Welcome 2020!

The first quarter of 2020 has been especially eventful for the Time + Tide Foundation.

We started the year administering sponsorships to over 125 students in Zambia, held three workshops for the parents and caregivers in our home-based education programme, published our 2019 Annual Report, and partook in a five-day strategic planning workshop. Two weeks after these work plans were finalized, we met again – this time virtually – to re-think our approach in the face of school closures, social regulations and restrictions on movement. For the moment, Time + Tide and many other tourism operators have delayed lodge openings, which has led to high levels of anxiety over the future of employment in the areas where we work. In this context, the work of the Time + Tide Foundation is more important than ever. We are committed to carving innovative, socially modified avenues of support while remaining emotionally accessible to our beneficiaries. Thank you to all of our donors and partners who have enabled us to continue providing education and healthcare. We look forward to sharing stories of resilience and kindness from our communities and hope that you will come and visit us when the time is right.
Nosy Ankao:
FEMALE EMPOWERMENT

Over the past few months, we focused the Nosy Ankao Girls Club lessons on life skills and sexual and reproductive health, with consistent French language reinforcement throughout all club sessions.

The aim of these sessions is to increase girls’ self-confidence and give them tools to better express themselves in public and in French. At the Nosy Ankao primary school, we measured a baseline of 0% functional literacy in French when we started the programme in 2019. Although many of the girls’ literacy levels improved over the course of the year, only one girl achieved functional literacy, which means there is substantial room for improvement. In March of this year, we held a theatre training workshop for the girls and their teachers with a total of 25 participants, through which they developed two plays on the importance of education and French fluency. The girls performed these plays in the village of Antafondro over International Women’s Day, marking the first public speaking event for many of the girls in the club.
Nosy Ankao: MEDICAL SUPPORT

Dr. Julien Andriamampianina, the medical doctor whom we employ in Madagascar, has increased his outreach substantially in the past month in order to provide information and preventative care to the residents in the Nosy Ankao archipelago.

In addition to 470 patient consultations, Dr. Julien has held individual meetings on the topic of Covid-19 with 605 residents across 8 villages, devoting over 60 hours to sensitization on the disease. Together with our Community Liaison Officer Joel Jao, Dr. Julien has distributed factual flyers about Covid-19 in Malagasy, held hand washing demonstrations and reinforced the government’s message on social distancing. While many residents have access to a radio and follow local and national news, the continued, personal presence of Dr. Julien is critical in order for them to feel they have reliable medical advice in the comfort of their own homes and villages.
While in South Luangwa, Dr. Chansa-Kabali conducted an Autism awareness workshop with our Home-Based Education caregivers and parents, reaching an audience of 89 participants. She also visited 7 children who are on the Autism Spectrum at their homes for one-to-one consultations with them and their parents.

In January, the Time + Tide Foundation hosted Dr. Tamara Chansa Kabali, a psychologist and Autism specialist who founded Mulenga Autism Foundation-MAF, an organisation inspired by her son Mulenga.

During the workshops, Dr. Chansa-Kabali stressed the importance of early interventions while the child’s brain is still developing. She addressed the many myths and science-based facts about Autism and carefully described how the Autistic brain functions. Caregivers and parents were given tips on how to communicate with non-verbal children, how to shape good behaviour and how to manage tantrums. She also encouraged parents to commit more time to reinforce their children’s independence as this will help them to survive even when their parents are absent.
This year, we accepted the first intake of Mugurameno students to the Time + Tide Foundation Lower Zambezi sponsorship programme.

Students are eligible to apply if they achieve high marks in the core primary school subjects (language, math, science, and social studies), if they have a consistent record of attendance and if one of their teachers can attest to their work ethic and economic vulnerability. Thereafter, students who meet the criteria are asked to take our bespoke aptitude test, which we design annually based on the grade 7 curriculums and in collaboration with head teachers. By early January 2020, after an initial application pool of 13, we remained with 7 students who qualified: two girls and five boys. Through this programme, our objective is to help the hardest working students in Mugurameno Primary School gain acceptance to top boarding schools in their district, where the educational resources are far greater than those found at local government day schools.
Liuwa Plain: WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Each year on International Women’s Day, Stanbic Bank hosts the Zambian Women of the Year Awards to honour exceptionally accomplished women across the education, business and non-profit sectors.

This year, Charity Mushokabanji, our Programme Officer in Liuwa Plain, won the Community Award to celebrate the 15 years she has devoted to supporting the residential communities inside Liuwa Plain National Park. In her role with the Time + Tide Foundation, Charity established our sponsorship programme for Liuwa students to attend secondary school in Kalabo and Mongu, with more than 30 students benefitting to date. With an initial 26% pregnancy-related dropout rate for girls from secondary school, Charity spearheaded a female empowerment programme to work with girls at the primary school level on their literacy, confidence and comprehension of their reproductive rights. Further, the programme includes individual consultations with the families of primary aged girls and community meetings to explain the educational and economic opportunities that are missed when girls drop out or are forced out of school. As a result, in 2019 we recorded 0% dropout rate of our sponsored girls due to pregnancy.

For more information, please e-mail: info@timeandtidefoundation.org