

Annual
Report
2021

www.childfund.org





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Our Vision

A world where every child realizes their rights and achieves their potential.

ChildFund
Zambia

Abbreviations

AOPB	Annual Operating Plan and Budgets
CO	Country Office
CP	Child Protection
CSP	Country Strategic Plan
DAC	Day of the African Child
FY21	Fiscal year
ECD	Early Childhood Development
GBV	Gender-Based violence
LP	Local Partner
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
SRH	Sexual and Reproductive Health
TOR	Terms of Reference
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Our Mission

HELP deprived, excluded and vulnerable children have the capacity to improve their lives and the opportunity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change in their communities.

PROMOTE societies whose individuals and institutions participate in valuing, protecting and advancing the worth and rights of children.

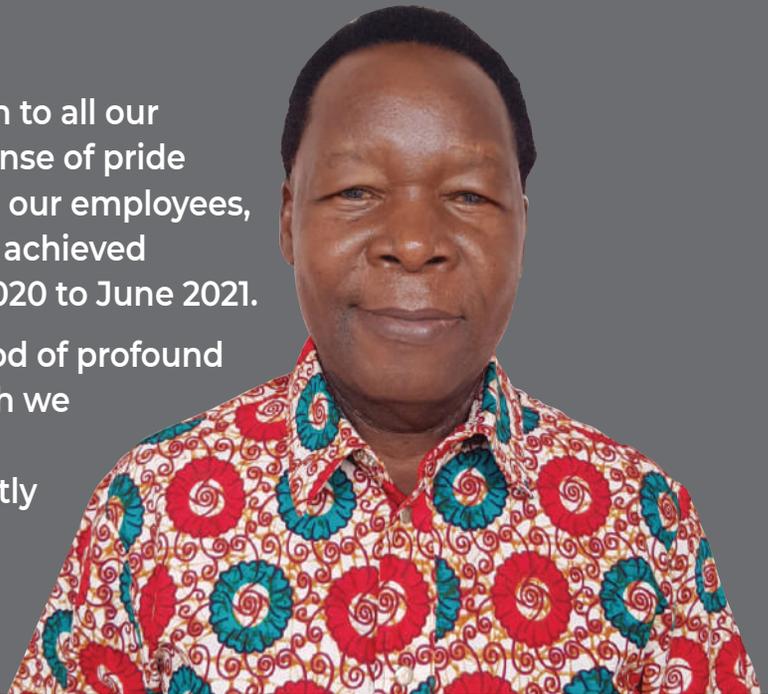
ENRICH supporters' lives through their support of our cause.

From the Country Director

Dear Reader,

I begin this annual communication to all our donors and stakeholders with a sense of pride about our organization, our brand, our employees, and the impactful results we have achieved together during the period, July 2020 to June 2021.

As I look back into the year, a period of profound change, it is remarkable how much we accomplished as an organization despite the challenges posed mostly by the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.



906,876 individuals, including children, their families and other community members participated in our programs.



101 health centers and **141** schools in 10 districts were supported with basic supplies to enable them respond effectively to the pandemic.



2,075 families benefited from our cash transfer program.

Even though the pandemic continued to threaten the planning and implementation of our programs, I'm pleased to report that we still met our goals, I will quickly run you through the major milestones of the year under review. This report will also offer a glimpse into some of the opportunities that are opening up before us.

As I look back, I realize that we set the right priorities and that is why we were able to reach a total of 906,876 individuals, including children, their families and other community members with services in child protection, advocacy, household economic strengthening, early childhood development, education, WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene), food security, health and nutrition, disaster risk reduction and emergency response. This represented an increase of 47% annual reach compared to 43% recorded in the last financial year.

As the Zambian Government launched the COVID-19 emergency cash transfer with support from various partners, ChildFund was also given an opportunity to implement an unconditional cash transfer project in Luangwa District.

Through this project, over 2,075 families were rescued from acute hunger as it helped them not only put food on the table but also supported the recovery of livelihoods, protection of children and increased access to healthcare services.

During the year, most of the families that we supported reported being able to use the monies to invest in small livestock rearing projects, completing their building projects and paying for their children's educational needs.

Additionally, a total of 101 health centers and 141 schools in 10 districts were supported with basic supplies to enable them respond effectively to the challenges of the pandemic.

In our quest to create a Zambia fit for every child, we worked with the Joining Forces Alliance in calling on policy makers and other decision makers in both private and public institutions to champion for an effective child-friendly national legislative, policy and institutional framework.

As more and more children resorted to the use of online platforms for learning and social interaction when schools were closed due to the pandemic, we also focused our efforts on advocating for online safety of children especially for girls who are more exposed to false information when they go online.

The year under review also gave the country office an opportunity to take stock of past successes, failures, and the formulation of future goals considering the changing needs of the communities we serve. This process took place as the country got set to work on the Strategic Plan for 2021-2026.

Our partnerships played a big role in our achievements, that is why as Country Director, I appreciate the partnerships we have built over the years with our supporters and donors. Their continued support enables us to reach thousands of vulnerable children and communities, and I am thrilled to have been part of this journey. It is because of their ongoing support that we achieved extraordinary results in 2021.

Finally, I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to all ChildFund employees

and our local partners for their contribution to ChildFund's vision and mission which continued to guide our delivery of services throughout the fiscal year. None of our achievements would have been possible without your unwavering dedication to work.

 **In 2021 we reached a total of 906,876 individuals with services in child protection, advocacy, household economic strengthening, early childhood development, education, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, food security, health and nutrition, disaster risk reduction and emergency response.** 

Outlook

COVID-19 is still with us, and I believe our response plan will continue to occupy center stage through the fiscal year 2022. Our new strategy has a number of priorities that focus on child well-being despite the effects of the pandemic.

We will also use various digital platforms to advocate and account for support received from various donors. Creating safe digital spaces for children will also be a top priority.

We look forward to coming out of the COVID-19 crisis on a solid footing to face the post-pandemic world.



SIMBA MACHINGAIDZE

About ChildFund

ChildFund International is a child-focused international development organization that works throughout Asia, Africa and the Americas to connect children with the people, resources and institutions they need to grow up safe, healthy, educated and skilled, wherever they are.

Delivered through over 250 local implementing partner organizations, our programs address the underlying conditions that prevent any child or youth from achieving their full potential.

We place a special emphasis on child protection throughout our approach because violence, exploitation, abuse and neglect can reverse developmental gains in an instant. In 2021, we reached 16.2 children and family members in Africa, Asia and the Americas with programs and services, and another 21.5 million with related and useful broadcast information.

ChildFund began operating in Zambia in 1983 and has been reaching over 800,000 children and their families annually through various programmatic interventions. The office receives its funding mainly through grants and sponsorship.



What drives us

ChildFund's programs are inspired and driven by the potential that is inherent in all children; the potential not only to survive but thrive and become leaders who bring positive and lasting change for those around them.

What we do



We work to protect children's rights and ensure that they enjoy a healthy environment free from any kind of violence, abuse, exploitation, negligence or discrimination



We ensure that the children we support have access to quality education and schools have adequate teaching and learning materials.

