



Swanmissions

MERCY, JUSTICE, HUMILITY

Transform Kantolomba

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From the DIRECTOR

The recent death of one of our Light up Ahead students due to HIV brought home to me the precarious nature of the environment our sponsor children are growing up in. Many face the threat of Malaria, HIV and abuse on a daily basis in Kantolomba village. These reasons make up a part of why we do what we do. We help those who we have the capacity to help with a hope that, in turn, they will catch the vision and desire to bring change to their own communities. We aim to educate not just the head, but the heart as well.

The United Nations convention on the rights of a child states in Article 24: Children have the right to good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food and a clean environment so that they will stay healthy. And in Article 28: Children have the right to an education. Discipline in schools should respect children's human dignity. Primary education should be free. Not surprisingly, at the end of each of these articles it states that "Wealthier countries should help poorer countries achieve this".

By issuing this moral mandate the United Nations are echoing the words of Jesus himself who calls us to demonstrate love by helping the poor. He tells us in *Matthew 25.40* "whatever we do for the least of these we do it for me". Such was the value he placed on the most vulnerable in our society.

Some of the highlights of the past six months at the Kantolomba Project have been: the training of women in sewing and dress making, the advent of a peanut butter making business, and the recruitment of our new Principal Sheba Kafwimbi who has brought a high level of excellence to the education of children at the Light up Ahead school.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Swan Missions and gain a greater insight into the work that continues strongly through our sponsor's generous support.

Raymond Hockley
Swanmissions Director



Sheba Kafwimbi

New Light Up Ahead Principal

Sheba Kafwimbi

Light up Ahead school is very fortunate to have secured the services of Sheba Kafwimbi as Principal. For the past eight years Sheba has worked with Eagles Wings, a similar project to ours which works with Australian Partners in Brisbane to help alleviate poverty through education. Sheba was promoted to the Deputy Principal position a few years ago and was recently given the position of Acting Principal before she decided to take up her new post at Light up Ahead.

Below are Sheba's responses to a number of questions I asked her about her life and her new role as our Principal.

"My names are Mrs Sheba Memory Kafwimbi Moyo (quite a mouthful of names).

I was born and grew up in the City of Kitwe, a town just 60km from Ndola, on the Copperbelt Province of Zambia. My father was a Pastor at the time, serving as the Dean of Students, and later as Principal of Trans-Africa Theological College in Kitwe. My mother was a full time teacher, but later studied theology at the same College and joined the lecturing staff.

I am married to Donald Moyo, an accountant by profession who co-owns the company he works at, and also serves as one of the Assistant Pastors at a young church called Nations Revival Centre. We have three beautiful girls, Rhema 5yrs, Lusako 2yrs and Tikondwe 9 months.

I am a Christian, and I serve as the Vice-Church Secretary, so I basically handle most communications, make announcements in church every Sunday and am responsible for keeping records of church membership. I also sing in the Praise Team and am a Praise and Worship Leader.

Being a Principal is a complex job because it cuts across all aspects of the school, namely teaching and learning, school maintenance, planning, administration and management, among others. A Principal needs to be abreast of every aspect of school happenings.

One of the challenges I encounter is communication with parents. Very few parents would have access to a cell phone and so follow-ups usually have to be done in person, this sometimes delays issues that need to be worked on. Also, it is quite challenging to find a balance in managing time! With so many different things to do, a Principal needs to divide their time very well to ensure that all matters are addressed in the quickest possible time.

I always strive to go above and beyond in my work because of the motivation of seeing change in children. One of the thrills of teaching and education provision is seeing the positive impact it has on learners; when children acquire different skills in various learning areas and are able to apply them to their everyday life, it makes every effort worth it. I am also motivated by the opportunity to reach out to children and staff on a spiritual level at the same time.

Finally, I have a passion for education and would love to continue in my personal journey. I currently have a degree in teaching, but would love to do a Master's Degree and eventually a Doctorate in Education."

