

2021 | 10th Edition

African Vision of Hope

NEWS

Celebrating Stories of **COURAGE**

I DID NOT THINK
I WOULD
SURVIVE

page 6

THE WORD
ORPHAN
DOES NOT DEFINE
THEM...

page 15

AFRICAN
vision of hope

africanvisionofhope.org

Be STRONG



943 children attend the African Vision of Hope School in Chongwe, Zambia.

OUR MISSION

African Vision of Hope is a Christian organization committed to bringing immediate and lasting solutions to children and families living in extreme poverty. We confront the root causes of poverty by providing opportunities to be educated, grow up healthy, develop leadership and economic skills, and learn about God's love.

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& COURAGEOUS

- Deuteronomy 31:6 ESV



Cover Girls: 4th grade students at Chongwe

OUR VISION

Our vision is for every child and family in Zambia to be released from extreme poverty and have the ability to fulfill the purpose that God has for their lives.



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*Names of children and families in this publication have been changed to protect their privacy.

Sometimes, superheroes reside in the hearts of small children fighting big battles.

*One of the most powerful forces on earth
is the prayer of a child.*



It's a privilege to share this magazine with you; it's a labor of love telling the stories of suffering, triumph, courage and of hope. Every story shared is sacred, a gift entrusted to each of us. As I sit with pencil and notebook listening to our children in Zambia, I realize how poor I am and how rich they are—rich in wisdom, perseverance, and faith. They have much to teach me about joy and sorrow and, most importantly, dependence on God. As you travel these pages, please take time to enter their lives, celebrate the victories you've helped win, and suffer alongside of those who are waiting for their prayers to be answered.

My prayer is you will encounter Jesus in each of these stories. He is a God of miracles, and He still slays giants and moves mountains. Thank you for praying, advocating and speaking out for the “least of these” whose very lives depend on us to lean in to the whispers of God and be obedient. What is he saying? Might you be the one God is sending? Might you be the answer to someone else's prayer?

“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 18:10 ESV

*There are many people battling the Goliaths in each
of these children's lives - thank you for standing firm
in the battle.*

Serving with you,

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Judi".

Judi Bertels
President/CEO



YOU
ARE

Training & Sustaining

Vocational programs in farming, carpentry, welding and sewing are providing training and harnessing economic development for communities.



YOU
ARE
PROVIDING

Christ-Centered Education

3,800 vulnerable and orphaned children go to school every day, guided by teachers who provide compassion, wisdom and point them to Jesus.



YOU
ARE

Rescuing & Restoring

128 children are living in 4 rescue homes. Every day you bring freedom, joy and restoration to children who have been victimized and exploited.



YOU ARE Investing in Future Generations

Your giving transforms lives from sickness to health, broken to whole, despair to hope, powerless to leader and poverty to possibility.



YOU
ARE

Cultivating Innovation

Nurturing skills in math, science, technology and robotics will provide graduates with the skills needed to unleash the potential needed for economic growth in Africa



YOU
ARE
PROVIDING

Nutrition & Clean Water

Every week 18,500 vitamin fortified meals are served to hungry children who depend on this meal. Each campus has sanitation and deep wells providing clean water and keep children healthy and in school.



YOU
ARE

Developing Godly Leaders

765 students have graduated from high school and have developed skills to contribute to helping their families, community and country. They are disciples who are raising up other disciples.



BECAUSE **YOU** TOOK
Action:

935,131

hot lunches were
served in 2020

300,000

people are provided
clean water every day

3,800

children are provided an
education every day

765

students have completed
high school

156

graduates have received
college scholarships

13,911

hours were donated by
volunteers in 2020

Thank You!



Bertha, a grade 2 student, hauling water from
an African Vision of Hope well near her home.

For I was Hungry

“...and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink...” - Matthew 25:35 ESV

Food is Fuel

6-year-old John would have gone hungry.

John walks to school every day, over 2 hours each way. He and 3,800 other children depend on their healthy school lunch to grow, stay healthy, and keep up with school work. When COVID-19 closed schools, children like John, who relied on this lunch, had nothing to eat. Because of you, our teams went door to door and village to village, delivering life-saving food.



You've Satisfied their Thirst

2nd grader Bertha has clean water within reach.

