



December 2025



## Context

The cuts in international aid are affecting Zambia, as well as many other developing countries that rely on financial assistance to expand their economies, support their healthcare, and improve their infrastructure. Lifting countries out of poverty was an aim set out by the United Nations in their Sustainable Development Goals in which the top two priorities were zero hunger and zero poverty. Still, the consequences of recent changes in global politics and national interests have meant that the poor in the developing countries suffer most.

It has been well said that hunger and poverty appear different depending on whether you are experiencing them or simply observing them from a distance. The aim of SHAREAfrica is to understand the needs of our fellow believers, and to do what we can to help. This includes support programmes ranging from assembly buildings, feeding programmes, orphan support, Bible teaching, and farming support, some of which are briefly covered in this newsletter.

SHAREAfrica has maintained a presence in Zambia for over 25 years, during which time the Lord has provided for many thousands of His people. On their behalf, we thank everyone who has contributed.

We are also grateful to those who have donated to the income-generating activities such as seed development and food production. It is these activities that will underpin the work for years to come.

*The administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God. (2 Cor 9:12)*

## Assembly Feeding Programme

Each month, a total of 520 bags of CSB (Corn Soya Blend) are distributed across seven assemblies and one children's home. While these may seem like mere figures, behind every number is a family whose life has been touched in a meaningful way. These distributions represent not only food provision but also hope, dignity, and transformation for countless individuals.

This intervention is particularly critical given the current economic climate in Zambia. With inflation at high levels, the cost of essential commodities has continued to rise, eroding the already limited purchasing power of the poor. Families that were once able to manage basic food needs are now unable to sustain themselves, and many are forced to make difficult choices between food, healthcare, and education. The result has been an ever-widening gap between the poor and those who are better off, leaving vulnerable households at risk of deeper poverty and long-term hardship.



Against this backdrop, the feeding programme has become a lifeline. It is not simply about providing food, but about restoring dignity, health, and hope. For guardians caring for orphaned or vulnerable children, these meals ease the burden of daily survival and allow them to redirect their limited resources towards other essential needs. In this way, the programme plays a strategic role in addressing not only immediate hunger but also the broader cycle of poverty that many families are trapped in.

## A New Minibus: A Blessing on Wheels

The distribution uses a mini bus, but poor road conditions and an ageing vehicle resulted in breakdowns that disrupted deliveries. A new, second-hand import was purchased, which has a greater payload, allowing it to carry more food as well as reaching outlying areas without fear of breakdowns..





## Farmer Support Programme

Our last newsletter reported changes we were implementing to the Farmer Support Programme (FSP) to help boost farmers' incomes. Since then, we have received donations for nine more farmers and funding for five new boreholes. This brings the total to 60 farmers, with nine of them having access to fresh water close to their fields enabling them to hand water small vegetable plots. Previously, boreholes were often drilled in villages or near assembly halls, providing fresh water for communal use but were not used to water crops.

The 60 farmers in the programme come from six impoverished communities, yet they find joy in the Lord and trust Him for rain and harvests to sustain and feed their families. In the past, our support included inputs like seeds and fertilisers, but this year, we decided to purchase their outputs (grain) at a higher price and sell it in bulk. This gave farmers a better income. However the drop in demand for soya meant SAZ sold it at a loss - though the farmers were still paid the premium price.

This is part of a learning journey. Moving forward, we aim to diversify crops and also encourage farmers to grow vegetables during the off-season, especially farmers with water. Crops like onions, sweet potatoes, garlic, and carrots can be sold at local markets, providing much needed additional income.

Although it will take time, the images clearly show that these brothers and sisters are living in conditions far below what is acceptable. The potential for rotational non-stop farming is a way to improve incomes, but traditionally it has never been done. SAZ is reviewing the possibility of helping them to market vegetables by aggregating outputs and storing them in a conditioned environment so they can be sold in bulk to local and city markets. The facilities and logistic have still to be worked out but we are working on it.

The keys to success are: 1) Providing farmers with boreholes that mitigate against drought and enable them to grow crops out of season. 2) Deciding which crops fetch the best price out of season and teaching the farmers to grow them.