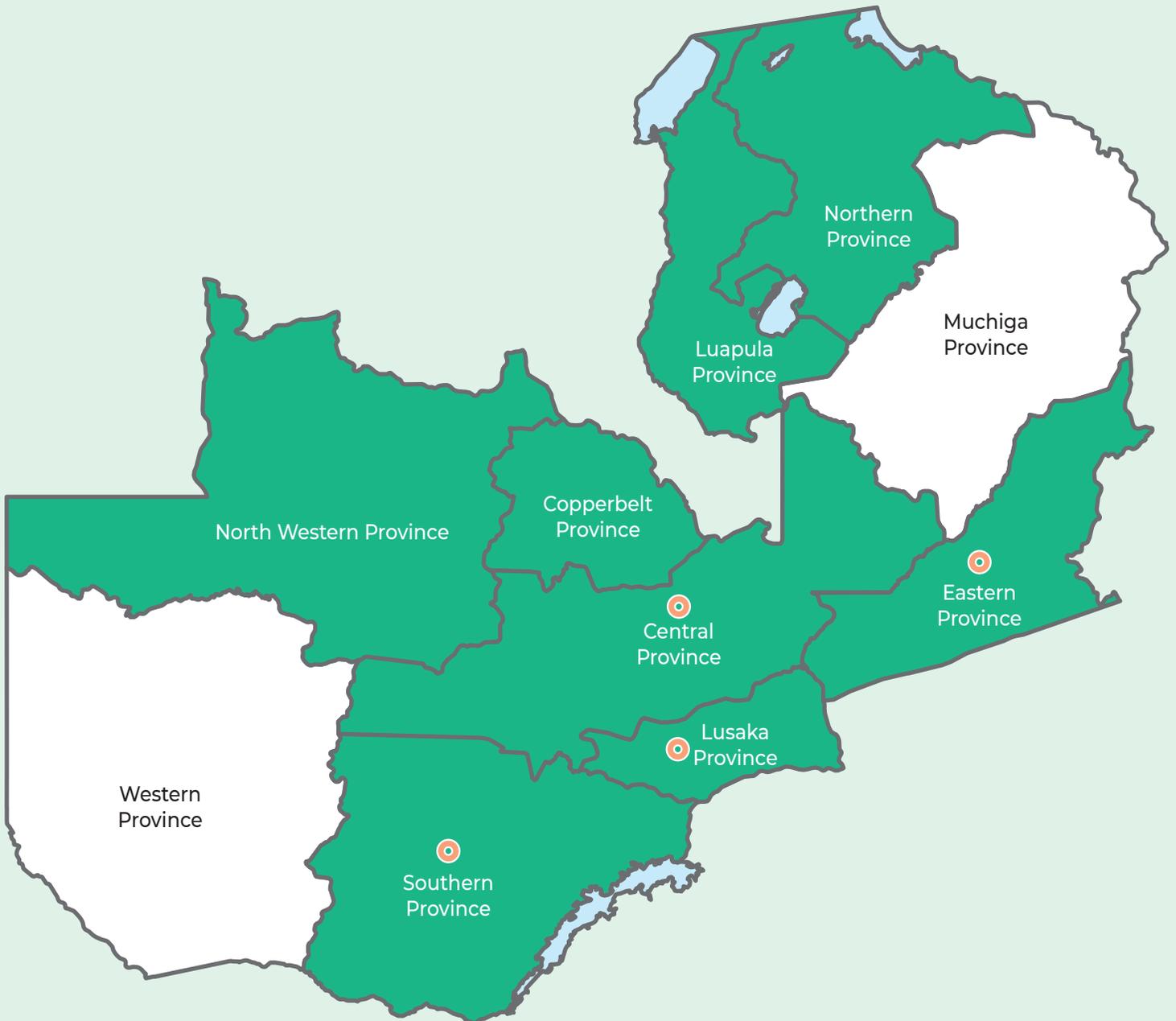


We want children to be able to express their ideas and opinions freely and influence the decisions that concern them.



We want children to be healthier, thanks to effective prevention measures, quality treatment for illnesses, and increased access to adequate and nutritious foods.

AREAS OF OPERATION



ChildFund Zambia implements its programs through 6 local partner organizations operating in 31 communities. These are located in the following districts: Lusaka, Kafue, Chilanga, Luangwa, Chongwe, Rufunsa, Mumbwa, Chibombo, Chisamba and Shibuyunji.

Through grant-funding, ChildFund also extended its programs and operations to the southern and eastern parts of Zambia during the year under review. These included Mazabuka, Monze, Livingstone, Kalomo and Kazungula districts.

FY21 - AT A GLANCE

Financial investment

**145 Million Kwacha
(USD 7 Million)**

Number of people reached

906,876

Working in

31 communities

Through

6 Local partners

Children enrolled in our
sponsorship Program

28,000

Total number of staff

45

Our Aspirations for Children at Every Stage

ChildFund programs are implemented using a distinctive three-part life stage programming approach. This approach promotes children's optimal development at every age by tailoring interventions to their unique needs as they grow from infants to young adults. This approach is classified as follows:



Life Stage 1

Healthy and Secure Infants (0 to 5 years)



Life Stage 2

Educated and Confident Children (6 to 14 years)



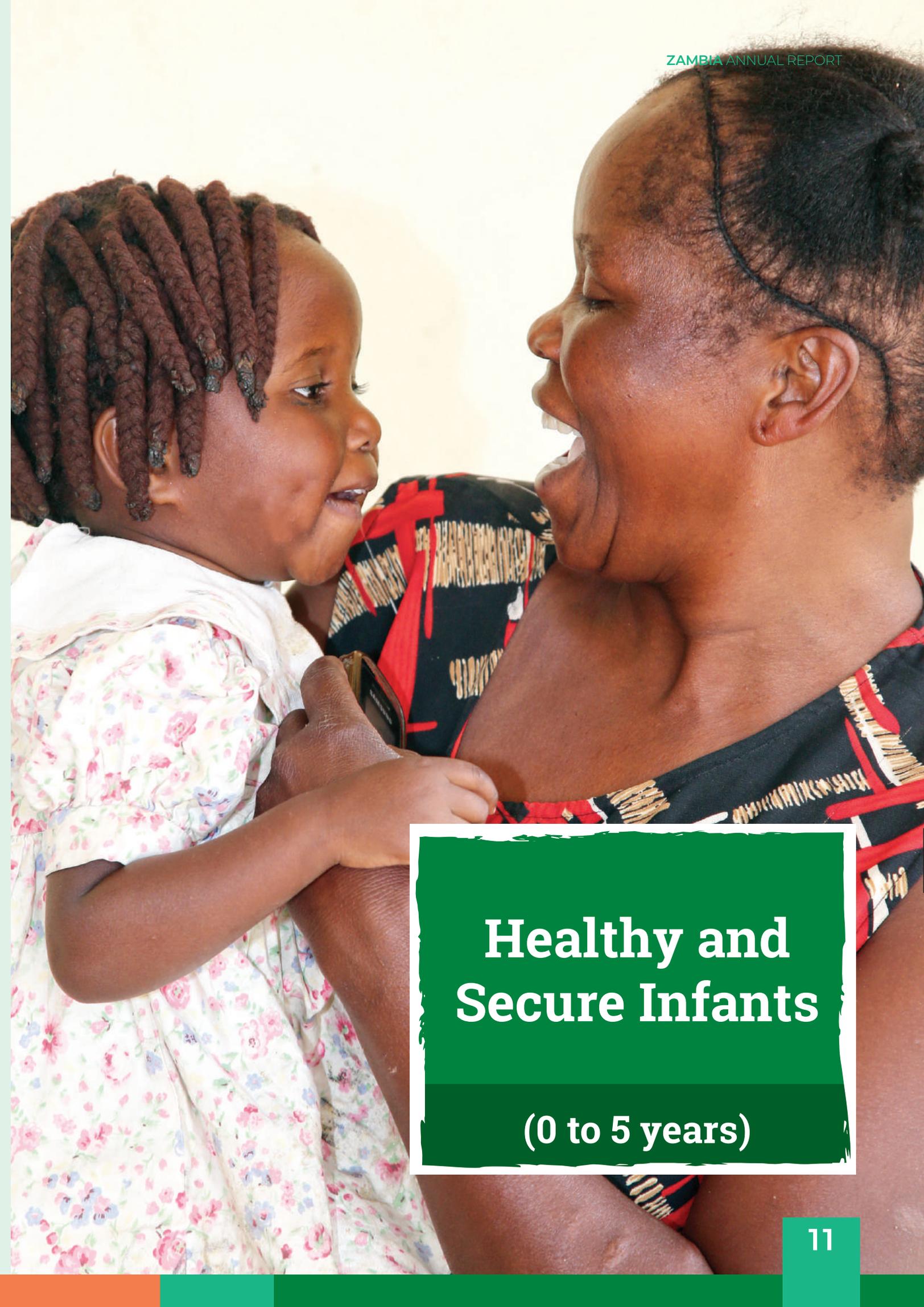
Life Stage 3

Skilled and Involved Youth (14 to 24 years)

During the year under review, ChildFund's focus was on enhancing care givers and community members' knowledge and practices in integrated health, nutrition, responsive parenting, early learning, and child protection interventions.

ChildFund continued to help children build a foundation for lifelong learning and supported their safe transition through adolescence.

We continued to design specialized age-appropriate interventions that meet young people's unique needs. We also worked to provide protective environments for them in their communities.



Healthy and Secure Infants

(0 to 5 years)

For the Youngest Children (0 to 5 Years)

Early Childhood Development (ECD) is an investment in human capital and is globally recognized as a foundation for social and economic development. It focuses on the holistic growth of a child, emotionally, mentally, socially, and physically.

Whilst progress has been made in meeting the developmental needs of infants and young children in Zambia, they still face a number of challenges that include stunted growth and limited access to early childhood care development and education. (ECCDE).

According to Government statistics, only 35 % of children in grade one pass through ECCDE, and as such Zambia is ranked amongst the countries with the highest rate of education exclusion.

To contribute to the provision of quality early childhood development and early education, ChildFund partnered with various stakeholders including the Zambian Government to give over 6,000 children access to early learning and stimulation in 125 centers supported by ChildFund across the country.

