



THE PROTEA

Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

Vol. XIII No. 1

Breaking the cycle of poverty through education

May 2019

Secondary School Report

Secondary School Headmaster Mr. Mbongo Njolomba reports that “the Lumwana West catchment area has grown so much! The number of pupils has increased tremendously.” Classrooms are full to overflowing. Average class size, planned for 50 students per classroom, is currently 60-70 in all classrooms. Furniture from two classrooms is packed into one room to accommodate 70+ senior pupils.

The total for 2019 is 411 pupils: Grade 12 = 90, Grade 11 = 70, Grade 10 = 67, Grade 9 = 60; external (failed 9th grade subject exams) = 63, Grade 8 = 61, an average of 70 students per class. Girls = 177 (43%); boys = 234 (57%). For 2020, 600 pupils are projected, an average of 100 students per class.

“Our students could not learn at all if our donors did not help us in getting this nice furniture and building. However, we appeal to them to help solve this situation. The learning environment in such classrooms is not healthy.”



Fund-raising the Hard Way



EBZEF’s matching fund project stems from Executive Director Linda Bowers’ grant of \$100,000 from a legal settlement for hip replacement recall surgeries. During extended recovery, she insisted, “Something good has to come of this.” Creating educational opportunities for Beth’s Girls and Lumwana West is “good” indeed.

Linda wishes to match her gift before funds are released to continue secondary school construction. The community is desperate for more teachers’ houses and classrooms. Help EBZEF find a way to meet this challenge to fulfill the community’s dream of education for all. How can we find matching funds?

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Every dollar matched up to \$5,000 through July 2019!

The Challenge of Success

To meet the demand for education, EBZEF and the Lumwana West community, with project oversight from World Vision Zambia, hope to build 3 more classrooms, a teacher’s house, and a much-needed boys’ lavatory. In the short-term, the Engineers Without Borders’ science lab will help address classroom needs.



EWB lab tables waiting for tops

Phase II – Fundraising Goals	
Block of three classrooms	\$75,000
Teacher’s house	\$70,000
Boys’ ablution block with septic tank/drainfield	\$41,000
Total	\$186,000

Water Project Update


Lumwana West’s new water system was successfully installed by World Vision Zambia (WVZ) in 2018. However, the bore hole at 45 meters and the pump at 42 meters are not deep enough to sustain the water system. After the rainy season ends in May, WVZ will create “a borehole that is above 60 meters to maintain an unbroken or continuous operation of the water pump without stoppages.” The water system will be officially handed over to the community on completion.

The community water committee agreed to contribute a monthly levy to sustain the water system. They will insure the water system for 2,000 Zambian Kwacha (\$170) annually. The committee has a local caretaker who routinely checks the system and repairs leakages.



Students enjoying clean water!

Educating the Whole Girl

Beth's Girls and Ladies make EBZEF proud! A critical mass of 33 young women are role models, either now attending or graduated from college or vocational schools. Five girls who did not formally graduate from high school studied on their own, passed the qualifying exams for college, and are now EBZEF scholarship recipients. Five more girls await support for 2020. 

Help EBZEF
educate the
Whole Girl!

"If you educate a woman, you educate a family, a community, and a nation."

—Zambian Proverb

First Year Students 2019




Caren Kabulayi (year 1 of 3) studies clinical medicine at Northwestern U. College of Health & Applied Science. "I am so privileged and humbled to receive this scholarship. It has been a burden in my life of going to college. The sponsorship turned my burden into a blessing. I hope to be a clinician someday so I can help girls like me. Your donation boosts my abilities and strengthens my resolve to reach my goals regardless of any challenge."



Rebecca Lubeba studies agriculture (year 1 of 3) at Solwezi Technical Trades School. "I would like to express my heartfelt thank you to the sponsors. Without your help it was not possible. To the Beth's Girls, just believe in yourselves and continue studying hard to be better in the future."

Margret Kambili (year 1 of 3) studies metal fabrication & welding at Solwezi Technical Trades. "Am enjoying my classes. What I say to our sponsors is that your good act of kindness will always be cherished by me, and I thank you so much for everything. May God richly bless you. To the Beth's Girls, to be successful you must accept all the challenges that come your way. It's never too late; just focus; you can do better."



Lucy Mutepuka and **Gracious Chilumbwe** (year 1 of 3, pictured right) both study nursing at NWU College of Health & Applied Science. Gracious says, "I would like to tell all Beth's Girls please study hard and concentrate on one thing. School is the best thing in life." 



Beth's Girls Continuing Studies

Mulenga Chilfya (Northwestern U) and **Joy Salumawu** (Eden U) are in year 2 of 3 studying to be registered nurses. Joy says, "To all my sponsors, I appreciate their love and kindness that they have made me reach this far in my academic work, and in pursuing my career. May God continue blessing you all."

