



ZAMFAM SC Success Stories



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This Success Stories Booklet is a celebration of a partnership between DAPP Zambia, the American People through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the U.S President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR).

It is a celebration of the power of the caregivers who created their own change to provide a better life for their children and for the children themselves who took part in this transformation.

It is a celebration of the many volunteers, who unselfishly took part in supporting the families and children in need and created a foundation for these successes to happen.

It is a celebration of the partnerships between DAPP, Government Line Ministries, Community and Faith Based Organisations, staff in Health Facilities and schools as well as community structures.

The activities were family centred and actively engaged the caregivers as well as the children themselves to create positive change.

The Zambia Family Activity in Southern and Central Provinces of Zambia — ZAMFAM South Central was a 5 year USAID/ PEPFAR funded Project, implemented by Development Aid from People to People (DAPP) in Zambia in cooperation with Government Line Ministries, Community and Government Structures as well as a number of civil society organizations.

The project focussed at

- Increasing household resilience for enrolled families;
- Improving child health, education and well-being;
- Strengthening government and community-based capacity to care for orphans and vulnerable children;
- Reducing new HIV infections among children and adolescents;
- Sharing learning and evidence based.

The activities were anchored on the Action Groups that delivered interventions, lessons and services. One member from each of the families of OVCs enrolled in the project, was registered as a member of these groups and attended weekly meetings for the lessons and took part in activities organized by the Group.

Most families were members of Internal Saving and Lending Groups that were organized by the Action Groups. Pass on Gifts were provided to the Action Groups in form of grains, chickens, goats and cash in urban setting. These gifts were managed by the Pass on Gift Committee within the Action Group and pass on from one beneficiary to the next (in form of kids born, chicks hatched and grain grown).

The project further carried out school and out of school youth clubs activities to reduce new HIV infections among the youth.

Health activities were organized with the Health Facilities. Community Health Workers (CHWs) were engaged, trained and supported to provide services for the children, with focus on those living with HIV.

Community Welfare Assistant Committees (CWACs) as well as traditional and faith based leaders were actively engaged in activities.

The project operated in 14 districts in the Central and Southern Provinces (Chibombo, Chisamba, Kabwe, Kapiri-Mposhi, Mkushi, Mumbwa, Choma, Livingstone, Chikankata, Mazabuka, Monze, Namwala, Kalomo and Sinazongwe).

Key numbers:

- Supported over 150,000 OVC during life of project, with over 120,893 supported in 2020.
- Supported 11,413 OVC living with HIV in 2020, all on ART and 91% of them were Virologically Suppressed.
- Built Resilience build in over 85,000 families during life of project with 61,029 registered in 2020.
- 2913 Community Action Groups were active by the end of the project.
- 5792 Community Health Workers (CHWs) were engaged and conducted home visits.
- 6,000 Child Care Volunteers supporting individual case management for child.

Action Group sustains Families' Livelihood

Apple Action Group from Zambia Compound of Monze is one of the 2913 ZAMFAM supported groups. The group provides a platform for peer support, and makes members challenge each other to take good care of their children and to adopt healthy and productive practices in order to sustain and improve their livelihood.

The 25 member group that started in 2016 learnt various skills from ZAMFAM that have helped to improve the health and wellbeing of their children.

“As an Action Group, we have benefitted a lot from ZAMFAM. We have learnt good hygiene. How to keep our toilets clean and washing our hands using tippy-taps every time we use the toilet,” Pricilla Monde Tembo, a member of the group explains.

“We have been meeting weekly for lessons and actions, and have learned skills like making door mats and compost manure to use in our back yard gardens and how to plant Moringa seedlings for sale and consumption”.

“We also know how to take care of our families in terms of health. We know the best ways of caring for children living with HIV; issues of stigma, adherence to treatment and nutritious foods that keep us healthy,” she says.

The ZAMFAM lessons further helped the group members to fight stigma. Members that have children with HIV no longer feel ashamed about their children’s condition.

Members also support one another with internal saving and lending activities in which they save money for

future investments and some for use during emergencies. They can borrow small amounts to return with a reasonable interest, while savings are shared yearly according to the amount each one saved (called Share-out).

In 2018 the group was trained in entrepreneurship and business skills including marketing by facilitators from Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. After the training 5 members developed business plans after their choice and received a pass-on cash gift of K1,000 each from the project, boosting their savings. They successfully managed their businesses and after six months they passed on the gift to other 5 members of their Action Group.

