



THE PROTEA

Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

Vol. XV No. 1

Breaking the cycle of poverty through education

May 2020

EBZEF Celebrates International Women's Day Fundraising Report

An equal world is an enabled world!



Angela

Fridah

Lily

Ireen

The United Nations' International Women's Day on March 8th emphasizes the crucial need to support, encourage, and acknowledge the achievements of women around the globe. EBZEF celebrates Beth's Girls/Ladies as they become teachers, librarians, nurses, radiographers, physiotherapists, pharmacists, midwives, and physicians. They are social workers, caterers, electrical engineers, welders, and leaders in fisheries science. As role models to women of all ages, these remarkable young women sustain Beth's vision across the years and into the future. And you, EBZEF friends and supporters, have made this possible! **THANK YOU!**

EBZEF is working hard to raise funds for two more 3-classroom blocks plus a boys' ablution block. Estimates from World Vision include \$70,000 for a 3-classroom block and \$31,750 for a boys' lavatory. Total costs = \$171,750. With a grant of \$100,000 + \$25,000 in matching funds, we need an additional \$46,750.

Individual donations continue to be our primary source of support for EBZEF's programs in Lumwana West. To expand our base, EBZEF sent out carefully researched grant requests advised by a volunteer professional fundraiser through Social Purpose Works. EBZEF is an official partner of GlobalGiving (GG), a crowdfunding platform for grassroots charitable projects (see us at <https://goto.gg/43633>). EBZEF was selected to participate in a recent Girl Fund campaign.

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

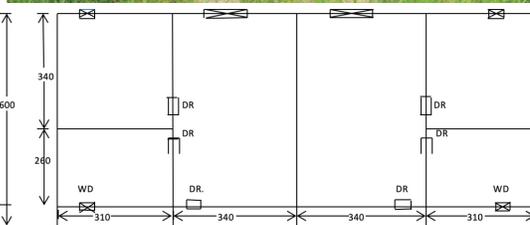
Every dollar matched up to \$5,000 through July 2020!

Teachers' Houses

Mr. Njolomba says, "The housing situation at Lumwana West Secondary School is worrying. Only seven out of fourteen teachers are accommodated. The rest are squatting in deplorable rental structures in the village."

The community is doing everything it can to ease the situation. "With forty Kwacha (\$1.25) we were collecting from parents for the construction of self-help staff accommodation, we began to build a structure that reached window level by March. However, the government suspended payment of such funds. The building, which would house two teachers, remains at window level. We planned for two such houses because they are cheaper (\$4,500) than standard staff houses."

From our successful GlobalGiving campaign, EBZEF sent \$3,000 to complete construction. The goal is to provide 4 double houses @ \$4,500 each for 8 single teachers plus 6 single houses @ \$13,500 each for married teachers with families. The housing project will proceed as funds become available.



Secondary School Report

Mr. Mbongo Njolomba, Lumwana West Secondary School Headmaster, reports, "We now have an average of 90 students per classroom. Grade 12 has an enrollment of 104, grade 11 has 96, grade 10 has 87, grade 9 has 82, and grade 8 has 102 pupils. In a classroom space designed for 270 students for six classrooms, we now have 471 students with an unbelievable 201 excess students."

Coronavirus Update

Zambian schools and colleges are currently closed. Lumwana West, like the rest of Zambia, is in lockdown. Beth's Girls could not complete Term #1 for 2020. Schools and colleges may not be open for Term #2. Some programs are now online. EBZEF will resume tuition payments on an individual basis as appropriate. 

First-Year Students

Anipher Mbimbi (year 1 of 3) studies Clinical Medicine at Eden University. "To the entire organization, half-way around the world, my heartfelt thanks from all the Beth's Girls to our dear EBZEF sponsors, for making it possible to reach this far in our academic life. Our motto is 'the sky is the limit.'"



Kerron Chilumbwe is in year 1 of 3 at Ndola Nursing School. To her sponsors she says, "It has been my dream to become a nurse since I was a kid. Because of you my dream has been fulfilled. I am enjoying my studies."



Thelma Sambaulu studies nursing at Oak University (year 1 of 4). She tells us, "Thank you all for helping me. Without you, I don't know if I would have made it to college. My prayer is for God to help me be who I want to be so that I can also help those who are lacking help." 



Success Story

Fridah Sakuwunda completed her work at Paglory University in Early Childhood Development. While she waits to graduate and to be hired by the Ministry of Education, she is teaching at the Lumwana West Pre-School on a voluntary basis. Fridah is "giving back" to her community. 



