



# THE PROTEA

## Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

Vol. XV No. 2

Breaking the cycle of poverty through education

December 2020



Skyfire over Bowers Farm, Salem, Oregon

### Oregon Ablaze

Flames raged close to Salem, but EBZEF survived the Oregon wildfire crisis in September. Smoke, ash, and hazardous air quality plagued us for weeks. However, amazing first responders and the October rains finally controlled the fires and cleared the air. Meanwhile, the corona

virus has required isolating all over the world. Beth's Girls missed Term #1/Semester #1 classes as Zambia closed schools to respond to the viral threat.

In spite of global, national, and local crises, and with your kind support, EBZEF continues to move forward with our scholarship and construction programs in Lumwana West, Zambia, educating the Whole Girl and her community on the other side of the world. 🍀

### Secondary School Update

Mr. Mbongo Njolomba, Headmaster, reports, "We are in week 10 of our school calendar. The number of students is much higher than recommended per class. We have split students into sessions to avoid overcrowding. So far we have no record of Corona Virus in the village. Nevertheless, we still adhere to Covid safety standards.

"Current student population is 177 girls and 229 boys, totaling 406 pupils. As headteacher, my vision is we should have only enough students in our classrooms (45) to guarantee quality teaching and learning. EBZEF is striving to make this vision a reality by constructing more classrooms and staff houses." 🍀

### Secondary School Construction

Beth's mother, Linda, donated a 3-classroom block for the secondary school using funds from her hip replacement recall surgery settlement. World Vision Zambia (WVZ) manages the current construction project.

Engineers Without Borders is working with WVZ to replace the new Science Lab's roof blown off during a windstorm in October 2019. Upon completion of these projects, the secondary school in Lumwana West will have a total of 12 classrooms. 🍀

### Houses for Teachers

With your support, construction of desperately needed teachers' housing for the secondary school continues. The first two apartments are occupied by Madam Juliet Fweneti, computer science/business studies, and Mr. David Muzeya, mathematics teacher. A second duplex is almost complete and a third is funded, to house a total of 6 teachers. The cost of a duplex is \$5,300. 🍀

### DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Every dollar matched up to \$10,000 through December 2020!

### GG Partnership Success



EBZEF is enjoying a successful crowdfunding partnership with GlobalGiving (GG) in 2020. With a Superstar rating and a Search Rank of 513 out of 6,560 international organizations, EBZEF raised \$19,365 towards our \$35,000 goal, including over \$3,000 in GG matching funds.

Visit <https://goto.gg/43633> to view the EBZEF project, to access our quarterly reports, and to donate. Recurring monthly donations will be matched by GG after the 4th consecutive donation. 🍀 🍀 🍀



Secondary School 3-classroom block #3 to come



EWB Science Lab dilemma



Teachers' House #1 Completed



Teacher's House #2 Almost Complete



## First Year Students



**Anipher Mbimbi** is in year 1 of 3 at Eden U in Clinical Medicine. "I feel humbled for the love & care that each Beth's Girl is enjoying."

**Kerron Chilumbwe** is in year 1 of 3 at Ndola Nursing School. "It was a challenge for me to go to school. Your support will help me reach my dream."



**Thelma Sambaulu** is in year 1 of 4 at Oak University in Nursing. "Thank you to all my sponsors. May God protect you for me."



## Coronavirus Update

All Beth's Girls scholarship recipients are now in school observing careful virus precautions. Having missed Term/Semester #1, those originally scheduled to complete coursework in 2020 will carry over into 2021. Graduations will be delayed accordingly. Each of these accomplished young women is eager to continue/complete her studies and to begin her career. What amazing role models they are!



Lumwana West Pre-School Aides Belindah and Jean study at Zambia College of Education.

**Belindah Kalumba:** "I have never seen people like you in this world, what you have done for me. I don't know what I will do for you and what to give you. Without you I can't be who I am today."



**Jean Mutepuka:** "I like my teaching because I enjoy being with kids, and I take care of them like my own children. Am happy because our school is growing. We started with seven to ten, but now we have many more pupils."



**Priscovia Sangenjo** studies in year 3 of 4 at Chalimbana U for a BS in English & Civic Education. As a role model for younger Beth's Girls, Priscovia teaches English and Religious Studies at Lumwana West Secondary School.



## Continuing Studies

### TEACHING

These Beth's Girls will complete their studies (year 3 of 3) to become pre-school, basic and secondary school teachers. Gloria, Kareen, and Florence study at SW Solwezi Teacher Training College.