Sheba is coming to Perth in May to receive training and to appear as a guest at the Better Education Conference organised by Swan Christian Education Association. The goal is to equip Sheba as a project leader and improve the quality of education in the lives of our students.



Women from the Women's Empowerment Program selling salt.

Woman's Empowerment Program

Five of the most enthusiastic women from the program were chosen and enrolled in a full time Designing, Cutting and Tailoring course (six months) at Kabushi Entrepreneurship and Vocational Training Centre. Their tuition fees, school requirements and materials were provided from WEP funds.

The plan is now to open our training centre in Designing, Cutting and Tailoring and the five women will be qualified to be



Jars of peanut butter



Hard course of the foundation block



Starting to lay out the slab.



Adding in the concrete.

the instructors. The women will not only be earning money through weaving and selling their products but also through offering training to people who can pay for the course. This will help to sustain the project in the long run.

Other projects the women have been involved in are bagging and selling salt, and making peanut butter to sell in jars. A sponsor has kindly donated the funds to purchase a peanut butter machine, this will speed up the process and allow the women to make a range of peanut butter products they can sell.

Finally ten micro loans will be distributed this month to women who present a sound business plan for their micro enterprise. These funds will be paid back and can be used to give other women a start in their small businesses.

If you would like to support the Women's Empowerment Program, tax deductible donations can be made at www.gdg.org.au/WEJ698N.

Special Sponsor's Morning Tea

You are invited to share in a Sponsor's Morning Tea which will be held in the Maali Room at Swan Christian College on Wednesday 1 June at 10:00am. This will give you an opportunity to meet our new principal of Light Up Ahead, Sheba Kafwimbi, and learn more about the exciting progress being made with the project. There will also be a demonstration by Nicola Carr-White of the new Jolly Phonics resources that will be introduced at the school this year. Morning tea will be provided, however to help us with our planning we ask that you RSVP to our Events and Publications Manager, Joanne Heap – joanneh@scea.wa.edu.au.

Building Progress

Thanks to the generous support of our donors we have been able to raise the funds to build three new classrooms

at the Light up Ahead school. These rooms will be used for next year's Grade 5 students, a Women's Empowerment Sewing Centre, and a Health Clinic.

The plan is to raise the funds over the next 18 months to build a multi-purpose centre, so that the classrooms can host the Grade 6 and 7s and the Health Clinic and Sewing Centre will move to the new facility.

It is encouraging to see the foundations have been laid and construction will commence shortly on the walls of the building.

If you are interested in supporting our building fund contributions can be made to www.gdg.org.au/FEJ698N.

Teacher Training moves to a new level

The Light up Ahead School has been very blessed to have the support of Educational Trainer, Brad Raynor, over the past two years. Brad has helped the teaching staff at Kantolomba apply strategies of delivery and assessment according to Australian standards, which has dramatically improved the standard of education and the capacity of the students to reach set benchmarks. Already students have moved a year ahead of where they were tracking for.

Brad will be going back for his fourth trip in June, this time he will be working with Nicola Carr-White, who is an expert in early childhood education. Nicola's daughters attended the 2014 Zambia trip and she has been a long time sponsor of the program. Nicola has been an early childhood teacher for 30 years and runs a business, Mastery Learning Group, which specialises in products and programs to help early childhood teachers. Nicola will also be introducing Jolly Phonics to our staff, a world renowned resource for child phonic development.

Interestingly, Nicola made contact with the Jolly Phonics head office in the UK and the Director, Peter Jolly, responded saying that they wanted to support Nicola



in whatever way they could. He also put her in touch with their African office, which happens to be in Ndola where the Light up Ahead school is based.

Health Clinic

Unfortunately the last health clinic had to be cancelled because the coordinator and two of the volunteer nurses were involved in a car accident on the way to the clinic. Thankfully they are ok, just a bit shaken up with minor injuries to one of the nurses. The plan is to run the clinic monthly using volunteer doctors and nurses and in time hopefully move to weekly clinics. We attempt to check each of the 200 children in the program at least twice a year and the more critical cases of parents who attend.

