

African Vision of Hope

NEWS

Restoring Stolen Childhoods



African Vision of Hope

RESTORING STOLEN
CHILDHOODS | PAGE 4

Millions of orphaned and vulnerable children in Zambia are denied their right to be a child.

THE FUTURE LEADERS OF
ZAMBIA | PAGE 10

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.”
- Proverbs 22:6

THE ROAD
LESS TRAVELED | PAGE 12

Over 600 students attend the African Vision of Hope school in Chongwe, some walking over 2 hours each way to reach class.



Lunch time at African Vision of Hope School in Kaufe, Zambia

REBEKAH'S BROKEN HEART | PAGE 15

Rebekah was born with a broken heart. She needed a miracle. You provided one.

GIRLS HOUSE OF HOPE UPDATE | PAGE 17

The Girls House of Hope Orphanage will take girls off the streets and give them a safe home and a future.

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



Her Childhood Was Stolen.

Esther is an orphan. Like her, millions of orphaned and vulnerable children in Zambia are denied their right to be a child.



Pray for the millions of girls who will not have a chance to be rescued and go to school. They are being used as child laborers or sold into early marriages.



Now Her Life is Restored.



From Slave

“And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast.” - 1Peter 5:10

Esther lived her life in constant fear. After her parents died she became an orphan, disgraced and defenseless.

Her uncle claimed her as property and made her a servant, forcing her to work long days in order to pay for her shelter and food and provide for his drinking. Any resistance from Esther would mean a beating or a violation of her innocence. She lost all hope knowing she would never earn enough money to pay school fees. An African Vision of Hope child advocate was working in the slums when he met Esther. He was able to work with the uncle and persuade him to let Esther attend school.

She was also accepted into the orphanage where she no longer had to live in fear. For the first time, she went to school. Today, Esther is a thriving secondary student. She is slowly learning to heal through God's love and become part of a large family where she can grow mentally, physically, and spiritually.

“For the first time in my life, I know I will eat every day. I received my first hug when I came to the orphanage. I can sleep because I know I am safe. I can be whatever I want to be because I am being educated.” - Esther



to Student



Left: An African Vision of Hope Child Advocate spends his days rescuing children in the slums.



Zambia is ranked as one of the top worst places to be a child and has the highest per capita orphan rates in the world. These children deserve nothing less than our greatest efforts and prayers.



What does extreme poverty look like for a child in Zambia?

WHAT IS
Extreme Poverty?

- They are chronically hungry
- Unable to access basic medical care
- Lack safe drinking water or sanitation
- Cannot afford school fees or the cost of a uniform
- Lack shelter
- Do not have basic articles of clothing such as shoes

You are empowering the future leaders of Zambia through:



Access to Education

A quality education is the best way to end extreme poverty & raise up new generations who are ready to lead their nation. All 3,000 students at African Vision of Hope schools do not pay school fees, eliminating the hardship for children & families and reducing child labor.



Nutrition, Water, Medicine

The vulnerable children in Zambia are faced with chronic hunger & malnutrition. African Vision of Hope schools provide a daily hot lunch, giving children the energy to walk to school & pay attention in class. The child health program utilizes education, medical treatment & surgery to save lives, which reduces child marriage & treats chronic illness.



Trained Teachers and Leaders

African Vision of Hope invests in the local community by providing ongoing teacher training, discipleship, & leadership development. Our teachers have a college education & are qualified. The global team works together to see students grow in mind, body & soul. The children see their teachers & leaders as trusted counselors & mentors.

Put a pencil in their
hands, a nutritious
meal in their
stomachs, and the
love of Jesus in their
hearts and they will
change the world.

Child Sponsorship takes a child from
poverty to possibility.

100%

of your child sponsorship
donation goes directly to
supporting orphans and
vulnerable children.

