



## ZAMBIA ORPHANS AID UK ACTIVITY OVERVIEW 2014-15

### *A word from our Chair*

*We truly value your support and ZOA-UK Trustees make regular, self-funded project visits to ensure your donations are spent effectively. This September I was able to confirm that your money is making a significant difference to the lives of many young Zambian orphans who would otherwise not be able to get into school or stay in education up to the limit of their potential. All those we met expressed their sincere gratitude.*

*I also saw that these young people and the families supporting them are in great need. Zambia is about to face major economic difficulties, so poverty and hunger are likely to get worse in the next few years. We very much hope that you can continue to help.*

*Andrew Turnbull, October 2015*

### **Chibolya Memorial Community School, Southern Province - Update**

Before we helped build this school in 2012, village children were taught by untrained volunteers in a dank, disused beerhall. The school is now a real beacon of hope in this severely deprived area where 90% of adults are illiterate and families survive on \$30 a month.



2014/15 we added two new classrooms (five in total), latrines, water tower, taps, electricity, a vegetable farm and orchard. Half of the 230 pupils are orphans.

They will be joined by 45 new Reception kids in 2016 and a new Grade 5 will be created for current Grade 4s.



In 2016 we will focus on upgrading the quality of education, by seeking funding for training and development of teachers, and buying more books and educational aids.



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Zambia is one of the poorest countries in the world. When a parent dies, children lose not only their love and protection but also a household breadwinner. Many of Zambia's 1.4 million orphans are taken in by impoverished grandparents or siblings who simply can't afford compulsory uniform, materials and school fees and, without help, these children often have to drop out of school.

We support very needy orphans to complete their education as it is their best route out of poverty.

**ZOA-UK supported 395 impoverished orphans in primary school by supplying uniforms, shoes, books, stationery and 'user fees' at £60 each**



**Joseph Banda (9)**

Joseph attends Chibolya Memorial School. He loves staying at the on-site boarding house for disabled pupils as his home life is very tough, and before enrolling at the school he was left home alone all day

He has a club foot, so as well as uniform, shoes, meals, books and volunteer teacher costs we fund his weekly physiotherapy. Two years ago Joseph struggled to walk with assistance. Now, his teacher tells us, he runs around (with a limp) and is always in the thick of playtime football matches.

**ZOA-UK supply daily school meals to 700 orphaned and vulnerable children**

Fees and uniforms are not enough if children are too hungry to walk to school or concentrate. So, we feed orphans at three community schools, Hope & Faith (below left) and Twavwane in Lusaka and Chibolya Memorial in rural Southern province.



Alice Musopole (11, above right) attends Twavwane Community School. Like Alice, many orphans don't eat properly at home; for some the school meal is their only decent, daily food. Since ZOA has provided meals at three schools the orphan pupils' attendance, health and performance has improved hugely. Alice is now one of the best in her class and on track to pass her exams this December. Nutritious school meals cost from just 30p.



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### **136 orphans supported through a year of secondary school.**

There is a significant jump in cost between primary and secondary school when, in addition to uniform and materials, compulsory fees are payable (£120-£270 p.a.). Consequently 70% of poor children drop out at this stage and then scrape a living through subsistence farming and piece work. Orphaned girls leaving education at this stage are particularly vulnerable to coercion into early marriage or prostitution as survival mechanisms.



#### **Irene Musonda (14)**

Irene was regularly sent home from her high school, Munali Girls, for non-payment of fees; long periods out of school caused her to fall behind.

Since we started supporting Irene in January 2014 she has attended daily, and has caught up with classmates. In fact she recently received an award for 'best performer' in her class, whereupon she burst into tears!

Irene's favourite subject is maths; after school she'd like to work in a bank or as an accountant so she can help her three sisters.

### **42 orphans supported at College and University**

Tertiary qualifications are truly life-changing in Zambia. They enable orphans to enter professions with significantly higher salaries which can lift an entire extended family out of poverty. So far 25 ZOA graduates are working as teachers, nurses, civil servants and agriculturists. They are building family homes, supporting grandparents and funding younger siblings through school.

