



ZOA NEWS

Zambia Orphans Aid supporter newsletter



Patience Kabwe, Grade 11, studying at home by candle light

Let there be light

78% of children and youths we work with do not have electricity at home, a recent survey conducted by Zambia Orphans Aid discovered, with big disparities between urban and rural populations.

548 million people in sub-Saharan Africa have no access to electricity [unstats.un.org]. Without electricity families have no clean light source. This forces people to cut their day short at around 6pm, with many relying on expensive, toxic and dangerous lighting sources such as kerosene lamps. This has a negative impact on every facet of life, trapping people into a cycle of poverty.

Children cannot study and do their homework in the dark. To help them study and succeed at school we're providing 500 of our newer students solar lights.

Ireen (right), a pupil at Hope & Faith School says:

"The light has improved my grades - I am able to study at night. I used to be very worried and frustrated but now with the solar light I am free to study."

Find out how you can help on p4

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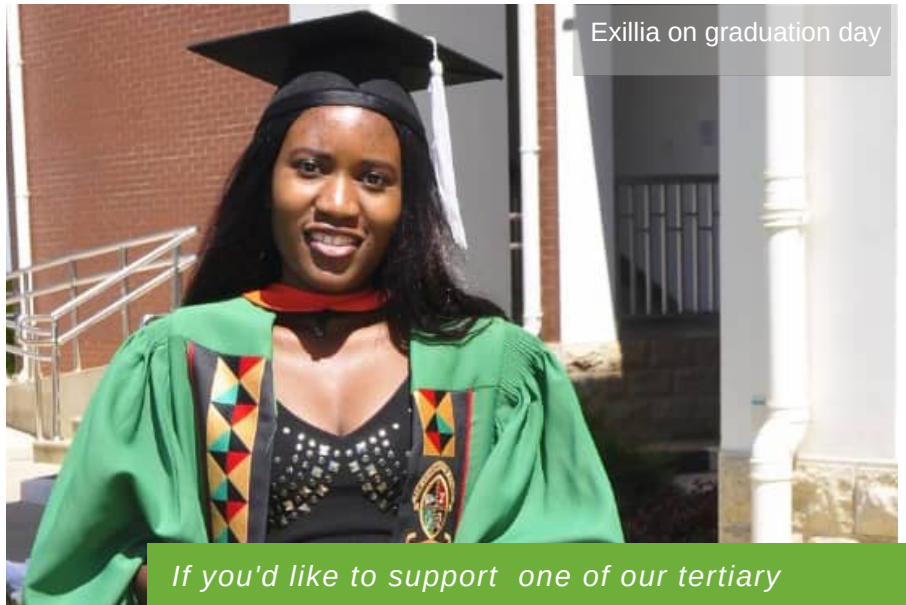


Ireen with her solar lamp

Focus on tertiary education

Statistics show that every extra year of education raises lifetime earnings by around 10%. This is why we continue to support our students through tertiary education.

Exillia [photo on right], who has been supported by ZOA since secondary school has just graduated in Veterinary Medicine. She is now working at a veterinary clinic in Lusaka.



Exillia on graduation day

Exillia tells us: *"I wouldn't be calling myself a graduate if one person hadn't seen the potential in me and said, 'hey, we can help this child'. One of my teachers saw how often I missed school but saw the potential in me and found support for me. I wouldn't have achieved what I've achieved without ZOA. I feel in charge of my life now. I can see the opportunities."*

If you'd like to support one of our tertiary students like Exillia, please get in touch [see p4]

We want to break the cycle of poverty and improve social mobility in Zambia for more young people like Exillia. To do this we support particularly disadvantaged students with vocational training to help them access good jobs in professions like teaching or healthcare, enabling them to earn an income that can lift, not just them, but their family out of poverty.

We're delighted that an increasing number of pupils we started supporting ten years ago are now qualifying for tertiary college. This year we have 30 new tertiary students starting courses.

Fishing at Chibolya

Our local partner, CEHOZ, with ZOA's support started a fish farm to provide an income to help in their plan to become more self sufficient. Surplus fish are cooked as part of the free school lunch provided for vulnerable pupils at Chibolya School.

Derick Maanzi, teacher at Chibolya and fish pond project leader tells us, *"The project has helped the school raise income to buy items like chalk, pens, books, flip charts, markers and dusters. It's also helped the school provide fish to children for their lunch as a source of protein."*

Chibolya is in Southern Province and has experienced food insecurity in recent years making this work even more vital.



Other news

Lubushi boys' dormitory opens



Lubushi boys' boarding house

If you keep the boys safe, you keep the girls safe. That's part of our thinking for building the boarding house for boys at Lubushi in Northern Province. We're excited to announce that it is finished and 64 boys have moved in!

Boys who live far from the school will have a safe place to stay, enabling them to attend school as well as reducing the risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.

We also built and refurbished two toilet blocks for the 1,200 pupils and staff who previously only had three modern toilets.

School holiday meals update

In response to rising poverty and food insecurity in Zambia caused by COVID-19 we provided food and soap to 600 of the most vulnerable children we support during the school holidays. Each package contained a bag of mealie meal, beans and soap.

Thank you for all your donations that made this possible.



Food & soap distribution at Hope and Faith school

A+ rating awarded

We're delighted to announce that ZOA has been awarded an A+ rating by UK Aid Direct for our Menstrual Hygiene work. Our two-year project ended in 2020 but this vital work is ongoing and continues to break down stigma around periods and puberty.

First Zoom event

On March 24th we held our first ever Zoom event, to introduce our new chair of trustees, Garnet Mulomo. It was wonderful to see so many of you and answer your questions. We plan to hold another event in September. Please email katy@zoa.org.uk to express your interest.

ZOA trustee, Geoffrey Croome stands down



Geoffrey Croome, ZOA-UK trustee and secretary was instrumental in founding ZOA-UK and helped steer the organisation for over 15 years.

On behalf of everyone at ZOA thank you for all your hard work and dedication.

Leaving a legacy

David Jackson explains why his family chose to donate to ZOA as part of his father, Christopher Jackson's legacy.

"Dad was a great believer in education as a form of development. He expressly left a codicil in his will wanting to make a legacy donation to "such charity or charities aiming to relieve poverty in developing countries through education, as my executors shall decide".

He had underlined 'through education' by hand. ZOA seemed a perfect fit. He would have been thrilled with the important work that ZOA is doing and would have wanted to nurture its growth so it can achieve more for young people in Zambia."



Christopher Jackson

Leaving a gift in your will is an investment which will have a lasting impact, helping to build a better future for orphans and vulnerable children. Your legacy can play a vital role in helping children in Zambia achieve their potential.

Thank you!

The difference you can make

£7.50

Could provide a solar lamp to one pupil to help them study at home

£62

could help send a child to primary school

£20

could provide an emergency food package to a hungry household

£184

could provide a tertiary student with a refurbished laptop



If you'd like to make a further gift please donate by:

- visiting www.zoa.org.uk to donate online
- sending a cheque for 'Zambia Orphans Aid UK' to ZOA-UK, 2A Nine Chimneys Lane, Balsham, Cambs, CB21 4ES.
- calling Katy to discuss other ways to help on 01223 901 006 or email katy@zoa.org.uk

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