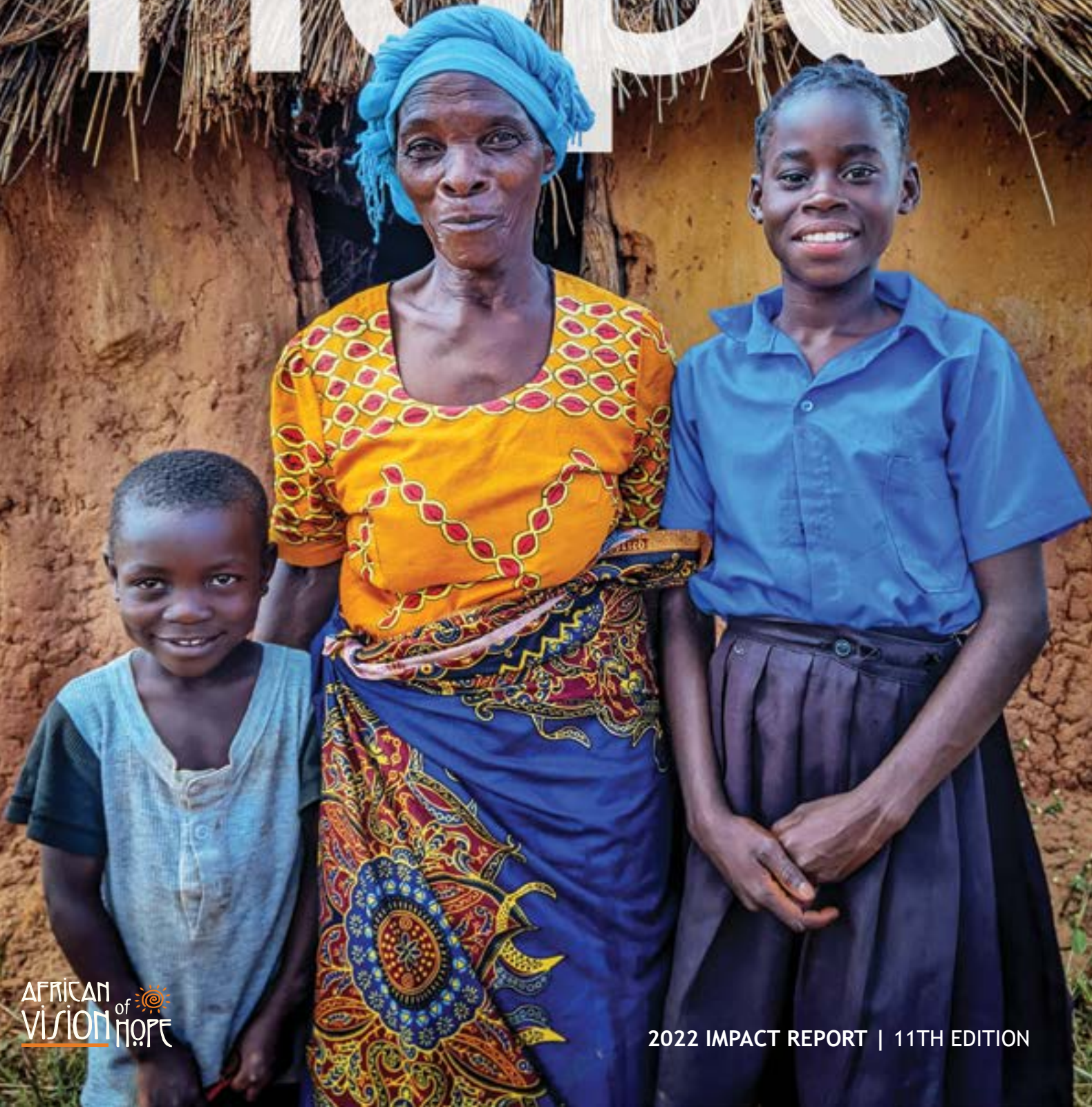


# the gift of HOPE



# Since we have such a Hope,



See how it all began.