When we met her, she was walking 3 miles each way to get water. For children in Zambia, not having access to clean water means less time to attend school or study and a constant battle with parasites. Today, Bertha and her community have access to a deep well only a 5-minute walk from their village.

They no longer have to walk long distances, stand in long lines, or be limited by the amount of water they can use each day. You installed 3 new sustainable deep wells providing long-term solutions for rural communities, saving and changing lives.



That they may be called Oaks of Righteousness



Sub-Saharan African has more children in child labor than the rest of the nations of the world **combined**.



Phizwell, a Child Protection Officer at our school in Chongwe

“...give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness...” - Isaiah 61:3 ESV

When you walk the streets and villages of Zambia you meet multitudes of children whose parents have died leaving them orphaned and vulnerable.

They are taken by oppressors and disregarded by the world. They lose their name, any contact with relatives and their childhoods are stolen. They live in a vicious cycle continuing throughout generations unless someone steps in. With your help we are combating these crimes against children.

Every single African Vision of Hope school has two child protection officers who serve as first responders. They have the highest level of trust and confidence and are the direct point of contact for the children. Day and night they respond with urgency to allegations, collaborate with schools, challenge the abuser and work with government agencies so the child can be moved to a safe environment.

Phizwell is a child protection officer who has lived the story of each of these children. He was rescued, moved into a safe home, graduated from African Vision of Hope school and was awarded a college scholarship. After he graduated college, Phizwell felt called to use his passion to do the same for other children. Rescue homes save lives, provide freedom to play, sleep in peace, become a member of a loving & caring family, and learn how to be a child.

As these children are counseled and educated, they heal and become leaders. They are excited to step into their future so they can impact their communities and the next generation. ***Their mourning has turned to joy and they will be called oaks of righteousness.***



In 2010, when we met Clara (right), she was living in a child-led household in the village.



Clara and Chance today.

Clara was rescued, and now lives at the Girls House of Hope Rescue Home with her 38 sisters and House Mother, Chance. Clara and her sisters share chores, like cooking and washing the dishes.



Future location of Hope Village Chongwe

Zambia has one of the highest rates of sexual violence against girls in the world.

Currently, we have

4

Rescue Homes

128

Children Rescued

Rescue Homes Provide:

- ☀ Freedom and safety from violence
- ☀ Clean water
- ☀ Christ-centered education
- ☀ Nutritious meals
- ☀ Family support/counseling and mentoring
- ☀ Learning their worth in Christ