“The money helped us to boost our businesses. The lessons built up all members of the group. Our children are now taken care of and we have financial capacities to feed them well,” Pricilla explains.

“ A total of 15 members have to date benefited from this Cash Pass on Gift and we will continue to pass on the gift also after ZAMFAM ends” she concludes.





8 OVCs supported by Chowa Action Group

Action Group uplifts OVCs' lives

Chowa Action Group members of Kabwe District, have been meeting weekly to share knowledge and ideas from lessons; and taking action in creating better conditions for their children.

In 2018, the Group received a grant of K 5,000 from ZAMFAM to venture into a self-help enterprise. The project further imparted members with entrepreneurial, marketing strategies and simple business management skills.

“We bought an incubator at K3,500 and started keeping quails. Soon our sales rose to K2,000 monthly. This improved the financial status of our Action Group.

We started as a group to pay for school requirements for 8 children from vulnerable homes within our group.

We thank ZAMFAM for uniting us into an Action Group where we are able to generate income to support our children as well as our own livelihood.”

Child denied treatment for 12 years

...thanks to ZAMFAM for intervening

When a Community Health Worker first visited Rosemary to have her children tested for HIV, she refused. She was confident that none of them would be infected from her, in spite of being HIV positive, because she knew the HIV negative status of the first two children. After sometime the condition of one of her children, Twaambo worsened. She then agreed to have him tested for HIV. It was discovered that the boy was living with HIV for 12 years without medical attention.

“After my son was put on ART, he slowly started to recover. He had started to lose his speaking abilities. He now started producing audible words. He also became active that he would run and play with his friends,” Rosemary revealed.

Positive Child

Moses goes back to School

Moses is one of the children, who have benefited from waiving of school fees as a result of the “Block Grant” and was helped to get back to school.

At the time 10 year old Moses was registered in the ZAMFAM programme in 2016, he was attending Hope Community School in Kapiri Mposhi of Central Province as Grade 1 pupil. Later in the year the community school closed in and the boy was out of school, as his grandmother did not manage to pay for his school requirements in a government school.

Moses grandmother became a member of the Malubeni Community Action Group. As part of the activities in the group, the members carried out a ‘Back to School Campaign’ and supported Moses to go to another school and signed him up as a beneficiary for the ZAMFAM bursaries.

The boy narrates and says, “I am happy and excited to be back in school. I am now in grade 4 and I want to become a soldier in the future.”

His friend Window Mumba testifies to the punctuality of his friend and has this to say, “Whenever I pass by Moses’s home so that we can go together to school in most cases I find that he has already gone...My friend loves schools and we do our homework together.”



Hardworking students supported to help themselves

Five adolescent of Mumbwa District, Central Province, were supported by the Mwanangumbwe Action Group to help them-

Their love for school, made them till the land to see another day in a classroom. Whilst working hard to meet their school requirements, the pupils were surprised when Mwanangumbwe Action Group came to their aid.

“As a group we decided to support the 5 hard working students. From the social funds in our saving group we bought them farming input and gave them a small portion of land to plant the maize. From the harvest they managed to buy school uniforms and books” a Group member revealed.

“The students have now graduated from high school after writing their Grade 12 exam”

“ Through our lessons in the Action Group—we learned to take action and solve problems that we face in our community by working together”

Members earn an income through Climate Action

Imwetwamo Action Group from Kawama compound of Kapiri Mposhi district are producing eco friendly charcoal from waste products, reducing deforestation.

“The charcoal that we make is better and lasts longer than conventional charcoal. We are really saving money making eco friendly charcoal ourselves instead of buying.

We are happy to save money and at the same time helping the fight against climate change.”



Saving Groups support families

Malala Savings Group of Mazabuka in Southern Province has 15 members. Their goal is to make every family financially stable by engaging them in savings activity as one way of uplifting their lives and those of vulnerable children that need the most help.

The group has been saving since 2018 and are so far on Cycle number six with half yearly Share-out.

“The first cycle we shared about K10,000. The second cycle we shared K20, 000 and the amount shared grow for every cycle. In the fifth cycle we shared K60, 000 and expect to have K80,000 to share in the current sixth cycle” Giveness who is the group secretary says.

Each member has a different story over what they have done with their share of money.

“From my savings I managed to take my child to school. He is in Grade 8 now. I also managed to extend my house from 2 rooms to 6 rooms. My savings is also supported by my garden production, chicken and goat rearing as well,” John Keembe narrates.