## OUR MISSION

African Vision of Hope is a Christian organization committed to bringing immediate and lasting solutions to children and families living in extreme poverty. We confront the root causes of poverty by providing opportunities to be educated, grow up healthy, develop leadership and economic skills, and learn about God's love.

we are very Bold. 2 CORINTHIANS 3:12



Pictured on Cover: 6th Grader Charity pictured with her grandmother and cousin at her grandmother's home.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is for every child and family in Zambia to be released from extreme poverty and have the ability to fulfill the purpose that God has for their lives.



\*Names of children and families in this publication have been changed to protect their privacy.

# Hope Changes Everything



**Every day 25,000 children die because of poverty. Almost all these deaths could have been prevented.** 152 million children worldwide

are involved in forced labor and dangerous work. This humanitarian disaster continues far removed from the eyes and heart of the world. The children in the villages of Sub-Saharan Africa are invisible; you will not read about them in the news or headlines, nor will you hear about the continual nightmare robbing children of God's plan for their lives.

Over the last 22 years, we have been fighting the war on poverty and we have seen tremendous progress, lives transformed, broken hearts mended, health restored, and hope ignited. When a child learns she is valued, she is loved, and she has hope for the future, there is nothing she cannot do. These bright and beautiful children of God are resilient. They will become godly leaders and they will help build strong families and communities.

The pages of this magazine are a glimpse into the lives of the children that you have loved and cared for, and those who are still waiting to be rescued. It is a privilege and honor to know them, to hear their testimonies, and to see their lives transformed.

*"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." Isaiah 58:10*

Thank you for taking courageous steps to end poverty and for stepping in and saying "Yes." You are their family standing on the battle lines, this work could not continue without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judi". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Judi Bertels  
President/CEO



# YOU ARE Investing in Future Generations

## OUR SIX CORE AREAS OF FOCUS



### YOU ARE PROVIDING Christ-Centered Education

**4,680** vulnerable and orphaned children go to school every day, guided by teachers who provide compassion, wisdom and point them to Jesus.

### YOU ARE Rescuing & Restoring



Every day you bring freedom, joy and restoration to children who have been victimized and exploited. **151** children are living in 4 rescue communities.



### YOU ARE Training & Sustaining

Vocational programs in farming, carpentry, welding and sewing are providing training and harnessing economic development for communities.

### YOU ARE PROVIDING Nutrition & Clean Water



Every week **20,899** vitamin fortified meals are served to hungry children who depend on this meal. Each campus has sanitation and deep wells to provide clean water, keeping children healthy and in school.



### YOU ARE Cultivating Innovation

Nurturing efficiency in math, science, technology and robotics will provide graduates with the skills desperately needed to unleash the potential economic growth in Africa.

### YOU ARE Developing Godly Leaders



**946** students have graduated from high school and have developed skills to contribute to helping their families, community and country. They are disciples who are raising up other disciples.



# BECAUSE YOU TOOK ACTION...



**1,086,792**

hot lunches were served in 2021

**8,230**

people are provided clean water every day



**4,680**

children are provided education every day

**946**

students have completed high school



**172**

graduates have received college scholarships



**151**

children were rescued in 2021



**12,605**

hours were donated by volunteers in 2021



**WATCH**  
**Tour little Ruth's home and meet her grandparents**

# For I was hungry

and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and  
you gave me something to drink...

- Matthew 25:35



## You're Fighting Hunger

Joseph walks to school each day, a 2-hour journey from his home in rural Zambia.

He is excited to greet his friends and to be learning; this is his dream come true. Joseph looks forward to lunchtime, a fortified rice meal packed with vitamins, minerals and protein, meeting the demands of his growing body.

A school lunch provides a dramatic improvement in a child's health and learning while relieving the stress of how families will feed their children.



## You're Providing Life-Sustaining Clean Water

Water and education are closely connected in rural Africa.

Patricia (on the right) and her friends have clean water close to their home. Their families are able to draw clean water from a deep well you helped provide. Over the last year, we have dug four deep water wells and added 18 toilets for schools, saving and changing communities and future generations.