Additionally, over 20,000 caregivers were equipped with knowledge on responsive parenting through the Responsive and Protective Parenting Program Model (RPP). The skills acquired enable parents and caregivers to be more aware of their children's emotional and physical needs. They are also able to respond appropriately and consistently.

Child Growth Monitoring

In order to support children's optimal growth, ChildFund Zambia in conjunction with District Health Management Teams, conducted growth monitoring activities in 10 districts reaching a total of 10,123 children.

Growth monitoring involves tracking child growth by regularly measuring the child and comparing

his or her growth (i.e., height or weight) to a standard, assessing growth adequacy, and linking the growth trend with a target action through tailored counseling and referral. This intervention has also contributed to increased caregiver awareness of child growth trends, improved caring practices, and increased use of other services.



6,000

Children with access to early learning and stimulation.



20,000

Care givers equipped with knowledge on responsive parenting.



10,123

Children supported through growth monitoring programs.



 I want my children to be kind and above all, I want us to have a relationship that will make it easier for them to be free and share anything with me.”

~ Lembani

Promoting male involvement in parenting

Fathers play a significant role in families and their involvement in parenting is critical for the healthy development of their children. However very few fathers play a role in the care of their infants and young children. ChildFund Zambia has been raising awareness and conducting trainings to encourage male involvement in parenting especially during the first 1000 days of a child's life.

31-year-old Lembani is one of the fathers that has changed his attitude towards male parenting after undergoing the trainings. “I have always thought taking care of infants and small children is my wife's role. I thought mine was just to provide food for the family and discipline children when they make mistakes. The first two children are really scared of me and I now see that we have no meaningful relationship. I thank ChildFund because this is now my turning point towards being a father,” he said.

Lembani explained that from the trainings, he has learnt that children that are cared for and have a healthy relationship with their fathers grow up to be more caring and kind to younger children and share a lot of love and laughter with others.

“I want my children to be kind and above all, I want us to have a relationship that will make it easier for them to be free and share anything with me. In my time we could not share anything

with our fathers for fear of being beaten up, I also started behaving the same way towards my children, thankyou ChildFund for opening our eyes.” he said

Lembani also states that it's a bit difficult for his three-year-old son to respond as he is not yet used to play or connect with his dad in anyway.

“My youngest son that I have started bonding with does not easily respond, he is not yet used to being hugged or play with me but I'm not giving up, I have seen we are getting somewhere and we will soon be best of friends.”

Another parent, Kondwani appreciated the training saying his involvement in parenting is helping his wife to concentrate on her chores at home without being too stressed.

“In the past my wife would be looking after the baby, cooking and cleaning whilst am just seated waiting for her to serve the meals. This left her too stressed, now that I have been trained, I take the time when am home to bond with the baby and seeing the smile is a very rewarding feeling. ChildFund should train others because very few men in my village appreciate this.”

During the trainings fathers are encouraged to change their parenting attitudes and watch videos on baby talk, positive discipline and effective father-child interaction.

Restoring Hope through Early Childhood Development centres

Seven-year-old Peter is elated to be enrolled at the ChildFund supported Chainda Early Childhood Development center.

At the center, he forgets about the quietness and loneliness of his grandmother's house.

"when I was first brought to the center, I was scared, I didn't know whether people will like, but I found that the teacher is very nice. I also found a lot of friends who are the same age as me, it's nice being in school," he said with a shy smile.

Peter lives with his 80-year grandmother and 16-year-old cousin, life has not been easy for the family of family who mostly depend on well-wishers to feed. They also own a small piece of land where they grow maize and vegetables.

"Peter is my daughter's son, she died when Peter was three years old and his father had abandoned the family when the child was only a few months old. His mother developed malaria and died as she was being taken to the hospital." His grandmother explained.

Peter was not an only child, his mother had three other children before who all died before the age of five.

"My daughter prayed that Peter must live, she was very scared of losing another child. Unfortunately, it was herself that had to die before seeing her last son's fifth birthday.

She explained that Peter became very withdrawn after losing his mother and that it was hard to make him smile adding that the situation changed when ChildFund volunteers visited the family.

"They told us that there was a school for young children where Peter could start going and interact with other younger children. At first, he was scared and I also didn't know whether he would like it there," his grandmother added.

Playing and learning new things is slowly restoring hope for Peter and he is able to talk about his mother, something he could not do before.

"I was told my mother and siblings went to heaven, sometimes I want to visit them, home is very quiet without my mother, but it's fun at



school. Here I have learnt to read and write maths, teacher says I have a good handwriting and put a star in my book, the other day," Peter added.

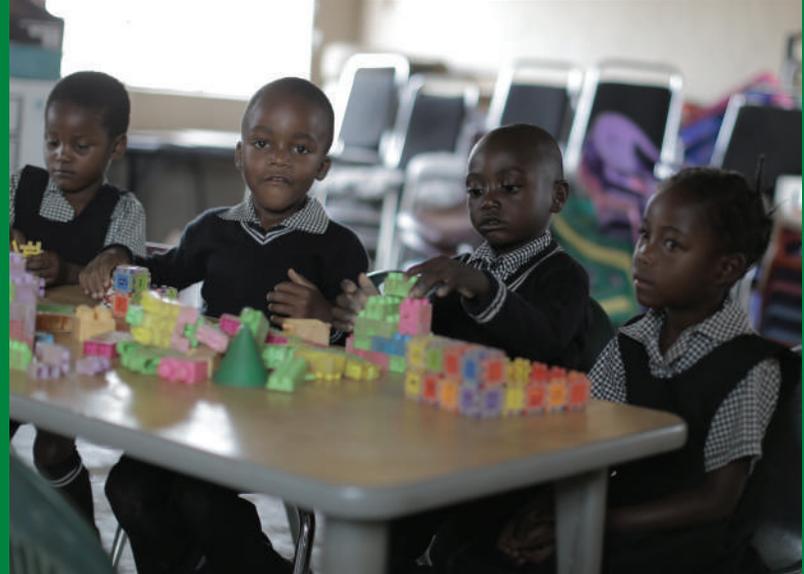
Knocking off is another fun time for Peter as he walks home with a group of friends, sharing stories and picking wild fruits.

"when its time to knock off, I walk home with my friends, I show grandma my books, we then eat lunch if there is food, sometimes there is no food, we just drink water.

Peter is now enrolled in the sponsorship program awaiting to be assigned a sponsor.

"I have been told since my picture was taken, I will get a sponsor, I look forward to that because one of my classmates has one, he receives birthday and Christmas cards. I think sponsors are nice to children," he said.

Asked what he fears most in life, Peter says, he does not want his grandmother to go to heaven as there will be no one to take care of him at home.



“I always tell God not to take grandmother to heaven, she takes care of me and cooks my food, she also tells me stories before we sleep about my mother and siblings who died.”

The Chainda ECD center was constructed a few years ago using sponsorship funds and more than 300 children from five villages that had no access to early education are now enrolled.

The center has been equipped with play equipment and teaching/learning materials are delivered to the center every year

Though a small fee of less than \$10 per month is paid by parents, needy children like Peter are exempted so that this does not deter him from coming to learn.



Chainda ECD was constructed using sponsorship funds, and more than 300 children from 5 villages that had no access to early education are now enrolled.





Educated and Confident Children

(6 to 14 years)

Children and Adolescents (6 to 14 Years)

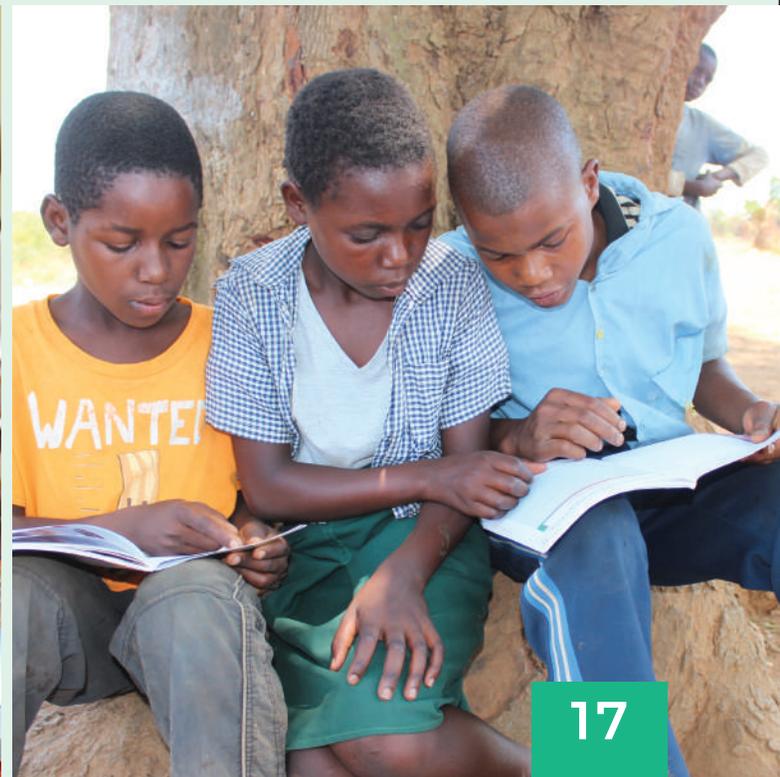
During the year under review, ChildFund continued to provide equitable opportunities for children to become successful and confident learners. We know that quality education is key to breaking the cycle of poverty amongst vulnerable households.

