

2nd & 3rd Grade Girls Make Dolls for Zambian Orphans and Vulnerable Children



*Reina Maeda – 2nd grade;
Emma Bellotte, Anna
Schroeder – 3rd Grade at
Bridge School, Lexington.*



Each year at Bridge School in Lexington they have a “Teacher Raffle” as a fund-raiser, which buys time for winners to spend with a teacher. Many choose to go for ice cream or any variety of things. Ruth Hickox-Litchfield, a long-time supporter of CWB, always offers a time to make yarn dolls for children in Zambia.

Last year one of the 5th Grade girls came to Ruth’s house and this year one 2nd grade girl and two 3rd grade girls stayed after school on a Friday afternoon to make these dolls.

Ruth showed the girls pictures of some of the Zambian children she has met and talked about what Zambia is like. During their time with Ruth they learned how to make the dolls and each made 2 dolls. Ruth offered for them to take one home with them for themselves but they each refused saying they were all for the children of Zambia. Then each of the girls took the boards with nails home because they wanted to make more dolls. They arrived back at the Bridge School several days later with over 70 dolls — and each doll they made went to Zambia this summer with Communities Without Borders. These dolls were made with more love and care than one can possibly imagine. The kindness and generosity expressed by these young girls for others is truly a gift of love for CWB and the orphans and vulnerable children we support in Zambia. We are grateful for such wonderful contributions to support our mission.

Letter from the President

Over the past several months we have had a number of contacts, and visits with various NGOs, experts, and stakeholders in order to best prepare for a transition to a new partner organization. Some of the most important meetings occurred during our trip to Zambia this July. We received valuable insight and advice from our Zambian Board, CWBZ. We also visited the Ministry of Education and an NGO called Women for Change. And, of course, we made site visits to several of the most promising potential partner communities. We even visited one very rural and needy community school in Southern Province.

The Board has chosen two community schools to work with over the next year. The first is the Living Hope Foundation which is very close to the Kalyangile Guest House where we stay on CWB trips. The second is Sekelela Community School, about a 45 minute drive west from the Guest House. Both serve very needy populations of children. Both have dynamic leaders who have been in place for 10+ years. Both have many needs that we could easily address. We plan to share more details at the CWB Council Meeting in September, and we certainly hope to give Council members an opportunity to provide input at that time.

Sincerely,
Dick Bail
President, CWB



Board of Directors

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Founder and President
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Susan Murphy Warren

Jesse Phiri,
Field Operations Manager

Annual Trip to Zambia – Summer 2014



Maria Haynes, Jennifer Shaw and Amy Archibald with a student receiving a certificate for passing his exam.



Garden Compound pre-school students working at their new desks.

From June 26 – July 11, fourteen travelers visited Zambia on behalf of CWB. They included members of our Board of Directors, Council members, and interested volunteers and family members. For some of them it was their first

trip to Zambia while for others it was one of many return visits.

The purposes of the trip were four-fold, to:

- deepen our partnerships with our existing partnered communities and expand our contacts in Zambia
- make significant and lasting contributions to support our Zambian communities in the areas of education and health
- increase our understanding of Zambian culture, including how AIDS has and is impacting the people and communities
- give travelers experiences that will inspire them to share their learning with others and identify ways they can contribute to the mission of CWB.

The travelers accomplished a great deal during their two-week trip including:

- teaching in Garden Compound
- health screenings at Garden Compound and Fountain of Hope
- certificate ceremonies in Garden and Linda Compounds for students who passed exams for 7, 9 and 12th grades
- Tree of Life psychosocial workshops for approximately 50 students at Living Hope Foundation
- visit to Olympia Secondary School — a government high school where more than 20 students are supported by CWB
- visit to N'gombe Health Clinic and the University Teaching Hospital Pediatric Centre of Excellence
- meeting with Ky Lam, the HIV/AIDS Multi-sectoral Team Leader at the US Embassy.

In addition, the travelers bought 6 new student desks for Garden Compound; and held celebrations for 22 students who passed exams in Garden Compound and 30 who passed exams in Linda Compound. Congratulations to all students!!

Update on Selection of New Partner

CWB put out a Request for Proposal in the fall and advertised it in the newspapers in Zambia, through CWBZ and other contact organizations in Zambia as well as on our website. To date, we have received expressions of interest from 10 organizations.

Members of the Board, Council members and other travelers visited and interviewed many of these organizations this summer. The Board has focused on the following criteria to help us to make a final selection:

- proximity to Lusaka for ease of travel access and ability of CWBZ personnel to visit and monitor progress
- percent of student population that is orphans and vulnerable children
- quality of teaching staff: teacher/student ratio, availability of teacher training, affiliation with ZOCS (Zambian Organization of Community Schools)
- grades supported (e.g. primary, secondary, vocational)
- number of students
- community support (e.g. active parent involvement, women's councils)
- programs for health, nutrition, etc.
- current pass rates
- other donors
- input and insights from CWBZ board and staff
- ability to expand CWB support in the future.

OUR PARTNERS

PARTNER COMMUNITIES IN ZAMBIA

Bauleni Community
Chawama Community
Fumbelo Community
Garden Community
Linda Community
Mandevu Community
M'tendere Community
Ng'ombe Community
Simukanka Village

USA PARTNER COMMUNITIES

Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
Eliot Church, Newton
First Baptist Church, Lexington
First Parish Unitarian Church, Lexington
First Unitarian Society in Newton
Pilgrim Church, Lexington
Union Church, Waban
Harvard Vanguard Health Center, Watertown
Wellesley Village Church Congregational

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