“I learnt how to do business, apart from saving. I also do garden farming and sell the produce which helps me continue saving. I cultivated groundnuts and managed to harvest 12 bags. Through the savings I managed to buy 7 goats and 5 chickens which I plan to continue rearing for increased production,” Giveness shares her story.

As part of the saving group the members contribute towards the Social Funds. “From the Social Funds we support three children, who come from very poor homes with educational needs. They are in Grade 5, 6 and 8 respectively.” Giveness tells.

“We know that ZAMFAM is phasing out so we are ready as a group to stand on our own. We will continue to support the most vulnerable children with education through our own money, we have in the savings group. What is important is the agreement we have as a group on helping the vulnerable. We encourage people to join our group and together we can become financially stable.” Giveness ends.



Savings uplift mother to fish business trader

Chainita Namachili of Apollo Compound in Mazabuka is a happy single mother trading in dried fish to sustain her family's livelihood. She joined Tiyamike Action Group in 2016 and shortly afterwards her life changed for the better.

"I used to do piece work of washing clothes for people in homes as my source of income. I never had a steady income and often I could not make ends meet. When I joined Tiyamike Action Group my life turned around," Chainita narrates.

ZAMFAM trained her with other group members in how to take care of their children, by having backyard gardens, cooking nutritious meals, taking care of HIV positive children, how to improve production, save money for investment and much more.

"The lessons helped me so much, especially the ones on savings were a great eye opener for me. They tremendously changed my life. We started saving in 2018. I used my first share-out of K600 to buy *kapenta* and started selling at home. Things started to become better than before," she recalls.

At the end of 2018, her savings increased and she invested her K1, 300 in the dried fish business.

"I now manage to pay rent three months in advance. I am able to buy enough food for my family, and I pay school fees for my grandchildren without any problems."

Chainita is among the many savings club members who have managed to successfully run businesses that they started using money from their savings share-out in the group.

The internal saving and lending activities also allow members in the group to loan some money to use for emergencies with an agreement that they repay with a small interest. This help them overcome unforeseen challenges needing financial input.



What Savings Beneficiaries Say

Anna Mwiinga
Tusunge Action
Group,
Mazabuka



Before joining the Action Group, Anna would wake up troubled on how to take care of her family. She now has a 2 rooms compartment on a 5 room foundation, that she built for 3 years spending close to K15,000 from her savings. She also has a backyard garden from which she easily gets vegetables for nutritional foods and an income.

Bester Sikwa

Panuka Action Group, Monze
Child Care Volunteer (CCV)

Supports resilience and volunteering.

"The saving share out helped me to pay my psycho-social counselling study expenses. When ever I am stuck, I loan some money from the group to pay bills, as well as hiring someone to help me with watering the garden whenever I am committed. This helps me to provide services to the children in need as a Child Care Volunteer"



Mary

Twapalo Action Group, Kabwe

Increased the business capital from K 100 to K1800 in one year

Married has two children, and lives in Hospital Compound of Kabwe town. Her husband is a hired piece-worker bringing home little earnings.

"I used to sell vegetables outside my home, with a capital of only K100. The surplus from my business was never enough to meet the basic needs of the family. After joining the Saving Group, I saved K20 weekly, and after a month, I obtained a loan of K400, which I invested in tomatoes and cabbages. One year later, I now have a capital of K1,800 and my small business is doing great."





Pic: Governess in front of her new house

Goats sustain family livelihood

Governess Hamalambo is a 56 year old mother from Siyowi village of Mazabuka district in Southern Province of Zambia. The Pass on Gift of 3 goats changed the life for her and her family

In 2016 Governess was among those who received a pass-on gift of 3 goats each to help improve her family's livelihood .

"A year after I received the goats, I was able to pass-on three (3) off springs to the next beneficiary and continued taking good care of those I now owned," Governess reveals.

With a total of 14 goats now, Governess looks back with joy for her consistent care for the animals. Through the Action Group she learned how to take good care for the goats as well as improving her agriculture production.

The goats have contributed to the building of her burnt-bricks iron-roofed house.

"In 2018, I started a house project. I wanted to give my children a decent place to live. So I first sold 2 goats and bought bricks," she says.

Through the sale of her animals time to time, in the months that came, Governess was able to finish the house in 2020 and occupied it.

"From these goats I know I will continue sustaining my family with both nutritional food as well as use them as a source of income for my children's education and other family needs."