**WATCH**  
Enter into a  
Zambian Kitchen

~~Worthless, abused, and rejected.~~

Now he's an

# **UNSTOPPABLE FORCE** of *Hope*



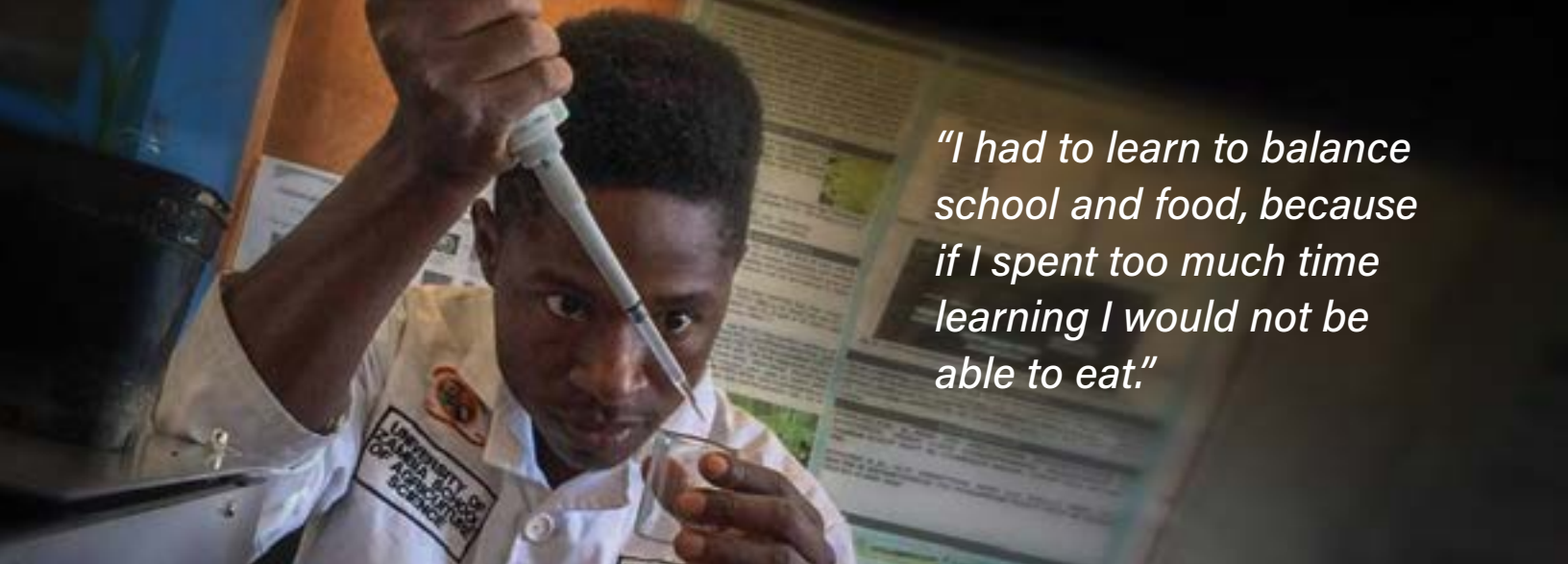
Macrichard is one of **172** students who have received college scholarships.



**WATCH**  
Stories from other  
College Scholarship  
Students







*“I had to learn to balance school and food, because if I spent too much time learning I would not be able to eat.”*

**Macrichard was only 10 years old when the safety and comforts of his life were stripped away.**

After the death of both parents, Macrichard was left an orphan. He was forced into hard labor, rejected, and beaten every day. Macrichard ran away from his oppressors and found a vacant thatched hut for his home. He entered into a life of solitude, a child-headed household, living on his own and raising support for his own education.

***“Rejections and abuse were normal for me; I became so furious and angry with this thing called life.”***

While he was herding cattle, Macrichard borrowed books from a friend to keep up with his studies while he was in the fields. He had never heard about God, but as he looked into the sky he knew there was a Creator. Macrichard’s school fees were increasing so he started working in the quarry crushing stones. The hunger and the physical labor were wearing on his young body, resulting in stress and exhaustion.

Macrichard heard about a school providing a free education. As he started asking details and inquiring about the location of this school, he couldn’t believe such a place existed.

