

# **NEWSLETTER, ISSUE 44**

# THE CHILDREN'S HOME

The facility currently houses 32 children, including the two most recent admissions: a 2-year-old boy and a 3-year-old girl. We have successfully reintegrated a total of 31 children back into their families and the community.



## Health Checkup

Housemothers from the Baby's Home pose for a photo with the babies and Fred before setting off for the monthly health checkups at Nakatindi Health Clinic. Beyond their proactive role in caring for the children daily in the homes, these checkups help us to monitor the children's health and seek medical necessary interventions as needed. Thank you for all you do, Dear Mothers!



#### Visit to the Children's Home

We regularly get visits and are so grateful to all who manage to visit the children and make donations in many forms. Dr. Hildah (L), introduced to ECCT by Dr. Rachel (R), has fallen in love with the children and our project. In her last visit, she not only donated some food items and took time to encourage the older children on the importance of school.

### Did they Deserve Such Inhuman Treatment?



Baby Thomas (M, 2) and his sister Esther (F, 4) came into our care after the government rescued them from a home where they had through severe abuse. A heartbreaking story that reminds us of Belivia, who had a similar experience and was reintegrated with her biological parents, safe and not abused.



The full extent of their suffering is still being uncovered, but the cruelty is told by the scars on Thomas's body. His left hand was swollen, and bruises covered his legs (some fresh) and back (some healing). When our team took the boy to the hospital, an X-ray report revealed fractures in his left hand and leg.

Yet, despite everything, these two innocent children are beginning to smile again. In the safety of our Home, they are slowly learning to trust, to play, and to feel the warmth they were once denied.

No child should ever endure such pain. As a community, let us stand together against child abuse and ensure that every child experiences love, safety, and care.







## **PRAY WITH US**

Faith serves as a vital support system for our children, rooted in our mission, vision, and core values. We invite you to join us in presenting these petitions to our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Pray for the complete healing of Baby Thomas from his injuries.
- For a safe, trusting, caring and loving home for all children worldwide.
- For the good health and well-being of every child and staff member at Ebenezer Child Care Trust.

- The children's families under ECCT may find strength and opportunities to improve their livelihoods and provide a stable environment for their children.
- For our donors, thank God for their generosity and ask for continued blessings upon them as they support ECCT's vision and mission.
- Praying for academic success and personal growth for all children benefiting from ECCT initiatives.
- Praying for our teaching staff, that God may guide and strengthen them as they support children from challenging backgrounds. May these children find hope, healing, and restoration through the initiatives designed for them.

# **EDUCATION**

We believe every child deserves an education and a bright future.



#### School Grant Received

The government has released the first-term grant for Ebenezer Primary School, totalling K20,284.56. Additionally, the ECCT provides an Operational Support Fund of K33,000 per term (quarter) and assists with other needs as they arise. These funds support school operations at both campus sites in Nakatindi and Dambwa Site.





Ausher

### Schools Open

This year, schools had two opening days. The first group of students started on 13-Jan-25, while Early Childhood Education (ECE) pupils, including Nursery, Reception, and Grade 8, began on 10-Feb-25. This staggered start is due to the government's New Education Curriculum for Zambia, which will be fully adopted by 2028, starting with ECE and Grade 8 students using the new curriculum.

Ausher (3.6 years), from the Baby's Home, is one of the new kids in the ECE section. We wish him nothing but joy, growth, and success on his learning journey!

#### 2024 G7 & G9 National Exam Results

Ebenezer Primary School has recorded a drop in its exam pass rate. Responding to this, Swagota, our Education Coordinator, and Mercy, our Social Worker - Education, are ensuring that performance expectations are restored to ECCT's standards. They are supporting the administration, teachers, and pupils through initiatives such as remedial classes, CITW Literacy sessions, and other support efforts. With these measures in place, we are confident that our pupils will get better results.