Among the 14 goats she has now, thirteen (13) of them are expected to have off springs before the end of the year 2020.



The pictures show Governess in front of her new build house, showing her raised improved goat shelter and washing hands using a tippy tap.

Stella's tale of a family thriving on legumes

Stella Hakonze, is a member of Nachipooma Action Group in Mazabuka District of Southern Province.

In 2016 she was provided with a 4 kg Seed Pack of Cowpeas and Pigeon Peas as well as Sweet Potato runners. She managed to harvest four bags, and she passed-on 10 kg to another group member to plant.

"I used some of the legumes for improved nutrition, some I sold and bought two goats. The change I bought school requirements for my children. Some were left some for planting the following season."

In 2017, Stella planted the legumes again with huge returns that made her pay for her children's school requirements, and importantly for her,

"The beauty of growing Cow Peas is that, it is so easy to maintain and if you plant it early, you can grow it twice in a season. This means one can easily make profits. You don't have to wait for it to get dry, you can eat it fresh from the field as well. That can be a big help in the end of the rain season where many of us farmer do not have much money and food left." Stella tells us and encourages all to follow her example and not rely on maize only.



"Ever since ZAMFAM came to our aid, our eyes have been opened and we realize how so much can be produced from so little."

Pass - on Gift helps Mweemba back to school

Mukamonzwe Mweemba living in Hanjase Village in Mazabuka District was raised by his single mother, Beatrice Chipamba, together with 10 siblings and other dependents. He was out of school from late 2015 throughout 2016, because his mother could not afford to pay for his school requirements.

"I felt sad seeing my former classmates rush for school every morning while I stayed home," Mweemba said.

"The income I got from selling Cowpeas and vegetable through a Pass-on Gift helped me to raise funds to get all my children in school. I am part of Hanjase Action Group and we learn a lot about taking good care of our children, hygiene, good farming practices and much more."

"We have improved our meals and also our income. I am greatly indebted to this project for all the effort made to improve my son's future," said Mweemba's mother.

Felistus Phiri

Kafulamase Action Group, Kabwe

Felistus Phiri has been a widow for 15 years. She lives in Kafulamase village in Kabwe.

“ I got a lot of knowledge in gardening through ZAMFAM, which has helped to improve income and nutrition for my family. I am especially proud of how I have developed my Cassava production from a few cuttings that I received from ZAMFAM in 2016. I have passed on many cuttings to other members of the Action Group. When other crops do badly, I rely on my Cassava” she proudly explains.



Radson Chinyama

Twalumba Action Group, Monze



Twalumba Action Group was given 12 goats in 2018 and selected the first 4 members to receive three goats each. The Pass-on Gift Committee secured each family passed on one kid for each goat received to a second family. **In this way 12 families have received goats already and more will receive next year.**

Radson Chinyama: “ I am one of those who were first passed-on to in 2019. I have now six goats and I already passed - on the first three off springs to the next beneficiary. Income from goats will support my family to give a good education to our children. When schools opened after the closure due to COVID-19, I slaughtered one goat to raise money for school requirements. The pass-on has brought so much hope in us.”



All Stars Teen Club members take care of one another

All Stars Teen Club is a 30 member group of children 5 to 18 years old found in Zambia Compound of Monze, Southern Province. Managed by two Community Health Workers (CHWs) the club divides the children in two age groups: 5-12 and 13-18.

“We play football, netball, snakes and ladders, and we also learn how to take care of the gardens at our households. We were taught how to make tippy taps, firewood saving stoves, how to do poultry, piggery and carpentry. Most of us have their school fees paid by ZAMFAM through Block Grants. We know how to take care of our health,” says Charles Musemo one of the teen club members.

The teens are in trios and are taught how to adhere to treatment. Through the trios they help remind each other about the importance of taking medication on time and are kept busy through different activities in the club.

“All their parents have been connected to the Village Action Groups and they are members of the savings clubs. To improve income and family resilience when the program started, the viral loads for the children were very high, with the highest being at 3015 but it’s now at 700. The others from 85 it’s moving between 25 and 30 while three of the children are non-detectable, which shows that our efforts are yielding good results,” CHW Yolanta reveals.

Yolanta attributes the success to functioning Trios and consistency in children attending Teen Club lessons. She says Trios [re helping in ensuring that everyone reaches viral load suppression up to 0 copies.