***“The name of the school gave me HOPE before I even knew what it looked like. And this is how my journey started with African Vision of Hope.”***

Macrichard had a safe home where his critical needs were met. He was mentored by loving teachers and campus pastors who taught him about God’s love. He graduated high school in 2015, receiving the highest grades in his class. Macrichard knows God created him on purpose and for a purpose.

Because of you, Macrichard is now in his final year studying Agricultural Science at the University of Zambia. Agriculture is a driving force for a better economy for Zambia. Macrichard is a tutor at the African Vision of Hope schools, mentoring and encouraging young men and women in their studies.



“For I know the plans I have for you,”  
declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you  
and not to harm you, plans to give you  
*hope and a future.*”

Jeremiah 29:11



*Eunice, Beatrice and Grace  
The Girl's House of Hope  
Silverest, Zambia*

**Edson is waiting.** Every day he walks the dusty narrow path carved in the tall grass of rural Zambia. He has work to do, hauling water for a local restaurant. The 40-pound water bucket teeters on his head. He ignores the aching in his stomach from hunger. He knows without work, he doesn't eat.

Edson is an orphan, one of 1.2 million children in Zambia whose childhoods are being stolen. They face daily risks of human trafficking, abuse, and violence. You are lifting their burdens, putting them in a classroom and restoring their childhoods.

***“I see friends walking to school and I want to be where they are. I want to remember my dreams and to have a future.”***

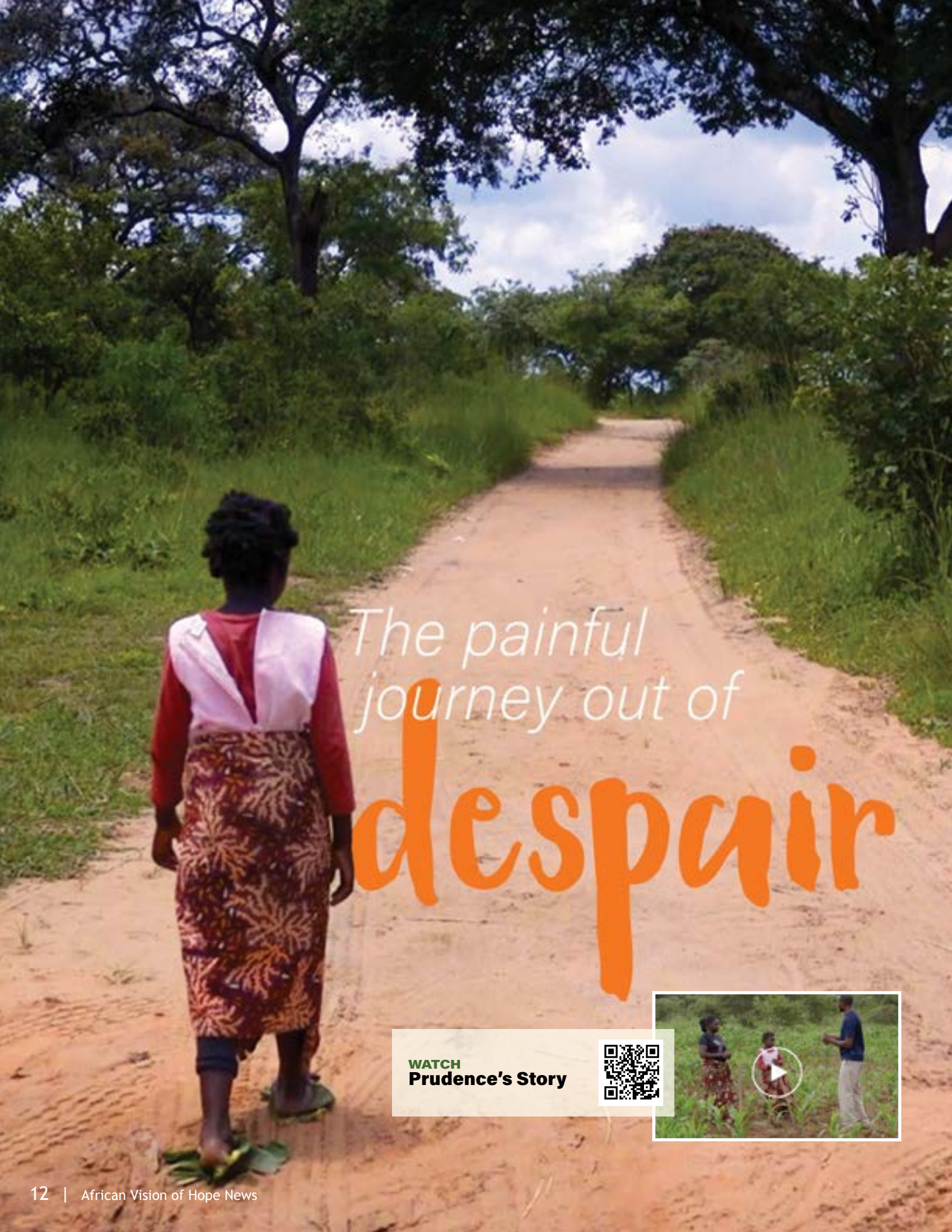
Edson dreams of the day he will become a teacher. Zambia will need more teachers and classrooms to meet the growing youth population.