### New Boreholes

Mr. Justin Tonga, aged 47, is a long-standing SAZ smallholder farmer from Magoma Village in Chief Chinunda's area. He is married to Mary and they are caring for seven children as well as one dependent. Beyond his farming activities, Mr. Tonga serves as an elder at Malonga Assembly and is a council member under Chief Chinunda, where he participates actively in local development initiatives.

Over the past four years, Mr. Tonga has participated in FSP, showing notable growth in productivity and income through consistent adoption of improved inputs

and recommended agronomic practices. However, during the past two farming seasons, he experienced adverse effects of erratic rainfall and prolonged dry spells.

The pictures show the successful drilling at Mr Tonga's Farm. The borehole will serve as a reliable water source for, domestic use, livestock watering, and the potential to grow high value vegetable crops, or simply to grow enough food to sustain them in times of drought.



Mr Tonga with other farmers

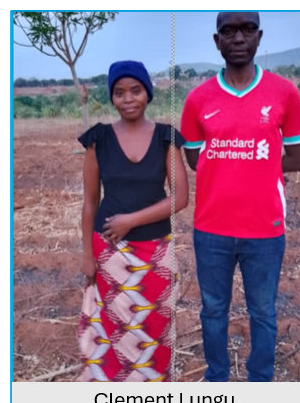
A further four boreholes were drilled at the farms of Beatrice Tembo, Sarah Nkhata, Clement Lungu, and Timothy Mbewe.



Beatrice Tembo



Timothy Mbewe



Clement Lungu



Sarah Nkhata



# SAZ Orphan Programme

## Changing Lives, One Child at a Time

The SAZ Orphan Programme now supports 246 children, a number that has greatly increased in the last two years; a true sign of growth and impact! This means more children are staying in school and more families are receiving much needed support.

Children in non-government schools have their school fees paid, and every child receives a bag of mealie meal each month. With the recent drop in mealie meal prices, they now also receive **CSB** (corn-soya blend) as an extra supplement.

The feeding programme has brought new life to many homes. Parents are stronger and able to work, while children are healthy, energetic, and focused on school. This program is not only meeting immediate needs but is also helping to break the cycle of poverty for generations to come.

Being orphaned is already one of life's deepest emotional challenges. It means growing up without the comfort, protection, and security that parents provide. But when poverty is added to this burden, life becomes extremely difficult and, at times, unbearable. This is the daily reality of the children enrolled in the SAZ Orphan Programme. These are young lives marked by both loss and need, yet carried with remarkable courage and resilience.

Most of these children live with guardians who are themselves struggling to make ends meet. Often, the guardians are elderly grandparents, single mothers, or relatives with very limited income. They take the children in out of love and compassion, despite their own challenges. It is a heartbreaking cycle, a child in need being cared for by someone who is also in need. These households represent some of the most severe cases of poverty, where food insecurity is constant and the struggle for daily survival is real.

One of the children being helped is Anna Chanda who was recently added to the programme. Her grandmother, who is her primary caregiver, was overjoyed to receive the mealie meal and CSB. The happiness on her face was truly touching; a reminder of how even the simplest acts of kindness can bring immense joy and comfort to those in need.



Rodger and his aunt have been facing ongoing challenges with paying the rent, a struggle that has caused them great worry and instability. As Rodger's guardian, his aunt carried a heavy responsibility caring not only for him, but also for other children under her care, all while trying to make ends meet.

Rodger's sponsor generously sent a gift that not only helped clear the rent arrears but also enabled her to start a small business. When the funds were delivered, his aunt was completely overwhelmed with emotion. She could hardly believe the amount and was almost brought to her knees in gratitude and amazement. Tears of joy filled her eyes as she expressed how deeply her life and the lives of her children had been changed forever.



This is Harriet with her cousin in front of their poor home with the entrance covered by a piece of cloth. Poverty levels are high and life is a struggle. Harriet attends an overcrowded primary school with over one hundred pupils in her class. She recently achieved ninth place in her class and with the right support, she has the potential to improve her performance.