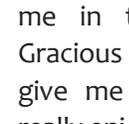
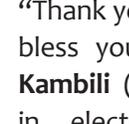
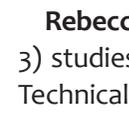
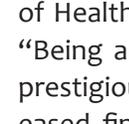
Continuing Studies

Stella Masanyinga is in year 3 of 3 at Fairview College of Education. "To my fellow Beth's Girls, we have to pull up our socks if we are to bring development to our community. Let's work hard to become role models so the young ones will be encouraged." **Caren Kabulayi** (year 2 of 3) studies Clinical Medicine at Northwestern U College of Health & Applied Science. "Being a recipient of such a prestigious sponsorship has eased financial concerns for my education. Your aid has motivated me to work hard to see my dream come true."

Rebecca Lubeba (year 2 of 3) studies welding at Solwezi Technical Trade School. "Thank you and may God bless you all." **Margret Kambili** (year 2 of 4) is in electrical engineering at Solwezi Technical Trade School. "I appreciate your support because it's not easy to sponsor someone you don't know. To Beth's Girls who are done with school and now working, you can do the same for your young sisters so they have bright futures like you."

Lucy Mutepuka and **Gracious Chilumbwe** are in year 2 of 3 at NWU College of Health & Applied Science in nursing. Lucy says, "I give total respect to my sponsors. Thanks for helping me in this opportunity." Gracious adds, "You always give me joy in living. I'm really enjoying my career."

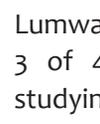
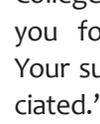
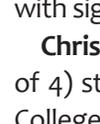
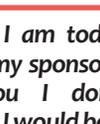
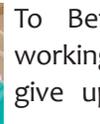
Mulenga Chilufya is in year 3 of 3 to be an RN at Northwestern U. "I am honoured to be among the EBZEF scholarship recipients. I am grateful for your generosity!"



Joy Salumawu (year 3 of 3) will complete her RN at Eden University. She has upgraded her program to add a midwifery diploma. "I got motivated by the deliveries I was doing during my internship."



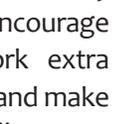
Gloria Njolomba, Karen Sweta, and Florence Lubeba are in year 3 of 3 at Solwezi Teacher Training College. Gloria says, "I am proud to be among the lucky ones sponsored by EBZEF. To Beth's Girls, continue working hard and never give up so as to impress our sponsors and be better in life." Karen adds, "We are privileged and humbled to receive this scholarship." Florence notes, "We Beth's Girls are happy because you are always there when we need you. Thank you for bringing joy and love to our hearts."



Belindah Kalumba and Jean Mutepuka work as Teacher's Aides for the Lumwana West Pre-School. They are in year 3 of 3 at Zambia College of Education in Early Childhood studies. Both will graduate with significant teaching experience.

Christabel Sweta (year 4 of 4) studies at Evelyn Hone College of Pharmacy. "Thank you for our sponsorships. Your support is fully seen and appreciated." **Visaka Kapalu** (year 5 of 7) is at Lusaka Apex Medical University to become a physician. "I encourage Beth's Girls to work extra hard in your studies and make our sponsors proud."

Priscovia Sangenjo, now a secondary school teacher at Lumwana West, is in year 3 of 4 at Chalimbana U. studying for a BS in English & Civic Education. 



Greenway Stoves

EBZEF has facilitated a partnership for Lumwana West with India-based Greenway Stoves. The stoves offer higher combustion efficiency for shorter cooking time, reducing fuel use by half with significantly lower carbon emissions.

Stoves are free for cost of transportation from Lusaka. They can be sold to the community for a nominal fee to support construction of teachers' houses. ☞



Library Projects



Lunda Lore Stories: As more stories are written in Lunda by local authors of all ages the next steps are to illustrate the texts, to translate them into English, and to print them for Memorial Library display. Mr. Njolomba, Secondary School Headmaster, is helping with translation. EBZEF volunteer artist Rebecca Farrin is standing by to assist with illustrations. The project is supported by a grant from the Columbia River Peace Corps Association.

Books For Africa: Books For Africa has donated a Girls' Empowerment Collection of 35 new books which appeal to girls at the primary, secondary, and college levels. Each book includes a memorial bookplate (pictured below). At Librarian Sandra Kamulosu's request, we are sending a half-pallet of texts on leadership and business/economics. A grant from Salem Rotary's Literacy Committee will cover transport costs. ☞



Sponsored by:
Elizabeth Bowers
Zambia Education Fund

In loving memory of Fallen Peace Corps
Volunteer Elizabeth (Beth) Rachel
Bowers (1979-2002)

Pre-School Report

Attendance: Ireen Sandu, Basic School Headmistress, reports, "Pre-school has started for the new year. We have 20 new learners. We sent 38 learners to grade one. We have 81 learners at the pre-school for 2020."