Coming 2021-2022

Hope Village Chongwe

6

Rescue Homes for

144

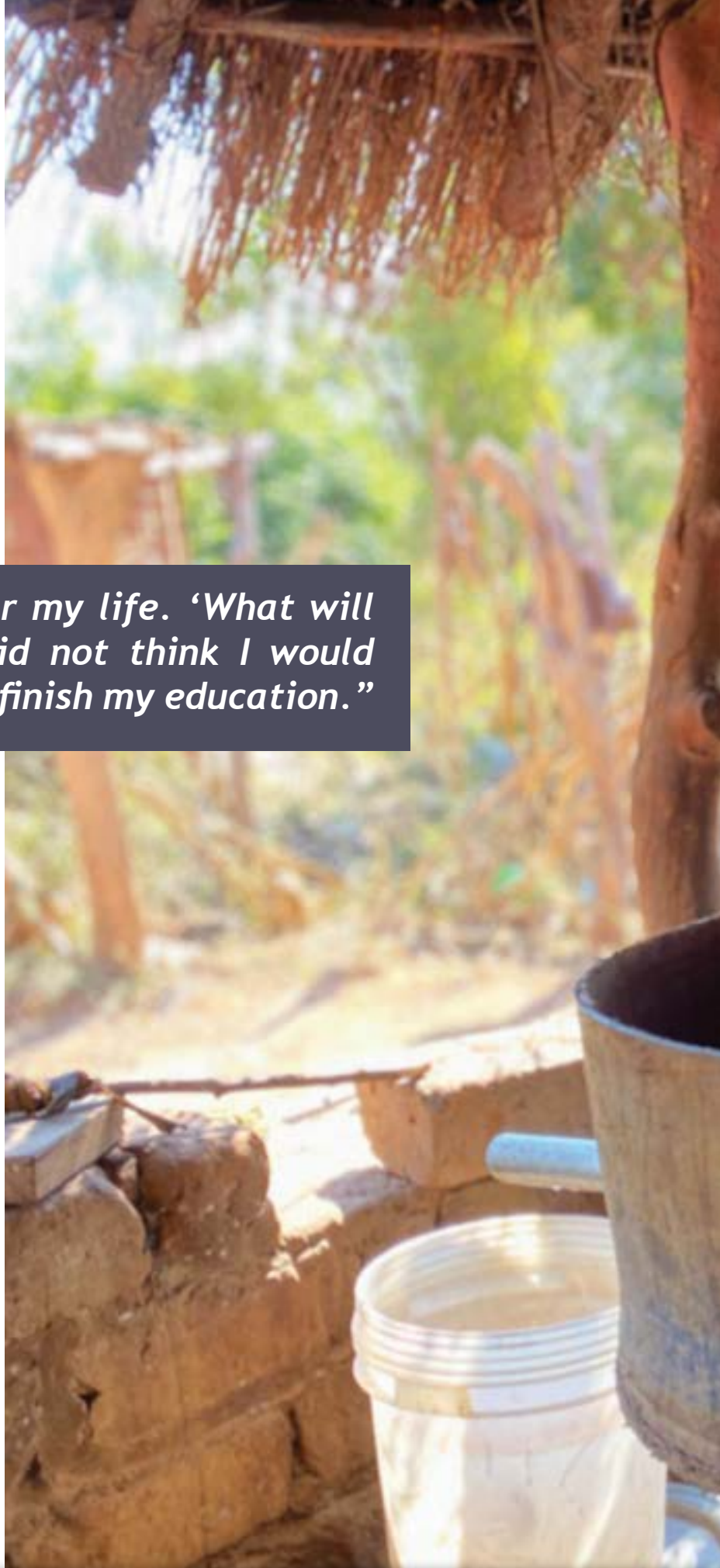
Children



Scan News & Updates

Hannah didn't want to live anymore. She had no way out of her nightmare. Her father was dead and her mother had disappeared.

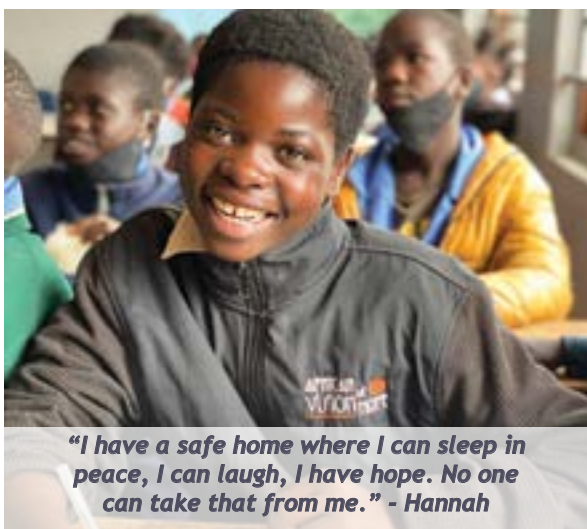
In order to survive, Hannah became someone else's property. The roof over her head was not free. If she did not obey she was beaten, forced to sleep outside, and deprived of food. During her captivity, she was subjected to demonic oppression through traditional witchcraft.



“Everyday I was fearful for my life. ‘What will happen to me today?’ I did not think I would survive to see my future or finish my education.”

Because of you, Hannah has been rescued and freed from bondage. African Vision of Hope Child Protection Officers intervened and moved her into the Hope Village Rescue Home where she received counseling and began to heal. Through much prayer, Hannah's spiritual and physical health have been restored. She is now a 5th grader at the African Vision of Hope School in Chongwe and looking forward to a future filled with hope.

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.” - Proverbs 31:8 NIV



“I have a safe home where I can sleep in peace, I can laugh, I have hope. No one can take that from me.” - Hannah



Hannah was forced into child labor in order to survive.

YOU ARE Turning Challenges into Opportunities

In 2020, our graduate students put together a 5-year plan to provide skills training, create jobs, and give back to the ministry, now their family. This plan is called “*Vision Enterprise.*”

Developed by our global teams, the long-term program includes carpentry, sewing, welding, and farming.

