

Grant Phiri: Hopes to Give Back to His Community

“It is a greater work to educate a child, in the true and larger sense of the word, than to rule a state.”

—William Ellery Channing, Unitarian theologian

If CWB were to have a “Poster Child”, Grant Phiri would certainly be among the top contenders for the position. Grant is a 20-year old student who is completing the 12th grade at Highland High School. He has been supported by CWB since he enrolled in the Mandevu pre-school in 1999 at the age of 6 — the very year that CWB began operations in Zambia. Since then, Grant has completed primary school, successfully passed the national exams at the 7th and 9th grade levels, and is now looking forward to graduating from high school and entering college to study medicine.



Grant Phiri, a 12th grade student.

Grant’s story is similar to so many other CWB supported children, all of which makes his accomplishments that much more remarkable. His parents died when he was only four years old. Along with his younger brother Eddy, Grant went to live with his grandmother. In addition to Grant and Eddy there were five other grandchildren to care for. All were squeezed into a tiny three-room house; of which one room is rented out for a monthly income of approximately \$60 used to purchase food and other essentials for the seven children. There is no kitchen or running water in the house and only a pit latrine and small bathing area serves as a bathroom. The cooking is done outside on a small charcoal fire, a challenge during the rainy season. One of Grant’s primary responsibilities is to collect the daily water for the household from

a community spigot. He does this at 5 o’clock in the morning to ensure there is sufficient water for everyone because water only runs from 6 PM to 6 AM each day.

After finishing the rest of his chores, Grant dresses for school in his black and white school uniform with a black tie. He leaves his house around 11:30 am in order to walk the four and one-half miles to attend the afternoon school session which begins at 1 o’clock and ends at 5:30. Most days he walks alone and often without additional nourishment. His classroom is large with over 50 students.

He enjoys his teacher, Mrs. Phiri (no relation), and Grant especially likes geography, mathematics, science, and English. After school he plays soccer for the school team.

His dream is to become a doctor. He wants to help people like himself in his own community of Mandevu. Grant is deeply appreciative of the opportunity he has been afforded through the continuing support of CWB. Without this assistance he believes he likely would have ended up on the street. Now he has a bright future to look forward to and for that he is very grateful.



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CWB is pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Anne Gatewood and new board member Alison Leuchtenburg.

New Faces at CWB

CWB is pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Anne Gatewood. Annie has a BA in Sociology, an MS in Social Work from Catholic



Anne & Julia Gatewood at the Zambezi River, Zambia

University of America, and extensive experience in for-profit and non-profit business models. She has worked in areas as diverse as: assisting developmentally disabled adults; providing emergency assistance to families in need; managing a school-based health clinic; representing a charitable trust to a broad range of non-profit organizations; and serving as the chair of Mission Outreach of Union Church in Waban. She traveled to Zambia with her daughter Julia in 2011. Since joining CWB in March, she has shown incredible leadership, skill, and energy. We are so excited to benefit from her expertise.

officer in April after fulfilling his one-year commitment to CWB. David made significant contributions to CWB by hiring a bookkeeper in Zambia, Mr. Benny, entering our last two years of financial data into QuickBooks, coordinating our autumn strategic planning meeting, and providing priceless sage advise in our financial management. We appreciate all that David has given to CWB and wish him well.

New CWB Website



Please visit our new website: same address, a new look: www.cwbusa.org or www.communitieswithoutborders.org

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AFRICAN ORGANIZATIONS IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

Society for Women and AIDS Zambia
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Friends of Simukanka
Pilgrim Church, Lexington
Union Church, Newton
Harvard Vanguard Health Center, Watertown
Wellesley Village Church
Congregational



Allison Leuchtenburg

We are excited to announce a new board member, Alison Leuchtenburg, who also joined CWB in March. Alison has Bachelor of Science in Resource Economics from the University of Massachusetts, Isenberg School of Management and has worked with a variety of non-profits including Airline Ambassadors International, Free the Slaves, and Grounded Power Inc. She has led the annual youth fundraiser for Communities Without Borders at First Unitarian Society of Newton church for a number of years and will travel to Zambia in June of this year. She has a special interest in fundraising for non-profits and will help CWB in this arena.

We are sad to announce that David North has left the CWB board as our chief financial

Contact Us

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Call: 617 965-4713

e-mail:
info@communitieswithoutborders.org

Website:
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Mail donations to:
Communities Without Borders
63 Pickwick Road, Newton, MA 02465
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CWB is a non-governmental organization established as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation; your contribution is fully tax-deductible IRS #20-0842080.