Zambia is a country of young people, with 50% of the population under the age of 15. They will need more educated students to ensure future generations are equipped to make a lasting impact on their families, communities, and nation.



Until all have  
HOPE and a  
Future

Edson  
Chongwe, Zambia



*The painful  
journey out of*

# despair

**WATCH**  
**Prudence's Story**





***“I have found my purpose in life; I can help save other lives and share the love of God.”***

**The Zambian sun beats down on the dirt path as Prudence makes her 2-hour journey to school.** She takes a deep breath as she enters the classroom. She knows she will be laughed at by the other kids.

Prudence remembers the heartbreak she felt when the teacher told her not to come back unless she could pay her school fees.

***“I knew education would be my only way out of extreme poverty, and I feared being sold into marriage.”***

Zambia has one of the highest rates of child marriage in Africa, and Prudence’s concern was a reality for so many of her friends.

Prudence’s sister was sold into marriage at age 14. As Prudence watched her die during childbirth, she

felt she would have the same future of hopelessness.

Life was hard to understand as a young child with so many burdens. She would cry herself to sleep each night because of hunger.

Prudence was gathering leftover crops from neighbors’ fields when a man named Foliad, an African Vision of Hope seminary graduate, greeted her and asked her why she wasn’t in school. Foliad told her about a school providing a free education. It was the first time Prudence began to feel hope for her future.

Prudence moved into one of African Vision of Hope’s rescue homes and she started school immediately. It was her first time sleeping in a bed and having food every day. After high school, she was awarded a college scholarship from African Vision of Hope where she just completed her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Midwifery.



African Vision of Hope is committed to helping girls and developing female leaders. **50% of African Vision of Hope students and global staff members are females.**

# You are breaking down the barriers to **Education & Innovation**

## **Educating children provides the critical tools to fight poverty.**

Education builds confidence, literacy, dignity, and creates a stronger foundation for future generations.

Education is every child's right! Vulnerable and orphaned children in Sub-Saharan Africa suffer from a mix of poverty and discrimination. They face hunger, poor health, violence, and child labor. They are excluded from education and passed by. Together we are fighting this battle and we are breaking down the barriers stealing the full potential of children around the globe.

When Esther enters the classroom she is provided a free Christ-centered education with trained teachers, a loving pastoral and child protection staff who care for and encourage her. Every day, 4,680 children

walk into a classroom, take their place at a desk, and step into their future potential. They are ready to tackle their nation's greatest challenges. They are leaders.

***"I love being in a classroom, and seeing my friends. I think about the day I will be able to help my family."***

Esther's mother works in the local market where she struggles to provide one meal a day. Because of you, Esther has a healthy lunch every day, and the essential help she needs to change her life and those coming after her.



