



The Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund (EBZEF) is an Oregon 501(c)(3) public charity operating under the laws of the State of Oregon. EBZEF was established by the family of Elizabeth Bowers, a Peace Corps Volunteer who died in a bicycle accident in 2002 while serving in the village of Lumwana West in NW Zambia, Africa.

The mission of EBZEF is to provide the opportunity for education of young women from the village of Lumwana West and the surrounding area. This includes grades 8 and 9 in Lumwana West Basic School, grades 10, 11 and 12 in Mwinilunga High School, Solwezi High School, and Mukenge Girls' School (all boarding schools), and education beyond high school. It also includes building community support facilities and networks.

ADMINISTRATION

EBZEF Partners

World Vision Zambia (WVZ) administers education funds locally for a 10 percent fee. Our WVZ agent is Esther Nkumbwa in the Mwinilunga Area Development Program (ADP), which is supported by World Vision Australia. Funds to construct a memorial library/community learning center in Lumwana West were donated by EBZEF to the Peace Corps Partnership Program (PCPP) in 2006. Peace Corps Volunteer (PCV) Jessica Hillsley helped to oversee the final construction and furnishing of the facility throughout 2008.

Peace Corps planted a Moringa oleifera tree on its grounds in Lusaka, Zambia, in honor of Beth. This is a traditional food plant in Africa, with the potential to improve nutrition, boost food security, foster rural development and support sustainable land care.



President Kabibwa, Priscovia,
Secretary Chikonde, Agatha

Two of Beth's Girls, Agatha and Priscovia Sangenjo, were almost blind and asked for help from EBZEF so they could continue their schooling. EBZEF contacted Rod Bach, Lions Club Dist. 36R in Salem, OR to see if the Lions Club could help. He put EBZEF in contact with Edgar Musaka Kabibwa, President of the Lions Club of Nkana, Zambia. The Club paid to transport the girls from Lumwana West to the Kitwe General Hospital Eye Clinic for examination, cataract surgery, and post-operative care. For the first time since they were very young, the girls can see clearly. Both are doing well in secondary school.

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors provides direction and oversight for the EBZEF program. Meetings of the Board in 2008 were held on March 26, July 24, and November 18. The committee structure established in 2007 flourished in 2008. For the first time, all members of the Board participated live in board meetings, thanks to the technology of Skype. Fordson Kafweku participated from Zambia and Dan Irvine from Bangkok. Members of the Board of Directors and the Advisory Board are listed in Attachment A.

The Board adopted a non-affiliation policy that declares no religious affiliation. This does not preclude developing partnerships with religious groups that help further the interests of EBZEF, but rather that EBZEF does not operate with religious preference. The Board also adopted a bill of rights to commit to good practices for non-profits. A Conflict of Interest Policy is signed annually by each Board member. The Board reaffirmed that its first priority is the education and scholarship of Beth's Girls.

A Board of Directors Guidebook was prepared by Angela Wanak. The Guidebook includes the philosophy and policies of EBZEF and the goals and values agreed to in the Strategic Planning retreat held in 2007.

Executive Committee, Linda Bowers chair

Purpose: Make decisions and act on behalf of EBZEF in emergencies and between Board meetings.

The Lumwana West Village Executive Council was established as a counterpart of the EBZEF Executive Committee. Coordinated by Mr. Mbongo Njolomba, Headmaster of Lumwana West Basic School, the Council advises the EBZEF Board on policies for disbursement of funds in Lumwana West and is a resource for the EBZEF Education and Library Committees.

It was agreed that EBZEF will consider supporting Beth's Girls for upper schools other than Mwinilunga High School on a case-by-case basis. Clara Kutemba Njolomba and Janet Mkwakwa attended Mukenge Girls School on an EBZEF scholarship in 2008. This school is one of the best in the area, and it is an honor for the village and EBZEF to have Beth's Girls attend the school.

A policy was recommended by the Executive Committee and adopted by the full Board to support girls who wish to return to school after having a baby.

Life Skills training for Beth's Girls and their families continues to be an area of concern and interest to EBZEF. A Peace Corps Life Skills training program for the Lumwana West community was approved for implementation by PCV Jessica Hillsley in 2009.

Finance Committee, Jennifer Roney chair

Purpose: Keep full and accurate accounts of EBZEF financial records, oversee disbursement of funds, and make regular financial reports to the Board of Directors.

Volunteer bookkeeper Susan Beck left EBZEF in 2008 after establishing a solid financial accounting system. Jennifer Roney assumed the role of EBZEF Treasurer, and Melhorn & Associates PC was hired to do routine bookkeeping and to prepare annual taxes.