Our focus was on ensuring that children and young adults met the grade-appropriate standards for literacy, numeracy, and non-cognitive life skills in safe environments.

Our educational programs included the implementation of the child-friendly school

project. This project focused on providing safe, clean, healthy, and protective environments for learners. Additional safe learning environments made learning fun, cooperative and participatory.

Through the Child-Friendly Schools project, infrastructure development was prioritized as well as the provision of teaching and learning materials. These were done to improve the quality of education for over 10,000 learners in the implementing schools. These schools are based in Kafue and Chibombo districts.



The School-Based Violence Prevention Model (SBVP)

ChildFund started piloting the implementation of the School-Based Violence Prevention (SBVP) Program Model. One of the major objectives of this model is to ensure that children aged 6 to 12 are living in safe and protective homes, communities and school environments. In Zambia, the pilot focuses on 300 children, 600 parents and 20 teachers in Rufunsa District.

ChildFund also implemented the Active Teaching and Learning Approaches in Schools (ATLAS) to enhance the quality of teaching and learning.

During the period under review, 240 teachers were trained in child-centred teaching methodologies, with an additional 150 learners trained in school governance. School governance is the management of all the financial, human and other resources to attain the short-term objectives and long-term goals of the school. It has been observed that teachers trained in ATLAS:

- are able to plan lessons better, organize their classrooms more effectively, and create interactive learning experiences.
- find it easier to manage large class sizes.
- are able to identify and assist children who need more coaching.
- their children are more engaged in tasks and participate with more confidence in learning activities.
- Classroom environments were more child-friendly and attractive.
- Interaction among children is enhanced.
- Overall school attendance increased.
- Pass rates amongst the learners increased.

Overall ChildFund reached a total of 205,163 children who were given access to quality education during the year under review.



One of the major objectives of the School-Based Violence Prevention model is to ensure that children aged 6 to 12 years are living in safe and protective homes, communities and school environments.



240

teachers were trained in child-centred teaching methodologies.



150

Number of learners trained in school governance.



163

children were given access to quality education.

👉 At ChildFund, we encourage children to identify and nurture their talents and skills at a young age. 🎯





Skilled and Involved Youth

(14 to 24 years)

For Adolescents and Youth (15 - 24 Years)

Zambian youth like many young people in developing countries face challenges such as high unemployment levels, high poverty levels, early marriage, and limited civic engagement opportunities among others. This being also a period of transition into adulthood, it also presents other unique challenges for young people.

To mitigate some of these challenges, ChildFund designed age-appropriate interventions that focused on increasing access to sexual and reproductive health information and services. This was done through the youth-friendly corners that have been set up in all 31 communities.

In some communities, virtual platforms have been set up and over 10,000 young people that

have access to phones have been receiving health information virtually. All these efforts were aimed at ensuring that young people have enough information to enable them to make informed decisions about their sexual health.

We also focused on building their work-ready technical skills and entrepreneurship among others. A total of 202, 713 were also empowered with start-up capital for them to start small businesses.

ChildFund continued supporting young people that are in various higher institutions of learning with tuition fees to enable them to complete their studies. Over 1000 young people were supported during the year under review.





Child Protection

 ChildFund Zambia embarked on a program to equip community members with knowledge on child protection and their roles in ensuring that cases of abuse are detected and reported.



The wellbeing and protection of children remained our key area of focus during the last strategic period. A number of measures were put in place to prevent and respond to various forms of violence against children in the 10 districts where ChildFund operates.

Additionally, ChildFund Zambia embarked on a program to equip community members with knowledge on child protection and their roles in ensuring that cases of abuse are detected and reported. Over 30,000 community members were trained.

All the 6 local partners conducted the Community-Based Child Protection Mechanism (CBCPM) mapping validation exercises. These are networks or group of individuals at community level who work in a coordinated way towards child protection goals. ChildFund Zambia has adopted this approach of identifying the child protection players at community level and mapping them to ensure they play their role in the protection of children.



Advocacy

In FY21, ChildFund implemented various advocacy interventions to encourage local and national leaders to prioritize the protection and well-being of children and youth across the country.

These advocacy efforts, which focused on pushing the end violence against children campaign, were conducted in partnership with five other international child-focused organizations under the Joining Forces Alliance (JFA).

One notable engagement was the participation of children in a special parliamentary dialogue session with 4 committees of Members of Parliament. This meeting was organized by the Country team as a part of engagement with parliamentarians ahead of the presentation of the long-awaited Children’s Code Bill. Issues discussed included child participation, budget allocation to child programs and services, and ending violence against children.

Member organizations of the JFA also participated in the internal legislative review of the draft Children’s Code Bill and consideration by the Ministries of Justice, Community Development and Social Services, and the Ministry of Youth Sport and Child Development.

A number of media advocacy engagements were also held especially during the build-up to the 2021 general elections. This was done to ensure that children’s issues were prioritized by those aspiring to political office.

During the build-up to the elections, children were given an opportunity to ask Presidential candidates to share their strategy towards improving the welfare of children once elected into office. This was aired live on Diamond Television as well as radio stations.



During the year under review, Member organizations of joining forces alliance participated in the internal legislative review of the draft Children’s Code Bill.





30,717

households supported with low-cost water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services



700,000

vulnerable families were reached with messages on control, prevention and seeking treatment for COVID-19.



\$37.59

Amount received by each of the 2,075 households from the Emergency Cash Transfer project

COVID-19 RESPONSE

During the year under review, ChildFund implemented the COVID-19 Emergency Response Project. This project focused on protecting children and their families from the pandemic and was implemented in conjunction with the Zambian Government across the ten provinces where ChildFund has its presence.

Our COVID-19 response plan had four priorities as listed below. These priorities intersect to help stop the spread of the virus as well as mitigate its potential harm, whether direct or indirect, to children:

Priority 1: Stop COVID-19 from infecting children and their families

Priority 2: Ensure that children get the food they need

Priority 3: Keep children safe from violence, physically and emotionally

Priority 4: Help children continue to do their job: learning



ChildFund Zambia received a total of 54,869 units of assorted medical supplies from MAP International that were donated to the Ministry of Health for further distribution to various health centers.



ChildFund handed over Namununga Health Post and nurses' houses to the Ministry of Health. This project was supported by the Transearch Foundation. Community members from 24 villages and over 1,000 children can now access healthcare services closer to their homes and school.



As children were sensitized on Covid-19 prevention and response measures in preparation for the reopening of schools, ChildFund Zambia ensured that children with special needs were not left behind. Sensitization exercises were conducted targeting these children, most of whom are deaf and dumb, in all areas of the CO's operation.



Ensuring an inclusive return to school for children with disabilities - Jane's story

Education is a right for every child, as mandated by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Schools in Zambia opened after almost seven months of closure due to the Covid-19 pandemic. While most parents had a lot of questions regarding their children's safety in school, parents with children with special needs were even more worried.

Meet 13-year-old Jane, a sixth grader at Chinkuli Primary School in Chongwe District.

Jane was born with hands that were not fully developed. She has two fingers on each hand. "Sometimes Jane is shy to show her hands in public. I worried a lot about the issue of washing hands at school to prevent Covid-19," Jane's mother, Martha, explained.

Although Jane was excited to return to school and meet her friends, she not only worried about handwashing but also had very little information about Covid-19 prevention measures.

"When we closed school, we were told that there is a new and dangerous disease, that is all I knew. Later, ChildFund came to my village with a

loudspeaker and told us that every child must go back to school and wear a mask and wash hands frequently." She narrated.

For Jane, this message was even more worrisome as her school did not have enough taps for every child to wash their hands and return to class on time before the handwashing break was over.

"I began to worry that I will always be the last one to wash my hands after the break. This took away my joy of returning to school," Jane explained.