Jean with new learners

Playground Equipment: Last year's Schirle School Penny Drive helped fund playground equipment for the Pre-School. Ireen says, "It is so exciting! Everyone is talking about these wonderful things, which have never been seen in this community! Parents and teachers are very happy and send their gratitude to the sponsors." She adds, "Most of the learners' activities are based on play. They develop motor and manipulative skills which are used in children's day-to-day life."



Swings, slide, jungle gym, merry-go-round, see-saw

Office Equipment: The Pre-School now has a solar collector with battery and inverter, a printer/scanner, and a desktop computer to create their own materials. EBZEF Library Committee member Alice French donated funds in honor of her Aunt Frances Cooper, a life-long educator who passed away at the age of 102.



Printing out the first copies!

Penny Drive: Schirle Elementary School conducted a 2020 penny drive to support pre-school programs in Lumwana West. Schirle children love to see where their pennies (\$1,158.47) go from their "Children Helping Children" campaign.

Teacher's Aide: Belindah Kalumba was chosen to go to Kabwe to be trained to teach pre-school learners. Ireen says, "She performed well because of teaching preschool since 2012. Our superiors were very happy with her." ☞

CHARITABLE GIVING

If you are age 70.5 or older, and must make mandatory distributions from your tax-deferred IRA, you are eligible to make tax-free donations to qualified charitable organizations.

Please consider EBZEF in your giving plan.

HELP SUPPORT EBZEF

Designate EBZEF as your charity of choice on AmazonSmile at: www.smile.amazon.com

Check out our website at: www.ebzef.org

Connect with Twitter at: www.twitter.com/EBZEF

Partner with eBay for Charity at: www.charity.ebay.com

Join our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/EBZEF

In OR, WA, ID, AK, designate your Fred Meyer Community Rewards at: www.bit.ly/34GPYtm

In OR, dedicate your Bottle Drop items to EBZEF at: www.bottledropcenters.com

Tell Your Family And Friends About Us

facebook amazon smile twitter ebay FOR CHARITY

GIVE A

LIFE-ALTERING GIFT!

Help change lives and offer hope to Beth's Girls and their community in NW Zambia.

So little goes so far:

- \$25 funds classroom blackboard
 - \$50 funds books for the Library
 - \$125 funds 1 mo. pre-school aide's salary
 - \$450 funds graduation fees
 - \$600 funds computer for Library
 - \$2,500 funds 1 year of college study
 - \$4,500 funds single teacher's house
 - \$13,500 funds married teacher's house
 - \$31,750 funds boys' lavatory w/septic
- Amounts vary due to fluctuating exchange rate between US \$ and Zambian Kwacha.



Village-constructed teacher's house



Waiting their turns for the swings



Merry-go-round in action



Children in line to sign up for pre-school

THANK YOU FOR OUR NEW PLAYGROUND!



Everyone wants to slide.

The Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

*One life made the connection.
Now many carry on the vision of caring.*



Our Mission

EBZEF empowers women, children, and their community in Lumwana West, Zambia, to break the cycle of poverty through education.

Our Vision

Elizabeth Rachel Bowers (1979–2002) shared her compassionate spirit with the people of her village as a Peace Corps volunteer. The education legacy sustains Beth's vision of service and global awareness by empowering young women to build positive change from within, to become leaders and educators, and to improve the quality of life in their communities.

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We remember Beth's adventurous nature, her intent to do good in the world, and her desire to make things better for those in need. We remember the Beth that was part of our family and like a sister to our son Eric.

Beth, her sister Jennifer, and her cousin Eric were close and thoroughly enjoyed each other's company. They loved holidays, giggling constantly when they got together. During the summer, Eric spent time at the Bowers farm, sleeping in a big tent outdoors, exploring the pond with Beth and Jen. Beth was fearless, trying new things under the more cautious eyes of Eric and Jennifer.

Every year we took the kids to the Oregon State Fair. Dave took them on

Remembering Beth

By Auntie Michal Wert



Jennifer, Beth, and Eric in 1986

the most extreme rides. We enjoyed the animals and ate Oregon Dairy Women's ice cream. Uncle Dave and Beth rode the Ferris wheel—she always wanted to go around one more time. On the way home, the kids sat in the

back seat, repeating the Hefty garbage bag mantra over and over—in a deep voice “hefty, hefty, hefty” and in high falsetto “wimpy, wimpy, wimpy.” It got old quickly!

Beth was impatient; things simply could not happen fast enough. As he was building a play gym in the backyard, Beth peppered Dave with “Is it ready yet?” until she could use the slide.

A fond memory of Beth was when she and her best friend Berkeley joined us for dinner as she prepared to leave for the Peace Corps. It was a lovely afternoon on the deck, good food, wine, and conversation about their futures. Beth was an interested and interesting young woman, preparing to dive into her next exciting adventure. 