During their training, youth and adults learn important business and leadership skills, engage in leading Bible studies, and mentor others. They are passionate about helping their communities grow stronger and seeing generations lifted out of extreme poverty.



Sewing & Design

The Sewing Team is led by Sophia. Together, they have made over 800 uniforms this year, along with face masks for students. They also design, sew and sell clothing. Tabitha is the tailoring instructor. She trains men and women in the trade of sewing and tailoring passing on her knowledge, teaching self-sufficiency and producing an income.



Farming

It has been an amazing year on the farm. This year's rainy season provided a bountiful harvest of corn, tomatoes, greens, and onions. The chicken and poultry houses are full of 600 chicks every 5.5 weeks, then they head to market. The hammer mill has been buzzing and we welcomed 10 new bee hives to produce honey and pollinate 10,000 newly planted tomatoes.



Carpentry

The carpentry team has been learning to make bookshelves, desks, and storage cabinets for African Vision of Hope schools.



Welding

This is the first year for welding. The equipment has arrived; the team is trained and ready. They will be making metal doors, gates, windows, security bars, and school desks.

Margaret
at school with
her friends.

From Sickness...

to Health

Margaret
with scabies.

Thinking she was bewitched, Margaret's grandmother took her to a local witch doctor.

She is only 11 years old, but her grandmother thought she was bewitched when her skin began breaking out in painful sores. Margaret was taken from one healer to next, but she was never cured; she only got worse. The family had used all their money on healers and could not afford to buy food. Every moment of her life was painful - bathing, putting on clothes, and sleeping. She could no longer attend school.

Child Protection Officers were alerted about her absence from school and went to her village to find her. They were able to take her to the hospital where she was diagnosed with scabies.

Margaret has fully recovered and returned to school. "I missed my school, my teachers, and my friends very much."

You have healed her wounds, provided medical care, and shown her the love of Jesus. You have transformed her life!



Keeping children healthy in school is a priority for our team and our nurse, Clementina. Every day they provide education on clean water, sanitation, hygiene, HIV/AIDS, myths, and misconceptions. Our team has to act quickly before treatable diseases become life-threatening. When children are healthy they are able to walk to school, pay attention in class, and fight diseases keeping them out of the classroom.

The Rescued Becomes the Rescuer

Zambia is one of the poorest, most AIDS-devastated countries in the world. This disease has left behind an entire generation of orphans. This was Joseph's story.

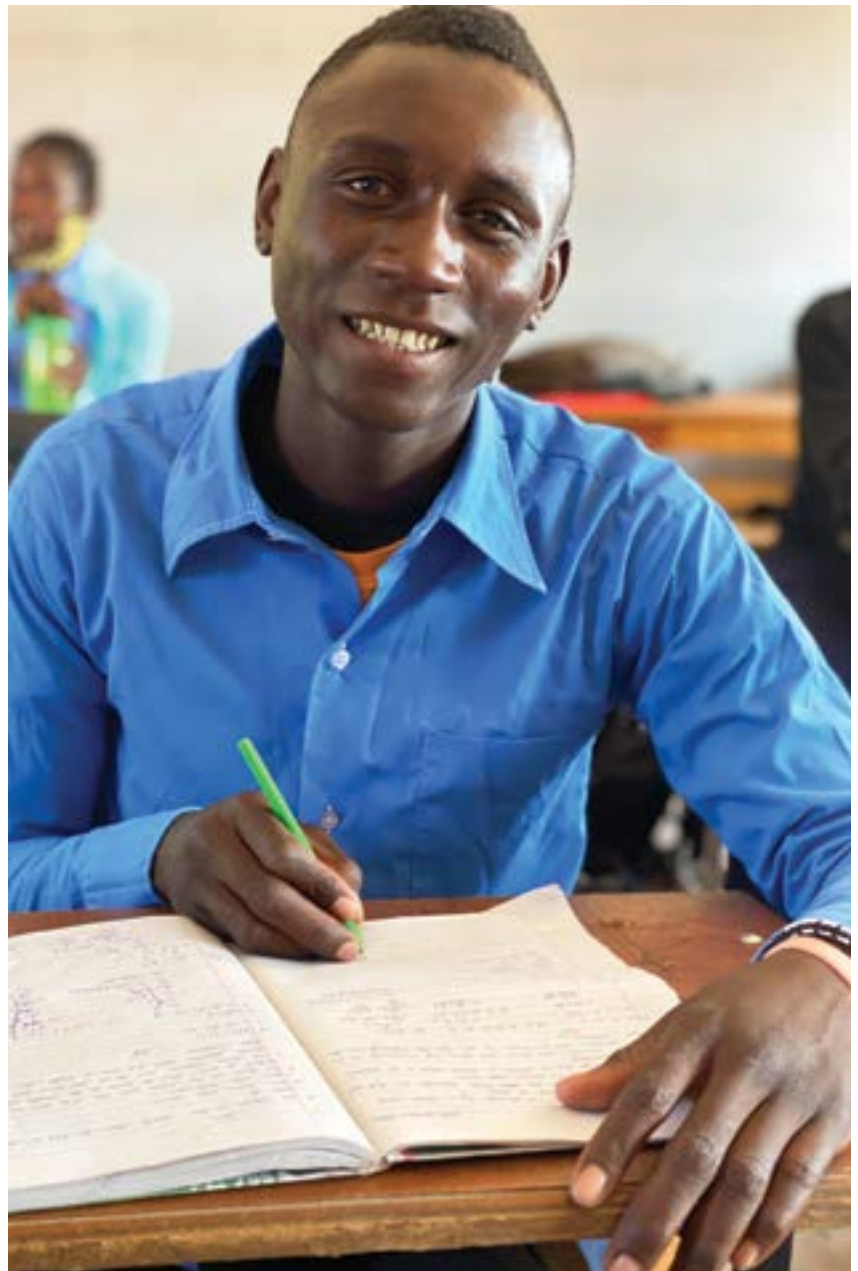
Joseph was one of the first students to be enrolled at African Vision of Hope School in 2003.

