



Why Build a New School?

A time of celebration—in spite of their suffering.

Throughout the summer, the children who live at the Children's Resource Center (CRC) outside of Lusaka, Zambia take turns performing traditional dances and sharing poems they have written about how they have been affected by HIV/AIDS, death, and poverty. It is a sobering experience. Equally sobering is the full-spirited celebration that follows on the heels of these heavy-hearted concerns. The children break into traditional song and dance to express their deep gratitude for what they have and how their lives have been blessed. They invite the Mothers Without Borders (MWB) volunteers to join them in this moving display of love and hope. This year they have a new reason to celebrate—the opening of a school.

Mothers Without Borders Learning and Leadership Academy opens its doors!

The establishment of the MWB school means that the CRC children attending first through sixth grade no longer have to walk two hours to the nearest government school. Our school offers its students a full day of classes whereas many of the primary schools in Zambia are so crowded and understaffed that students can only attend half a day (about 3 hours) before they are replaced by other students anxious to get some time in a classroom. Another challenge for students at government schools is the need to purchase their own uniforms and school supplies; the MWB school provides students with a uniform and all necessary supplies.



53 children now have a chance for a better future ... but hundreds are still turned away.

Initially, the school was intended for the 15 children in residence at the CRC but soon the children of MWB staff were invited to attend. An abandoned chicken coop was converted into a two-room schoolhouse. Within days of the school opening, parents from surrounding villages were asking to have their children admitted as well. Our staff of one part-time and two full-time teachers, knowing the value of education, enrolled as many students as resources would allow. The student body grew from 18 to 53 within the first few weeks. Even after building an open-air thatched-roof hut to accommodate more students, every week dozens more are turned away for lack of space.

Turning a chicken coop into a school is a temporary solution to a very big problem.

Because the current schoolhouse was designed to be a chicken coop, the staff and children face many challenges. The floors are a combination of dirt and rock and has to be swept several times a day to keep the dust down. The windows are small and have screens rather than glass. During the rainy season, rain pours through the windows and soaks the classrooms. The tin roof leaks in several places and the noise is deafening, making it difficult for the teachers to be heard.

We need your help to solve the education crisis that these children face.

The education crisis in Zambia is real. The Mothers Without Borders Learning and Leadership Academy provides a real solution AND WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN expand its resources so that more children can pursue their dreams and contribute to their communities in a meaningful way.

Friends at the MWB Academy



Heather is a full-time teacher at the MWB School and currently lives at the CRC. She first visited Zambia in 2006 focused on a safari adventure. Her focus soon changed when she met the kids at the CRC. She returned to Zambia in 2007 and 2008. "I fell in love with these kids...they are why I kept coming back." She was working as a high school math teacher in Oregon when she was contacted by Mothers Without Borders to see if she would be interested

in establishing a school in Zambia. Her answer? Absolutely!

Heather spent the next year raising money, collecting supplies, and training in a teaching method effective in overcoming language barriers. Heather arrived in August 2009 and converted a chicken coop into a schoolhouse. She also created a curriculum to fit a structured 8-hour school day.

"These kids know the only way to provide for themselves is if they have an education. They love coming to school. They love to learn."



Betty lives at the CRC and is another full-time teacher. She has earned a certificate in Education and teaches social and creative studies. "I hope to get more teachers, including a Zambian language teacher, and increase our Zambian-language library."



Jacquie is a part-time teacher at the MWB School. She teaches first grade science, and math for grades 1, 3, and 6. Jackie lives at the CRC and is a member of the MWB senior staff. She dreams of a

bigger school so more kids can get a quality education. "I want this to become one of the best schools in Lusaka."



Chola is 14 years old and wants to become a doctor. He loves the way the teachers at the MWB school are able to teach him. He likes learning English and is grateful the books are free. He wishes the school had more teachers so they could teach to grade 12. Chola would also like a bigger school so more pupils would have an opportunity to attend school. He also hopes everyone will respect the school.



Bridget is 14 years old. Her favorite subject in school is math. When she completes her education, she wants to be a teacher. Bridget's dream is to teach at the MWB School someday because she wants to give back what has been given to her.



Dianna is 13 years old and enjoys math. When she grows up, she wants to be a journalist. She loves to read books and learn. When asked what she wished for the school, Dianna replied, "I wish for a bigger school and more teachers."



Become a Friend and **Give 'em 5**

If 15,000 people **Give 'em \$5** (or multiples of \$5) a new school will be built at the CRC in Zambia, Africa. Donate today and invite 5 friends to do the same!

motherswithoutborders.org



Currently the MWB School provides free education, uniforms, music and art instruction for grades 1 through 6. It also provides an afterschool tutoring program for students in grades 7 and 8.

Though the MWB School has already enjoyed some success, much is needed to further improve the education for children at the CRC. Some of the needs include:

- ◆ Enclosed classrooms for protection against wind, dust, and torrential rains
- ◆ Additional teachers and staff
- ◆ Additional rooms so that each grade has a classroom
- ◆ Toilets and septic tanks
- ◆ Staff housing
- ◆ Lunch programs

Your donation will help meet these needs and build a school for these children.

Donations may be made at:

MWB Website: motherswithoutborders.org
(click on the **Give 'em 5** sidebar)

For more information about the **Give 'em 5** program contact::

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Mothers Without Borders was founded in 2000 by Kathy Headlee Minor in response to the devastation being caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The purpose of MWB is to address the needs of orphaned and abandoned children in a holistic manner. It is our mission to offer hope to these children by supporting efforts to provide safe shelter, food, education, and access to caring adults who mentor, encourage, and love.