Detailed receipts were received from World Vision Zambia, and ADP manager Esther Nkumbwa coordinated with headmasters from both Lumwana West Basic and Mwinilunga High Schools on annual budgets. A Terms of Reference agreement (TOR) was signed with Larry Njolomba in Lumwana West to complement work done on behalf of EBZEF by WVZ and PCPP. These expanding and more frequent contacts in the Lumwana West area helped immensely with managing EBZEF from such a distance.

Education Committee, Angela Wanak chair

Purpose: Monitor scholarship recipients in Lumwana West Basic School and Mwinilunga, Solwezi, and Mukenge High Schools, maintain student lists, and prepare annual letters to Beth's Girls from EBZEF. Administer a competitive selection process, develop criteria for college programs, and provide regular reports to the Finance Committee and the Board of Directors.

A School Project handbook was prepared to assist with fundraising projects by schoolchildren and to educate the children in the process. Members of the Committee met with local schools to discuss EBZEF and how students can become involved.

The Adam Stephens Middle School ESL class sold popsicles during lunch and sponsored a full school assembly to discuss EBZEF and Zambia. The school raised \$558 to donate to EBZEF. South Salem High School Rotary Club volunteers sold EBZEF t-shirts and cards at Zambia Night. They held a rummage sale in December and donated the proceeds to EBZEF.

Publicity/Grant Committee, Jeani Bragg chair

Purpose: Oversee publicity, events, grants and scholarships for EBZEF.

Cassandra Farrin was hired as an intern to prepare a report and handbook to help guide EBZEF grant writing. Several Letters of Inquiry were prepared and sent to foundations in 2008. It was agreed that the first priority for grant applications is the library and the second is Life Skills.

Fund-raising activities held throughout 2008 included publications, events, and preparation of informational materials.

- *Memberships/ Subscriptions*
 - EBZEF is a member of the Nonprofit Association of Oregon
 - EBZEF subscribes to the Chronicle of Philanthropy
- *Events/Presentations*
 - Participated in Willamette University Africa Week
 - Participated in Salem World Beat Festival
 - Participated in the Day of the African Child in Portland
 - Sponsored Annual Zambia Night EBZEF Fund Raiser. Ten Thousand Villages held a silent auction, and the Blue Pepper Café provided the location and food. Both

- shared their revenues with EBZEF. Entertainment was provided by the Sisters of the Desert Moon Dancers.
- Mary Lundeba gave a presentation at the Pennsylvania state PEO convention.
 - The Portland Area Global Aids Commission invited EBZEF to attend its event in Portland.
 - *Informational Materials/Publications*
 - Newsletters were published in May and December and circulated by mail and email.
 - The website continues to be updated to include new and changing information (www.bethsgirls.org)
 - Angela Wanak wrote an essay on Human Rights and Education for the Willamette University Law Journal, using EBZEF as a case study.
 - Michal Wert wrote an article for the Lions International Magazine about her and Linda's family involvement with the Lions Club and how the club helped Beth's Girls in Zambia. The article will be published in 2009.
 - *Professional Educational Opportunities*
 - Linda Bowers attended Technical Assistance for Community Services (TACS) monthly networking meetings.
 - Board members Jennifer Roney, Jeani Bragg, and Linda Bowers attended a three-day course and received certificates in Grant Writing from the Grant Institute at Portland State University.
 - Linda Bowers and Lorenzo Lambertino attended a TACS technology program. Lorenzo plans to hold a workshop with Board members next year on how to use technology effectively to promote EBZEF.
 - Jennifer Roney has been meeting with a non-profit non-government organization (NGO) consortium that is working in Africa, to build a network and website.

Library Committee, Karen Chittick chair

Purpose: Responsible for oversight of library construction and furnishings, shipment of books, librarian oversight, library programs and policies, and general facility maintenance.

A shipment of 22,000 pounds of books arrived in Lusaka and was transported to Lumwana West in summer of 2008. The value of books donated by Books for Africa is \$110,000. World Vision U.S. shared the shipping container and the costs of shipping. Shelves, tables, and chairs were built by local craftsmen and were installed to accommodate the books and the patrons. A photo essay was developed for the EBZEF website following the journey of the books from the U.S. to Lumwana West. This is the largest collection of books in the region. Mr. Njolomba enlisted some of Beth's Girls to help set up the library collection, and there is hope that one of Beth's Girls will complete her education and return as librarian for the Memorial Library.



Certifications of appreciation were prepared by EBZEF for bricklayers and helpers who built the library. EBZEF greatly appreciates the dedicated, hard work of local residents who helped to build and stock the shelves of the Lumwana West Community Library.

The Library Committee developed library/learning center policies to guide library use and literacy/tutoring programs in Lumwana West. These policies are being reviewed and coordinated by a Lumwana West Library Committee to ensure that policies are consistent with Zambian culture.