Luckily for Jane, ChildFund through its Covid-19 response program distributed handwashing facilities, sanitizers, facemasks, infrared thermometers among other Covid-19 preventive materials to 145 schools in all its 10 districts of operation. This included Jane's school.

"I was surprised and very happy when we opened because ChildFund had put buckets and handwashing soaps outside our classrooms. I was also given masks to wear to school and other public places like church and markets."

Jane is slowly adjusting to the new normal and learning to adhere to all the Covid-19 preventive measures at home and at school.

Promoting Universal Health Coverage

During the year under review, ChildFund Zambia received a total of 54,869 units of assorted medical supplies from MAP International that were donated to the Ministry of Health for further distribution to various health centers. The medical supplies valued at \$1,686,409.98 were aimed at supplementing Government efforts to achieve universal health coverage.



1.7 Million

Value of assorted medical supplies donated by MAP to the Ministry of Health, through ChildFund.

Saving lives through our nutrition and health interventions

Baby Miracle is a living testimony of the child health care interventions implemented by ChildFund in conjunction with district health management teams. These interventions are focussed on ensuring that children are immunized against preventable childhood

During the activities of the week, ChildFund works through the District Health Management teams to ensure children are immunized, childhood diseases are detected early, and treatment is commenced on time.

Miracle is one of the children that was identified to be severely malnourished during the Child Health Week conducted at a local health centre supported by ChildFund in 2021. According to her mother, Miracle was born healthy with a birth weight of 4 Kilograms. However, her single mother Asiv depends on odd jobs like washing people's clothes to earn a living.

"From the time COVID broke out, very few people would give me work, most of the time we would go to bed hungry, what worried me most was the fact that my baby started losing weight at a very fast rate, by the time she was two months, her weight had reduced to 2.5 kilograms."

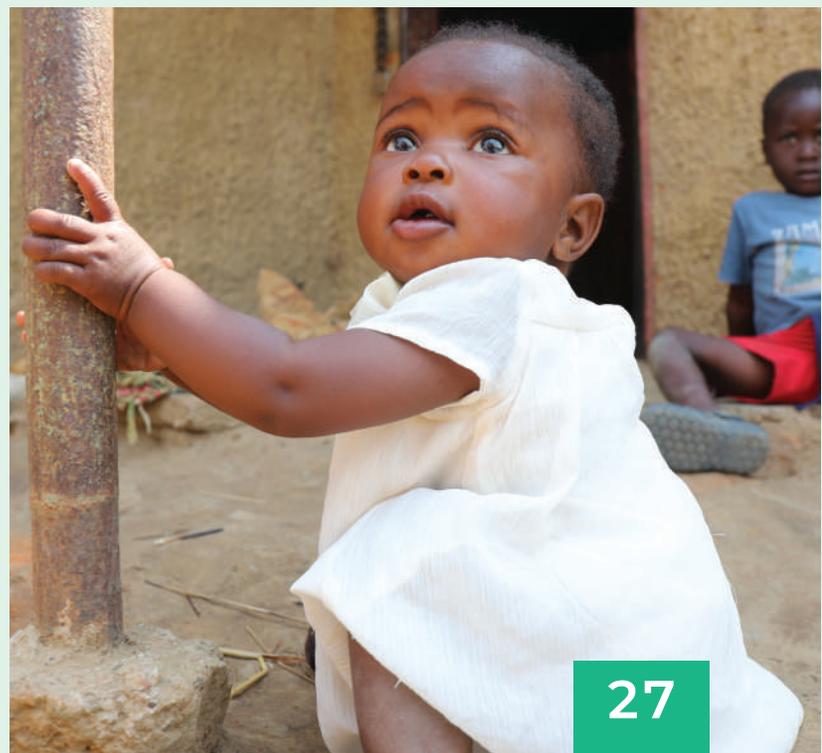
Asiv explained that most of the neighbours in the village advised her to visit a famous witch doctor as the baby had been bewitched.

"Even after administering the medicines from the Witch, doctor, Miracle's health did not improve, she was still looking very frail and slept most of the time. I was very scared and did not know what to do next to save her life," Asiv added.

Luck was on their side as ChildFund conducted the door to door campaign during the Child Health Week. She was immediately requested to take the baby to Chikoka Health Post for immunization and checking on her health.

It was during the visit to the health center that Miracle was diagnosed with severe malnutrition. She was immediately put on food supplements with support from ChildFund. Asiv was also requested to join the class where ChildFund teaches mothers on how to prepare nutritious meals using locally available food stuffs. During these lessons, mothers and care givers also learn about how to detect illnesses like malaria and the need to seek treatment from a health center early.

"After the lessons, I started preparing nutritious meals for her using food found in this village, like groundnuts, maize meal porridge mixed with groundnuts and beans, I was supported so much by the ChildFund staff, they also bought milk and helped me to start a small garden where I now grow a few vegetables and groundnuts for our consumption. My baby is now very happy, healthy, active and has gained weight." Miracle's mother concluded.



Delivering Life-Saving Information amid COVID-19



Henry has never had a normal childhood. Having been diagnosed with sickle cell disease at a very young age, he has spent most of his life in hospital.

“When he turned 4, he developed acute chest pains and swellings on his face, hands and legs. “It was a very frightening experience and when we took him to the hospital, we were told he was born with sickle cell disease.” Grace, Henry’s mother explained.

Grace added that the first diagnosis was the beginning of Henry’s almost near-death complications and that the family kept selling their property to raise money for his treatment.

My son could not enjoy playing sports like other children his age, at school even teachers had no idea how to take care of him or how to respond when he had attacks,” Grace said.

She further revealed that the lack of information about sickle cell and how to take care of a child with such a condition made life very difficult for the whole family.

“We did not have any information about the disease or what we needed to do to ensure Henry remained comfortable. It was all scary and very expensive as we needed to be at the hospital most of the time. That is why I’m very grateful that when the new disease (COVID-19) hit, ChildFund took time to explain how we could prevent ourselves and stop it from affecting our families. This information is still helping us especially Henry who has sickle cell disease,” she said.

Grace added that when ChildFund started sensitizing the community, she sat with Henry and his siblings to listen and get information about how to protect themselves.

“Because of the information we received and what I have read from fliers distributed by ChildFund, I never go out without a face mask because I don’t want to get another life-threatening disease, sickle cell on its own is very bad,” Henry said.

Both Grace and Henry pointed out that since COVID was a new disease, they had no idea about its symptoms and how it could be prevented, the sensitizations have helped provide this.

Henry is also a beneficiary of the ChildFund’s emergency social cash transfer, and he has managed to buy goats and renovate his bedroom.

“I dropped out of school because of my frequent admissions in the hospital. Now that I have bought goats and my health is improved, I have started selling the goats, I have enrolled at the skills training center and learning carpentry. This will enable me get my own income in the next few years.” Henry said.

 I’m very grateful that when the new disease (COVID-19) hit, ChildFund took time to explain how we could prevent ourselves and stop it from affecting our families. This information is still helping us especially Henry who has sickle cell disease.”

~ Grace, Henry’s mother.



GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS

Clean and Safe Drinking Water Project

The Clean and Safe Drinking Water Project funded by Procter and Gamble (P&G) helped to increase access to clean and safe drinking water for 39,000 people in 3 districts: Mumbwa, Shibuyunji and Nyimba. The beneficiaries were initially depending on shallow wells for their water needs.

Statistics show that the project contributed to the reduction of diarrhea cases in the 3 districts from 4,350 cases in 2017 to 845 at the end of this financial year.

By December 2023, ChildFund working with stakeholders like the Ministries of Education, Health and Community hopes to have adequate protected water sources in the schools and communities of the three districts by 2023. The budget for the next one year is pegged at US\$237,220.



In Mumbwa, Shibuyunji and Nyimba, the project helped reduce diarrhea cases from 4,350 in 2017 to 845 at the end of financial year.



👂 I have learnt to wash my hands properly after using the toilet and before handling food. I also know that the toilet should be covered after use and to prevent flies. These tips are also helping us now that there is COVID in our country. 🗣️



Improving health by increasing access to clean and safe water

From her early years, 11 year old Janet suffered several bouts of diarrhea as a result of drinking contaminated water from a nearby borehole which is the only water source for her family.

During a recent interview, Janet whose family are now beneficiaries of the P \$ G water project explained that her health has greatly improved as she now has access to safe and clean drinking water.

“A few years ago, my mother and I were always at the clinic because I suffered from severe stomach pains and diarrhea, this would go on for two or three days and I would stop going to school, it was a very hard time for me and my family,” she explained.

Janet’s mother, Josephine added that relief came to the family when they learnt about the importance of treating their drinking water and ensuring that their surroundings are kept clean.

