



Orphan Programme Impact Statement for 2019

Aim of SHAREAfrica

The aim of SHAREAfrica is to support fellow Christians and others living in impoverished conditions in Africa by donating, sponsoring and investing in activities that will create opportunities for sustained improvement in living standards. Our current focus is in Zambia and, among the strategies employed, we support orphans by providing the means for them to attend school and, in a few cases, college or university to obtain qualifications to improve their chances of finding employment.



Patricia Chinonge
Programme Administrator

The Zambian Situation

- 53% of the Zambian population is under the age of eighteen.
- Support services for children are inadequate. Many children are undernourished and early child marriage is a particular problem.
- Many orphan guardians and one parent families are unable to pay school fees. Government secondary schools (Grades 8 to 12) charge fees which vary from school to school. Government primary schools (Grades 1 to 7) are not obliged to charge fees but are permitted to charge fees to compensate for underfunding. Private, community and religious schools all charge fees.
- There are not enough government schools in Zambia for the country's growing population.
- Students sit external examinations at the end of grades 7, 9 and 12. Those who pass their grade 12 examinations may, depending on pass marks, qualify for college or university. Achievement at this level is the best route to employment and escape from deep poverty.

- Private schools are not standardised and sometimes the business motive overrides the motive to uphold education standards. Only children that attend government schools are eligible for a government bursary at tertiary level.

SHAREAfrica Response

- SHAREAfrica supports an orphan programme in Zambia operated by SHAREAfrica Zambia. Orphans are selected through local churches according to published criteria. Our definition of an orphan can include those who have lost one parent, in particular those who have lost a father, the mother being left desolate, as well as other vulnerable children.



Well qualified students are also supported to follow further or higher education courses and we are pleased to report that this year three students graduated.

- As well as paying fees as required, qualifying orphans are provided with additional benefits according to their needs. The Programme does not support private schools.
- The catchment area is Lusitu and Siavonga in Southern Province, Nampundwe, Sichoobo, Mumbwa and Serenje in Central Province and various neighbourhoods of Lusaka. All these areas suffer from high poverty levels.
- All children are visited by SHAREAfrica Zambia staff at least once every term. These visits include school, home and local churches. Church leaders and members know the children that come to their church and monitor the children's church attendance and spiritual growth.
- Information is collected from school teachers, church leaders, guardians and the children themselves. As well as their academic performance and general conduct, each child's general welfare is monitored and appropriate support provided. Visit reports and official school academic reports are published on the SHAREAfrica website to be viewed by each child's UK sponsor.

Impact of Programme

	Pre-school	Primary	Secondary	2019 Total	2018 Total
Number of Children	2	121	74	197	189
		Possible	Actual	2019 %	2018 %
Number commenced Secondary School		14	12	86%	74%
Number passed Grade 12 examinations		11	8	73%	N/A
			Actual	2019 %	2018 %
Number of dropouts			7	3%	2%
Number of new children			20	10%	7%
				2019	2018
Number of sponsors				138	132

Feedback



Grace

When Grace, aged seven, and her mother were told that Grace had been sponsored they were both very happy. Grace's mother said, "Grace is young and I am a widow. I worry a lot about educating her because I don't have a job. Even though I do pieces of jobs here and there, life is a struggle. I am so happy. I will play my role to ensure that my daughter is educated".



Fridah



Fridah has lost both her parents and her auntie, who is blind, is now her guardian. Fridah has another auntie who is also blind and when she is not in school she acts as a guide for both of them. When Fridah received the news that she had been sponsored, she was very happy and even though a bit shy she couldn't hide her smile. The two aunties were openly happy. They sang and danced in appreciation. Fridah's guardian said, "I love Fridah a lot. She helps me a lot; as you can see I am blind. I want the best for her but I am blind and cannot provide much for her. This makes me worry a lot about her future. Now that you have come in to help her, I can only say God has answered my prayers. Knowing that she has a chance to be educated is a big relief to me. I will continue to pray that she really becomes educated so that in future she can help me in a better way. May God continue to bless the sponsors of this programme".

Information about the Orphan Programme
is available on the SHAREAfrica web site :

www.shareafrica.com

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