#### Congratulations to Best and Emmanuel from the Children's Home!



We are incredibly proud of Best (L) for making it to Grade 10 at Linda Secondary School and Emmanuel (R) for reaching Grade 10 at Nakatindi Secondary School. Your hard work and dedication have truly paid off. We are so proud of you both!

## School Feeding Program

The government has started a national feeding program to help schools affected by drought during the 2023/2024 season. As part of this, Ebenezer Primary School has received \* 21 bags of beans (50kg each), \* 167 bags of maize, and \* 1 bag of salt (50kg).

These supplies, along with others not yet received, are for the first quarter of 2025. However, the Ministry of Education has not said if this program will continue permanently, but we are not certain that this will be the case. Also, we have not yet been permitted to start using these supplies until further notice.



Bags of Maize, Beans and Salt Delivered at both schools

Ebenezer and Simoonga School already have a feeding program, and the government's supplies will supplement what we are providing when government supplies can be used.

#### School Food Menu

Day	Week 1	Week 2
Monday	Kapenta	Beef
Tuesday	Eggs	Soy Chunks (TVP)
Wednesday	Beans	Eggs
Thursday	Sausage	Vegetables
Friday	Soy Chunks (TVP)	Sausage



# **A VISIT WITH LOVE**

Mel Ashleigh and Lisette Bell-Simmonds always bring joy to the children. This year, they visited the children from the Children's Home and the School.

At the Home, they brought assorted gifts for the children and attended the Sunday church service. It is always wonderful to see the children's happiness as they reunite with their loving parents, who support them in many ways. At the school, they took the time to encourage the pupils about academics and life while sharing their love for them.

They saw how their support is making a difference, particularly with the ongoing upgrades to the sports area for the children at Ebenezer Primary School in Nakatindi! Thank you, Mel and Lis.

Lissette sees the progress being made by the soccer pitch.





THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR LOVE









## **HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED?**

Imagine the positive impact you are making or could make in the children's futures!

Our first request is simple: PRAY FOR US. We also ask for your help in SPREADING THE WORD and ENCOURAGING SUPPORT. You are a vital part of something truly meaningful!

#### Honour our Wishlist!

- Microscope \$500
- Class Teacher's Tables \$1,000
- Projectors for EPS \$800
- Media Equip't & Accessories \$2,000
- Utility Vehicle \$16,500
- Air Conditioners for EPS Lab \$1,600

**NB**: Our Wishlist is updated every month

## Kindness brings hope!

- 1. Sponsor a Child by helping to provide education, medical care, transportation, shelter, clothes, meals, or school supplies.
- 2. Donate. Every contribution, big or small, supports our programs.
- 3. Volunteer. Share your skills or help with our operational activities.

## They Did It - Wishlist Update!

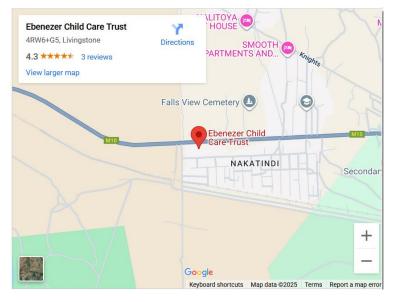
- A big thank you to HILLARY AND JUNE from the United Kingdom for generously contributing \$2,500 towards the purchase of Children's Bibles.
- Early Childhood Tools and Learning are still being sourced, and we are grateful to Friends of Ebenezer Australia for donating \$1,500 to support this effort.

#### <u>Donate to or Connect Directly to Zambia</u>

<u>Donate through or connect with Barn</u> Samaritern | Sweden

<u>Donate through or connect with Friends of</u> Ebenezer Australia <u>Donate through or connect with Friend of Ebenezer Child Care (UK)</u>

<u>Donate through or connect with the Ebenezer</u> <u>Foundation | United States</u>











CELL NUMBERS: Airtel Network or MTN Network

THERE ARE MANY INSPIRING CAUSES LIKE OURS OUT THERE. YOU CHOSE ECCT. THANK YOU!