

ZDDT Newsletter

Zambezi sunset...

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Welcome to ZDDT and our very first newsletter! You will see from the content that we are already extremely busy and active on a number of fronts as we set about the mammoth task ahead. Having said that, we are committed, motivated and inspired by the generosity, interest and support that we are receiving from day to day from within Zimbabwe and right around the World!

Office Update

You will see from the photo caption that the offices are up and running albeit very spartan. We do hope to have land line connections in the course of the next couple of weeks. This will make a huge difference in day to day operations as communication is a key element in achieving our goals. Through kind donations, we have three desks, two chairs, two carpets and two sets of curtains. Candace, pictured, has kindly made available the use of her desktop and laptop. Whilst a donor has expressed interest in furnishing us, we do depend literally on charity at the moment. We are currently working from another office as initially, Candace was having to run backwards and forwards to a land line in the suburbs to connect to the rest of the world. This has become costly in both time and funds.

Hard at work!



In the interim, Candace has been busy as, as you can imagine, as there is a huge amount of foundation work necessary in building the base of what we aim to become. For example, email contact has been made with a considerable array of people and organizations world wide who have expressed an interest in ZDDT. The networking has been very productive so far as we have received our first donation towards the feeding schemes just a week ago!

Prospective Projects

Helping Hands Seed Project



This project is administered by Kerry Kay, and her team in Harare, and ZDDT is now involved in sourcing funding to maintain this most successful scheme which has reduced the food deficit in 55 thousand families country wide. Seed packs are provided for crops and vegetables.

Leadership Training

The Mayor of Bulawayo has requested Leadership Training for senior staff and a Youth Group is seeking workshops in human rights and non-violent conflict resolutions. ZDDT has secured suitable programs and facilitators and we are now seeking funding through our existing network to make this a reality.

Current Projects

Barham Green Crèche

Many readers will know Barham Green in Bulawayo and, one of the centre points of this community, south of the city centre, is this crèche where many people began their instructional education. Originally built by the City of Bulawayo and administered by the local community, it has sadly fallen into disrepair. Licensed to accommodate 75 infants, only about 15 are enrolled at present due to the financial crisis hitting most families. Mrs. De Jong, the nursery school teacher, explained how revenue had dried up and basic repairs and maintenance had ceased due to lack of funds. Some of the plumbing needs attention, the stove to cook the daily meal is not functioning and repairs need to be effected on the ceiling, guttering and some glazing is required on broken windows. If you have an association with this facility and would like to assist, the Trust will be very happy to administer the funding and provide you with progress reports as we set about reviving this once proud facility. Recently the Trust accompanied the local MP, Mr. Eddie Cross, on a visit.



A little one that is currently being cared for.

News Items

Bungwe School

A plea for help from an old boy was received at the offices of the Trust a week before end of year exams as there was no paper on which the students could write their finals. Bungwe school consists of three teachers and 75 pupils in Gwatbemba not far from Filiabusi in Matabeleland and the material resources of the school are in such a depleted state that it can barely function despite the commitment of the three teachers. ZDDT makes an appeal for anybody that can assist in any way and will pledge to overseeing the disbursement of funds. Any donors will receive concise feedback. *See page 4.*

Clothing Donations

The National Development Officer, Simon Spooner, is seen here handing over donated clothes to a single mother and her family in Ward 1 Bulawayo, an area including the CBD. The gifts come from a group of woman in a country town in Australia who have committed to knitting baby clothes for the upcoming winter. Lorna Smith, the group leader from Springsure, in Queensland, says that she is shocked by the plight of ordinary Zimbabweans.



BARHAM GREEN CRECHE

This stove cooks lunch for up to 75 infants. Pictured here is caregiver Mrs. De Jong.



Hungarian TV

On March 2nd, ZDDT will feature as the topic for discussion on the Hungarian television show, "Lets Talk". It is to be presented by Dr. Balazs Mihalfy, who, as a friend of ZDDT, is actively promoting the ideals and work of the Trust in Europe. We hope to bring you a report back in the next issue.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

News Items

ZDDT Soft Launch

On Thursday the 26th of February 2009 ZDDT held its Soft Launch, in Bulawayo, which was a great success.

A full cross-section of society attended including the Mayor, the Governor designate, a Senator, a Councilor and two Trustees. We are particularly grateful to all of them. Borne out of this launch was the basis for the Bulawayo Survival Plan, the format for which will be completed in the next two days.

For further info please see attached overview...



-A most important key to successful leadership is your ability to direct and challenge the very best that is in those whom you lead." - Anonymous

HARARE - Jan 2009

Urban Food Security Assessment

An Urban Food Security Assessment study dated January 2009 shows that 58% of the individuals in the sample survey had eaten only two meals on the day before participating in the study and another 18% had eaten only one meal that day. Only 22,6% of the sample had eaten three meals on that day. The figures are compared to the results of a survey carried out in November 2006, when 54,1% of those questioned had eaten three meals, 37,4% had eaten two meals and only 4,2% had only one on the day before completing the questionnaire.

Over the period, the number of households classified as "Food Insecure" had increased from an average of 24% to 33% and a breakdown of the 2008 figures by province shows Manicaland to be worst off at 47% and Matabeleland South best placed at 20%.

For a full report contact:

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Doc Size - 452.15KB

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Website - We will bring this to you as soon as it is completed

Do you wish to donate?

- A School
- A community
- A councilor
- A feeding scheme
- ZDDT Administration
- A project

Mail us at zddt@yoafrica.com