For the SAZ team, visiting and supporting the children is more than a duty, it is a calling. Every bag of mealie meal delivered, child visited, and smile received reinforces the purpose of the programme. The administrators find great emotional fulfilment in seeing lives transformed in real time. It is truly emotionally rewarding to serve God's people in this way; providing not just food but love, dignity, and hope. The programme has made a tangible difference in the lives of these vulnerable children. The programme's success is a testimony that when resources are combined with love and intentional care, transformation happens; not just in the lives of individuals, but in entire communities.



## Factory

The factory at Makeni is a crucial part of our operation, producing food for the Assembly Feeding and Orphan programmes. The factory also produces breakfast cereals, which are sold to supermarkets to help offset the cost of the facility at Makeni as well as subsidise other projects.

The breakfast porridge, known as CSB (Corn Soya Blend), is the most popular product by far. In addition to being distributed to assemblies and orphans, it is now also being sold to other community projects aimed at reducing malnutrition among children.

Currently, all bags are hand-filled, weighed, and sealed, but with the increase in demand, we have reached the limit of what we can do manually. Over the past months, we have engaged a manufacturer in China to design filling machines to automate the process. These machines have since been manufactured and are expected to arrive in December.

A new product was also launched this month, a sorghum version of cornflakes called Sorghumflakes. This is a new product, introduced because sorghum is a more drought-tolerant crop that can be grown on our farms, and it also offers health benefits over cornflakes. As a new product, it will take time to sell; however, the blind tasting has proven it to be better than cornflakes - credit to Eddie for developing the product.

Electricity remains a significant concern for the factory. Running an operation where random power cuts occur for hours is intolerably disruptive. For over a year, we have been delaying a decision to install a generator,

primarily due to the cost of the generator and the fuel required to run it. We have also been pleading and praying that ZESCO, the electricity company, will provide a dedicated supply to the factory; however, if by the end of December we have no resolution, we will go ahead and purchase a generator.



## Chimwemwe Assembly in Kitwe

### Appeal for help to replace the roof

Chimwemwe (Chimwemwe is a Bemba word that means To Be Glad)

The Chimwemwe assembly began as an outreach from the Kwacha assembly in the late 1980s. As membership grew, they started meeting in Chimwemwe Township, and eventually a building was constructed in 1992 with the support of believers from the Kwacha assembly as well as others.

Today, the membership is around 600, with 400 attending on average each Lords Day. There is a large and continually growing group of children and youths, which increases the overall numbers.

Poverty levels are high, with very few in secure employment; therefore, the offerings are small and insufficient to maintain the large building with increasing signs of disrepair.

When Eddie Kasonga from SAZ visited the assembly in October, the elders explained the serious condition of

the roof and asked if SAZ could assist. Eddie noticed that the timber is rotten, and the roof is bowed, putting it at risk of collapsing. The roofing sheets are asbestos, so repairing them is not feasible.

Engineers were engaged to assess the damage and advised that the entire roof would need to be replaced. The estimated cost of removing the roof, fitting a steel frame, and cladding it with iron sheet is K28,000, approximately £9000. SAZ has committed to providing the money to help with this repair.





## Higher Education Students Empowered to Succeed

The five Students under the higher education sponsorship program continue to show outstanding dedication and gratitude for the opportunity provided by Share Africa. Their commitment to learning reflects a deep belief that education is the key to a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Each student was equipped with a laptop, greatly improving their ability to study, complete assignments, and conduct research. This has enhanced their digital skills and opened new opportunities for learning.

With consistent support, these young women are growing in confidence and determination. Their success stories are proof that investing in education transforms lives and creates lasting change across generations.



Christine Siambuto is at Chalimbana University, about 50km east of Lusaka. She is in her third year of a food science and nutrition course. She receives a regular allowance from ShareAfrica, which is a great help for her food and other essential expenses. She is very grateful for the support, which she says has significantly reduced her burden and has allowed her to concentrate better on her studies.