Right after he started school, both of his parents died leaving Joseph and his sisters as defenseless orphans, searching for anyone who would give them shelter or food. Joseph was 5 years old when he was forced to sell homemade beer in the shanty compounds.

"I was told 'If you don't work, you will not have shelter or food.' We were beat with electric cables. I felt hopeless and thought I would never find anyone who cared for me. My sisters left to get married, thinking it would lead to a better life." - Joseph

Joseph quit school at age 6 and went to live in the streets, sleeping in drainage ditches, drinking dirty water, begging and going through garbage dumps for food. When the rains came, he would sleep sitting up or in a nearby graveyard.

"I lived in the streets for 6 years. I never bathed, never had shoes, never changed clothes. I wanted to return to school, but I felt dirty and unworthy."



Joseph in his 10th grade classroom at African Vision of Hope School in Kabulonga.

"I'd never slept in a bed, never had anyone talk with me about life, or tell me about God."



Joseph when he first started school at African Vision of Hope.



Program Director Kennedy Hakobwa reading the Bible to Joseph in his room at our Rescue Home.



Joseph and his nieces and nephews that have been enrolled at African Vision of Hope School.

2003

2014

Today

"I'm glad I choose not to give up on my dreams of getting an education. I am not leaving things to chance. I will work hard so that there will be a brighter future for myself and others that come behind me."

In 2010, Joseph walked to a home at the nearby seminary to beg for food. The family took him in, gave him medicine, a place at their table, prayed for him, and became his family. He went back to school at African Vision of Hope and started grade 1, moving into the boys rescue home on campus. Joseph was given a Bible, but he didn't know how to read. Pastors and friends took turns reading it to him.

"I started learning who God was. In 2016 I received Christ as my Lord. I love Proverbs 6:16-19, which says there are 6 things which the Lord hates. All of those things were part of my life before I was rescued, but now my life is transformed and I have been made new."

Once Joseph knew the value of education, it was his passion to go back and rescue his nieces and nephews and give them the opportunities his sisters never had. He helped his sisters start a small vegetable market, allowing them to provide a sustainable income for their families, ending their cycle of extreme poverty.

"When I came to African Vision of Hope I saw the importance of school. I made it my mission to help my nieces and nephews access that same opportunity. I feel so happy knowing that they are able to be educated, grow up healthy, and develop into men and women who know God."