## **4,680**

children are provided  
education every day



*Esther, 4th Grade  
Kabulonga, Zambia*



Brian (left), 6th Grade  
Elija (right), 7th Grade

**Africa has immense potential to improve its local and global economies,** if it can produce a generation

of young professionals who can take charge of the development of their countries. This is why it is critical for education in Africa to reach new levels, particularly with skills promoting more STEM jobs.

With your help, we are taking steps to invest in STEM education. In 2023, the African Vision of Hope STEM School will open its doors to students who will contribute to their nation's growing potential.

Robotics Clubs are increasing and our global team participated in the first ever STEM Convention in Zambia's capital city of Lusaka. Over the next few years, every campus will include chemistry and biology labs, extending and broadening this knowledge to children who have previously not had access or been represented in the sciences.



*“We need to confront the major causes of poverty in our country. No doubt the sciences are capable of helping us tackle this giant”*

- Joel

11th Grade



**WATCH**  
**View the STEM School construction progress**



Agriculture

TRAINING & SUSTAINING

# You are helping end Extreme Poverty

**Skills training helps lift young people and vulnerable families out of extreme poverty.**

You are helping train men and women in agriculture, sewing, carpentry, welding and providing the community with in demand products and services. Profits are put back into the ministry to support schools, children, and to continue adding jobs.

This year **1,300** uniforms were made by the sewing team. The carpentry team manufactured **300** desks, benches, tables, and cabinets. This is the first year for welding and it is exciting to see them making gates, desk frames, water stands and shelving units.

**The farm had a bumper crop:**

**5,100**  
pounds of cabbage

**1,653**  
pounds of eggplant

**2,600**  
pounds of corn

**500**  
chickens

**13,000**  
pounds of tomatoes



Sewing & Design



Carpentry



Welding





Marriam teaches at the African Vision of Hope Chikumbi Farm school where she lives out her passion to help children understand they are fearfully and wonderfully made.

# A commitment to helping Families

**Traveling the dusty road to the African Vision of Hope farm in Chikumbi is like taking a step back in time.** Moses, the farm manager, teaches the local men and women farming techniques, providing jobs so they can support their families and strengthen their communities.

The farm has become a bustling center in this rural village where families can grind their corn to make porridge or purchase their daily produce. Women and children gather each day to fill their buckets with clean water from the deep wells you helped provide.

This busy farm now boasts a school with 105 children who proudly sit in a repurposed chicken coup each day to learn. Without this school, they would not have an opportunity to be educated.



Take a tour of the farm.

*"You cause the grass to grow for the livestock and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth."*  
Psalm 104:14 ESV

# You are developing Godly Leaders

Every campus, outreach, scholarship program, and feeding program is built on the common thread of sharing the gospel and making disciples. Students take part in Good News clubs, praise and worship, Bible study, and chapel. As they are learning, they are being equipped with the tools they will need to live their life for Christ.

***But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.***

***Acts 1:8***



Watch the award-winning Chongwe Choir



Your generosity has provided **56** seminary scholarships to train native men and women in **Zambia**. They walk miles to take food to hungry families and share the hope of Jesus. Over the last 22 years, they have reached thousands for Christ, equipping and training students and adults who will take the gospel to the darkest parts of Africa.



From poverty  
to possibility

# Lillian's Story



**151**

students are living  
in rescue care.

*Lillian before YOU  
rescued her.*

## Imagine growing up as a young child without any parents.

As children her age were beginning school, Lillian, an orphan, was trapped in the cycle of survival. Her days were long and desperate as she searched for food and shelter. To add to the struggle, there were siblings to care for.

Lillian was living in a dangerous situation as a young girl and the clock was ticking. It was just a matter of time before she would be taken and used for hard labor or exploited.

Child protection officers heard about Lillian's situation and visited her in the one-room home where she was staying. They spent time praying with her and listening to her pour out her heart. She felt comforted and safe.

Over the next few weeks, they helped Lillian enroll in school. Today, Lillian is living in a rescue home where she has a new family, protection, and a future. She is building life-changing relationships helping her live a life glorifying God.

You stepped in when Lillian needed it most and transformed her life from despair to HOPE. She and **151** children live in rescue communities and their lives have been transformed forever.