We funded Ireen Mutale (27, 2<sup>nd</sup> right) through agricultural college. Now employed by a local NGO, she advises poor families on their smallholdings. She loves this job, but is applying to the Ministry of Agriculture as it offers more stability. Her childhood was very difficult, with little to eat at home but now she supports six family members who have moved from her deceased father's one room shack into the 3-bedroom, brick house her salary is building. She is funding her younger sister (in purple) and niece (white T-shirt) through secondary school and feeds her little nieces and nephews.

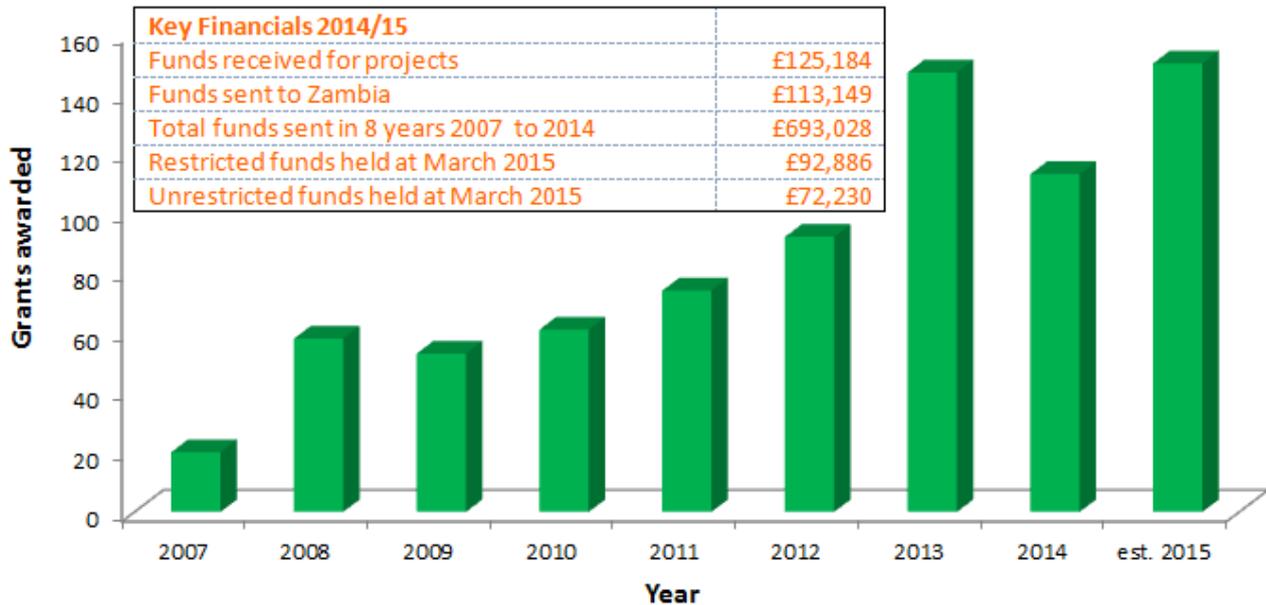




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## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Our Trustees and specific corporate donations cover **100%** of our low UK overheads to ensure that every pound you donate makes a real difference to Zambian orphans' lives.



## COULD YOU BECOME A FRIEND OF ZOA-UK?



**After the tragic loss and upheaval of losing parents, orphans need security.**

Please could you join our growing membership of Friends and commit to a monthly or annual donation?

By giving regular gifts you ensure that more orphans like Richard Tembo (14) can finish school and gain useful qualifications.

To become a Friend please visit our website [zoa.org.uk/help-us/](http://zoa.org.uk/help-us/) and click on the 'Regular donation' tab of our donation widget. One-off donations can be made here also. Alternatively you can complete the form attached.

Please contact us for any help or further information:

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