Sponsor a child at:

africanvisionofhope.org/child-sponsorship



"Without education I would probably be selling things in the streets. There is nothing else I could do, especially as a girl." - Memory, African Vision of Hope college graduate



From Illiterate to Educated

Memory is grateful to be the first to finish college in her family and we are delighted to have her as part of the African Vision of Hope teaching staff in Kafue, Zambia. The African Vision of Hope scholarship fund helped make her childhood dream of becoming a teacher a reality.

Memory has a passion for changing the lives of vulnerable children in Zambia. She is using her desire to help break the cycle of poverty by teaching English, Reading, and Writing. As these children grow into teens they become leaders in the community and their government and can make decisions that bring about positive transformation. Literacy also empowers children and families to read Scripture. It is the lens that allows people to study God's Word. When children from illiterate parents learn to read, they impact their families, communities and future generations.

African Vision of Hope is committed to helping educate vulnerable children. You have invested in future generations by providing over 80 higher education scholarships to students.

"Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." - Proverbs 22:6

From Powerless to Leader



Misheck

Misheck is a high school and college graduate from African Vision of Hope. He works as a child advocate but also leads a large youth group, YOZA (Youth of Zambia Alive), a ministry of African Vision of Hope. Through drama, skits, and art they work to teach and raise awareness on issues of HIV/AIDS, poverty and child labor. They end each program with the message of the gospel. YOZA's audience is government offices, embassies, television stations, schools, and business. This program is proving to their country that youth can be the builders of the future and are ready to be the next generation of Zambia's leaders.



From Theory to Practice

Can you imagine learning without basic technology? That is a current reality of the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) classrooms at African Vision of Hope. Teachers do an extraordinary job of writing out complete biology diagrams and math and technology lessons while children quickly write down pages of pictures and notes. One of their biggest challenges is that they do not get to practice what they are learning.

Africa will need a new generation of accountants, researchers, math and science teachers, and engineers that will be equipped to help create solutions. All of these careers will require that they have the skills qualifying them for those positions. This will help grow Africa's economy, reduce poverty, and support good government.

Science and IT equipment is costly. Each African Vision of Hope school has 2 computers and limited science and biology equipment. Over the next 3 years our mission is to see all 5 schools excel in these areas and provide students with the tools they need to triumph in their assignments and in life.



Two problems, one solution

School children in Zambia must dress appropriately in a uniform to go to school. If they do not have one, they risk getting sent home or ridiculed. This can be crippling to an already vulnerable child. Not having a uniform sets them apart from those in their community who can afford school fees. Uniforms remain an unaffordable luxury for most African Vision of Hope students. The African Vision of Hope Empowerment Program has been teaching women and men to make uniforms, a valuable and sought-after skill. Through your love and support we have been able to purchase the uniforms from the program, creating jobs and skills while meeting a critical need of the community. Last year alone, the Empowerment Program sewed and knitted over 1,600 school uniforms.

The Road Less Traveled

5 miles from school



The Lungu's home

Among the students attending African Vision of Hope's most rural school in Chongwe, Zambia, are 5 siblings from the Lungu family. John, Thezia, Irene, Kelvin and Maureen are in grades 2,5,6,7, and 9. Their lives would look very different if it weren't for this school in the bush.

The road to Chongwe is beautiful. Trees, wildlife and children line the dusty path. Over 600 students attend the African Vision of Hope school in Chongwe, some walking over 2 hours each way to reach class.

Our teachers also walk to school, and it is their dedication to serving at this rural school that is changing lives and paving the way for their students' success.

Over eighty percent of Zambians live in rural areas. They struggle to get clean water, rely on their small gardens to carry them through the hunger season, and have little access to schools. Without medical care a minor illness can become deadly overnight.

Gender roles and customs mean that girls are removed from school to collect water, care for siblings, or often sold to the highest bidder. By the age of fourteen, most girls become wives before they've had a chance to mature into women.

Ruth, pictured above, is the single mother to 5 children who attend African Vision of Hope School in rural Chongwe. She is also caring for her grandchildren after her eldest daughter died of AIDS. Their small garden is their only source of food and a small income.