**Gloria Njolomba:** "With our economy, I was going nowhere without you, my blessed sponsors. Your support gives me inspiration to work even harder on my studies."



**Kareen Sweta:** "Today our future is bright because of you. You have been supporting me since grade eight up to the college level. Thank you for being with us in this journey."



**Florence Lubeba:** "Thank you for taking time to sponsor me. I will forever be grateful for the wonderful things you are doing in our lives."



**Stella Masanyinga** studies at Fairview College of Education. "To my sponsors, I have come this far because of you. Words are not enough to tell you how grateful I am."

### MEDICINE

These young women study in specialized medical fields.

**Caren Kabulayi** is in year 2 of 3 in Clinical Medicine at Northwest U College of Health & Applied Science. "My humble appreciation for your effort to make it possible for me and my academics to go forward. It's not easy, but you have always made it look easy."



**Christabel Sweta** is in year 4 of 4 at Evelyn Hone College of Pharmacy. "Thank you for your continued support despite the pandemic which couldn't allow a physical class so we did online classes."



**Visaka Kapalu** is in year 5 of 7 at Lusaka Apex Medical U to become a physician. "Thank you to my sponsors. Without you I wouldn't be where I am today."



### NURSING

Lucy and Gracious are in year 2 of 3 at NWC College of Health & Applied Science.

**Lucy Mutepuka:** "Am very humbled to all my sponsors and happy. Studies are going well although there's corona virus. I thank you all who sponsored me for this mercy."



**Gracious Chilumbwe:** "Thanks to all my sponsors for your love and kindness. Bless you for giving me this opportunity. I enjoy my career so very much."



**Mulenga Chilufya** is in year 3 of 3 to be an RN at Northwestern U. "Thank you for the support you are giving me. If it hadn't been for you, I would be nothing. My parents couldn't have made it possible for me to be in university."



**Joy Salumawu** is in year 3 of 3 to be an RN at Eden U, taking extra training to become a military nurse. "Am so excited to tell that I am almost done with my studies. I can't wait to put on my white uniform! I am going to be a successful person all because of your blessings and love upon my life."



### TECHNICAL

Beth's Girls study in technical fields.

**Rebecca Lubeba** is in year 2 of 3 in Welding at Solwezi Technical Trade School. "Thank you for sponsoring me as a Beth's Girl. You have helped me develop my skill. Am really enjoying my studies, and I want to reach the highest level of my course."



**Margret Kambili** is in year 2 of 4 in Electrical Engineering at Solwezi Technical Trade School. "To all my sponsors and the founder of EBZEF, Elizabeth Bowers, may her Soul rest in peace. My dream is to become an engineer. Because of you, my dream has come true."

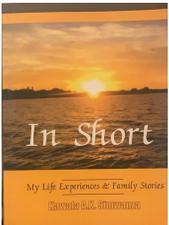


## Library Update



**Activity:** Sandra Kamuloso, Memorial Librarian, reports “The Library is in operation though things came to a standstill when the schools and other public places were closed. Since the president announced the reopening of schools and other public places, pupils are now in in schools from September.”

**Book Shipment:** The Books For Africa shipment arrived safely. Sandra reports, “On behalf of the Lumwana West Community, thank you so much for the books sent to us. Especially for the management and leadership books which so many readers were looking for. The books have made a great impact to our library. Now the library has been updated with some of the latest books.” Mr. Njolomba adds, “This is a wonderful collection! They are very, very good books.”



**Book Donation:** Mpoli Simwanza-Johnson from Texas, impressed and inspired by EBZEF’s work in Lumwana West, has donated copies of her father’s book “In Short” to the Memorial Library. Mr. Kawala A. K. Simwanza’s short stories are good examples of how to record one’s own family history. They are especially appropriate in support of the current Lunda Lore project where community members of all ages are documenting their own cultural stories. ☞

## Congratulations, BFA!

EBZEF celebrates Books For Africa’s 50,000,000th book to Africa! As longtime partners with BFA, we laud and support their goal to “end the book famine in Africa.” ☞



## Pre-School Update



Headmistress Ireen Sandu reports, “The Pre-School opened on September 21st, 2020. This is after staying away since March. As teachers we will have a tough time to catch up with what the children have missed.”

“We have 45 boys and 50 girls who have opened school.” With concern for the coronavirus, Ireen adds, “The learners are coming in groups of 15 pupils per session.”