Magaret Kalombo is at Mulungushi University in the third year of an agricultural engineering degree. She is fully sponsored with support for both tuition fees and upkeep. Her brother was supporting her but could not keep it up meaning she had to drop out with debts. However, ShareAfrica stepped in to enable her to return to her studies. It has lifted a heavy burden from her shoulders and has given her peace of mind to continue to work hard,

knowing that this opportunity is shaping her future for the better. Agricultural Engineering may seem a difficult choice for a girl, but the expanding agricultural sector should provide opportunities.



Deborah Mwinsa is in her first year of a natural science course aiming to go on to study pharmacy. Deborah's sponsorship is truly a miracle. Her mother lives in extreme poverty, and the family serves as caretakers at the assembly in Chibolya, where they also reside. For them, the amount of money required for Deborah to be in school was far beyond their reach. However, the lady

who had been sponsoring her through school has stepped in to support her through college. It is therefore a tremendous blessing that her school fees and upkeep and accommodation costs have been covered. Deborah is deeply grateful for this life-changing support and continues to work hard towards achieving her degree.



Lenganji Mabonge is in her second year at Kafue College of Health Sciences and Research studying clinical medicine. Her ambition to become a clinician has been made alive through the support of her sponsor, who provides her school fees and a termly upkeep allowance.

This sponsorship has lifted a heavy burden and given her renewed purpose and determination to succeed. Lenganji's life will never

be the same once she completes her studies. The transformation brought about by education will not only change her future but also impact her children and generations to come.



Doris Nambeye is in her first year studying environmental health. She was supported on the Orphan Programme while at school and secured a tuition fee scholarship from an organisation called When Women Lead. However, Doris still faced challenges meeting her living expenses, so ShareAfrica stepped in to provide some financial

support. She now studies without worry, fully focused on her education. Doris is deeply grateful to the Share Africa sponsorship program for their timely support and care.

All these young ladies are doing well in their studies and are also going on for the Lord, being active in their local churches. We continue to pray for them in their studies.



## Emmanuel Children's Home at Kanyama Assembly

Knyama Christian Brethren Assembly established *Emmanuel Children's Home (ECH)* in 2003 as a child welfare centre to care for less privileged children within the community. The centre officially opened its doors in 2004, built with the support of *Action International* through its *Zambian office*, under the leadership of then-director Glenn Ripley, who has since relocated to Winters, California, USA.

The home and its accompanying school are overseen by a board of directors drawn from the assembly's five elders. Currently, the home provides shelter for five children under the care of two foster mothers. The school serves 105 children and is staffed by five teachers and two support personnel.

Despite its noble mission, Emmanuel Children's Home continues to face significant financial challenges. Most of the children come from vulnerable households and are unable to afford school fees. Consequently, teachers are extremely underpaid and live under difficult conditions.

ECH stands as a beacon of hope for children without guardians and those from impoverished backgrounds. Although the Kanyama Assembly itself struggles financially, its members have remained compassionate and committed to caring for the needy among them. Through their efforts; and with support from SHAREAfrica Zambia and other assemblies within Lusaka; the children receive food and other essential assistance. Sisters from various assemblies also take turns contributing to the children's welfare.

However, the home is currently facing a serious challenge: the roof has developed holes, and with the onset of the rainy season, the children's safety and comfort have been greatly affected. There is an urgent need to replace the roof to ensure the children continue to live and learn in a safe, dry, and dignified environment.

The elders have approached SHAREAfrica Zambia (SAZ) requesting financial assistance, but until the building is surveyed the extent of the work is unknown. However with such a longstanding relationship we will do what we can to help. We will update you in the next Newsletter.



## Kafue Park Christian Brethren

This is another group of believers who have asked for help to complete their building. They are Kafue Park Christian Brethren, a company established following outreach work from Chimwemwe assembly in Kitwe. They have already purchased a plot and have started building but need help to complete it. Currently, they meet under a temporary shelter, but during the rainy season, meetings are difficult.

They have already invested £15,000, which includes the land and the minimal structure shown in the photos. They have estimated it will take £6000 to finish the structure and have asked if we can help.

Through the faithful giving of the Lord's people, including gifts from the closure of assemblies in the UK, SHAREAfrica has a reserve for assembly support, which is used for this type of work.

### As one door closes, another one opens



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