Mulenga tells us, "I really appreciate you for sponsoring me. My parents could not have afforded paying my fees in university. Keep on supporting me, and I promise to put more effort. I encourage my fellow Beth's Girls to put more effort and take school seriously and brighten their future, because some of us wouldn't be in university without your support."

Gloria Njolomba, **Kareen Sweta**, and **Florence Lubeba** are in year 2 of 3 at SW Solwezi Teacher Training College. Gloria says, "I say thank you, thank you, thank you to my sponsors. It's all because of you for who I am today. My words are not enough to express how thankful I am. May the Lord bless you. To my fellow Beth's Girls, I encourage you to work extra hard. This kind of support is not easy. Let's all work hard to impress and motivate our sponsors."

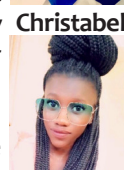
Florence adds, "On behalf of my fellow Beth's Girls and myself, I pour out my

humble thanks to all Elizabeth Bowers partners. Your sponsorship has helped me to realize that dreams do come true and that I can be what I want to be. To my fellow Beth Girls, let's work hard so that we can be role models to our community and our country Zambia."

Belinda Kalumba and **Jean Mutepuka**, Lumwana West pre-school teacher's aides, are studying Early Childhood Education (year 2 of 3) at Zambia College of Education. **Fridah Sakuwunda** also studies Early Childhood Development (year 2 of 3) at Paglory University.

Christabel Sweta is in year 3 of 4 at Evelyn Hone College of Pharmacy. "Thank you so much for the love and support that you are giving me. I promise to put in more efforts in my academics and make you proud at the end of the day. May God bless you!"

Visaka Kapalu is in year 4 of 7 at Lusaka Apex Medical University. "I thank my sponsors for everything you have done and are still doing for me in my career. I have reached this far all because of your support. I really appreciate and thank God for your life and for giving me you, my lovely sponsors. 



Graduating in May

Ruth Sanama, **Sandra Kalumba**, and **Rachael Njolomba** will graduate in May 2019 from South West College of Education. Ruth says, "Congratulations to all my Sponsors! Am now done with my course and waiting for the Graduation Ceremony in May. May our Mighty God keep on blessing them for the great job they are doing." 




Ruth

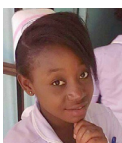
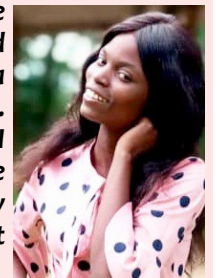
Sandra

Rachael

Success Story

Melba graduated from Roan Antelope School of Midwifery in 2016. She reports:

"I enjoy and love what I do, helping mothers and babies. I have been transferred from Lufwanyama District to Luanshya District. I am very happy as I have been transferred from a rural area to an urban area. To my sponsors, I would not be here without them. May Lord Jesus Christ bless them." 



Mulenga

Joy

Gloria

Kareen

Florence

Belinda

Jean

Fridah

Lunda Lore



Young story writers

The EBZEF Library Committee is working with Librarian Sandra Kamulosu and the community to develop a family/tribal lore writing project. Sandra says "those with interest of writing can compile and illustrate their stories. Elders narrate to the children the history of their families, methods of farming, how to be responsible parents, etc. Since this is done verbally, we can encourage them to put it in writing."

"As a library, we will buy those story books from the writers," a conventional technique when asking tribal members to record their history, especially for outside readers. Sandra will type and bind the stories and add them to the Library collection. In a "Children Helping Children" project, Schirle Elementary School is supporting the legacy book-writing effort with their annual Penny Drive. Grants from the Columbia River Peace Corps Association and the EBZEF Library Committee add to project funding. 🌸

Fish Food

Mary Lundeba demonstrates how to feed fish with commercial food to a smallholder farmer. She explained breeding techniques to him and his family to increase accessibility of fish seed in rural areas in Zambia.

Her work was acknowledged for International Women in Science Day: "WorldFish celebrates the efforts of the first Zambian Female Aquaculture PhD Scientist, Dr. Mary Lundeba, a Doctor and Mother of Fish, always ready for the ponds. She has worked tirelessly and passionately in developing the smallholder fish farming sector in Zambia."

Mary works on a WorldFish project linking smallholder fish farmers to the private sector. This will improve the market for fish production among small farmers. 🌸



Pre-School Update

Lumwana West Pre-School is thriving! Basic School Headmistress Irene Sandu reports, "The 2019 enrollment is overwhelming, such that every parent is excited to bring their children in pre-school. This has come about because of the splendid performance portrayed by those who have passed through pre-school. They are doing very well than those who came straight from home."