We received a blessing this week with a donor coming forward and providing over \$2000 worth of equipment for the clinic, this donation will make a huge difference.

Challenges facing the clinic include: having staff available who can volunteer, the cost of transport is sometimes prohibitive, and the medication at times runs out and has to be restocked.

Help Light up Ahead Connect with the World

Imagine a ten year old child from Kantolomba talking face to face through Skype with a ten year old child in Perth. Or Grade 3 Kantolomba students going online to do Mathletics or Language Perfect. These education programs and hundreds more would be accessible if we are able to get our computers online at the school.

The Light Up Ahead school will be fortunate to be visited by Tim Judge in June this year. Tim is an IT expert and is volunteering his time and expertise to complete the network fit out.

On the left are photos of items which we need to take to Zambia to help get Kantolomba online. If you are able to donate any of these items please let me know.

We Require:

- HP Line Interactive Single Phase Uninterruptible Power System
- 3G Router
- 48 Port POE Switch
- We also need UTP Computer Patch leads - 5, 5E or 6. We also need up to 70 leads in varying lengths ie. 2m, 3m, 5m, 10m, and 50 metres.

Potential Art Auction/ Exhibition / Sale.

Later this year I hope to organise a fundraiser involving the sale and auction of art pieces to raise money for Transform Kantolomba. The idea is that a percentage of the sales (eg. 20%) would go to the Kantolomba charity and the artists would also donate a piece that could be auctioned off on the night. If you are an artist or know of artist who might be interested in this event can you please let me know?

2016 trip and Donations

In June this year a team of 23 will be flying to Ndola on the 2016 Impact Trip. The trip will comprise mainly of Year 10 and 11 students from Swan Christian College (SCC), three SCC, staff and two teachers from other schools who will be training staff at Light up Ahead.

This year's trip is shaping up to be the best we have had, with students and staff experiencing the full wonders of Africa. It will involve working with the students at Light up Ahead school, visiting the village, helping with some practical projects, going on two safaris, seeing Victoria Falls, traditional African food and dancing and much more.

Donations have been flowing in to the point that we have much more than we can travel with. We have just received a donation of \$10 000 worth of new uniforms, medical supplies and

educational resources that we will take across.

However we will still take cards and small gifts from sponsors for their children so if you have a sponsor child and would like to send something please forward it to the College by the 10 June.

Child Protection Training

On 11 February the whole staff at the Light up Ahead school took part in training and signed a Child Protection Policy. The policy outlines expected behaviour for the treatment of children at the school and procedures for reporting known or expected abuse. It also includes strategies for the school to deal with reported abuse cases.

Our children at Light up Ahead are precious and through this training we are

seeking to provide for them the safest possible environment for them.

Child Sponsorship

For anyone interested in child sponsorship, we have photos of children who currently need a sponsor on our website. Go to <http://www.swan.wa.edu.au/swan-missions/the-kantolomba-project/sponsor-a-child/>, scroll down and you will see a link at the bottom of the page - *Children Requiring Sponsorship*. Paypal is available, for other payment methods please contact me at raymondh@scea.wa.edu.au.



Prayer Needs

Please pray for the health and wellbeing of our Kantolomban children who live in such a precarious environment.

For our new Principal Sheba as she settles into her new role. And safety as she travels to Perth in May.

For the women who are seeking to establish businesses, and for the sewing and dressmaking business that it would take off and be successful.

For the provision of IT equipment and for Tim Judge as he seeks to install the equipment.

For the Health Clinic – Thank God for the provision of equipment for the clinic. That the Lord will watch over the volunteer staff and help them to give up their time.

For the completion of the three classroom block without any complications.

For the 2016 Impact Team as we prepare to go, and that the trip will have a huge impact on all involved.

For Brad Raynor and Nicola Carr-White as they train Sheba and prepare to train the teachers at the school in June.

To find sponsorship for the remaining children without sponsors.