Research was conducted on library schools in Zambia. The Zamtel Training College in Ndola offers a six-month library science program and is affordable for Beth's Girls. When internet access is provided to the village, library degrees may be available from other countries.

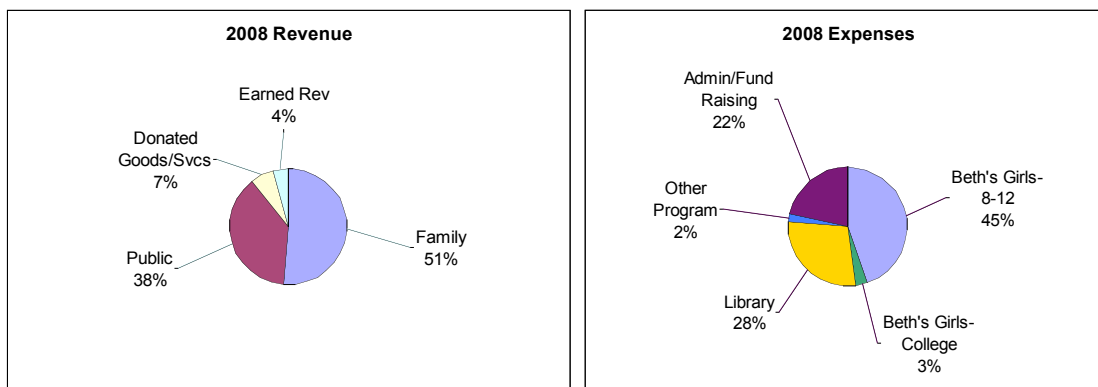
Technology Committee, Michal Wert chair

Purpose: Investigate opportunities for how technology can improve the quality of life for Lumwana West families. Specifically, look at the potential for solar power for the library and computers for students.

Estimates for installing a solar electric system in the library were requested and a Letter of Inquiry was prepared for use by the Grant Committee. Engineers Without Borders (EWB) accepted an EBZEF application for assistance, and discussions are occurring with the Portland Chapter on how EBZEF and EWB can work together to bring electricity to the library.

Financial Status

EBZEF continues to spend the majority of its income (78 percent) for program services. These costs include education and supplies for Beth's Girls in grades 8-12 and college, and construction and books for the Lumwana West Library. Fundraising costs remain low because of the many volunteers who support fundraising activities. A statement of financial activities for 2008 is available upon request.

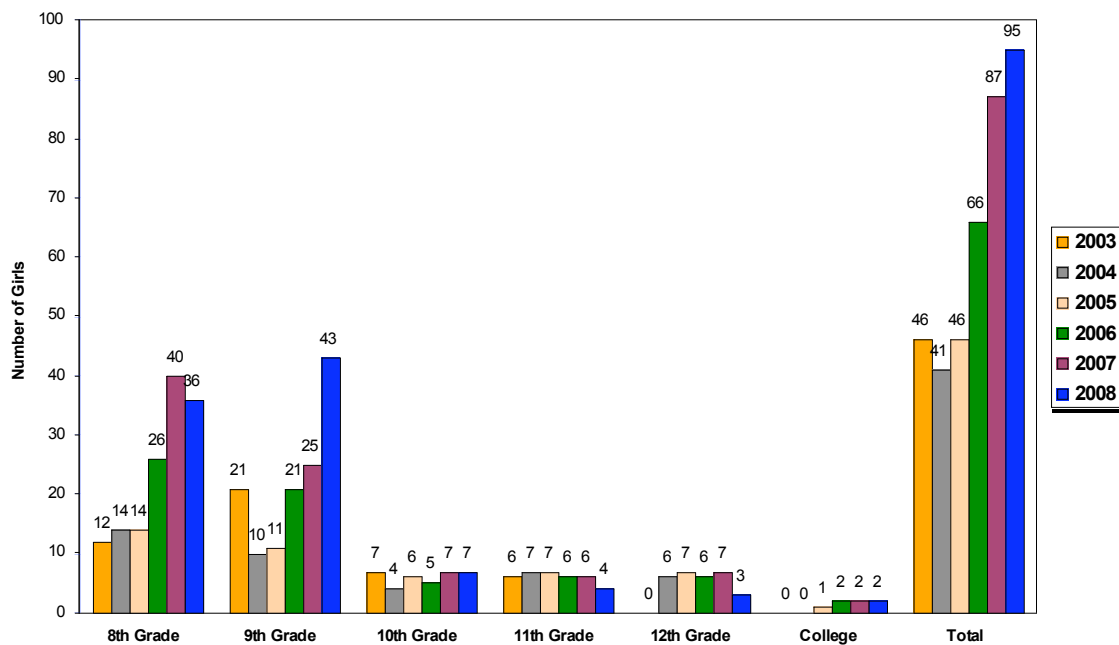


BETH'S GIRLS

The following table and graph show the breakdown of girls supported by EBZEF since the program began in 2003. Educational scholarships for 2008 included school fees, books and supplies, uniforms, tutorial and exam fees, plus room and board for high school students at Mwinilunga, Solwezi and Mukenge High Schools, and college tuition and expenses.

