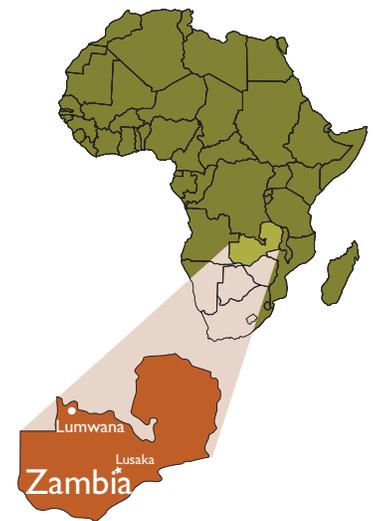


LUMWANA WEST EDUCATION PROJECT

ZAMBIA



Photo courtesy of Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund



Children in the village of Lumwana West may have dreams for their future, but little hope of actually achieving those dreams because of the lack of education opportunities in their community. The Lumwana West Education Project seeks to build a preschool and a secondary school to help these young people realize their hopes for a better future.

THE NEED

Three out of four people in Zambia survive on less than \$1.25 each day.* For families living in extreme poverty, children's education can be a luxury that seems out of their reach due to the expense or because the children are needed to help with household chores.

For children living in poverty, primary school can be a struggle. In Zambia, only about half complete primary school, and as a result, the country's literacy rate is just 61 percent. For those children who do manage to complete primary school, continuing their education can be an unobtainable dream as only two in five children manage to go on to secondary school.*

Lumwana West is a remote, rural Zambian community, where families make a living by small-scale farming of produce such as corn, cassava, beans, cabbage, and pineapple. Typical of many villages, Lumwana West urgently needs better educational facilities for its children. Early childhood education is limited, as the number of preschool children far exceed the one available classroom. This leaves the youngest children unprepared for primary school and at risk for dropping out.

Some secondary classes have started, sharing space with the primary school. But for most students, the nearest secondary school is 54 miles away in the district capital of Mwinilunga. Boarding, tuition, and supplies cost about \$407 each year—more than a year's income for many families.

For the more than 5,000 children in primary school within a 25-mile radius of Lumwana West, their only hope for further education—and a chance to break the cycle of poverty—is the construction of a local secondary school.



Photo courtesy of EBZEF

The Lumwana West Education Project is a partnership between the Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund (EBZEF) and World Vision. The relationship between EBZEF and Lumwana West was born out of the tragic loss of Elizabeth "Beth" Bowers, who shared her compassionate spirit with the people of Lumwana West as a Peace Corps volunteer. Beth died in a bicycle accident in 2002 during her service.

Her family and the supporters of EBZEF transformed this tragedy into a scholarship opportunity for deserving young women of Lumwana West to strive for better lives for themselves and their families.

**Source of statistics: UNICEF, State of the World's Children, 2014.*

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THE LUMWANA WEST EDUCATION PROJECT

The Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund (EBZEF) and World Vision are working together to build a preschool and secondary school in Lumwana West to supplement the existing government-funded primary school. The preschool will provide vital early education opportunities for the village's youngest children, preparing them to succeed in primary school. The secondary school will enable children to continue attending after grade 8, providing the advanced education necessary to obtain better jobs or attend college. The project has three phases.

Phase 1: Construct a preschool building with two classrooms with the support of Baal Dan Charities to add to the existing preschool classroom that was built with their support. Three classrooms will provide adequate space for each preschool age group. In addition, the project will construct two school blocks with three classrooms each for the secondary school, and two teachers' houses (necessary to attract high-quality teachers to the school).

Phase 2: Construct an additional seven teachers' houses and two additional three-classroom blocks for the secondary school, construct and furnish the school office, and drill a borehole to provide safe drinking water for the school. The project will build latrines and hand-washing stations to encourage school children to form good hygiene behaviors that prevent disease, which leads to school absenteeism.

Phase 3: Construct a three-classroom block for the secondary school, a school hall, and a computer lab; equip the lab with 25 computers and solar-powered Internet connectivity.

The Lumwana West Education Project is supported by an enthusiastic community and the dedicated support of Mr. Mbongo Njolomba, who has been appointed as the headmaster of the secondary school after many years serving as the headmaster of the primary school. Mr. Njolomba has been instrumental in promoting the importance of education in the community and parental involvement in the school. He has been a driving force in working with EBZEF to build and furnish the Memorial Library, as well as building the science lab that is currently under construction with the support of Engineers Without Borders.