Reduced Viral Load increases young Girl's Confidence

Chabota Kapole is a 16 year old girl living positively with HIV. She is one of the HIV positive children who didn't know their HIV status before they joined ZAMFAM

"When I was young I used to get sick and my mother and I didn't know why. I was in and out of bed and I couldn't play with my friends and did not attend school most of the time because I was down with illness so often," Chabota narrated.

In 2018 she was enrolled in ZAMFAM and shortly after she was tested HIV positive. The Community Health Worker Catherine Chipolyonga was assigned by ZAMFAM to support the family.

"When I was found with HIV it was not easy, but Catherine really helped me to accept and live healthy" Chabota said.

"Her viral load was very high, when she was first tested in 2018. It was at 15,806. I encouraged her mother to be giving her the medication and to make sure that she adhered to treatment," Catherine explains.

"With my mother and a neighbour, we formed a "Trio" and we were all taught the importance of taking the medication correctly. They helped me a lot. I could always trust that they were there for me."

"I joined a Teen Club. We meet at the clinic and we learn a lot from the volunteer and from the Nurse. We also have fun together and it is great to share concerns with others on my own age"

"My health improved a lot. In 2019, my Viral Load was at 3,528, which increased my confidence very much. Now it has dropped to 621" Chabota happily explains.

"Now I never miss school and I am with my friends. I am sure that I will pass to Grade 10. My wish is to continue with my education to fulfil my life dreams. I am encouraging my fellow youths to test for HIV."

"If you are found to be HIV positive, you are put on treatment and you adhere to treatment, to preserve your life."



Chileshe's Life restored



Chileshe (not real name) is a 12 year old girl, who lives with her grandparents in Kabwe district. She has a twin sister and two brothers. She is a Grade 3 pupil.

In 2016, Chileshe was always sick, such that she could not walk and talk, while her twin sister was in perfect health and very active. Her grandparents did not know the cause of her sickness and was almost giving up hope on her survival. Their mother had died of HIV but the grandmother did not think of her being HIV positive with a very healthy twin sister.

As a member of ZAMFAM, the family was visited by a Community Health Worker, who took part in HIV screening and testing.

"When the Community Health Worker visited our home and talked to me and my grandmother, we told her about my sickness and agreed that I had to be tested. After a few minutes, the results came out positive. This was a very sad day of my life to learn that I was HIV positive, but it was also the beginning of a new life for me," Chileshe says. She is now on treatment and in good health.

"I am now not missing classes and I am very active in the Youth Club at my school and in the HIV/AIDS Support Group at my clinic," she tells us with a smile.

Chileshe wants to be a nurse one day to help other children and she also encourages young people who are in her situation to accept their status and continue taking medication, eat healthy foods and to be active in sport so that their dreams can be realised one day.



The picture shows Chileshe with her twin sister and grandmother.

CCV helps improve the life of families



Paul Mulenga is a Child Care Volunteer (CCV) in Maku-lulu Compound of Kabwe. Since 2016 he worked with 18 children identified by ZAMFAM in order to improve their livelihood.

Paul made sure the families and their children were well informed on HIV/AIDS, with focus on knowing their HIV status, adhering to treatment, prevention, improved diet and financial stability.

“I also made sure under five children were not malnourished, families improved socio-economically by improving their financial safety net. We also made sure there was no violence in families, no child headed household existed and all children who had dropped out of school returned to school.”

With help from Community Welfare Assistance Committees, Community Mobilisers and Project Leaders, he pointed out benchmarks to be met by families and children. For the unmet benchmarks, he advised on developing case plans which gave them a guide on the necessary steps to help them meet the benchmarks.

“In Twesheko most families didn't meet their benchmarks on financial stability. I encouraged families to join Savings Groups and start small businesses to earn incomes for their families.”

Due to Case Management Plans 70% of families graduated in the group. The establishment of action groups transformed the livelihood and health of people living with HIV at family level.

ZAMFAM Saves Defiled Minor

Alcohol brewing in rural homes is one major contributor to the spread of HIV due to high risk behaviours from drunk customers.

This negative impact came to light when a nine year old minor Gertrude, (not her real name) was defiled by a 43 year old man who came to drink a local brew known as *Kachasu* at the minor's home in December 2017.

“We had brewed *Kachasu* that day. In the evening Sithembiso (not his real name) who came to drink beer, defiled Gertrude after enticing her with biscuits,” Gertrude's grandmother narrated.

The men whom Gertrude's grandmother called for help when she caught the defiler in the act, managed to apprehend him.