Half of all children ages 15-17 in sub-Saharan Africa are not in a classroom - the highest proportion for any region worldwide, **keeping them in a cycle of extreme poverty and extinguishing the dreams and potential of the next generation who can have a lasting impact on their family, community and country.**



Cultivating an Innovation Mindset

Our graduates are developing an innovation mindset that will prepare them to become Zambia's future leaders.

Zambia is in a prime position to educate a new highly skilled workforce. With this enormous potential, it is critical for education to reach new levels that can promote STEM jobs.

Due to the lack of STEM workforce, most of these types of jobs in African today are outsourced. In order to ensure a bright future for Zambia, we are focusing on investing in educational resources and teachers to produce highly qualified graduates. Every campus will be expanding to include chemistry and biology labs. In 2022, the African Vision of Hope STEM high school will open its doors to students who will contribute to Zambia's potential in these fields.

Robotics Clubs are growing on African Vision of Hope Campuses. This year, 33 students and teachers attended the 3rd annual Robotics Camp, where they worked with simple machines, learned about mechanical aspects of robotics systems and other physics and engineering concepts. Students then programmed the robots to perform tasks and learned beginner computer science concepts, culminating in a fun competition between the kids fueling the desire to participate and learn.



Zambia has one of the highest percentages of population under 18 years of age - 52.6%. It has immense potential to develop and drive its local and global economy and change the future of the nation.



3rd Annual Robotics Camp.



Science class experiments.

PICTURED ABOVE: Mark, Joyce, Hellen, and Kennedy take part in the 3rd Annual Robotics Camp.

COMING 2021-2022

African Vision of Hope STEM High School

This new school will have classroom space for up to 400 students. Vital programs offered at this school will be Science, Robotics, Technology, and Agriculture.

SCIENCE

TECHNOLOGY

ENGINEERING

MATHEMATICS

ROBOTICS

AGRICULTURE

DESIGN



BECAUSE OF **YOU** we have 6 campuses

3,800 students in attendance each day

YOU HAVE Lifted Burdens



Ruth cares for 13 grandchildren whose parents have died, leaving her as the sole provider.

Her daily struggles are heart wrenching. Watching her pour out her life for these children is a visual reminder of her resilience and passion. She keeps pushing herself each day because she wants her grandchildren to have a better future, hope, and an education.

Ruth spends her days crushing stones. It takes her 2 days to fill a wheel barrel, which will sell for \$1.00. There is not enough money to feed all the children in her care.

You have lifted Ruth's burden by providing nutritious, vitamin enriched rice that will have an immediate impact on her and her 13 grandchildren. Three of these children, Joy, Luke and Jonah, are now receiving an education and soon the others will be old enough to start school.

Through your generous giving, you have shared the joy of God's word, lifted burdens, met needs, and have changed generations forever.



Ruth with the vitamin enriched rice you provided her family.



"This school gives me happiness."

-Joy

"Not only do I receive a hot meal every day, I've been given a uniform, school bag, books, and school supplies. This school is a blessing every day. When we come to school we pray before class, and our teacher loves us. When I finish my education I want to be a nurse, to help my family and the people of Zambia."

Joy (center), joined by Jonah (left) and Luke (right).



YOU ARE Developing Godly Leaders

Leah is the first person in her family to complete high school.