“We were invited to a training at the local clinic that ChildFund was conducting and I learnt that water from wells and boreholes is normally contaminated and should not be taken without being treated. We were also taught about other methods of treating water like boiling it to kill germs. These trainings opened my eyes and I realized that Janet’s health was being affected because of the contaminated water we were drinking,” Josephine said.

Through the project, Josephine also learnt about the construction of improved ventilated pit latrine and ensuring that it is kept clean and covered when not in use. Other topics covered included the proper hand washing techniques and the importance of having a basic hand washing facility outside the pit latrine.

“In the past people in our village used to relieve themselves in the bush, but we were taught that this could lead to the contamination of our

water sources, making it unsafe for drinking. That is why most of us now have dug our pit latrines and these are at least 30 meters from the houses, thank you ChildFund for this knowledge.”

Children like Janet have also learnt about the importance of hand washing, which is first line of defense against COVID-19.

“I have learnt to wash my hands properly after using the toilet and before handling food. I also know that the toilet should be covered after use and to prevent flies, my mother uses ashes from firewood to clean the toilet. These tips are also helping us now that there is COVID in our country,” Janet added.

According to Josephine, the toilet no longer smells bad as it is cleaned every morning with ashes adding that this makes it safer even for younger children to use.

“early in the morning, I get ashes from firewood to clean the toilet and ensure that there are no flies around the latrine. The bad smells are also gone, we thank ChildFund for running us through this training.” She said.

Another aspect of the training that Josephine attended covered was the aspect of garbage disposal which in the past was a source of concern as their surroundings were littered with dirt.

“I’m so glad that after the trainings, we were all encouraged to dig rubbish pits away from the house. As you we can we clean and yard and throw all the rubbish in the pit. I no longer worry about flies that could cause illness,” Josephine added.

Foster is a ChildFund volunteer that has helped train over 50 households and ensuring that they construct pit latrines and put up hand washing facilities. He explained that he also conducts monitoring visits every month to ensure that households are up to date with the various hygienic practices.

“I can say over 200 people have been trained in preventing contamination of water by Protecting water sources. I have taught families not to construct their latrines at least 30 meters away from their kitchens. Community members have further been trained to always cover their



The project contributed to the reduction of diarrhea cases in the 3 districts from 4,350 cases in 2017 to 845 at the end of financial year.



shallow wells and keep animals away from water sources. With these trainings, the quality of life has tremendously improved.” Foster explained.

However, Foster added that there are a few family (20%) that are still resistant to change and still insist on using the bush to relieve themselves and sometimes asking to use their neighbour’s toilets.

“sensitizations are still being carried out as some families have refused to change their attitudes. We are making progress and we believe that in the next few years, everyone in this village will have a toilet and a hand washing facility,” Foster stated.



HIV/TB Support Services (HSS)

ChildFund Zambia with support from the Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ), has been implementing the Fast Track HIV/TB Epidemic Control (FTECT) project.

The goal of the project is to scale-up HIV prevention, care and treatment services and end new HIV infections among adolescents and young people.

Over the last one year, 47 centres were set up in 8 districts and these are helping to improve treatment, care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Founding Futures Project

The Country Office has been implementing the Founding Futures Project (FFP) under the Assuring the Essentials of Optimal Development for Children Affected by HIV/AIDS. This program is funded by Conrad Hilton Foundation.

The goal of the project is to enable children aged 0 - 3 years and affected by HIV/AIDS to meet developmental milestones supported by trained men and women caregivers. During the year under review, over 4,000 caregivers were equipped with knowledge and skills on responsive parenting and stimulation.



Through the Founding Futures Project, ChildFund established 47 centres in 8 districts and these are helping to improve treatment, care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The Community-Based Intergrated Early Childhood Development Initiative Project

This project is being implemented with support from UNICEF and seeks to create a conducive and safe environment for children and their care givers. Through this project, over 5,000 children that were initially left out of the education system have been given an opportunity to learn in the low cost ECD centers. These have been constructed in Katete and Petauke districts.



over 4,000 caregivers were equipped with knowledge and skills on responsive parenting and stimulation through the Founding Futures Project.

Capacity Building Farmers on Climate Smart Agriculture

As part of our response to climate change, ChildFund partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture to train 2,100 small scale farmers in conservation farming or smart agriculture. The farmers were trained by the Ministry under the Climate Smart Agriculture Zambia Project.

The purpose of promoting conservation smart agriculture activities among the small-scale farmers was for them to reap the adaptation benefits of improved soil productivity that lead to improved crop productivity and enhancing climate resilience.

In addition, ChildFund supported the planting of 5,980 fruit trees in 80 primary schools as part of climate change sensitizations among school children and promotion of afforestation.



As part of our response to climate change, ChildFund partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture to train 2,100 small scale farmers in conservation farming and climate-smart agriculture.



The Malaria Prevention Project

Malaria remains one of the top 10 causes of mortality in Zambia especially among children. To reduce incidences of malaria, ChildFund distributed 4,650 Insecticide-Treated Mosquitoes

Nets (ITNs) in 10 districts. Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) was also conducted in collaboration with the district health management teams.





A Strengthened Partnership for Nurturing Care

During the year under review, with funding from the Conrad Hilton Foundation, ChildFund commenced the implementation of the Nurturing Care project. This project aims at ensuring all the components needed for children to reach their full potential are in place. These include: good health, adequate nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving, and early learning

The project focused on strengthening the coordination between Government, development partners and community-based organizations to expand nurturing care knowledge, attitudes, and practices for caregivers and infants, aged 0 to 36 months.

Parents, intimate family members and caregivers are close to the young child and as such have been identified as the best providers of nurturing care. To ensure that these have adequate knowledge, and skills, ChildFund conducted face-to-face meetings once a month. During these meetings, caregivers were sensitized on playful parenting, nutrition and child safety. The project also emphasized the importance of male involvement in parenting.

Group counseling services were also provided during caregivers' routine visits to health centers and this was done in conjunction with the district health management teams.

 **When fathers nurture their young ones in their earliest years of life - by providing love and protection, playing with them, and supporting their nutrition - their children will learn better, have less behavioural issues, and become healthier, happier human beings. We must break down the barriers that prevent fathers from providing their babies and young children a conducive environment for them to thrive, including love, play, protection and nutritious food. “We must ensure that all parents have the time, resources and knowledge they need to fully support their children’s early development.” - UNICEF** 



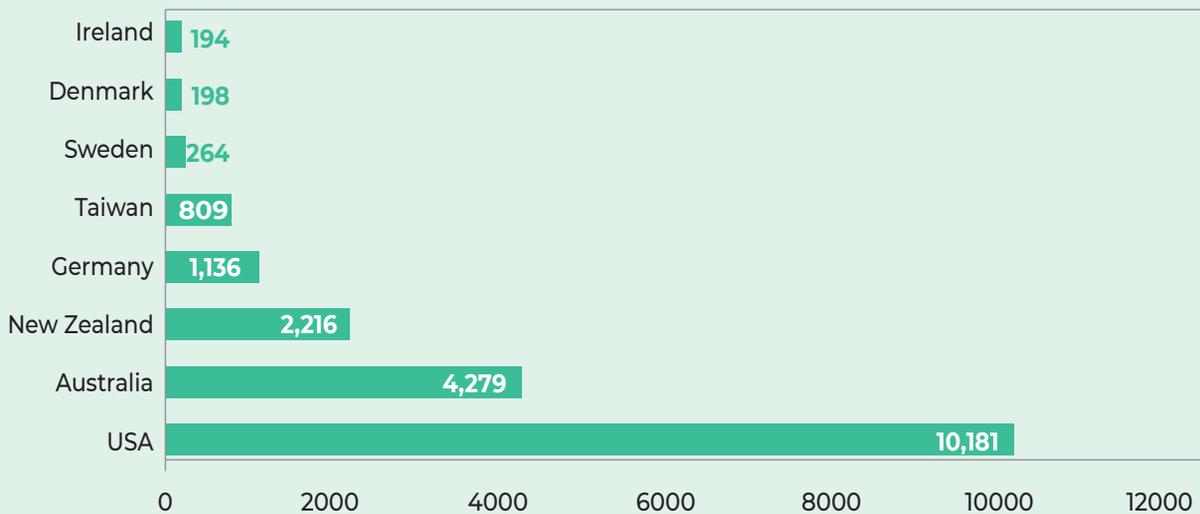
ChildFund's responsive and protective parenting programming in under-resourced communities aims to empower parents and other primary caregivers with the knowledge and practical skills they need to give children a strong start in life. These programs operate through group sessions held in spaces where parents already gather on a regular basis, such as ECD centers. The sessions use fun, interactive activities like games and role-playing to build on what parents already know and do. Programs also integrate home visits in which trained community health volunteers visit the most vulnerable families to review information learned, making referrals to health, social welfare and other locally available services when necessary.



