



# THE PROTEA

## Elizabeth Bowers Zambia Education Fund

Vol. XVI No. 2

Breaking the cycle of poverty through education

December 2021

### Great NonProfits

EBZEF has been selected for the 2021 Top-Rated List of GreatNonprofits! Please share your story about EBZEF online at [bit.ly/ebzefGNP](https://bit.ly/ebzefGNP).



### Secondary School Update

Mr. Njolomba reports the 2021 Lumwana West Secondary School population for grades 8-12 at 213 boys and 275 girls for a total of 488 students.



### Kindness and Generosity Survive




In this time of cumulative crises, EBZEF is pleased to report that our wonderful donors, volunteers, and supporters have risen to the occasion. So many of you have been with us for years, watching EBZEF's programs initiate and develop in the remote rural village of Lumwana West in NW Zambia. Your commitment and contributions have helped to build educational activities into lifelong influences on Beth's Girls and their community.



The Elizabeth Bowers Rose


From committee service to newsletter editing, from \$10 monthly donations to \$10,000 grants, from notes and queries to on-line sharing, your encouragement has sustained EBZEF for almost two decades.

Together we have changed the way the Lumwana West community views the education of women. More importantly, we have changed the way Beth's Girls view themselves and their own limitless potential. Thank you! 

### DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

Every dollar matched up to \$10,000 through December 2021!

He further notes that "Lumwana West Secondary School has been designated by the Ministry of Education as an 'External Exam Center' for the whole area which is why, at a total of 433, the external numbers are so high." External exam students are those from grades 9 and 12 who have failed their exams and must rewrite the subjects they failed. The total number of students is 882.


"Due to the large numbers in each grade and those that are re-sitting, we now have a classroom accommodation disaster. We have to cope with an average of 147 students per classroom. However, if the school were to have a fourth classroom block, this problem would highly be minimized to about 98 students per classroom." 



### Secondary School Construction

Mr. Njolomba says, "The new classroom block 3 has been built and roofed. Plastering and flooring will begin next. It is an amazing structure."




EBZEF purchased 200 desks for the new classrooms at a cost of \$7,760 including transport. "I checked on the desks. They are wonderful! They will be available for collection soon." 



The Headteacher's House is nearly complete. "It is a fabulous house!"



Building materials are ready for the new Boys' Ablution Block (lavatory).


Classroom blocks 1 and 2 are awaiting drainage repair. Sand and stones are already on site. 



## Scholarship Updates



Help EBZEF  
educate the  
Whole Girl!

Beth's Girls are seizing the opportunity for higher education with great zeal and dedication. The Covid virus delays due to last year's school closures are beginning to ease. More Beth's Ladies (graduates) are serving as role models for their community, thanks to your generous support. 


## First Year Students

**Ethel Kawaya** is in year 1 of 4 in Public Administration at the National Institute of Public Administration. "I convey my honest, genuine gratitude and appreciation. Your sponsorship is priceless."



**Abigail Njapawu** is in year 1 of 3 in Nursing & Clinical Medicine at Silver Maple College of Education & Health Sciences. "My words can't thank you enough. You are angels on earth. Thank you for your support."



**Karren Kamulosu** is in year 1 of 7 in Medicine & Surgery at the University of Zambia. "I am privileged and humbled to have this scholarship. Your generosity encourages me to be hopeful in life as a future Doctor." 



## Continuing Studies

### TEACHING



**Stella Masanyinga** is in year 3 of 3 at Fairview College of Education. "Thank you for the support you have given to me and other Beth's girls. We now have graduates in our community."



**Priscovia Sangenjo** is in year 4 of 4 at Chalimbana U. for a BS in English & Civic Education. She teaches English and Religion at Lumwana West Secondary School. "Bless you for everything you contribute to our well-being at Lumwana West."

**Jean Mutepuka** and **Belindah Kalumba** are in year 3 of 3 at Zambia College of Education in



## Graduations



Congratulations to **Gloria Njolomba, Kareen Sweeta,** and **Florence Lubeba** who graduated from SW Solwezi Teacher Training College on May 28, 2021!



**Margret Kambili** graduated in May 2021 from Solwezi Technical Trade School with a certificate in Electrical Power. She continues in year 1 of 3 at Northern Technical School for a diploma in Electrical Engineering. "Thank you. Because of you I am



Early Childhood Education. They work as Teaching Aids at Lumwana West Pre-School. "We thank you for the work you are doing to support Beth's Girls."



### MEDICINE



**Anipher Mbimbi** is in year 2 of 3 at Eden U. in Clinical Medicine. "It's with a grateful heart I salute the entire EBZEF crew. Love, peace & joy to all my beloved sponsors."



**Caren Kabulayi** is in year 3 of 3 at Northwest-

ern U. College of Health & Applied Science in Clinical Medicine. She will study ophthalmology at Levy Mwanawasa Medical U. "You have helped me realize that dreams can come true. Great things can be said about you, more than you can ever know."

**Christabel Sweta** is in year 4 of 6 at Apex Medical U. for a BS in Pharmacy. "My studies are going well. Your support encourages and pushes me to work hard."




**Visaka Kapalu** is in year 4 of 7 at Lusaka Apex Medical U. "I am studying for a degree in medicine and surgery to become a general human doctor. Thank you for all you have done for me. I promise to work hard and make you proud."



an electrician. Am not forgetting Elizabeth Bowers, the founder of EBZEF—may her soul rest in peace."

**Rebecca Lubeba** completed a Welding Certificate at Solwezi Technical Trade School. She will be in year 1 of 3 at Northern Technical College for a Diploma in Metal Fabrication. "Thank you all for sponsoring my education."