Once World Vision and EBZEF have completed construction of the school, all future maintenance and support costs, including teachers' salaries, will be assumed by the Ministry of Education.

PROJECT PARTNERS



THE ELIZABETH BOWERS ZAMBIA EDUCATION FUND

When EBZEF was founded in 2002, only four girls from Lumwana West were attending secondary school. Since then, EBZEF has provided scholarships to more than 315 girls, enabling them to attend secondary school and college. This has opened new possibilities for women of the village.



Photo courtesy of EBZEF

As the first “Beth’s Girl,” Prudence has become a role model to her community—as an educated woman, and as a wife and mother. “Beth’s hard work has encouraged all of us to do the same,” said Prudence. (Prudence’s story is on page 3.)



Photo courtesy of EBZEF

Sandra Kamulosu is the librarian at Lumwana West’s Memorial Library, managing a collection of more than 20,000 books. The library is equipped with solar panels so it has light to stay open in the evenings, giving members of the community the opportunity to pursue their own education through the available textbooks.

Sandra is also one of Beth’s Girls, and attended secondary school through the scholarship she received from EBZEF. She graduated from a six-month program in library science, and is now pursuing her teaching degree through distance learning.

LUMWANA WEST EDUCATION PROJECT

EBZEF provides scholarships for girls, knowing that this is an opportunity that can transform their lives. As “Beth’s Girls” graduate from secondary school, complete college or trade school, and get good jobs, they become strong role models for other girls as well as finding ways to give back. Their example has created a change in attitude throughout the community, as they’ve demonstrated the value of girls being educated and obtaining better jobs.

One example is Prudence Masanyinga. With a chronically ill father and a mother working as a small-scale subsistence farmer, Prudence thought that her dream of obtaining an education could never be more than a dream. She often did sewing or sold ground nuts at the bus station hoping to earn a little money to pay for school fees and supplies.

But her dream became a reality when she received a scholarship from EBZEF. Prudence completed secondary school and went on to earn a certificate in social sciences. She is now earning her college undergraduate degree and works as a staff member for World Vision Zambia in Lumwana West.

WORLD VISION

For many years, the global community, including World Vision, worked to significantly increase school attendance by providing buildings, materials, and uniforms. It became apparent that this was not enough. Rising attendance in over-crowded classrooms with poorly trained teachers led to many young people leaving primary school never able to read or write.

World Vision’s work in education also includes ensuring that children receive a quality education by training teachers in effective literacy methods, implementing best-practice curricula and learning tools, and empowering parents to advocate with their government to support education. In 2014, World Vision reached more than 4.3 million children worldwide through education programming and trained more than 41,000 teachers on methodologies that improve the quality of education.

The Lumwana West school is located within World Vision’s Lunga area development program. This gives the new school access to training and support so students of the new school have the strongest opportunity for a quality education.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

One of the most powerful ways to break the cycle of poverty is by receiving an education that can lead to better jobs and more opportunities. Your gift to the \$1,723,652 Lumwana West Education Project can make a difference in the lives of children who dream of a brighter future.

Thank you for considering joining us in this vital work.



Photo courtesy of EBZEF

Many girls in Lumwana West would be content to attend secondary school, but Kutemba Njolomba is reaching higher. After graduating from secondary school through a scholarship from EBZEF, Kutemba went on to attend Mukuba University. Her goal is to earn a degree in math and science, then become a teacher in a secondary school—a rare profession for a woman in Zambia. As one of the few in her class to pass a critical set of exams that allows her to continue her course of study, she’s well on her way.

“We are capable of doing anything; the power is in our hands. Remember that, when you educate a girl, you educate the whole world.”

***—Justina Salumawu
One of “Beth’s Girls”***



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World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization dedicated to working with children, families, and their communities worldwide to reach their full potential by tackling the causes of poverty and injustice. Motivated by our faith in Jesus Christ, we serve alongside the poor and oppressed as a demonstration of God’s unconditional love for all people. World Vision serves all people, regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, or gender.

SITE PLAN FOR LUMWANA WEST SCHOOL



Lumwana West Secondary School – Proposed Arrangement of buildings to be constructed