“We immediately took her to the police together with the defiler. Sithembiso was detained into police cells. The following day I communicated with the ZAMFAM Community Mobilizer who came and took both Gertrude and Sithembiso to the General Hospital for HIV testing.”

Sithembiso was found HIV positive while Gertrude came out negative. The girl was immediately put on post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for 72 hours to avoid a virus from getting into the cells.

“ZAMFAM has rescued my daughter. If it wasn't for them I do not know the situation my daughter would have been now,” Gertrude's mother appreciated.

Gertrude is currently healthy and goes to school. After trial Sithembiso was found guilty and sentenced to 30 years imprisonment.

Child Abuse



“All that I do, is because I love the People, I serve”

Tenfold Sinkalu is a very active Community Health Worker (CHW) at Ndeke Urban Clinic in Mazabuka, Southern Province. As a volunteer he engages with communities in supporting the health and welfare of children. He supports 38 HIV Positive children and adolescents under ZAMFAM.

When ZAMFAM started, Tenfold was one of the CHWs who took part in mobilising the community to get children, who had been at risk of HIV transmission tested. He is currently supporting 38 HIV positive children and adolescents.

“Before ZAMFAM we never took the issue of children being on ART seriously. Our concentration was with the adults. Through ZAMFAM we learnt to support children who are positive and ensure they live healthy lives. Most children had high viral load,” Tenfold explains.

Initially Tenfold paid most attention to the children in bad health. Out of the 38 children he supports, Tenfold needed to put more efforts on the nine that were in danger at the time.

In 2016 one of the children had a viral load of 83,000 copies. He supported the family to help the child, and the following year it dropped to 63,547.

For some of the children it is difficult to collect the medication so I deliver it to their homes or pick the children from their homes and bring them to the health facility.

Tenfold recalls how an HIV positive child got sick again because the mother thought that he was cured of HIV after being found with undetectable viral load and stopped giving him medication.

“This shows how important it is with close contact to the family. The child is now in a Trio with the mother and one of the neighbours and I visit them every month.”

“ All that I do is because I love the people I serve. I know how it feels to be in such a situation and I believe that together we can fight this pandemic.”

“I am also supporting the ZAMFAM effort to stop GBV in the homes. As well as improving health in all families through good nutrition and hygiene. When I visit a family I encourage them to have backyard gardens so they can have nutritious meals with the children. I am also teaching them about growing Moringa as it has a lot of nutrition.”

“ When ZAMFAM comes to an end, I will continue to serve my community.”



School Block Grant Enhances Education for OVCs

Mukalashi Primary and Secondary School located in the outskirts of Chibombo District, has since 2016 been one of the targeted schools on the ZAMFAM School Block Grant programme.

Prior to the implementation of the programme, the school faced high levels of absenteeism and low enrolment due to parents' lack of funds to pay for children's school user fees. However, ZAMFAM's school block grant saw the acquisition of furniture and text-books in exchange for the school's waiving the school fees for the ZAMFAM registered children, now totalling fifty under the primary section.

"The biggest help that we have received from ZAMFAM is in ensuring that pupils have access to education. They have really helped in improving the situation here. We used to have high numbers of absenteeism and not many pupils used to enrol due to their parents' inability to afford paying their school user fees," explains Senior Teacher, Godfrey Gondwe.

When the programme started at the school they only had 20 pupils whose fees were waived but the number grew over the years, from 20 to 50 pupils with fees waived.

"We also used to have high rates of dropouts and early marriages but because of the youth clubs that ZAMFAM formed those numbers have drastically reduced.

Young girls are being taught their rights and how to defend themselves," Godfrey Gondwe says.

Mukalashi also had a major water problem. The borehole situated at the school was faulty until ZAMFAM helped its rehabilitation thereby reducing the incidences of water borne related illnesses at the school.

"Before the hand pump was fixed we really had challenges here. We would walk as far as 1.8Km just to get water. The pipes were also rusty so the water wasn't entirely clean. We would have many cases of pupils falling sick with diarrhoea related illnesses. Now that the borehole has been rehabilitated with the help of ZAMFAM, as pupils we no longer have to worry about the water supply," says Christine Lundako, a Grade 7 pupil beneficiary.

With the availability of clean water, the pupils' hygiene has been secured. They make sure their hands are always clean; they are able to tidy their classrooms well and water their flowers and gardens regularly.