SPONSOR RELATIONS

Child sponsorship remains one of ChildFund Zambia’s main sources of funding. During the year under review, the country office had a total of 28,025 children enrolled in its sponsorship program of which 55.41% were male and 44.59% were female. A total of 19,312 children had individual sponsors. Currently our sponsors originate from nine different countries as shown in the chart below:

Number of sponsors



The Magic Adventure Application

Connecting children and sponsors using technology

To enhance communication between sponsors and their children, the country office piloted a paperless method of preparing child letters by

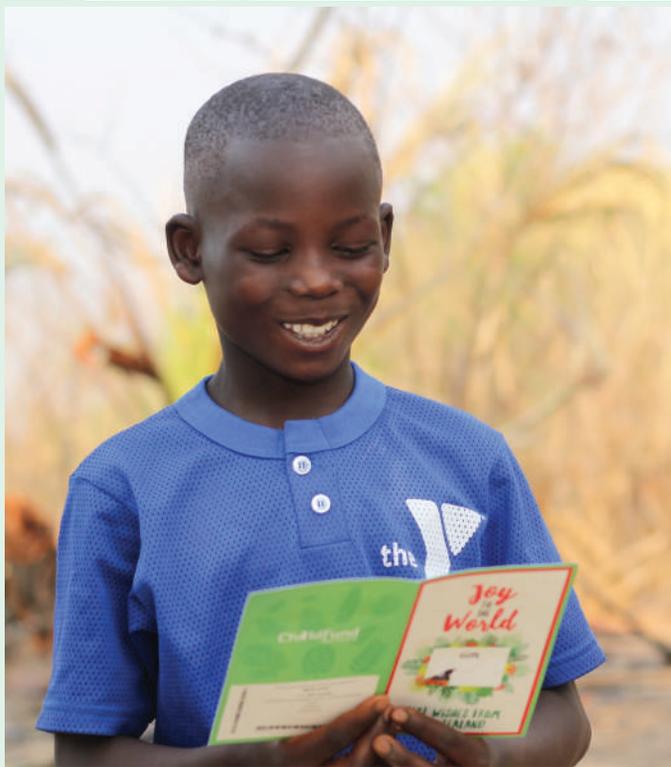
using a digital application, known as the Magic Adventure Application in one of its operational communities that has more than 700 children. This initiative did not only improve the quality of child letters but also helped the local partner to save costs associated with stationery needed to prepare child letters.

Through the Magic Adventure application, children are also able to take pictures of themselves portraying developmental milestones as well as highlighting ChildFund activities they participate in. For children that can not write letters on their own, the application allows them to communicate to sponsors through drawings thereby enhancing the authenticity of child to sponsor communications.



Through the Magic Adventure application, children are also able to take pictures of themselves portraying developmental milestones as well as highlighting ChildFund activities they participate in.





Alice Finally Gets a Sponsor



There is always something special about a family receiving the news that their child has been assigned a sponsor for the first time. In Chongwe District, mothers normally call their friends to celebrate the news.

Alice's mother has been waiting for this opportunity since 2016 when her daughter was enrolled in the program.



Being a sponsored child has been exciting and there is always something to look forward to."

~ Alice

"Sometime in 2016, a team from ChildFund and one of the community leaders in our village came to tell us about sponsorship. They picked Alice who was 4 years old at the time, and I was very thankful. I told my neighbours that they will soon be invited to my daughter's celebration when she receives a sponsor, I did not realize that this would take more than 4 years." Alice's mother explained.

When Alice was told that she would have a sponsor, she started drawing a number of pictures to send to her sponsor.

Alice loves drawing and she kept asking for paper and crayons every time when she came back home from school so she could draw a picture for her sponsor. "We told her she needed to wait as ChildFund had not given her a sponsor yet," her older brother Elias explained.

With the passage of time, Alice almost forgot about receiving a sponsor, but in January 2021, she got the best New Year's gift: news that she had been assigned a sponsor.

The whole family went into jubilation, the long wait was finally over, Alice with the help of her brother, has written the first two letters and some drawings to her sponsor.

"My sponsor's name is Ms Shelly Henry. She lives in the USA. Today I received her photo and I can't stop looking at her. I think she is nice and kind," Alice said.

She added that being a sponsored child over the last 4 months has been exciting and there is always something to look forward to.

"I now know that my drawings and paintings are sent to my sponsor, I can write about my village, my school and my friends so that my sponsor gets an idea of where I live. ChildFund has also given me a mosquito net and some reading books, it's nice to be a sponsored child."

Alice who is doing her third grade says she wants to be a nurse after completing school.

She had one appeal before the interview ended, "My friend Mercy also wants to be sponsored, she is in my class, they took her picture and now she is waiting. I want to be writing and sending paintings with her."

HUMAN RESOURCE AND ADMINISTRATION

During the year under review, ChildFund Zambia continued to operate virtually due to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The average staff head count stood at 46 (21 females and 25 males). Members of staff were equally encouraged to get the COVID-19 vaccine and 85% of staff had been vaccinated at the close of the financial year.

During the period under review, the country office through its Human Resources and Administration department conferred 14 recognition awards on members of staff that have served the organization for more than 5 years.

This took place during the May/Labour Day (1st May) as the office took time to celebrate the contributions of members to the ChildFund mission.

The country office initiated a review of the Human Resource manual which was adopted in July 2018. The review process was complemented and the implementation started at the beginning of the just ended fiscal year.

Another highlight of the year was the basic security management training that was organized for all staff at the country office and from the six local partners. The training covered both personal security awareness and travel risk awareness. The training was conducted by Gorgui Diouf and Duncan Kagicha ChildFund Regional Office staff.

The last financial year also saw the office bidding farewell to the Regional Director who also once served as Zambia Country Director, Victor Koyi. He retired after 26 years of service to ChildFund.

In celebration of Labour Day on May 1st, ChildFund awarded fourteen staff members who have served the organization for more than 5 years to thank them for their years of service.



COMMUNICATIONS

ChildFund used communications and advocacy to increase visibility through mainstream media and social media engagements. Various media engagements were made to both advocate for and increase visibility on our programs as outlined below:

A dialogue meeting was held with traditional leaders to get their commitment on the issue of ending child marriages within their chiefdoms. Below is the link to one of the stories aired on One Love Radio

<https://onelovezambia.com/childfund-zambia-hold-dialogue-on-ending-child-marriages/>

another story was aired on the re-entry policy featuring the Regional Director. Below is the link to the story

<https://onelovezambia.com/childfund-international-calls-for-adoption-of-policies-that-fully-support-reentry/>

During the month under review structures that included a health post and nurses' flats were handed over to the Ministry of health. The construction of the structures were supported by Mr. and Mrs. Ulrich Ackerman of the Transearch Foundation. The Zambia Daily Mail, Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation and One love radio carried the story

<https://onelovezambia.com/childfund-zambia-hands-over-semi-detached-house-for-health-personnel-at-namununga-health-post/>

The Ministry of health launched the 2021 child health week during the month under review. ChildFund through all the six local partners supported the exercise that focusses on taking preventive services such as immunizations, food supplements and treated bednets closer to women and children in the communities where they are most needed

One Love radio carried the story, and the link is below:

<https://onelovezambia.com/childfund-zambia-calls-on-caregivers-to-support-child-vaccination/>



OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Our ChildFund team in Zambia is a tight-knit, talented group with a shared vision of creating a world in which every child realizes their rights and achieves their potential. Each team member is part of an agile process that ensures exquisite delivery of the organization’s strategy and operational plans.

ChildFund Zambia is led by an agile Senior Management Team (SMT) which provides effective management and leadership. Our SMT is committed to creating an environment of innovation and collaboration. The SMT collaborates to shape organization-wide decisions and shares responsibility for the organization’s results.



