



NEWSLETTER

ZAMBIAN CHILDREN'S FUND

JULY 2006

VOLUME I – ISSUE 1

Greetings! This newsletter is to inform you of all that The Zambian Children's Fund of Canada has been doing for the past two years. The reason it has taken us a while to get you this information is because the sustainable project work that is taking place in Zambia has taken a while to set up, plan, organize, fund, run and execute. However, after some time there has been a tremendous amount of progress that has occurred, with this we shall give you the 411 on ZCF. We thank you for your patience and support.

ZCF PROGRESS REPORT:

In 2004 when ZCF was first introduced to most of you, we were renting out a premise in Olympia Park in Zambia which housed 15 children. After three years ZCF Canada, U.S. and Zambia have worked collectively to implement and build a sustainable system for orphans in Zambia. What is meant by sustainability is ensuring that the children have a home, are fed three meals a day, attain a full education, have the love, care and guidance of house mothers and receive medical care.

We have purchased land in order to construct a school and orphan homes. So far we have been able to put up 2 (three-bedroom) homes for the children. We have increased our intake of children from 15 to 25 over the two years and are planning on taking in more as soon as we have more homes constructed. In 2005, the children were attending school in grass hut classrooms but over this year we have started the construction of a proper school. The school which will consist of six classrooms will be completed by the end of this August. Also, we have planted a small farm in order to help with food through out the year.

In addition to this development we have allowed the nearby compound children to attend school. At this moment ZCF cannot take these children into the orphanage therefore we have extended our arms to educate as many children as we can and provide these children with two meals a day (a breakfast and lunch). Thus, currently we are feeding over 90 people and have housed 25 children.

Your money has truly benefited in helping build this sustainable system for the children of Zambia. ZCF Canada's main contribution is put towards running this system and this cost breakdown is provided to you in this newsletter. The staff and children of Chisawasha Home and school would like to thank you all for your contributions as it is significantly improving many lives.

Questions, Concerns or Feedback contact zcfcanada@yahoo.ca Also, our new website will be ready shortly – you can find information here.

THE BINGO NIGHT

The ZCF Bingo Night was held at the end of February 2006. This event was a big success as many of you came out, got your dabbers ready and played away through the evening. After a night of fun, prizes, laughter and great food -- we were able to raise \$4000.

We would like to thank **Perry Vashee** for his support with the venue.

In addition we would like to thank all our donors who sponsored prizes and all those that cooked for event.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

ZCF CHARITY Dinner – 2006

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ZCF RUNNING COST BREAKDOWN per Year

Feeding Program FEEDS 90 people:	
1. Food for orphanage children	\$12 000
2. Food for the Village children who attend school	\$ 12 000
Total Cost of Feeding Program	<u>\$24 000</u>
Teachers Fee	\$8000
House Mother Salaries (3 mothers)	\$4400
Utilities for entire campus	\$3000
Total Running Costs <i>(This cost does not include the construction of the orphanage and school)</i>	<u>\$39, 400</u>

ZCF Canada raised the following from Aug 04- July 06

ZCF Charity Dinner – Asha 2004	\$10 000
ZCF Bingo Night	\$4000
The Woodlands School Student Council	\$1300
ZCF Board – Individual Fundraising	\$3000
Total Fundraising	<u>\$18,300</u>

The total fundraised amount has gone to pay for a portion of the ZCF feeding program and a portion of the teacher fees

VOLUNTEERING IN ZAMBIA

In June 2005, Hiren Patel, Chandni Desai, Nitasha Puri, Arif Jetha, Fazad Akajouri, Eileen Knowles, Alex Singh, Shradah Krishnan Adrian Ruffo, Anu Singh, Kashmiri Parmar, Aliya Noormohamed and Nina Modi traveled to Zambia. These thirteen University students spend three weeks of their summer volunteering in Zambia at the Kondawa Centre in the Ngombe Compound and the Chisawasha Home where they conducted several projects. During the trip the volunteers: build a library and playground, conducted HIV/AIDS and income generating workshops for Zambians, shadowed home based care health workers and learned about the HIV/AIDS pandemic and taught classes at the Chisawasha school. This experience was eye opening and changed the lives of these thirteen individuals making it one which they will never forget. Thanks again to all our donors for your material and cash contributions.

A FAREWELL FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

HIV/AIDS, orphans, poverty and volunteerism have been issues very dear to our hearts. Two years ago we had a vision and that was to establish an organization that could provide for these issues in Zambia as well as empower youth to take action in their communities. We planted the SEEDS but it has been all our donors, sponsors, supporters, VOLUNTEERS, friends and family that have helped these seeds flourish into - ZCF Canada. We wanted to say farewell as we are both leaving the country for graduate school but we know that we are leaving the organization in the best hands possible - as our new board of directors will be announced shortly. Even though we are afar we will always be involved with ZCF. We would like to thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts for your time, money and support as it has truly made a difference. It has been a pleasure working with you all and we are going to MISS YOU ALL dearly.

--Hiren Patel & Chandni Desai - ZCF Board of Directors 2004-2006

THANK YOU to ALL ZCF VOLUNTEERS - without you, nothing would be possible.

Harshika Patel, Kush Desai, Nimit Desai, Poonam Patel, Jay Naik, Himesh Patel, Ushma Desai, Dhvani Patel, Dharmen Patel, Ati Desai, Heema Desai, Bhavisha Vashee, Tanvi Desai, Yatti Desai, Tulsi Naik, Divna Naik, Pranay Naik, Krunal Desai, Kruti Vashee, Neil Desai, Unnati Vashee, Heli Naik, Krishna Desai, Nidhi Desai, Dimple Savla, Priyanka Desai, Karan Desai, Mihir Vashee, Ami Patel, Nirav Patel and Pritesh Vashi.