Irene reports, "Out of the 80 children for last year [2018], we managed to send 21 pupils to grade one this year [2019]. We remained with 59 to which we have enrolled 40 more this year. So, as of now, we have 99 pupils at pre-school." 🌸

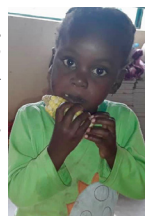


Pre-School Registration January 2019

School Lunch Project

Many children walk far with little nourishment to go to school at Lumwana West. The Zambian government no longer provides funds for school lunches—the only meal some children get in a day. Irene's solution was for the children to grow their own food in a maize-growing project.

EBZEF supplied funds for seed and fertilizer. The children supplied the labor for clearing the area, working the soil, planting the seed, fertilizing & watering the plants—and ultimately harvesting, processing, & eating the crop. The maize field is about 2 hectares (5 acres). 🌸



Eating maize

HELP SUPPORT EBZEF

JOIN our Facebook page:

facebook.com/EBZEF

SHARE posts with your friends.

VISIT our business profile on LinkedIn:

linkedin.com/groups/4036740

CONNECT with Twitter at:

twitter.com/EBZEF

CHECK OUT our website: ebzef.org

facebook

twitter

Linked in

EWB Update



Science Lab near completion

Engineers Without Borders project manager, Tom Franklin, reports that final funds were submitted to "cover the remainder of the science lab project." EWB is planning a final trip to verify/close out the project. Tom says, "we are very excited about completion of this project and how much it will positively benefit the Lumwana West community." 🌸

World Beat Festival

Join EBZEF in the African Village at the World Beat Festival, Oregon's largest multicultural event, on June 29-30 at Salem Riverfront Park. Volunteers to host the booth are welcome! Help us present EBZEF's profile to the Salem community. 🌸



Angela and Lake playing mancala

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.

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:

- Any amount funds books for the Library
- Any amount funds lore writing project
- \$125 funds 1 mo. pre-school aide's salary
- \$300 funds college exam fees
- \$410 funds 1 mo. Librarian's salary
- \$600 funds computer for Library
- \$2,500 funds 1 year of college study
- \$41,000 funds student lavatory
- \$70,000 funds a teacher's house
- \$75,000 funds a 3-classroom building

Amounts vary due to fluctuating exchange rate between US \$ and Zambian Kwacha.

Maize . . . from the field, to the cooking pot, to breakfast!



Mary in northern Zambia



Children writing stories

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.

EBZEF | P.O. Box 294, Salem, Oregon 97308-0294 | 503-585-4605 | www.ebzef.org

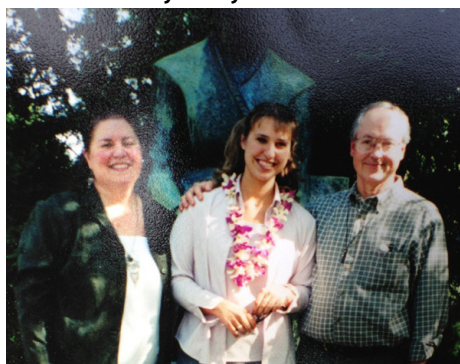
Beth was at home in Lumwana West. She loved the people, and they loved her. It was the right place to express her joyfully compassionate nature. She wanted to "give back" by helping others. As a girl, she often aided schoolmates. Later, she became a Salem Police Cadet. She considered the FBI as a way to help others. After Earlham College, she chose to help as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Zambia. Her journal reveals the joy and industry she experienced living and working in the village.

Emulating Beth's spirit of sacrifice, and inspired by Linda Bowers' leadership, EBZEF has sought to honor Beth's vision of service and global awareness for over seventeen years. Responding to Beth's legacy, the residents of Lumwana West now proudly assert they are a "literate



Remembering Beth

by Gerry Bowers



Linda, Beth, and Gerry

people." Her sacrifice has transformed life in the village, especially for Beth's Girls.

Beth's legacy of giving includes the new community secondary school. Fifteen years ago, Linda said to Larry (now Headmaster of the School), "Let us dream together. Tell me what the village really wants." They dreamed that Lumwana West, so remote from any secondary school, should have a high school of its own.

Today, the dream of EBZEF's commitment to sustainable education persists by working to fund three more classrooms and two more teacher's houses. Linda is seeking matching funds to complement the \$100,000 she recently received as a legal settlement for hip replacement recall surgeries. She and our supporters continue to find meaning in life's experience by carrying forward Beth's vision of global peace and understanding. 