

Scotch College Kapumfi Project

A partnership between Scotch College and World Vision that has the potential to accomplish so much more than we can imagine.

Background

With a population of approximately 10 million, Zambia is one of the poorest countries in Africa. Despite a relatively stable democratic government and recent economic progress, Zambia's economy, long dependent on copper exports, has not recovered from declining copper prices and a prolonged drought in the 1980s and 1990s.

As a result of the downturn, the ability of Zambia's government to provide essential services like health and education has reduced drastically. In the last three decades, life expectancy at birth has dropped from 58 to 37 years. Zambia is unique in that it has actually gone backwards in its ranking on the UN Human Development Index from 0.448 in 1975 to 0.427 in 2001, ranking at 143 out of 162 nations assessed.¹

¹ UNDP World Health Report, 2001



▲ Zambia, one of the poorest nations in the world, is a landlocked country in Southern Africa.

- Population below the poverty line: 86%
- Average annual income per person: AU\$1.45 per day
- Childhood mortality (under five years) 202 deaths per 1000 births – among the world's worst
- Inflation: 27%
- Unemployment: 50%



▲ School in Zambia.

The problem

Many young people in rural Zambia miss out on education because of:

- a lack of schools – pupils have to walk long distances to class
- school buildings and teachers' houses are in poor repair
- there aren't enough school supplies – such as desks, textbooks and exercise books
- a shortage of qualified teachers – a problem which is worsened by the poor quality of teachers' houses and classrooms
- poor sanitary facilities at schools

At Musambeshi Basic school in Chama Community, Mpika district, for example, students must walk five kilometres or more to class. More than 200 pupils in seven year-levels are taught by two qualified teachers. Their facilities: just two grass thatched classrooms and four broken desks. Unfortunately, this is a common situation in Zambia because of poverty.

The Kapumfi Project

The heart of the project will be the construction of Kapumfi Community School in Mpika district, northern Zambia.

- The school building and teachers' quarters will be built and furnished in the project's first year
- Providing sufficient funds are raised, new toilets, a clean water supply, an additional classroom block and other related projects will be planned for the two following years

The community will participate in the construction project by moulding bricks and loading and off-loading sand and crushed stones. They will also bring water to the construction site. World Vision will hire qualified builders and plumbers from within the community. We will also collaborate with Zambia's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Works & Supply for the provision of appropriate building plans.

The benefits

The construction of the school will open the way for Scotch College students to enter into a life-changing cultural exchange process, exposing them to the realities of global poverty and motivating them through the power of young people to create positive change.

A study tour group from Scotch College will have the opportunity to spend two weeks in Kapumfi, working with and learning alongside the students. On their return, they will share their experiences and learnings with the school community. Issues of development, aid and justice, which the Kapumfi Project highlights, will be incorporated into the Scotch College curriculum wherever possible.

▼ All children have the right to an education. What Kapumfi will look like.

A Vision Leadership Program will be established, comprised of student representatives from Years 10, 11 and 12. These Vision Leaders will be responsible for motivating other students to devise and participate in fundraising activities for the project and liaise between students, teaching staff and World Vision.

“We cannot waste our precious children. Not another one. Not another day...”

Nelson Mandela

If you would like to make a tax deductible donation to the Scotch College Kapumfi Project, please download the donation form and return to:

Scotch College (Kapumfi Project)

1 Morrison Street Hawthorn Vic 3122

Fax: (03) 9810 4240

For more information please contact:

Youth Programs Team

World Vision Victoria State Office

Telephone (03) 9287 2338

“Global poverty is the most profound spiritual and moral challenge of our times. The real tragedy is that we have the capacity to rid the world of this suffering. We simply have to share more equally and love more abundantly.”

– World Vision Australia CEO Tim Costello

