

# CHIREZDI CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S VILLAGE 2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER REPORT



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### INTRODUCTION

The second quarter was a fruitful. The school performance of last term was very promising. Our psychosocial support activities were very helpful and result-oriented. Devotions and church activities were very blessed to most of the children. Not forgetting our village projects which are excelling; i.e preschool, chicken project, bee project to mention just a few.

### CURRENT STATISTICS

The Chiredzi Christian Children's Village residential care program serves children from the Lowveld which is in the South Eastern part of Zimbabwe. Children come to Chiredzi Christian Children Village after experiencing significant trauma like grief, loss, neglect and/or abuse and live with us with caring staff in a family set-up.

	MALE	FEMALE
<b>2-3 YEARS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>4-6 YEARS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>7-10 YEARS</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>11-15 YEARS</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>16-18 YEARS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>

The table above clearly shows that we have got children of all different ages Zvikomborero being the youngest and Loveness being the oldest. We have got more boys than girls this time. During this quarter no one was discharged.

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### New children

Among the 53 children we have, only 2 are new and these are Rafael and Tsakane. Rafael is a 5 year old boy, who is very talkative and active. Tsakane is a bashful four-year-old girl who struggled to speak the local language (Shona) when she arrived, but she only required a week to become fluent.



### CCCV Academic Points of Interest for 2nd Quarter

- ❖ During the first term, 80% of all children tested better in reading on initial assessment testing.
- ❖ By the end of the term, 66% of children in Grade 1 and 2 had shown improvement in their reading scores on follow-up assessment testing. 22% of those children improved their scores by more than a grade level. Stella, Polite and Lavish being the best.
- ❖ 100% of children in Grade 4 performed well. Anesu, Denzel, Blessing and Pardon being phenomenal.

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- ❖ On Grade 5, Vision was exceptionally good, whilst Innocent improved from what he did the previous term.
- ❖ Memory in Grade 6 proves to be a hard-worker, though she was still new to the environment
- ❖ 50% of those in Grade 7 did very well
- ❖ 90% of those in High School managed to attain at least 2 subjects and 25% managed to attain 5 subjects and above. Witness being the best of them
- ❖ Tutoring sessions were offered with an attendance rate of 90%. Tinashe and Granny Violet are facilitating in these sessions.

**Note:** Data for Assessment testing is based on children who are at CCCV going to different schools and managed to write first term assessment test. The assessment was also made by our tutors Granny Violet and Tinashe. Moreover, those children who did very well managed to get some prizes. Prizes are incredibly essential because they stimulate people to keep doing excellent while also putting pressure on those who struggle to get better.

### **HALFWAY HOUSES**

In the halfway house, currently we have got 9 children namely Tinashe, Desmond, Brighton, Simon, Tinashe, Simbarashe, John, Vivian and Rutendo. Vivian (Degree in Accounting), Tinashe (Diploma in Fabrication Engineering) and Desmond (Degree in Accounting) are finishing their courses in August. Simon and Tinashe Mubaira managed to get courses to do in Harare. Simon is doing a certificate in Capentry with Young Africa Academy and Tinashe Mubaira is doing a National Foundation Certificate in Food Preparation with One Accord School of Hospitality. John (Bachelors of Social Work) and Simbarashe (Bachelors of Electrical Engineering) are all starting their industrial internship in August.

### **PRE-SCHOOL**

The pre-school is one of our projects that is critical to our survival, [particularly in terms of] Halfway House expenses. The pre-school monies finance the costs, rent, and transportation of our halfway house boys and girls who attend various universities and colleges around Zimbabwe. Furthermore, it allows some of our little children to receive education while still on the premises.

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They no longer need to go a considerable distance to a neighboring school. They are also able to mingle and mix with other children from the community (who are enrolled at the pre-school).

### **PROJECTS**

We are undertaking various projects which are very important in making our village a place to be and visit. These address various aspects in as far as the village is concerned. Some projects are sustaining some of our day to day activities and some are improving the general outlook of the village. They also provide basic skills to children. As children engage in some of these projects, they learn about how the world around them works and develop confidence in their ability to figure things out. They learn how to work collaboratively with so as to come out with better outcomes which will be even important to them after living care. Children are given opportunity to use their capabilities to contribute to the group while also learning to recognize the strengths and abilities of others. They progressively gain confidence in their own abilities and perseverance as they gain satisfaction from conquering difficulties and solving issues. This is one of the Chiredzi Christian Children's Village's objectives.

### **HOUSE (FAMILY) GARDENS**

Each household has its own garden from which it obtains food. They raise a variety of crops in their gardens, including cabbages, tomatoes, maize, and carrots, to name a few. With these gardens, we hope to teach children basic skills that will enable them to generate their own income after they leave care. Given the country's socioeconomic position, skills like gardening will assist individuals in providing for their families in the future.

