QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

JANUARY - MARCH 2021

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While there were many unexpected occurrences in 2020, we continued supporting our beneficiaries across all sites and recorded significant progress in our programmes. For example, in the South Luangwa, functional literacy in English amongst girls in the Female Empowerment Programme increased to 77%. The first sponsored student in Liuwa Plain successfully completed his secondary education with a final exam score of 80%.

Over 50,000 meals were provided to the families and caregivers in our Home-based Education Programme as Covid relief in Lower Zambezi, and over 5,000 residents in the Nosy Ankao region of Madagascar were supported through our medical outreach over the course of the year. We hope you enjoy reading about our accomplishments and thank you for your continued support of the Time + Tide communities.

We are pleased to announce that the 2020 Annual Report has been finalised and is now accessible online.
Nosy Ankao:
REVITALISATION OF THE CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

Fortunately, during the first quarter of 2021, we were able to revive the conservation programme by hiring a new position of Conservation Manager to be based on Nosy Ankao. The Conservation Manager in turn reassembled the environmental team on the island and evaluated each of the historical focus areas of the Foundation’s conservation agenda, which include coral reef monitoring, sea turtle and tern monitoring, the Crowned Lemur conservation programme, and engaging with the local fishing associations on sustainable fishing practices. Over the rest of the year, we will work closely with stakeholders to collect data on the greatest threats to biodiversity in the archipelago and strategize on the long-term conservation objectives of the Time + Tide Foundation and Miavana in Madagascar.

From April 2020, due to Covid-19 travel restrictions and the lockdown in Madagascar, we temporarily suspended our conservation initiatives.
Physiotherapy is one of the most effective ways of helping children with special needs to manage their pain and reduce muscle tension, which is why it is a priority to train caregivers and parents with basic physiotherapy skills. A total of 122 volunteer caregivers attended these workshops over 50 hours, with a focus on the theoretical and practical application of physiotherapy for children with Spina Bifida, Cerebral Palsy, Club Feet, Muscular Dystrophy, Autism, Erbs Palsy, and Hunters Syndrome.

Our newest volunteer caregivers joined the programme in August 2020, and for them this workshop was their first exposure to physiotherapy. These annual workshops are key to the skill development of the home-based caregivers so that they can effectively assist children with special needs in their communities and grow in their own understanding of the biology and physiology of locally common conditions.

From March 22nd – April 2nd, physiotherapist Violet Sitwala from the Archie Hinchcliffe Disability Intervention joined us in the South Luangwa to conduct training on the physiological management of common disabilities.
Lower Zambezi:
HOME-BASED EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Over the last quarter, we financially supported five children from the Lower Zambezi to receive medical interventions related to their conditions.

Nazia, Hellen and Loveness all presented with obstructed vision, which required specific medication for Nazia and Hellen and an operation to correct nerve damage for Loveness. Ozem has impaired mobility and received his first CT scan in March, which will be interpreted by a neurologist in the next quarter for diagnosis of his exact condition and recommendation for long-term treatment. The last child, Shepherd, has a mild case of Cerebral Palsy, which caused his left leg to be shorter than the right. In January, he travelled to a hospital that specializes in paediatric orthopaedics and received a special heel for his left shoe to correct this imbalance. Families in Mugurameno Village are rarely in a financial position to afford such treatments, which often results in their children being unable to attend school and achieve self-sufficiency. While the Home-based Education Programme is largely focused on education for children whose conditions have delayed or inhibited their enrolment in school, there is equally a provision for children to receive the necessary medical interventions to aid in their development.

“Before she joined the Home-based Education Programme, she had no sight in her left eye and Loveness was unable to close it even during sleep. After several hospital visits, medications, exercises with her eye and finally an operation, some vision has been restored in her eye. She is now able to move and close her eye.”

- Ireen, Loveness’s mother
Lower Zambezi:
SCHOOL SUPPORT

In the first quarter, the Time + Tide Foundation distributed a total of 1620 pencils, 541 erasers and 339 sharpeners to all the pupils at Mugurameno Primary School.

This was made possible through a generous donation we received from Write 2 Education, a non-profit that helps under-resourced schools in Africa by supplying basic stationery. The founder of Write 2 Education experienced the challenges faced by many schools in rural Africa when she volunteered in Ghana and observed 50 children share only a few used pencils.

Like many schools in remote areas of Zambia, Mugurameno Primary School often begins the academic year with insufficient stationery for pupils and teachers, which presents an array of operational challenges for the school. Moreover, many children in the area do not attend school due to the lack of materials and funding for school fees. Donations of school materials are of great value to schools in remote locations because they save the schools the logistical cost of procuring these items from distant urban centres or at locally inflated prices.
Lungowe comes from Silanda Village inside Liuwa Plain National Park and therefore understands the challenges faced by primary schools in the most remote parts of Western Province.

Thanks to his dedicated mother who prioritized funding Lungowe’s education with her earnings from the sale of mealie meal, he was able to graduate from Kalabo Secondary School, the best school in the district. Thereafter, he joined Sibemi Community School in 2015 as a volunteer teacher. Lungowe has always been passionate about becoming a qualified teacher and was happy to gain exposure to this profession on a voluntary basis while he explored options to attend teaching college.

Due to his long-term dedication to the pupils of Sibemi School, the Time + Tide Foundation offered Lungowe a three-year scholarship to pursue a teaching course so that he can realize his dream of becoming a formally qualified primary school teacher. He began his course at Mongu College of Education in January. When he graduates at the end of 2023, Lungowe is committed to continuing to teach at Sibemi Community School for a minimum of three additional years.

“I feel grateful and blessed to have this scholarship. My goal after completing my teaching course is to give back to the Sibemi community by serving at the school. I want to make Time + Tide Foundation, my family and the Sibemi community proud.”

- Lungowe

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