"Without African Vision of Hope, my children would be hopeless. The school has given them a future and provides them with a meal every day. It has also given them medical care and puts them on the right path for life." - Ruth



John's classroom

Thezia is one of Ruth's daughters. She just started grade 9 and is excited to have tools for learning like pencils and notebooks. She works hard in school every day.

Her family's home, made of mud bricks and a thatched roof, lacks running water and electricity. This means that, after school, she must walk an hour to collect water for bathing and cooking and finish her studies before the sun goes down. She has been given leadership responsibilities at school and desires to become a nurse. Thezia knows if she works hard she will be able to apply for a scholarship for college through African Vision of Hope. Among the Lungu siblings there are future nurses, doctors and teachers. Their dreams have no limits, and that is how it should be.

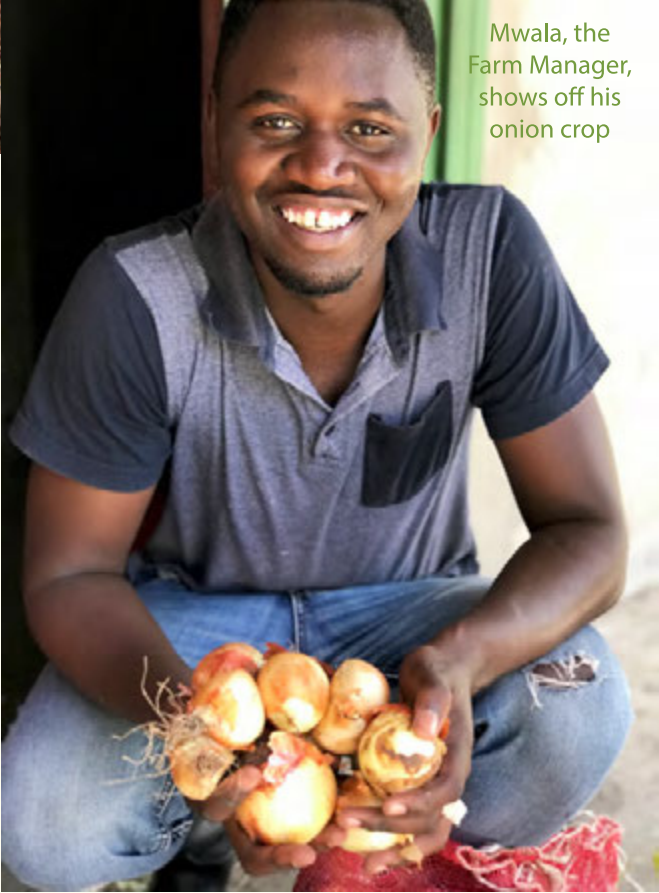
When asked what life would be like without African Vision of Hope School, the children responded "I can't even imagine."

African Vision of Hope School in Chongwe held its first graduation in 2017. Eighteen students broke their cycle of poverty and proved to their village that earning an education is possible no matter where you live.



From Hungry to Plenty

at African Vision of Hope Farm in Chikumbi, Zambia



Mwala, the
Farm Manager,
shows off his
onion crop

Agriculture is the backbone of sub-Saharan Africa. Farming provides needed food and income for rural farmers, 80% of them being women. Droughts, combined with bad farming practices, have led to a lack of food in many areas. Poor farming practices such as burning of crop waste, tilling, and plowing with oxen, has reduced yields and destroyed the soil.

“We are working with rural farmers to teach conservation farming and practices such as no tillage, crop rotation, and composting. This will increase yields and reduces soil erosion. Our farm also provides beans, corn, and chickens for the African Vision of Hope schools as well as the community. We grow our own seedlings along with tomatoes and other pilot crops. People come from long distances to grind their corn on our hammer mills. Working together has provided opportunities to share God’s love both verbally and physically.”

- Mwala, Farm Manager at African Vision of Hope Chikumbi Farm



The farm is an important part of the school lunch program. Utilizing locally grown food benefits both the children and rural farmers. Providing a nourishing lunch increases school attendance, expands access to education for poor children and improves their health and cognitive development. Because of you, more than 3,000 children receive a hot, nutritious lunch every school day. This is the only meal many of them will eat that day. Simply put, if a child does not eat, they will have a difficult time learning.

