KIDS ALIVE COUNTRY UPDATE 2022

Zambia

Zambia is rich in culture, natural wonders, and resources, and is a favorite destination for tourists from all around the world. The home of Victoria Falls and national parks teaming with "Africa's Big Five" (elephants, rhino, cape buffalo, leopards, and lions), is also known for hospitality and warm, friendly people who generously welcome visitors. Nearly 19 million people call Zambia home.

Zambia's economy is driven by mining, agriculture, livestock (fisheries), and tourism, and has been considered one of the fastest growing economies on the African continent. Despite the natural resources and promising economic forecasts, poverty persists. And the impact of Covid-19 over the past two years continues to affect those who struggle most, and contributes to troubling issues:

- Hunger and poverty
- Child abuse
- Lack of access to healthcare
- Illiteracy
- Teenage pregnancy and teen marriages
- Increasing suicide and divorce rates



KIDS ALIVE COUNTRY UPDATE 2022

Kids Alive in Zambia

At Kids Alive in Zambia, we address these challenges and care for **582 children** through four ministry sites:

- Lilato Children's Home
- Chikondi Children's Home

- Kids Alive Academy
- Misisi Keeping Families Together

Our teams at these sites offer the following types of interventions:

Preventive programs

- Mentoring and discipleship
- Schools, classroom instruction
- School supplies, tuition for government schools where needed
- Sports Program
- Medical, mental health, and dental care"
- Meals for children

Strengthening programs

- Trauma counseling
- Art therapy
- Social worker assistance with securing government services

Restorative programs

- Residential care
- Family reintegration
- Foster family placement
- Family mentoring and strengthening

Systems programs

- Legal advocacy and representation
- Advocacy and training with government institutions



Director update

Greetings in the name of Jesus! God's goodness to Kids Alive Zambia continues and we are grateful for your prayers!

This past year, we celebrated the reunification of almost all our children into families and shifted our focus from residential care to working with families. The staff who had cared for the children, some for as long as 10 years, were very sad to say goodbye. There were tears of joy and sadness but we basked in the happiness of seeing the wonderful smiles of children reunited to father, mother, uncle, or auntie.

Even as those children moved on, new ones arrived on our doorstep. And we are developing two new programs focusing on helping children who are "off the radar": giving remedial care and hope for babies with their moms in prison while seeking long-term empowerment for their families; a program to locate and transform children living on the street to provide them with another chance at life and, most importantly, knowing Christ. Another area of focus this year will be continued development of and growth of our work with girls who are victims of sexual abuse. We will be providing temporal relief as part of our goal of achieving long-lasting healing for these girls who have been so deeply wronged at such a young age.

In 2022, Kids Alive Zambia will:

- Launch the Spring of Life program which will respond to the needs of babies in prison with their mothers.
- Scale up our prevention of child separation from family through our care center. Programs offer physical, emotional, and psychological support to children and families.
- Establish the Isaiah Center, which will be a home of healing and justice for girls who are victims of sexual abuse.
- Establish a holistic reintegration process for children on the street.

We met turbulence this year, and as we sought the Lord in prayer for direction and strength to go on, He spoke to us through Galatians 6:9, where we are encouraged not to be weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

We will not give up!

Chantry Mweemba Country Director, Zambia

KIDS ALIVE COUNTRY UPDATE 2022.

John is helping others change their world

John boasts of having learned a lot academically and spiritually while at Kids Alive, and this was mostly through the lessons provided by the house parents and friends. For this he remains eternally grateful, as the knowledge he acquired over the years is what he now applies in his day-to-day business.

During his stay in our residential home, life was not always smooth. Sometimes he would pick quarrels and provoke trouble with friends and staff. However, these misunderstandings proved to be helpful for John, helping him know how to handle life's hurdles, and practically live out his relationship with Jesus.

As a result of John's love for Christ, he started a church for children and neighbors in the area. This church, though still in its infant stage, is growing by leaps and bounds. Programs and activities are geared to children, and they love coming, all the while learning more of what it means to follow Jesus! He has also opened a community library and night school for adults, age 25 and above, who did not have access to education growing up. He's already hired two teaching staff for the 100+ students enrolled.

"I was privileged to learn, I too should give an opportunity to others to learn and live a good life," John said.

Not only is John reaching out to his community, but he is providing for his parents and siblings. This young man imitates Christ's example, "Do nothing out of selfish ambition...Rather, in humility value others above yourselves...looking to the interests of others." Phil 2:4 (NIV)

"...under his wings you will find refuge; His faithfulness will be your shield and rampart." Psalm 91:4b (NIV)

John (pictured bottom right) with his community library and night school students.



Thank you for faithfully standing with us as we see God's faithfulness to the children of Zambia!