Ruth and Norah are among the 300 young women that were sponsored by ZAMFAM to train in various vocational skills during the 5 year period of the project.



Ruth excels in ICT

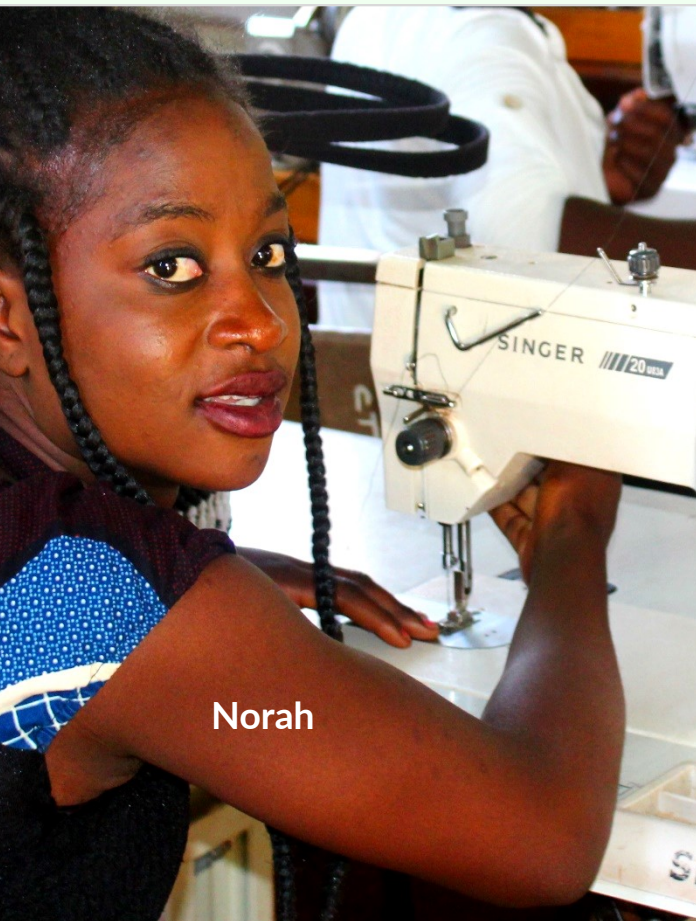
Ruth Mayundu is a 21 year old fulltime Internet Café Assistant in Mumbwa. Through ZAMFAM sponsorship, she took a one year ICT training at Mumbwa Youth Resource Centre in 2018. This was after registering into the ZAMFAM programme in 2016.

“After I completed my school in 2016, I had nothing to do. My parents couldn’t afford to help me further my education. So I just stayed home helping out with house chores and doing piece works whenever I had the opportunity,” Ruth explained.

Ruth now works fulltime at Mumbwa Internet Café where she assists patrons to navigate on the computer to get their tasks done. With her salary she is able to send money home to her family.

“It was quite difficult for my family to believe that they have a child who has gone on to advance her career. They are really proud of me and are extremely grateful for the support rendered by ZAMFAM.

It was quite difficult for me at first because I was not computer literate but I had to quickly learn, I did not want to let my family down. I am now totally independent because of the training I received. I have a full time job,” Ruth said.



Norah

Norah the Tailor

Nineteen year old Norah of Zambia Compound in Choma, is a tailor who has managed to buy an electric sewing machine from her successful business.

“Before I stopped going to school in 2017, I had always wanted to be a designer. I even wanted to enrol for this skill but my parents did not have money to sponsor me. That is why I did not hesitate in choosing cutting and tailoring at Chordot Skills Training Centre,” recalls Norah.

When Norah could not make it to Grade 10 in 2017 she stayed home and started helping her mother to sell vegetables and abandoned her plans to re-write her Grade 9 exams the following year. In 2019, she was registered in the ZAMFAM Programme, and later sponsored to study tailoring.

“From the time I started sewing, that was in February 2020, I have managed to buy an electric sewing machine that enables me to increase my productivity. I am now working on establishing my private place of working from, so that I can be displaying my designs to my potential customers,” says Norah.

CWAC ready to manage ZAMFAM supported structures

The Community Welfare Assistant Committees (CWACs) have been at the centre of ZAMFAM's implementation of activities in communities since the project's inception in 2016. As a grass root community structure, under the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS), the Committees support families to care and support OVCs.

As ZAMFAM winds up its presence in the communities, the Committees who also strengthen linkages between the families and government service providers are now expected to take full responsibility of the entire support the project provided.