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### **BEE PROJECT**

Our Bee project is flourishing and it is giving some of our children relevant skills which are of great importance in the Zimbabwean society. We are trying to make more beehives so as to keep more bees. Kudakwashe from the John Mark House is the one who is in charge of the bee project.



### **ORCHARD**

Our orange orchard didn't yield much this year, and according to experts from the Hippo Valley Estates Forestry Department, this was due to the trees being very old and so needing to be pruned. As a result, with the help of the specialists, we were able to prune our trees while also planting new trees in the orchard. Our children Noah and Pardon are in charge of the orchard.

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### THE CHICKEN PROJECT

The chicken project is one of our viable projects. It is providing the village with eggs which are improving the diet of our kids. We are also generating some income from this project and we are now supplying our eggs to different clients and we are hopeful that it will be a bigger project in the future. Nomatter, Memory and Rumbidzai are those who are in charge of the chicken project. They feed the chickens as well as selling the eggs.

### AQUAPONICS

The aquaponics project started in the first quarter and we started it as an experiment. The results clearly shows that it has got the potential to produce more if it is done in a large scale. Currently, from the experiment, we managed to produce health tomatoes and the fish are growing well and we area hopeful that this project will be a success. It is also another skill which our kids are being equipped with.



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On psychosocial support, we are trying our best in making sure that our children are being helped in a way that makes them feel psychosocially well. We have got victims of sexual abuse who always need support so that they can adjust to normal life. Individual and group counselling is being used to enhance the social and psychological functioning of these kids. Counselling is also being done as a way of behaviour changing among the kids. Children always want to experiment, therefore with counselling, they will be able to know more about good character and good behaviour. Children are also being educated about puberty and Sexually Reproductive Health. This is one of the most important lesson to children because it addresses issues of health, hygiene to mention just a few. We interact with kids, share stories, play games, sing songs and dance together as a way of refreshing their minds and this usually creates a strong bond between children and the member of the staff.

### **CHURCH AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION**

Children who fear the Lord and be the future leaders of the church. In April, some of our children who are between 12 to 18 years managed to attend an Easter Conference at Gunikuni Church of Christ. It was a wonderful experience to the kids because they learnt much in as far as the gospel is concerned.

Apart from that devotions are done at the village at the village every day. These devotions are very important to kids because they always know much about the gospel. AWANA games also played a role in the spiritual formation of our children. They covered various issues which include character building, team building, fearing God to mention just a few. The Chaplain is doing a great job.

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### VISITORS

During the quarter under review we received Donna Burris Stroop's team from the United States (accompanied by other colleagues from Zimbabwe Christian College). We had a wonderful experience with them and their interaction with the kids was great. The relationship which they created was very mutual and everyone is now missing this team.



They organized a birthday party for all our children below the age of 5. It was all smiles for the kids, as they blew balloons and eat their cake.

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ECD children enjoying their birthday celebration

Donna and team also organized a Mother's Tea and they managed to learn more on the upkeep of children. This was a good gesture in supporting our caregivers emotionally and psychologically.



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They also organized a super supper (dinner) for the village. It was all about delicacies since kids realize that dinners are all about eating things they don't ordinarily eat. There were cakes and ice cream, to name a few. It was a wonderful day to remember.



*Children enjoying dinner*

Brent Josephs (Miles) was likewise also received and welcomed at the Village. He is a great man of God who is well-known among children due to his camera and beard. Children referred to him as VaMandebvu (Mr Beard). He also provided ideas for growing trees in the orchard to the grounds men.

## **DONATION**

We also received donations from a variety of well-wishers. We'd like to thank our sponsors from the United States and around the world for making things happen here. May the Most High God bless you. We'd also want to thank our local sponsors for their ongoing support. Pick 'N' Pay Supermarkets generously provided 52 blankets, which arrived just in time for the winter season. We would also want to thank the Village Church of Christ (Chiredzi) for contributing groceries to the Village.

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Blankets *and* groceries donated by TM supermarket and Village Church of Christ respectively

### **FUTURE PLANS**

We have many plans for the Village and our wish is to make the village a happy place to be for the kids and all the visitors. We wish to improve our security by installing a Razor Wire fence right round the Village wall. This will protect us from intruders.

We also wish to build a kiosk/tuckshop at the Halfway house which we can use to sell some groceries as well as some of produce from our projects for example eggs and so on.

We also need to start a broiler project. A broiler project will make our chicken project complete since we currently have layers.

We are also planning to construct a workshop where various activities like carpentry, welding to mention just a few. We wish to equip our children with these practical skills, just to pave way for a better life in the future.

### **CONCLUSION**

According to the report, many activities are being carried out in the village, and it is our goal to raise children who will be able to live on their own after leaving care. To all of our local and international partners, may the Almighty God continue to bless you for everything you do to care for these children.

**THANK YOU!!!!**

**TATENDA!!!!**