From Sickness to Health

Rebekah had a broken heart. She was unable to walk, play, and worst of all, struggled to breathe.

She was born with a congenital heart defect. Rebekah's mother, Leah, had to carry her on her back and would become filled with fear when she struggled to breathe. Every day she watched Rebekah's health decline. Leah was told to pray for a miracle.

In February, that miracle came! Rebekah became the 30th child to receive heart surgery through our global partnerships.

For children in Zambia, access to basic medical care is the difference between life and death. Clementina, African Vision of Hope's Staff Nurse, pours her heart into her work. She has seen the transformation of children filled with worms, malaria and other treatable diseases into strong, healthy, and confident students.

If there is something she is unable to treat, she works through African Vision of Hope partnerships to access advanced medical care. It requires the generous gift of donors and the compassionate hearts of those who serve on the ground to keep all 3,000 African Vision of Hope students healthy and thriving.



From Darkness to Light



The most lasting transformation in African Vision of Hope students takes place in their hearts. When they walk onto the school campus they learn that they are loved. As they are disciplined by teachers, pastors and staff, they learn that God has a special plan and purpose for their lives. This changes everything. Their life transforms from broken to whole, forsaken to loved, and darkness to light. These young men and women can lead and disciple others who have had the same pains and journey as their own.

Stephen knew he was called to be a pastor but could never afford formal training. He has two children and is also raising three of his nieces who were in vulnerable situations, which left him with little money for school. When Stephen heard that he had been chosen to receive a seminary scholarship, he said "Praise God."

"I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for sponsoring my theological studies. Your obedience has prepared me to preach God's word and has made His calling come alive. I am very grateful for the impact on my life and the lives of many others."



Stephen's wife is also a sponsored seminary student. Their church has planted two churches and plans to continue expanding the Kingdom. Through your investment in spiritual mentoring, African Vision of Hope has been able to provide over 45 seminary scholarships to indigenous men and women. As they graduate they become part of an ongoing discipleship program that engages both the African Vision of Hope schools and local community by addressing their spiritual and physical needs. The impact of one seminary scholarship is multiplied into the transformation of many lives. By coming alongside them, you extend the arms of Jesus from your local churches into the churches and communities of Zambia.

Pictured above: Stephen and his wife Miriam with their two children, Isaac and Rachel, and their nieces, Sarah, Blessings, and Anna.

From Despair to Hope

Rescuing girls from the streets at the African Vision of Hope Girls House of Hope Orphanage



“If it wasn’t for African Vision of Hope I would have never known God. Hope means that I will never give up. I have been lifted up. I know that God has done much in my life. My dreams have been redeemed and my story has changed.” - Grace

When Grace walked into the African Vision of Hope office she was hanging on to a thread of hope. When she was 12 years old, she watched her parents and all of her 6 siblings die. Grace was all alone in the world, working odd jobs to survive, never able to save up enough money to pay for school. She was searching for a place to call home, a safe place where she would not have to worry about where her next meal would come from or what she would have to do to earn her keep.

Today, Grace lives in the African Vision of Hope orphanage and is in the 11th grade. This summer the Girls House of Hope

Orphanage will be completed. The Girls House of Hope will rescue 112 vulnerable girls off of the street and give them a safe home and a future. This will also make room for 30 more boys in the current orphanage.

Future plans for the House of Hope include adding an all-girls high school to the property. The House of Hope will be a rescue center for young orphan girls who are suffering on the street. They will have a safe place to call home, will receive nutritious meals and medical care, and will know love. To be part of that transformation, go to africanvisionofhope.org/girls-house-of-hope.



Grace (right) and her friends study in their rooms at current the African Vision of Hope orphanage

Investing in Future Generations

What will your legacy be? With the Hope Legacy Partnership, you can make a lasting difference in the fight against extreme poverty.

