

**Progress Report to the Fondation Eagle
Zambia Orphans Aid-UK
Lubushi Boarding House for Girls, Zambia
Reference number: FF 481 02
Date of grant accepted: 14th June 2019
Amount: £28,754
Lubushi Boarding House for Girls, Northern Province, Zambia
Period of Project: 6 months**



Project Summary

ZOA is partnering with our local partner organisation, The Lubushi Rural Orphan (LRORS) Resettlement Scheme, Lubushi School and the Ministry of Education to build a boarding house for vulnerable girls in Lubushi, a rural parish in Northern Province of Zambia. This project will allow at least 64 girls to board so that they can attend school whilst ensuring they have a safe place to stay, thereby also reducing the risk of sexual exploitation, abuse, early marriage and prostitution amongst an extremely vulnerable group of children.

The boarding house will be located next to Lubushi School, which provides primary and secondary education, to allow very easy access for the girls to attend classes and receive the valuable education that will enable them to gain employment in the future. Female teachers will be able to supervise the girls, although the girls will be responsible for sourcing and cooking their own food.

The boarding house will consist of 8 bedrooms with 4 bunk beds in each, benefitting 64 vulnerable girls in the first year and up to 1,280 girls over the expected life (20 years) of the boarding house. There will be a communal dining area, kitchen, and sanitation facilities (toilets, washbasins & showers). The girls will have access to their own lockers so they can store food and other belongings securely.

Project Funding

In June 2019 we received confirmation from the Fondation Eagle of a grant for £28,754 towards the construction of the boarding house. This also includes the construction of a kitchen attached to the boarding house as we both felt this was an important and necessary addition to the project. This funding is in addition to the £10,000 grant already received from the Jephcott Charitable Trust in November 2018.

Progress of Project

Once we received funding for the project in June 2019, work began with recruiting a building contractor and engaging the community in making brick blocks for the boarding house. The community have been very active making blocks. Katy Dore, Executive Director of ZOA-UK visited Lubushi in July 2019 and was amazed by the community engagement "*Its incredible!*" Katy met with the building contractor, inspected the building site and met with our partner, LRORS. She also visited the school and met with the female Head Teacher and some of the pupils who will be benefiting from the new boarding house. The Head Teacher told Katy that in the first half of 2019 six female students had become pregnant - they aim to cut this to zero once they are all staying in the boarding house in 2020.



Pictured here are members of the community with some of the blocks, which have now all been made.

Further progress

The contract has now been signed with the building contractor, ZOA-Z and our partner LRORS. The agreement has been made that the funds will not be managed by our partner, as they are too small to manage such large sums. So instead ZOA-Z have received a suppliers list (verified and checked by ZOA-Z) and payments are being made to them directly.

Our new Project Officer who is based in Kasama, Closby, started work in August 2019. He is liaising with LRORS, the contractor and the suppliers and will also pay the labour costs to the contractor directly.

The first tranche of funding for project management and set-up costs were paid in July/August and the following funds were spent in September:

1. Zambian Kwacha 34,545¹ (£2,303) payment for cement for Lubushi boarding house.
2. Zambian Kwacha 128,183 (£8,545) building materials for Lubushi boarding house.

Now that the construction work has started the buildings works will move quickly. We will have the walls and roof of the boarding house completed within the next six weeks. The rains will start in November/December and at that point the contractor will move inside and complete the fit out of the building.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the trustees of the Fondation Eagle for their support of this project. We look forward to updating you with a follow-up report showing further progress in January 2020 when, all being well, we hope the boarding house will be open to students. In the meantime will of course send you photographs as and when we receive them from our partner. In the meantime we thought you would be interested to hear about some of the students that will be benefitting from the boarding house once it is completed.

Case Studies

Pictured here is Dorothy Mwabe who is in Grade 12 at Lubushi School. She is 17 years old and currently pays to board in Lubushi parish with four other girls – they share one room. She has been studying at Lubushi since Grade 1. She is working hard to pass her exams as she wants to be a doctor.



¹ Exchange rate of Zambian Kwacha 15: £1
26th September 2019

Pictured below are students attending Lubushi School (Grade 12) who currently pay ZKW15 per month to board in unsafe conditions and will benefit hugely from staying at the new boarding house.

Milade, aged 19, wearing a blue skirt. She wants to be a teacher.

Mispe aged 19, she wears a pink and white striped top, when she leaves school she'd like to become a nurse, however she is pregnant so there is uncertainty about her future.

Anna aged 18, wearing a green and black striped top, she shares a room with Mutasha. Anna wants to become an accountant.

Mutasha aged 19 wears a dark red dress, she wants to become a nurse.