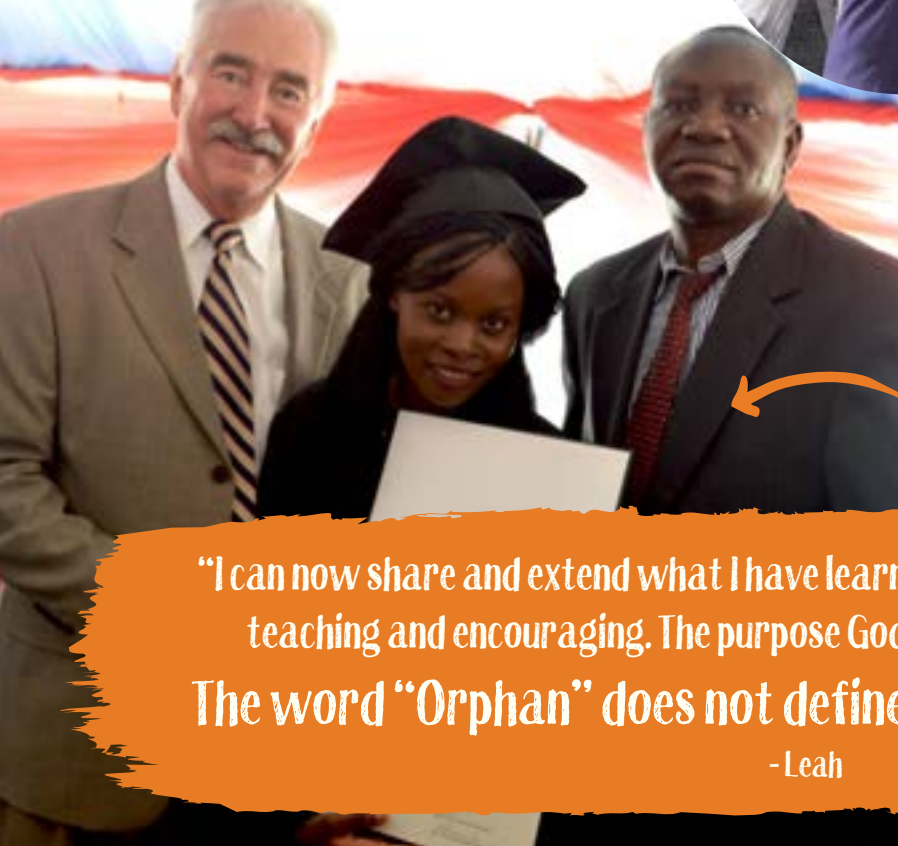
Leah grew up in rural Zambia. Her father died when she was very young, leaving her mother to raise 3 children alone. Her mom did not have an education and could only find work washing people's clothes. They struggled to have enough money to eat once a day and life was hard.

"I would cook and eat unripe bananas to survive and anything I could find to ease the hunger so I could sleep at night, I had no hope."

Even though they were very young, Leah and her siblings wanted to lift the burden for their family. They started working in the fields, helping harvest crops. **Everyday they worked was a day they missed school. With no other options, survival came first.** A friend told Leah about African Vision of Hope, a school offering a free education for vulnerable children.

Leah no longer had to pay school fees, therefore she could go to school instead of working in the fields.

She is the first person in her family to complete high school, graduating in 2016 with honors. She was awarded a college scholarship through African Vision of Hope and completed her degree in 2020. She has come full circle and now teaches 8th and 9th grade computer classes at Africa Vision of Hope school in Kafue.



Leah at her High School Graduation in 2016 with Bob and Kennedy

"I can now share and extend what I have learned and give it to the learners I am teaching and encouraging. The purpose God has for them can be attained. The word "Orphan" does not define them, God defines them."

-Leah

YOU ARE Making Disciples Who Make Disciples



**"For the word of God is living and active,
sharper than any two-edged sword..."**

Hebrews 4:12 ESV

Meet Nebart, a 2020 seminary graduate you helped sponsor in Zambia. His Biblical training is crucial to his work in areas oppressed by witchcraft.

He is a campus pastor and discipleship officer for African Vision of Hope's largest school in rural Chongwe. Each day, students gather for chapel time to hear God's word.

Zambia is an oral society learning God's word through drama, singing, dancing, praying, and storytelling. Hearing is imperative to faith and story-based learners "hear" when taught the way they learn best - through the oral process. **Students' lives are deeply impacted by God's truth; they are transformed. As they learn to internalize the Word, they learn to understand God's love, His plan, and His purpose.** They intentionally share Christ with their families and the community and become disciples.

"My passion is to touch these children with the gospel each day. Their faith in Christ ignites their hope and they are able to see that they can conquer their painful circumstances, not because they are strong, but because Jesus' love for them is stronger than issues of this life. God has honored us with this duty and to make disciples who will take the gospel to their homes, villages, and the world"

- Nebart



54

Men and women have graduated from seminary with African Vision of Hope scholarships and are reaching thousands with the gospel.



Two Continents **ONE TEAM**



“Bob’s faithful wisdom has been a cornerstone to the ministry here and across the globe. He fills the many deficits in my life.”

-Judi Bertels

Bob Bertels is a full-time volunteer who stewards givers and helps share the impact of their gifts. He is a steadfast leader working behind the scenes 365 days a year.

The African Vision of Hope Team in Zambia is over 145 staff members strong. They work tirelessly to rescue children and find solutions to their countries greatest setbacks.

