

Mwandi UCZ OVC Project

Mwandi United Church of Zambia Orphans & Vulnerable Children Project
PROJECT UPDATE – JUNE 2017



Dear Friends

Brr it's cold outside. It got down to 2.9°C in Adelaide here in South Australia this morning. Although Mwandi is a much more tropical than Adelaide, it can get just as cold as the Adelaide in the morning. Imagine sleeping on a mud floor in that temperature without any coverings or warm pyjamas.

And because of how hot it can get in Zambia the houses are designed to keep the heat out so it's very, very cold on those mud floors.

Thanks to our supporters and donors, in 2016, the OVC Project was able to give out 400 blankets to the orphans and vulnerable children in Mwandi Village. Being warm and getting a good night's sleep is vital to a child's healthy development.

Our blanket appeal is on again for 2017. Our target this year is to give out 500 blankets. \$20 will buy a good quality blanket and keep a child warm this winter. Donations can be to the Support Team via the details at the end of this Project Update. Or via the website - <http://mwandiovc.com/donate/> - click on the Social Support tab.

Thank you in advance for keeping a child warm this winter.



DR TOM'S VISIT

A paediatric doctor from the University of East Carolina, Dr Tom has been visiting Mwandi each year for the past 10 years. Along with a team of medical students Dr Tom provides health checks for the children at the OVC Project as well as visiting the outer villages of Mwandi.

Dr Tom visited in February this year and was well received by the community. The Head Counsellor, Giblest Siame, reported that they had a wonderful time with Dr Tom and his team.

We would like to thank Dr Tom and the many medical students that have visited over the years. Their contribution has had a great impact on the lives of the children and the community.

EDUCATION SUPPORT

Meet Manyando Sipalo... he is a young man of 21 studying a Bachelor of Science in Nursing at Rusangu University in Monze, Zambia. His long-term goal is to improve the healthcare in his community. He is the first student to be sponsored by the University Fund. This is exciting and we hope and pray to sponsor many more.

If you would like to contribute to the University Fund please contact Heather Scrimshaw (mwandisponsorship@gmail.com)



Manyando Sipalo



Lifaliza Mushaukwa

Also in Education news ... There are several students on the Education Support Program that have special needs. Through sponsorship they have the opportunity to attend schools outside Mwandi that cater for special needs. Lifaliza and Mutafela were among the first children to be given this opportunity. They are young men now back in Mwandi finishing their schooling at Mwandi Basic School. It is awesome to see these guys forging ahead in life.



Mutafela Matakala

The school fees for these students can be significantly higher than regular school but the benefits to these students outweigh the cost. If you could like to contribute to the school fees of a special needs student please contact Heather Scrimshaw (mwandisponsorship@gmail.com).

2017 Sponsorship There are still several students needing sponsorship for 2017. Contact us if you would like to be a part of a child's life through education sponsorship (mwandisponsorship@gmail.com)

Greetings from Christine Mwanza – a sponsored student



I am 15 years old and I am a pupil at the United Church of Zambia Mwandi Secondary School and am in grade eleven (11).

My favourite subjects at school are Mathematics, Biology and Physics. My best subjects are English, Biology and Physics.

When I am at home I usually do my household chores and also research on topics that I learn at school. During my pre-occupation time I love to sing. I also go for church programs and services on specific days.

Being able to attend high school is such a blessing to me but above all being sponsored through the Mwandi UCZ OVC Project is my biggest blessing because if it were not for this Project I wouldn't have

had the privilege to attend high school. People say education is the key to success and I believe that high school is the first step to my success in life.

I wish and pray to further my education after high school so that I may achieve my goal to study Law and become a Lawyer.

*Thank you for your sponsorship.
Christine Mwansa*

It's not too late to sponsor a child in education for 2017! please contact Heather Scrimshaw at mwandisponsorship@gmail.com

PROJECT STAFF NEWS

Labour Day 2017

Zambian Labour Day was held on 1 May 2017. It was a colourful day and many of the staff received awards for their great Work.



Staff Symposium May 2017

The photo above is from the May 2017 Staff Symposium presented by Dr Paul Evans from USA. He and his family are based in Mwandi with the Christian Veterinary Mission.



Labour Day Celebrations 2017
Deaconess Judith Lungu shaking hands with the District Commissioner and Labour Officers

Staff Stories – Deaconess Judith Lungu



My name is Judith Nyuma Lungu. I was born on the 18th of October, 1966. I am a widow with four children, three boys and one girl. I also have three grandchildren, two boys and one girl. My hobbies are cooking, baking cakes for all occasions and reading.

I am a Synod Diaconal Worker employed by the United Church of Zambia and I am currently working at Mwandi UCZ OVC Project. I am the Social Services Coordinator here. I have been working at the project since April, 2016.

I was approved by Synod to come and take over Pastor Mudenda who served as project manager for ten years.

I have found a second home at the OVC because my work is very interesting. I love being with the children and I am so passionate about their day to day desires. I have learnt quite a lot of things

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ever since I arrived. My desire is to ensure that I facilitate a meaningful life for the orphans and vulnerable children as our mission statement states. I also have a responsibility of looking after the orphans and vulnerable children from my extended family which has always been in my heart. I come from a back ground of a large family living under one roof. I strongly feel that I am in the right place at the right time.

