



ZAMBIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

CHISHAWASHA NEWSLETTER



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Report from Zambia

KATHE PADILLA

We opened the Chishawasha Rest Stop for business July 1, with 12 clean toilets, three urinals, three large, industrial-sized shelving units of goods and three large bookcases. The building also contains living areas for the staff, as well as a large room for storage. Our stand-up refrigerators were unfortunately held up at the border, but they finally arrived the last week in July. Because books were selling so well, we added two more bookcases the first week of August and saw an immediate increase in sales.

Not only are these the only public rest-rooms for hundreds of kilometers, it is also the only store between Lusaka and Kafue National Park where customers can choose from a nice selection of drinks and snacks and it is Mumbwa's only book store. We frequently heard comments from customers about how clean the store was, what a good selection we had

and how much they appreciated our "bringing development to Mumbwa".

In July, the CCHZ Manager, Phillip Mvula, talked to the management and drivers of the largest bus companies in Lusaka who travel along Mumbwa Road. Everyone was enthusiastic about having a place to stop that has more clean bathrooms than anyplace else in the country.

I worked at the Rest Stop from July 1 until August 7, training employees, waiting on customers and making sure everything was working well. Our store clerks, Rank Kauma and Sharon Njlovu, were raised and educated at Chishawasha and are now learning how to run a business.

In the first week we had local customers from Mumbwa as well as safari companies coming back and bringing other customers with them. The headmaster of the local secondary school came in on a

Saturday and was delighted to buy some books. The next day he brought his wife and children after church and they all bought more books. The following Saturday he brought a whole bus load of local people to introduce them to our store. He and I are now working together so that Chishawasha can provide scholarships to the brightest orphaned children in his school.

We are emailing advertising to Zambian Safari Companies, travel agencies, hotels and lodges, letting people know there is now a place to stop along Mumbwa Road that has clean facilities and is prepared to welcome customers of all ages from all over the world.

While business was slow in July, we saw noticeable increases every week and have every reason to believe by the time the Chishawasha Rest Stop has been open a year, it will be a very successful business.

Kathe



Chishawasha Rest Stop as seen from the main road: clean toilets, cold beverages, snacks, books and crafts available inside!

Fighting AIDS One Child at a Time

KATHE PADILLA

Back in June Joan Yarborough, a friend and supporter of ZCF, referred me to her friend Lynn Lederer, who was working in Zambia in the fight against AIDS. I invited Lynn to come out to Chishawasha and she was very impressed to see our beautiful houses, school, skills center and gardens. She told me that in spite of an HIV/AIDS rate of up to 25% of adults, Zambians are winning the fight against AIDS and the numbers of people dying from it are steadily decreasing.

Lynn referred us to the Society for Family Health of Zambia, which is being funded by USAID and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, that provides free circumcisions to men and boys. Shortly after Lynn's visit, two men from Family Health came and talked to Phillip Mvula, CCHZ's manager, and myself about their work. Phillip and I had been talking for some time about how to get our boys circumcised, but we were unsure how to proceed because we have boys who are all ages and from so many

different tribal backgrounds. This seemed to be the perfect answer and the men from Family Health were very excited about having an organization as large as Chishawasha willing to work with them. They provided consent forms to be signed by the boys' guardians and we set the date for them to begin the circumcisions.

We then spent a couple of weeks educating our children about how important it is for boys to be circumcised, using videos and books that



Sanny

Benson



Sylvester



Henry

Lynn provided to us. The major reasons for circumcision are:

1. Circumcised males contract the HIV/AIDS virus 60% to 70% less often than uncircumcised males. It is becoming increasingly obvious that one of the major causes of HIV/AIDS spreading so quickly throughout Southern Africa is due to the large number of uncircumcised men having multiple sex partners. The only sure way to prevent HIV/AIDS is by abstinence or the use of condoms, but statistics prove circumcision can make a significant difference.

2. Circumcision reduces the risk of acquiring and spreading other sexually transmitted diseases by up to 50%.
3. Women whose sexual partners are not circumcised have a higher incidence of cervical and other cancers.
4. Uncircumcised men, and women whose sexual partners are not circumcised, have a much higher incidence of urinary tract infections.

Once our boys learned the facts, they were ready to give consent.

On July 16, a group of counselors, nurses and doctors from the Society of Family Health took over the house that contains our clinic, our administrative building and my house. Fifteen of our older boys were asked to be brave and sign up to be in the first group, so our smaller boys would see that they survived and nothing terrible happened to any of them. One of our teachers even brought in her 4 year old son. After talking with a counselor, the boys were called in one at a time, given an anesthetic and circumcised. I was working in the house the whole day and did not hear a single child cry or make any complaint. Every boy walked out of the surgery and told the other boys they did not feel a thing. In fact, the only complaints I heard were from a few older boys who came back from high school too late to be included and they had to wait another week.

Two men from Family Health came back the following Monday morning and checked each boy to make sure they were healing properly, and there were no problems. The following Friday, the group from Family Health came back again and circumcised another 14 boys, and one of our adult employees. They will return again in September to circumcise another group of 15, and then once every year so we can offer this important health benefit to any new boys and employees who need it.



Amos

May Fundraising

For World AIDS Orphans Day in May, in addition to larger events, two children created their own fundraisers. Jacob Koren, aged 10, from Denver, CO., put up a neighborhood lemonade stand and wrote us a note enclosing the \$10.73 he raised. Zevi Bloomfield of Tucson, AZ, is creating and selling notecards and donating the proceeds to ZCF. She sent us a beautiful yellow card with an original hand-drawn picture on the front. To find out more you can e-mail her at Zevi@cox.net.

Thank you all for your efforts on behalf of the Zambian Children's Fund. The donations received May through August helped fund the CCHZ Skills Center and our new Store and Rest Stop.

Book Collection Help

We need one or two Tucson supporters who can assist the Book Collection team, who picks up books (usually from Bookman's), sorts and packs them. Knowledge and love of books is helpful. If you can volunteer 1-2 days per month, please call Barbara Goldschmid at (520) 546-6380.

We have persistent need of the following items for the children:

- Clothing (toddler to small adult sizes, lightweight)
- Children's carseats
- Linens and household items
- Treadle sewing machines
- Children's reading books (no Disney) and newer textbooks
- School supplies
- Medical & grooming supplies (bandaids, Neosporin, Tylenol, Motrin, Benedryl, toothbrushes)
- Newer computers, monitors, keyboards, mice and printers
- Working musical instruments
- Functional building and plumbing supplies/fixtures

Would you prefer to receive your ZCF Newsletter via e-mail? Please email us at info@zambianchildrensfund.org if you wish to be added to the list.

Calendar

September 24-25

ZCF will have a booth at the "English Faire" St. Michael & All Angels Church & School, 602 N. Wilmot Road, Tucson

October 6

Givens Estates, Asheville, NC

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Search for: "Zambian Children's Fund"
Select the site with the picture of the Children

Founder: Kathe Padilla, *Executive Director*

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Ann Nichols, Member

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Mission Statement:

To provide support for the care, education and development of Zambian orphans to become healthy, productive members of society.

Zambian Children's Fund founded the Chishawasha Children's Home, located near Lusaka, Zambia. Chishawasha is an orphanage and school that raises 80 children in 8 houses and educates 145 children in our primary school. In addition, we support another 15 children in secondary schools throughout Zambia.



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

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