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Grade 8	12	14	14	26	40	36
Grade 9	21	10	11	21	25	43
Grade 10	7	4	6	5	7	7
Grade 11	6	7	7	6	6	4
Grade 12	0	6	7	6	7	3
Subtotal	46	41	45	64	85	93
College	0	0	1	2	2	2
Total	46	41	46	66	87	95

BETH'S GIRLS BY GRADE



Beth's Girls sign an agreement to be diligent in their studies, to live a healthy lifestyle and to mentor younger girls. They and their parents sign contracts that they will support EBZEF's goals and ideals. The girls receive information on Beth and her values and correspond with the Fund to report their progress and discuss their goals for the future. Life Skills training will help Beth's Girls and their families meet the intent of their contracts.



Prudence Masanyinga



Mary Lundeba

Prudence Masanyinga, the first of Beth's Girls to graduate from high school, received a Certificate in Community Development at Chgalimbana Government Training Institute. She took her exams in December for an Advanced Diploma in Rural and Urban Management from the same school.

Mary Lundeba sat for PhD comprehensive exams at Penn State University in December. She is expected to receive her PhD in the summer of 2009. Mary donated \$100 to EBZEF, the first of Beth's Girls to "give back" for the support she has received.

Higher education funding was approved for the following Beth's Girls for studies in 2009:

- Sandra Kamulosu, a one-year program in a Secretarial and Office Management Course, Solwezi Trades Training Institute.
- Angela Kasongo, a one-year program for an Advance Certificate in Food Production, Hotel & Tourism Training Institute Trust at Fairview Training Institute, Lusaka
- Dianah Masumbah, a two-year teacher's training program at Solwezi College of Education

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2009

Education

On recommendation from the Lumwana West Executive Committee, an increased effort will be made to ensure that girls receiving scholarships meet the terms of their contracts. To receive an EBZEF scholarship, girls must work hard and be committed to an education. This will likely reduce the numbers of girls in grades 8 and 9 and will make more money available to help girls wishing a higher education. Working together, EBZEF and the Lumwana West Executive Committee will continue to make an education available to any girl who is willing to work hard and to use the scholarship to improve her quality of life and that of her community.

EBZEF activities in Lumwana West are expected to create job opportunities for Beth's Girls. With training, Beth's Girls can return to the community as librarians, Life Skills trainers, or community organizers/coordinators. It continues to be the goal of EBZEF to become self-sufficient in ten years, and it is hoped that Beth's Girls will have the skills necessary to continue to manage the program.

Library

The Lumwana West Library is the largest library in the region, and the Zambia Ministry of Education is interested in it becoming a regional library. The Ministry will provide staff

assistance to catalogue and stock books and is discussing providing a librarian for the community. EBZEF will help provide housing for a librarian as a condition of assistance from the Ministry.

With the completion of the Lumwana West Library and the arrival of books to stock its shelves, the next major effort will be to install a solar-powered electric system to provide lighting and to power computers and recharge cell phones.

Secondary School

World Vision South Korea is interested in starting the Lunga ADP in Lumwana West. EBZEF is looking forward to working with this ADP and exploring opportunities to establish a secondary school in the community. This would greatly reduce the cost of a secondary school education for all students and would allow children to live at home through grade 12.

Fundraising

Two newsletters a year continue to be the major fund-raising venue. A third newsletter may be published, depending on time and energy of the volunteer work force. Zambia Night continues to be an important venue to share EBZEF with the community and to recognize friends and donors.

EBZEF greatly appreciates the many generous donations received throughout the year that are the heart of the fund-raising program. It is especially gratifying to receive donations from school groups and others who share their time and expertise to support EBZEF.

Administration

The committee structure has been very successful and will continue for 2009. Hiring an intern will be considered to help set up and maintain EBZEF files and to free time for the Executive Director to focus on the programs and fund-raising.

Linda and Gerry will visit Zambia in July 2009 to participate in dedication of the Lumwana West Memorial Library. It is hoped that meetings can be scheduled with World Vision staff that administer the EBZEF finances locally and with representatives of the new WVZ Lunga Area Development Program.

For more information on EBZEF and its partners:

Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund - www.bethsgirls.org

World Vision International - www.wvi.org

Peace Corps - www.peacecorps.gov

Attachment:

A - EBZEF Board of Directors and Advisory Board Members

Attachment A

ELIZABETH BOWERS ZAMBIA EDUCATION FUND

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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