Ever since I came to the project there has been some few changes which have taken place in terms of team work, especially on Thursday which is an important day for all the members of staff and the volunteers to clean the project surroundings. This exercise is called Mwandi UCZ OVC Keep Clean Campaign. It was my initiative and it has worked very well. I relate very well with my fellow members of staff.

I am still learning the Lozi culture, we are one Zambia, one nation but have different cultural norms.

Lastly may I take this rare opportunity to thank our support team in Australia and special thanks goes to Fiona for the financial support I receive as my monthly up keep, termly education many other allowances. We thank you for the tireless and selfless work you do for the project and indeed personally for me.

May God richly bless you, Thank you

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

The first block of flats has been completed with a second block commencing. The showers for the children are well underway.

THE SEWING CENTRE



Sewing Centre



Children's showers

The sewing Centre was privileged in the month of May to receive Pamela Leonard, visiting with a team from Ukirk-Shandon (led by Rev John Cook). Pamela shared her skills and taught the sewing class how to make pillow case dresses and re-usable sanitary pads.

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PROJECT PHOTOS



ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT THE PROJECT?

The Support Team would love to hear from you if you are interested in volunteering at the Project. Many people have been blessed in working with the staff and community. Your skills and abilities will benefit the children enormously but the blessing and benefits that you receive are just as incredible.

Please contact the Mwandi OVC Project Support Team at mwandisupportteam@gmail.com for further details. A decision to volunteer could change your life.

FUNDRAISING FOR THE PROJECT

Fundraising is a fantastic way to support the Project and there are so many different fundraising ideas that are easy to run and so much fun.

Fundraisers can be held in bible studies, work places, your local church or community. Fundraisers can be small or large. Ideas include Raffles, Walkathon, Golf Day Tournament, bake sales, trivia events, Guess the number of Jelly Beans in the Jar, the list goes on....

Community fundraising ideas include Street Stalls, Sausage Sizzlers, Mwandi UCZ OVC Project fundraising tins appropriate places (eg: hotels, restaurants, roadhouses, banks, chemists etc), Quiz Nights, Op-Shop Fashions parades and Spring Fairs with local school bands. For further ideas check out these websites for ideas:

www.fundraisingdirectory.com.au

www.rewarding-fundraising-ideas.com

All donations received will be used to make a difference in the lives of the children doing it tough in Mwandi Village.

If you would like to fundraise for a particular program (eg: Nutrition, University Fund, Garden or support activities (electricity, fuel, salaries)) please contact the Support Team at mwandisupportteam@gmail.com or Fiona Dixon-Thompson at uczovc@gmail.com for further details

For labels for Mwandi UCZ OVC Project fundraising tins please contact the Support Team at mwandisupportteam@gmail.com

PRAYER REQUESTS

As always, we really need your prayers. God can do amazing things when we pray. In particular, please pray for:

1. Peace and unity for all members of staff/volunteers.
2. For the Donors to continue to support the project and all its programs.
3. The Agric farm to be revived.
4. Children that feed from the OVC.
5. OVC's to be in good health and God's protection.
6. For more students to join the Tailoring/Sewing program.
7. For protection from accidents (especially those who use tools /machinery).
8. For spiritual growth for staff/volunteers and children.
9. Zambia's political tension

FINANCIAL SUPPORT REQUESTS

If you feel led to donate to the Project, the following items are of urgent need:

- Internet - \$150 per month
- Fuel - \$200 per month
- Electricity for the Project - \$250 per month
- Counsellor's allowance/token - \$250 per month
- Counselling training course (couples) - \$1,000 for two counsellors to attend
- Computer for Counselling Centre - \$1,500
- Solar pump and tank stand for new flats - \$7,000
- Salary for new Project Coordinator – total funds required still to be determined
- Contributions to the University Fund
- Contributions to the Special School Fees

Thank you so much for your continued support of the children of Mwandi Village. Please keep the Project in your prayers.

Leonie and the Support Team

CONTACT DETAILS

Mwandi OVC Project Support Team Inc
c/- Pt Lincoln Uniting Church
PO Box 191 Pt Lincoln SA 5606
Australia

Ph: 0457 704 660 (Secretary: Leonie Dixon-Thompson)
Email: mwandisupportteam@gmail.com
Web: www.mwandiovc.com

Mwandi OVC Education Sponsorship Program	
<p>AUSTRALIA</p> <p>Heather Scrimshaw PO Box 1189 Pasadena SA 5042 Australia</p> <p>Ph: 0421 270 120 Email: mwandisponsorship@gmail.com</p>	<p>INTERNATIONAL</p> <p>Bridget Banda Mwandi OVC Project Secretary Email: brybriana@gmail.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Fiona Dixon-Thompson Email: uczovc@gmail.com</p>

Bank Details	
<p>Mwandi OVC Project Support Team Inc</p> <p>Please make ALL cheques payable to Mwandi OVC Project Support Team Inc</p> <p>BSB: 035-067 Account No: 21 6670 Bank: Westpac (Pt Lincoln Branch) 46-48 Liverpool Street Pt Lincoln SA 5606</p>	<p>Mwandi UCZ OVC Project</p> <p>Account Name: Mwandi UCZ OVC Project Account No: 015 0454 086 000 Branch No: 061 018 Swift Code: SCBLZMLX</p> <p>Standard Charter Bank (Livingstone Branch) Mosi-O-Tunya Road, Zambia, Africa</p>