"It will be easy for us to monitor all groups to see that they are functional as we do with Social Welfare programmes. Actually some of our members in ZAMFAM groups are under the Social Cash Transfer programme. This kind of take over won't be a new thing for us. The knowledge we acquired from the ZAMFAM training on how to support OVCs is good enough to do the work easily, as soon as a list of all groups is provided to us," Mazabuka Ndeke Township CWAC chairperson, Francis Mbamunya explains.

The Ndeke CWAC trained by ZAMFAM, identifies GBV cases in the community and helps solve them and refer serious ones to the Victim Support Unit (VSU) of the Zambia Police Service. The Committee also receives and identifies defilement cases which it refers to the Social Welfare office for further action.

"Most of our members are from ZAMFAM Action Groups that have Savings Clubs. In these clubs they have a social fund contribution for helping poor families in terms of illnesses and other emergencies. If the condition is serious, we always ask for transport from the Social Welfare Office to take the patient to the hospital. We also help identify people eligible for the Social Cash Transfer from the groups," Francis explains further.

With 378 people on his list of people eligible for the Social Cash Transfer, Francis says that his township is among the most affected places with high levels of poverty. He says that his Committee has helped a lot of vulnerable persons in its efforts to bring dignity to the lives of people in his area.

"We have also helped needy children from Action Groups who completed schools and were admitted to colleges and universities. We write recommendation letters for them to support their vulnerability when they apply for government bursaries through the Social Welfare Office. Most of them have been given study bursaries through such help," he concludes with a smile.



Community Radio Programmes transform Lives

ZAMFAM aired community radio programmes on three radio stations in three districts of Kabwe, Monze and Livingstone on KNC Radio, Sky FM and Mosi-oa-tunya Radio respectively, from October 2018 to September 2020.

The radio programmes amplified the goals and activities of ZAMFAM as well as engaging communities through important issues that affect them by instilling a sense of change and taking action.

Prior to the start of the programmes, 60 people from ZAMFAM's Action Groups and Youth Clubs in the three districts were trained in basic media and journalism skills, so as to be media champions with the responsibility of spear heading the productions, participation and airing of the programmes. Among the topics covered were behaviour change, environment, domestic violence as well as sexual and reproductive health.

Moses Simutenda, 27, of Chimanimani Compound in Kabwe, was one of the individuals trained to be member of the Media Groups.

After training as a Radio Producer I was later chosen as leader of Ngungu Media Group. My job was to ensure that I organised everyone for rehearsals. I was also in charge of mobilising guests for the programmes.

I had no idea about journalism prior to my training but I came out skilled as a radio producer. Working in the Media Group exposed me to many things. The scripts helped me better understand many topics I would have been clueless about," explains Moses Simutenda.

The ZAMFAM radio programme in Kabwe reached many target groups going by the wider coverage of the radio station that aired it.

"Community Programmes made by the community are always welcome here. The great thing about these programmes is that they have a message that cater for everyone in their day to day life.

Whether, it's ending child abuse, or cultivating a backyard garden, the programmes have useful messages for all," KNC Radio Producer Kawaka Mvula says.

Oswald Kaliyate, a resident of Makululu Compound says the programmes amplified the messages from their group lessons.

"Members of ZAMFAM learned a lot from these radio programmes, through the sharing of ideas. Non members also learned from the ZAMFAM experiences"



DAPP Zambia is grateful to all families who took part in the ZAMFAM project and made a change to ensure a prosperous future for their children.

We are grateful to all the volunteers and partners for their commitment and drive to make our families and their children have healthier, happier and sustained livelihoods.

Thank you for making the successes as reality to:

Families and children who were active members of the project
Community Members who supported the activities

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Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Agriculture,
Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries
Ministry of General Education

District Education Board Secretaries
District Health Offices
District Social Welfare Offices
Head Teachers and their staff
In-Charge and their staff in Health Facilities

Creative Associates International
New Renato
Response Network
Tubombelepamo
Young Women / Men Christian Association (YWCA/YMCA)
Kabwe Adventist Faithbased Health Initiative (KAFHI)
Ndekeleni Development Foundation
Reformed Open Community Schools ((ROCS)
Zambia Network of People Living with HIV (NZP+)
Zambian Youth for Development (ZAYODE)

Traditional and Faith Based Leaders

Action Group Coordinators
Community Health Workers (CHWs)
Community Welfare Assistance Committees (CWACs)
Child Care Volunteers (CCVs)

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