Skills Training Centers

Mulele Mwana Skills Centre "Look after the Child" (Lusaka Province) provides technical, vocational and entrepreneurship training to about 100 older children each year who are either orphaned or from very poor families. Since 2005, ZOA-US has provided funds for tailoring and other skills training for older students, many of whom are heads of households, and has also supported the local community school feeding programme for 165 children. Recently, ZOA-US has annually provided funding for seed capital to a cooperative for Mulele Mwana tailoring graduates that enables them to learn the business skills they need to eventually open their own tailoring enterprises. Since the cooperative was founded, three members have gone on to open their own shops.

ZOA-US has partnered with St John the Beloved Catholic Church, McLean, Virginia, to support this programme.



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Cardinal Mazombwe Agricultural and Life Skills Centre (Chongwe District, Lusaka Province). Situated on 80 hectares of prime land donated by Chief Mphashya, the local chief, the Centre's farm allows up to 40 orphans ranging in age from 10 to 21 years to cultivate food for their own consumption and to sell any surpluses to raise funds to put themselves through school and university. Activities at the farm have included maize, pumpkin and cassava production and pig rearing. In 2014, forty (40) students resided at the farm during school and college holidays, or at the end of one educational level. At any time during the year, there at least ten orphans residing at the farm.

ZOA-US has provided funds for the farm's piggery and crop growing operations, agricultural skills workshops for the farm's youth, and tertiary education.



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ambia is one of the African countries hardest hit by HIV/AIDS. Nearly 19 percent of children under 18, or 1.1 million, have been orphaned. About 70 percent of the population earns less than US 1\$ per day, so families, communities and schools are

overstretched in their efforts to care for orphaned children. Many households are now headed by children as young as eleven who are forced to forego the education they need to prepare for a harsh economic environment while they struggle to care for their younger siblings.

In response to this crisis, Zambia Orphans Aid (ZOA) was established in the USA by Zambians and friends of Zambia. ZOA-US was registered as a Private Voluntary Organization (PVO) in August 2000 in Washington DC. In 2003, ZOA registered as an NGO in Zambia (ZOA-Z) and in 2007, ZOA registered as a Charity in the UK (ZOA-UK). To date, ZOA has reached close to 10,000 children throughout Zambia by supporting registered organizations and institutions.



Mission

The mission of ZOA is to enable as many orphans and other vulnerable children (OVC) as possible to realize their potential by:

 Assisting children to complete their schooling by providing books, uniforms and fees, as well as nutritional supplements where necessary.

- Helping school graduates to acquire skills for the world of work.
- Funding income-generating activities, the profits of which empower organizations and orphans to become self-sufficient.

ZOA Organizational Structure

ZOA-US and ZOA-UK concentrate on raising funds to support the projects identified and submitted to them by ZOA in Zambia (ZOA-Z). ZOA-Z also monitors and evaluates the projects and helps with capacity-building in simple business management, and in proposal writing and reporting needed to facilitate access to the growing volume of donor support that is becoming available in Zambia for AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

Children's Homes and Schools

St Anthony Children's Village (Ndola, Copperbelt Province) is run by the Dominican sisters and opened its doors to HIV infected children in May, 2003. The Village provides both physical and emotional support to orphaned children in a family setting. For a number of years, the majority of the children at St. Anthony were HIV infected, their mothers having died from AIDS. However, with the availability of ARVs (anti-retroviral drugs) for adults and children, more mothers are able to live and care for their children, while extended families are more willing to accept responsibility for their relatives. Thus, the Village has increased the number of other vulnerable children it accepts: those abandoned by families, and those who are mentally and physically challenged.

Since 2003, ZOA-US has provided funding to St. Anthony for nutrition and health needs, including HIV testing. In 2004, St. John the Beloved Catholic Church in McLean, Virginia, became involved and has been the principal donor to ZOA-US for the support of St. Anthony Children's Village.

Angelina Tembo School (Kabwe, Central Province) Is run by the Sisters of Mary Immaculate, Angelina Tembo Girls School and is located in Bwacha Township, Kabwe.



The school has been in partnership with ZOA-US since 2006. ZOA-US has provided support to the feeding program for orphans who get one meal at school, funded school fees and other requisites for students at Angelina Tembo School, and supplied tuition fees for five former students who have graduated from Nkrumah University and are now teachers assigned to schools all over Zambia.

ZOA-US has also assisted the school with incomegenerating activities (IGA): poultry, piggery and vegetable -growing, as well as a new maize-growing venture, which have not only helped the school raise funds for school supplies, but have also provided protein, vitamin, and mineral-rich food for the orphans.

Outreach Programs

Taonga Community Home Based Care Project (CHBC), (Kabwe, Central Province) was established in 2004 to provide support services to people infected and affected by HIV and AIDS in the community, and to OVC. Taonga runs HIV awareness and AIDS management programs, and trains community caregivers in basic home nursing and counseling skills. They provide additional training for psychosocial support for children and offer home-based care for HIV and AIDS patients and other vulnerable people. Taonga CHBC is an all-volunteer run organization, drawing care-givers from within the community.

ZOA-US partnered with Taonga CHBC in 2008 to provide financial assistance to support 50 to 65 children each year. The children the organization assists are spread over twelve schools in Kabwe. They attend primary and high schools, including Angelina Tembo. Since 2010, the ZOA-US grant has been steadily growing, reaching 90 in 2014.