**Mulenga Chilufya** graduated as an RN from Northwestern U. in June 2021. "Your support has made me a driven individual. My face can tell how happy I am. Thank you very much!" 

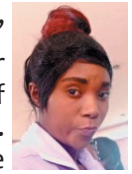


### NURSING

**Joy Salumawu** will graduate as an RN and a military nurse from Eden U. She will resit for her surgery exam. "To my sponsors, bless you for helping me reach this far."



**Lucy Mutepuka** is in year 3 of 3 at NWU College of Health & Applied Science. "Thank you for giving me this opportunity. Please greet all my sponsors."




**Gracious Chilumbwe** is in year 3 of 3 at NWU College of Health & Applied Science. "Thank you for your love and mercy. You are my strength, my mentors. I don't know what I would be without you. You've transformed me from a street kid to a nurse."



**Thelma Sambaulu** is in year 2 of 4 at Oak University. "I am so excited that I will be going for my first attachment! For this rare opportunity as a result of your support, I will forever remain grateful. Am so happy!"



**Kerron Chilumbwe (Kabongu Musenga Chilumbwe)** is in year 2 of 3 at Ndola Nursing School. "I really enjoy my career, thanks to you, my sponsors. I will always remember your love, kindness, and support." 





## Pre-School Update



**Belindah with pre-school learners**

Headmistress Ireen Sandu reports, "As Lumwana West Early Childhood Education (ECE), we are a role model for all the schools in the district. We thank EBZEF for making this community to be on top of things. The new government has really appreciated your efforts, and everyone who passes by this school has a story to tell and always ask us how we found EBZEF. Please, we are grateful."

Ireen adds, "As of now we have 33 boys and 43 girls in ECE for a total of 76 learners." A request for funds for school supplies received a grant from EBZEF's Library Committee for \$550.

An additional grant is pending for food and garden projects. "ECE children enjoy school more when we prepare food which is consumed here at school as communal meal every day. This project will help curb the issue of absenteeism and improve health conditions for malnourished children. The project will cater to the 76 ECE children and 12 selected ones from grades 1 to 4 who are orphans and malnourished."

Ireen notes, "The project for the school garden supplies food which the children grow for themselves. It has been most successful in the past. We need seeds and fertilizers to help us manage the garden." 🌿



**ECE teachers with supplies**

## Beth's Girl Progress Report



**Kerron Chilumbwe**, student nurse, reports, "I'm doing very well in my studies. Our school brought us to Mpulugu Harbour for port health which is the international program coordinating health services across borders and between countries.

"We offer services like inspecting ships, health screening, and monitoring baggage, goods, cargo, etc., medical examination of travelers. We also monitor and control the discharge by ships of sewage, refuse, and other things. I am really enjoying my career, thanks all to you, my sponsors." 🌿

## Library Update

New solar batteries were installed in the Memorial Library at a cost of \$2,025 including transport and installation. Mr. Njoloma reported, "The whole system is okay but the batteries lost their power after working continuously for 13 years." The batteries had a projected lifespan of 10 years.

The Library printer was also replaced at a cost of \$850. It is heavily used for printing, scanning, and photocopying.

Librarian Sandra Kamulosu reports, "We at Lumwana West wish to pass our gratitude to EBZEF for their wonderful work. We were in darkness, but EBZEF, through Elizabeth Bowers, has brought light to our community. Hence, people have access to things they never thought of."

"Reading levels have improved because of the Library, pupils have stopped moving to distant places in order to see themselves in schools, the secondary school has been brought to our door steps. Thank you for your help." 🌿



## 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
- \$300 funds 3 classroom shelves
- \$450 funds graduation fees
- \$600 funds computer for Library
- \$2,500 funds 1 year of college study
- \$4,500 funds single teacher's house
- \$13,500 funds married teacher's house

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

### 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.**

## GlobalGiving

EBZEF is a Top-Ranked nonprofit business with GlobalGiving. See our fund-raising profile at:

<https://goto.gg/43633>



## 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>

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Fall at the Bowers Farm (sans fire & ice)



Mulenga is now a nurse!



Children learn shapes using bottle caps (top: with Jean, right: with Belindah)



# 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.

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### Remembering Beth

**"Buds and Blooms"**  
By Bonnie Ross

I lived in Zambia from 2001-2003. Elizabeth (Beth) Bowers was a much loved and appreciated Peace Corps Volunteer in a distant part of Zambia a full two-day drive from the capitol, Lusaka, where I lived. I never had the chance to meet her. Roads were hazardous and full of potholes. Beth was riding her bike between villages when she fell, hitting her head.

Those who worked at the US Embassy in Lusaka and those at The American International School of Lusaka mourned her loss. We honored her dedication to



supporting women in Lumwana West, the village where Beth worked as an aquaculture instructor.

I wanted to contribute to EBZEF, as this non-profit organization touched my heart deeply. My retirement income prohibited contributing significantly. However, I do have a substantial rose garden built up over the last 30 years

along the sidewalk in front of my house. It contains 55-60 beautiful fragrant rose bushes, including state and national award winners. People of all ages come by to stop and smell the roses!

I created a 24/7 rose-season-long fund raiser for EBZEF to educate the community of Monmouth about the village school project. Several buyers come back year after year. Some bring friends. Every year I receive thank-you notes, both for the lovely roses and for the opportunity to support the education of children, families, and a small village on the other side of the world.



**EBZEF thanks you, Bonnie, for your sustained kindness and generosity!**