another 56 attend the school each day where they also receive 2 meals a day.

If you're like me, you might say, "How can I help?". Actually there are lots of ways you can help, limited only by our own imagination. In addition to the cash donations that make the ZCF possible, **volunteer hands and minds do the actual work.**

If you're in Tucson, here's how you can help: volunteer to perform various administrative/office functions, computer input, etc.; volunteer to sort and pack clothes and other donations each Wednesday; perhaps you can organize a group, or your church, so Kathe can give her ZCF presentation; get your school involved doing collections of used children clothes; or, you might hunt down some badly needed items like mosquito netting; and, talk with your friends, neighbors and co-workers about this important work.

In other parts of the country, you might organize a group to take on a Special Project. You could make arrangements for Kathe's ZCF presentation to a number of

groups in the area. (She tours the East coast of the US and Canada each Fall, has just returned from Nashville, and is planning a trip to California this Spring.) You can collect clothes, household items and ship them to Tucson. You might have some connections with a shipping company. Perhaps you have connections with someone who could help publicize our programs nationally.

If you have an idea or want to help, please be in touch with Barbara Goldschmid at zambiancf@yahoo.com. Please put 'volunteer' in the subject line.

Lets all work together to see how we can help!

ZAMBIAN
CHILDREN'S FUND
CHISHAWASHA NEWSLETTER
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*"Unless someone like you
cares a whole awful lot,
nothing is going to get better,
it's not."* **THE LORAX, BY DR. SUESS**