Simba Machingaidze
Country Director



Abraham Banda
Finance Manager



George Sichone
Business Development
Manager



Doras Chirwa
Programs and
Sponsorship Director



**Harriet Musukula
Chewe**
Human Resource
Manager

BOARD MEMBERS

Professor Tuckson Lambart Board Chairperson

Mr. Henry Msango Vice Board Chairperson

Simba Machingaidze Board Secretary

Professor John Mudenda Board Member

Professor Sophie Kasonde Board member

Mr. Urban Mutati Board member

Mr. Joseph Salasini Board member

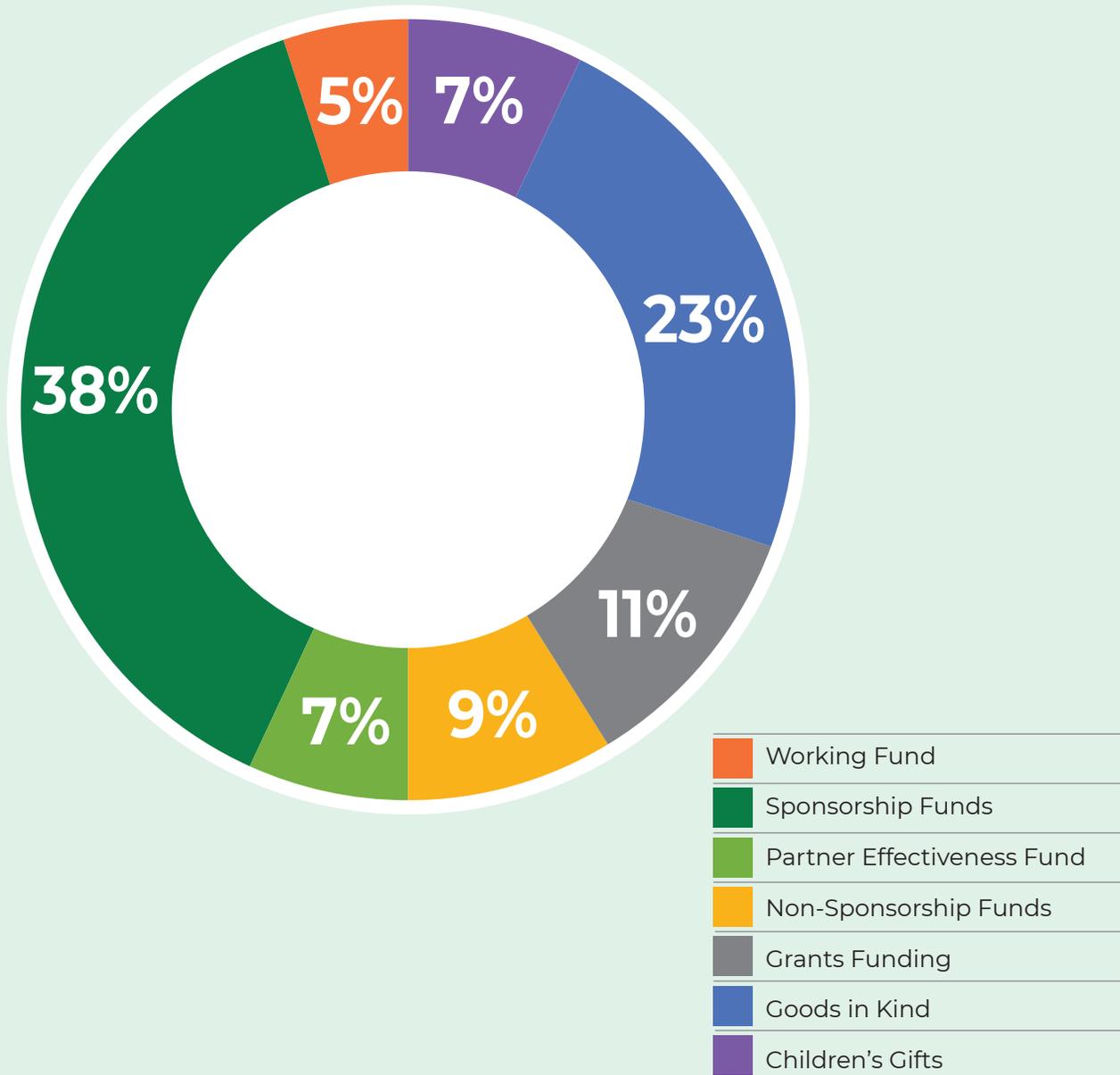
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In FY21, ChildFund continued to invest more of its acquired resources in program activities that cut across many sectors affecting the needs of the children, besides direct investments into educational and health sectors.

Much of the Gifts-in-Kind donations went to the health sector, the items donated were medical supplies and drugs for hospitals in Zambia.

This finance presentations highlights these areas of impact to showcase the levels of investment and growth in ChildFund's efforts to help the vulnerable children and their families.

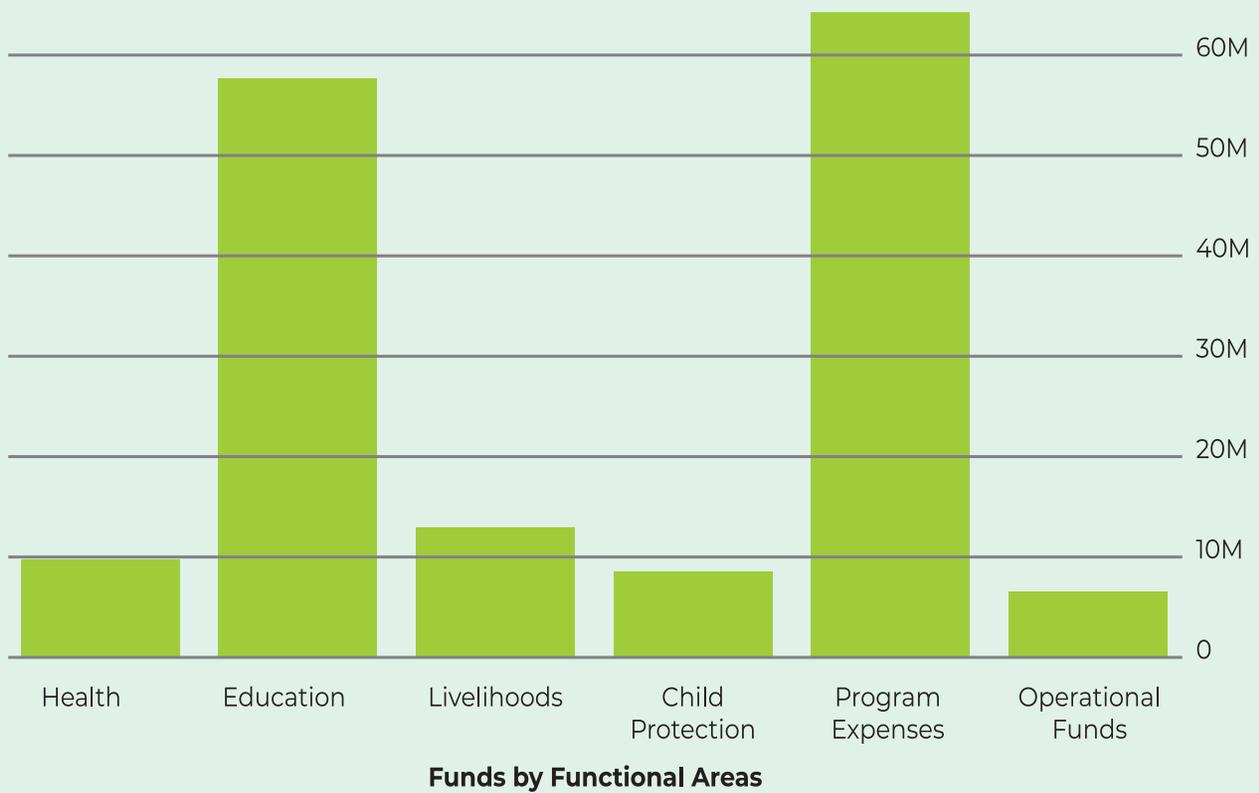
FY21 Funding



The detailed breakdown of our financial resources are as follows:

SOURCES OF FUNDS	EXPENSES (ZMW)	EXPENSES (USD)
Children's Gifts	10,360,633	496,556
Goods In Kind	33,343,304	1,628,091
Grant Funding	16,379,167	805,599
Non Sponsorhip Funds	12,747,840	607,197
Partner Effectiveness Fund	9,171,641	433,577
Sponsorship Funds	55,520,461	2,686,890
Working Fund	7,532,672	363,972
TOTAL	145,055,718	7,021,882

Expense by Sector



GRANTS DONORS

We are extremely grateful to all our sponsors and donors across the world.

Your generosity is the reason we are able to connect children with the people, resources, and institutions they need to grow up healthy, educated, skilled and safe, wherever they are. We, at ChildFund, appreciate your donations and your sacrifice, and we thank you on behalf of the wonderful children and their families whose lives you touched through your donation.

Thank you!



Irish Aid

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



unicef



barnfonden

CONRAD N.



FOUNDATION



Procter & Gamble
World's leading powder detergent



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

BMZ

ChildFund
Australia

ChildFund
New Zealand

ChildFund
Korea





ChildFund

Zambia

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