**YOU ARE**

## Rescuing & Restoring

### Rescue Homes Provide:

- Freedom and safety from violence
- Learning their worth in Christ
- Christ-centered education
- Clean water
- Nutritious meals
- Family support/counseling and mentoring



Watch Joel's rescue story.

*Lillian today in grade 5  
at African Vision of Hope*



# The Next Steps: **2022 & Beyond**



## Christ-Centered Education

Build more classrooms to reduce class size. This will create a higher quality education and improve learning outcomes.

Place a high priority on excellence with highly trained teachers and pastors who equip students with spiritual, physical and intellectual growth.



## Cultivating Innovation

Ensure all campuses are equipped with science/biology and technology labs.

Engage qualified STEM teachers and partnerships for long-term growth and future opportunities for students.

Open the first STEM High School in Zambia in 2023.



## Expanding Nutrition & Clean Water

Expand clean water and sanitation projects for schools and local communities.

Complete construction of a food security warehouse, growing the number of meals served annually to 1,700,000.



## Rescuing and Restoring

Provide ongoing training and support for Child Protection Officers who identify and rescue child victims of slavery, human trafficking and child marriage.

Develop Phase 2 of Hope Village Rescue Homes to accommodate 96 more children.



## Developing Godly Leaders

Provide scholarships for men and women to be biblically trained.

Award college scholarships for students who qualify for higher education.

Equip students to become godly leaders for their communities and nation.



## Training and Sustaining

Provide skills training in farming, sewing, welding and carpentry. Grow opportunities for employment providing sustainability and empowerment in these vocational fields.

***“What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived”— the things God has prepared for those who love him—”***

***1 Corinthians 2:9 (NIV)***

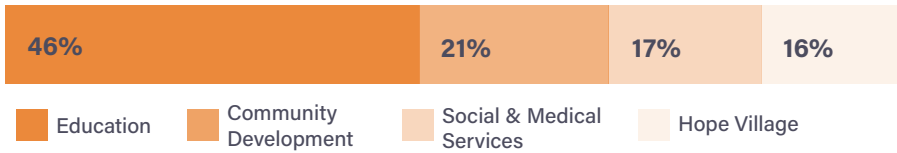
# We are committed to Financial Integrity

With your love, prayers and unflinching support, we are privileged to minister to thousands of children and families in Zambia, with life-changing results.

## WHERE YOUR GIVING GOES



## HOW YOUR GIVING HELPS



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Bob Bertels**  
Board Secretary

**Steve Darr**  
Co-founder of CTA,  
Christian Tools of  
Affirmation

**Bruno Nobre**  
Owner,  
Minas Espresso Inc.

**Judi Bertels**  
African Vision of Hope  
President and CEO

**Dennis Muilenburg**  
Retired Boeing CEO

**Gene Weber**  
Retired Express Scripts  
Operations Risk Mgmt.

**Ashley Day**  
Attorney at Law



“African Vision of Hope is truly changing the future of Africa by raising up a new generation of **leaders** who are **innovative** and filled with hope!”

-Angi, Missions Pastor



## YOU ARE PART OF A Global Team

You are part of a global team working together to tackle the root cause of poverty. Together we collaborate on sustainable solutions for children and families in Zambia. Your global teammates are teachers, counselors, child protection officers, pastors, nurses, cooks, tutors, donors, child sponsors and volunteers.

Our Zambia staff of **147** are teaching, training, mentoring and guiding children through some of life’s greatest challenges.

Our volunteers gave over **12,600** hours last year. These hours make a BIG impact in our lives and the lives of children across the globe. You are truly the hands and feet of Jesus.

# AFRICAN VISION of HOPE

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Maryville, IL 62062

(618) 288-7695  
info@africanvisionofhope.org

[africanvisionofhope.org](http://africanvisionofhope.org)



EDUCATE



EQUIP



EMPOWER

## In Jesus' Name

Over the last 22 years, you have provided scholarships for pastors who are making disciples, planting churches, and taking the Gospel across Zambia.

Because of your partnership:



**598**

Communities have been impacted with the Gospel

*Go therefore and make  
disciples of all nations.*

Matthew 28:19