Your monthly support provides:

- ☀ Access to education for vulnerable children
- ☀ Health and hygiene education and treatment
- ☀ Leadership and economic training that is community-based and sustainable
- ☀ Examples of demonstrating and sharing God's love

We believe that investing in sustainable solutions through education, leadership development, and spiritual discipling will make a lasting change for children and their communities.



Become a Hope Legacy Member Today
africanvisionofhope.org/hopelegacy

Meet our Zambian leadership Team

The focus of our teams in the United States and Zambia is the same - to end extreme poverty one child at a time. We work together with the same mission, moving as one, sharing ideas and solutions, working together and playing together. This is how God brings us together to accomplish His purpose.



Kennedy
Program Director



Elliot
Child Advocate



Misheck
Child Advocate



Clementina
School Nurse



Chance
Financial Manager



Lawrence
Superintendent of
Schools



Japhet
Spiritual Guidance
Officer



Foliad
Spiritual Guidance
Officer



Mwala
Farm Manager



Howard
Sewing & Auto
Repair

Our Commitment to Transparency

Financial Integrity is paramount to African Vision of Hope. We serve in the confidence of your prayers and are enabled by your unfailing support. We are deeply committed to limiting overhead costs while maximizing the opportunities and effectiveness of our child and community focused programs. More than 90% of every dollar is used for life-changing programs.



Note from Judi

In Zambia, I am Amai, nothing more. The children call me mom, the men and women call me mom, and it is a name that I feel honored to carry and many times overwhelmed to bear. Despite their sorrows, loss and pain, they joyously play, sing and worship. They have become some of my greatest teachers on this earth. Every day they are thankful and joyful for each breath, for waking up that morning, for a safe walk to school, for the porridge they are eating, for every simple thing that I have considered my entitlement. They have lived Philippians 4:12.

“...I have learned the secret of being content in every situation whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want.” Philippians 4:12.

My dear friends, God’s Word is so powerful that we cannot just read it, we must stand on it. Better yet, we must live it out. Obedience is imperative. Our life is but a breath. We have about 25,000 days on this earth. For most of us, our life is half over. Heaven is coming, people are waiting, and how you live your life matters. One day I will stand before Him, and He is not going to care how much I know, but that I was obedient. The things I am holding on to in this world can be used for His glory, to have compassion, proclaim the gospel, seek justice and restore hope. Every child, regardless of geographical lines, is His child. That makes them ours if we call ourselves Christ’s followers.



Serving with you,

Judi Bertels

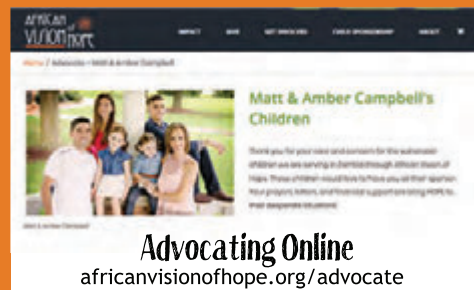
Judi Bertels
President/CEO

Volunteering Transforms 2 Lives - Yours and Theirs

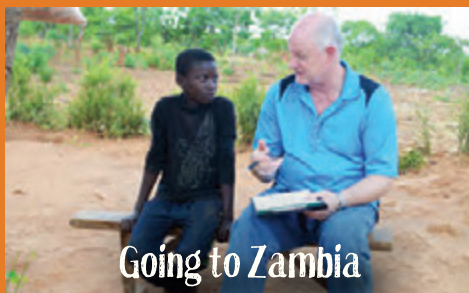
In 2017, African Vision of Hope volunteers gave over 13,000 hours of their time to transforming lives across the globe. As an advocate you are not only a volunteer, but a partner that shares the heart and vision for the ministry and the children we serve. Volunteering transforms two lives - yours and theirs, and accomplishes God’s purpose on the other side of the world. Your partnership gives a voice to the voiceless. You can get involved by:



Organizing a Fundraising Event



Requesting a Speaker



Praying



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EDUCATE



EQUIP



EMPOWER

