

# In this

Where are We Going? Vision and Name Change How You Can Help

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# From the DIRECTOR

I am so encouraged when I look at these photos to see where we have come from since the birth of The Kantolomba Project in 2009. Humble beginnings, but thanks to the faithful support of hundreds of West Aussies, this little pocket of a Zambian slum is being transformed, bringing hope to a community trapped in poverty. Now it is time to look to the future.

Raymond Hockley Swanmissions Director

## Vision and Name Change

So what is the vision from here? The last six months has been a period of praying, planning and consultation to determine the vision of the project and the goals for the next three years. As a result, the name of the project is changing to Transform Kantolomba as we move beyond the education of impoverished children to the vision of empowering the whole community through education, women's empowerment, and healthcare.

There are four major goals we are seeking to achieve in the next three years.

1. The completion of the building infrastructure phase of the project with the completion of a three classroom block, maintenance shed and multi purpose centre.

#### 2. Providing quality education and daily

meals to over 275 children. This will be achieved through recruiting more child sponsors, longer class time for students, comprehensive teacher education provided by Australian Education specialists, quality teaching resources and monitored benchmarks for literacy and mathematics.

## 3. Empowering over 200 women with

business skills through training, mentoring, support groups and small microloans to conduct sustainable small businesses in their communities. A cluster group of the 20 most enthusiastic women will also be formed to help manage the program.

## 4. The expansion of the health clinic

program to provide regular health checks for all the children who attend the Light up Ahead School. Health education talks at the community and fortnightly health clinics for members of the community conducted by volunteer Zambian doctors and nurses. The Zambian Government has just registered our health clinic as the first health clinic in the Kantolomba compound.



Overlaying all of these goals are the continued endeavours to create sustainability for the project. Already projects such as the chicken farm, vegetable gardens and Maize crops have brought a valuable contribution to the project's food supply. We are also continuing to petition the Zambian Government and Zambian businesses for local support.

## How You Can Help

To achieve these goals and the vision of transformation we require help with:

Spreading the word to your friends and family about the project and getting others on board.

### **Financial Support**

With a budget of \$300 000 to establish the project over the next three years we will require greater support. Consider having a jar to throw in those extra coins; or putting a jar at your workplace; or asking for money for the project instead of a birthday present; or a larger tax deductible contribution before the end of the financial year.

Donations can be made through www.gdg.org.au/FEJ698N

#### Service

Join a team of volunteers to help with fundraising events throughout the year. We run various fundraisers and are always on the lookout for new and fun ways to help raise money. Please contact <a href="mailto:raymondh@scea.wa.edu.au">raymondh@scea.wa.edu.au</a> to express interest.

#### Praver

If you can make time to pray for the project it will make a huge difference to the sustainability and the fruitfulness of our work in Kantolomba.

## Graduation Ceremony

In late February this year, 41 women graduated from the inaugural Women's Empowerment Program.

So much pride and hope is instilled in these women as a result of six months training in running small businesses, and now each of them have formed income generating activities. Each of these women are moving forward in support groups of ten women per group, and continue to work together on projects and provide small micro loans to each other.

Below is a testimony of one of the women who have benefited from the program.

"Before now, we were really struggling to survive with our families, because we did not have anything we could do to sustain them. We were not able to run any stable income generating activity due to a lack of knowledge, skills and resources.

We thank Immanuel Mercy, Swan Christian College and all our sponsors in Australia for bringing the Women's Empowerment Program to our village, may the Almighty God bless you abundantly.

The training you have brought to our village have really brought us light in our lives as mothers and have built our self confidence, because we have been taught about how to identify business opportunities, start, grow and remain viable in business. May the Almighty God bless you all".

## Soccer team

Our older boys at the Light Up Ahead School were very happy to wear the soccer jumpers donated from a sponsor in Perth as their uniform in their newly formed soccer teams. The plan is to get them involved in playing games against teams from neighbouring schools.

## Prayer Needs

Please pray for our acting coordinator Doreen as she organises all that is needed for the effective running of the Project in Zambia.

Pray for the 41 women who have just graduated from the Women's Empowerment Program, that they would forge strong relationships in their support groups and their businesses would continue to flourish.

For the finances needed to fulfil the vision for the next three years.

For the Zambian Government, and local business in Zambia, to recognise the value of the project and to offer their backing.