Ireen reports, “With this playing equipment, pre-school learners are really overwhelmed!” She adds, proudly, “These are our painted swings.” ☞



## Celebration!



Ireen graduated from the University of Africa on November 6th with a Bachelor of Technology in Education Management as required by the Ministry of Education to retain her position as Headmistress of Lumwana West Basic School. EBZEF supported her studies. We are grateful to work with Ireen, an excellent administrator. ☞

## Mary’s Report



Mary Lundeba works with WorldFish Zambia to expand rural fish-farming. She reports, “WorldFish is making efforts to decentralize fish seed production and supply among smallholder farmers to improve on accessibility and availability of seed. We are training smallholder hatchery operators in various communities.” Mary, an EBZEF PhD scholarship recipient, is making a huge difference in Zambia’s aquaculture program. ☞

## Cans for Coins

EBZEF Board Treasurer Kathy Kelemen has a wonderful “quarantine” activity. She goes from floor to floor collecting returnable bottles and cans to turn in for \$\$ for EBZEF! You can, too! See <https://bit.ly/ebzefbottle>. ☞



### CHARITABLE GIVING

If you are age 70.5 or older, and must make mandatory distributions from your tax-deferred IRA, you are eligible to make tax-free donations to qualified charitable organizations. **Please consider EBZEF in your giving plan.**

### GIVE A LIFE-ALTERING GIFT

### THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

Help change lives and offer hope to Beth’s Girls and their community in NW Zambia.

So little goes so far:

- \$25 funds classroom blackboard
- \$50 funds books for the Library
- \$125 funds 1 mo. pre-school aide’s salary
- \$450 funds graduation fees
- \$600 funds computer for Library
- \$2,500 funds 1 year of college study
- \$31,750 funds boys’ lavatory w/septic

Amounts vary due to fluctuating exchange rate between US \$ and Zambian Kwacha.

## HELP SUPPORT EBZEF

Designate EBZEF as your charity of choice on AmazonSmile at: <https://bit.ly/ebzefsmile>

Check out our website at: [www.ebzef.org](http://www.ebzef.org)

Connect with Twitter at: [www.twitter.com/EBZEF](http://www.twitter.com/EBZEF)

Partner with eBay for Charity at: <https://bit.ly/ebzefebay>

Join our Facebook page at: [www.facebook.com/EBZEF](http://www.facebook.com/EBZEF)

In OR, WA, ID, AK, designate your Fred Meyer Community Rewards at: <https://bit.ly/ebzefm>

In OR, dedicate your BottleDrop refunds to EBZEF at: <https://bit.ly/ebzefbottle>

Tell Your Family and Friends About Us

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The Slide

## Lumwana West Pre-School



Jungle Gym



Seesaw



Playground with Fence

# The Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

*One life made the connection.*

*Now many carry on the vision of caring.*



## Our Mission

**EBZEF empowers women, children, and their community in Lumwana West, Zambia, to break the cycle of poverty through education.**

## Our Vision

Elizabeth Rachel Bowers (1979–2002) shared her compassionate spirit with the people of her village as a Peace Corps volunteer. The education legacy sustains Beth's vision of service and global awareness by empowering young women to build positive change from within, to become leaders and educators, and to improve the quality of life in their communities.

EBZEF | P.O. Box 294, Salem, Oregon 97308-0294 | 503-585-4605 | [www.ebzef.org](http://www.ebzef.org)

Beth was four years old when she caught her first rainbow trout in the family farm pond. Before her journey to Zambia we shared many fishing adventures.

During the summers when Beth was in High School, we would camp and fish in the wild, returning home to join Linda at the Ashland Shakespeare Festival. Fly-fishing topped off by Shakespeare—what could be better!

We fished at Cliff Lake in the Madison Valley of Montana in our float tubes. She paddled about the lake, sun-bathing and reading, turning to the trout only when they cooperated. The book was David Duncan's *The River Why* about a young fisherman.

In Idaho's Sawtooth Mountains we hiked from one lake to the next. Beth's

## Remembering Beth

"My Fishing Buddy"



By Gerry Bowers

dream itinerary was 13 lakes in 3 days. We managed only 2 or 3 lakes, fishing for brookies and goldens. Then off to Sun Valley for pizza.

As a student at Earlham College Beth trekked in Utah's Uinta Mountains. When her group reached the high lakes, she whipped out her bamboo fly rod and caught brook trout to feed them all!

After graduating and joining the Peace Corps, Beth studied talapia fish farming for Zambians. Fellow volunteers were surprised by how Beth dispatched a fish in one quick move.

The last fish we caught together was a steelhead trout in the Santiam River. It was Beth's first steelhead. Now, when I go fishing, my buddy is ever-present. ☘