Ward McMillen is the Global Program Director. His passion for the ministry and ability to bring the stories of these children to life generates excitement and enthusiasm in others around him.

YOU ARE Part of a Global Team

You are part of a global team working together to tackle the root causes of extreme poverty. Together we collaborate on sustainable solutions for children and families in Zambia. Your global teammates are teachers, counselors, child protection officers, pastors, nurses, cooks, tutors, donors, child sponsors and volunteers.



The Next Steps: Passing the Baton 2021 AND BEYOND



Christ-Centered Education

- Expand school campus facilities with 11 additional classrooms to reduce class size and contribute to better learning outcomes and quality education.
- Place an emphasis on excellence with highly trained teachers who provide spiritual, physical and intellectual growth for students.



Cultivating an Innovation Mindset

- Ensure all school campuses have science/biology and technology labs and equipment.
- Engage qualified STEM teachers and ongoing training and partnerships for future growth.
- Construct the African Vision of Hope STEM high school.



Expanding Nutrition & Clean Water

- Expand clean water projects and training for all school campuses and local communities.
- Secure a warehouse for long-term food security program to ensure all children are provided a nutritious, vitamin fortified lunch.



Rescuing & Restoring

- Educate and train community leaders to identify children who are victims of slavery, abuse and child marriage and to provide ongoing training and support for Child Protection Officers.
- Build Hope Village Rescue Homes for 144 vulnerable and orphaned children.



Developing Godly Leaders

- Provide scholarships for men/women who desire to be trained in Bible-based theology in Africa.
- Engage trained pastors to serve on all African Vision of Hope campuses to disciples and grow godly leaders for the schools and communities.



Training & Sustaining

- Provide apprenticeships in farming, sewing, welding and carpentry for on-the-job training. Create jobs through Vision Enterprise which will give back to the ministry and provide sustainability.

**“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think,
according to the power at work within us...”**

-Ephesians 3:20

WE ARE Committed to Financial Integrity

With your love, prayers and unfailing support, African Vision of Hope is privileged to minister to thousands of children and families in Zambia, Africa with life-changing results. We know it is important to you that your donation gets to those whose very lives are depending on your generosity.

We work hard to receive the highest possible scores in accountability and transparency, giving you peace of mind that your gifts are going where you intended.

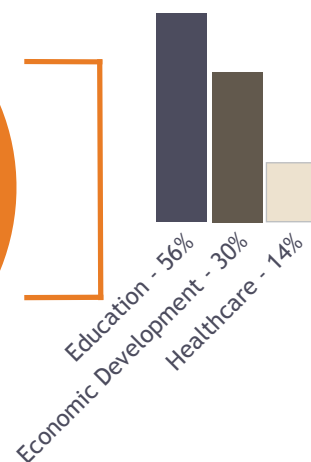


Support Services

Fundraising



Program Breakout:



2020 STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (AUDITED)

Total Giving
\$1,823,341.00

Individuals Provided Education and Life-Saving Services
76,670

Communities Impacted
576

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bob Bertels
African Vision of Hope
Generosity Specialist

Judi Bertels
African Vision of Hope
President and CEO

Steve Darr
Co-founder of CTA, Christian
Tools of Affirmation

Ashley Day
Attorney at Law

Ward McMillen
Former VP, Dexter Solutions

Dennis Muilenburg
Retired Boeing CEO

Bruno Nobre
Owner, Minas Espresso Inc.

VISION TEAM

Rebecca Ball, Bob Bertels, Judi Bertels,
Steve Darr, Anna Davey, Joy Elder,
Paul Griesedieck, Paul Limbach,
Jim Marsh, Gayla Moore, Jill Morlan,
Ed Mullins, Becky Muilenburg,
Dennis Muilenburg, Kristen Pelster,
Leonard Rankin, Gene Weber





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Help Spread the Word!

Help introduce African Vision of Hope to others by liking and sharing our posts on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.



EDUCATE



EQUIP



EMPOWER



In Jesus' Name

Over the last 20 years, you have provided scholarships for pastors who are making disciples, planting churches, and taking the Gospel throughout Africa.

576

Communities have been impacted
with the Gospel

...preach the word; be ready
in season and out of season...

2 Timothy 4:2 ESV