



**NKUUNIKA
'SHEDDING LIGHT ON LUNDAZI DISTRICT'
RISING FOUNTAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM JANUARY- MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER**

RFDP Attends Zambia Orphans of AIDS (ZOAZ) AGM

RFDP this month had the privilege to attend the annual general meeting for one of RFDP cooperating partners (ZOAZ) in Lusaka-Zambia.

The meeting was held on March 5, 2010 and the RFDP Executive Director represented the organization at this important gathering.



**RFDP Executive Director
Presenting an Annual Report During
ZOAZ Meeting**



RFDP Micro Loan Project clients planting trees at Nundwe Woodlot

RFDP and Color Me In Launch a Livelihood and Micro Enterprise Development Project

RFDP in partnership with Color Me In (CMI), a US based partner organization launched a Livelihood and Micro Enterprise Development Project in poor communities of Lundazi district. Through this pilot project, also known as Color Me Green Micro-loan , RFDP gave out micro loans to 5 enterprise groups across Lundazi district.

The green micro loan disbursement exercise came after forestry, agro-forestry and micro enterprise development trainings. This was because participants were meant to first understand the concept of the Green Micro Loan Project.

The facilitator took time to explain why the group members were being given those micro loans and how repayments were going



(People listening to RFDP facilitator at the launch of Micro Enterprise Development Project in Kupenja area)

To be made (50% through tree planting and 50% through cash).

Having thoroughly assessed that nearly all the group members had grasped the idea, micro loans were given to the people who received the training. Seventy (70) RFDP

Stephen Lewis Foundation Visit RFDP

Rising Fountains Development Program (RFDP) was pleased to host Ky'okusinga Kirunga, a representative from Stephen Lewis Foundation in Canada on March 11th 2010.

The main purpose of her visit was to get to know RFDP better and strengthen the partnership between the two organizations. This was the second of such visit by Stephen Lewis Foundation to RFDP-Zambia.

By Melina Mbuji.

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Kanele Land Care Director Franklin Mwale and the wife handing over tree seedlings to RFDP Executive Director (left) receiving tree seedlings on behalf of RFDP.

Kanele Land Care Donates Tree Seedlings to RFDP in Lundazi

In March, Kanele Land Care Institute donated a variety of tree seedlings to RFDP. The 1,500 trees donated will be planted in the community schools and communities where RFDP operates. RFDP give thanks to Kanele Land Care for the good gesture shown towards development.

Handing over the trees to RFDP, Kanele Land Care Director, Mr. Mwale said trees should be put into good use and emphasized that

management of trees in community context has an important effect on the general health status of the community.

He also said that RFDP should advise the people to care for the trees as they had multiple benefits.

By Melina Mbuji.

Support RFDP

How can you help RFDP support communities in

the Lundazi District? RFDP is looking for grants for water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS, orphans and vulnerable children and agriculture so that we can continue to implement some of our major projects. If your organization can help or you know of someone who might be interested please email risingfour-tain@yahoo.com for further information.

RFDP Launch Programs at Kamsisi Middle Basic School

In its continued effort to serve the community, RFDP launched its programs to the new area of Kamsisi Middle Basic School and its surrounding areas on the plateau. Speaking during the launch, RFDP Executive Director explained the background and objectives of RFDP to the members of the community who gathered during the meeting at Kamsisi Middle Basic School. Thirty six (36) community members including school administrators, the head teacher, the deputy head teacher, class teachers and traditional leaders from Phikamalaza chiefdom attended the meeting.

By gender, 11 female and 25 male witnessed the launch.

The Executive Director further mentioned about

HIV/AIDS and Health, and that the department was carrying out a number of activities that included voluntary counselling and testing (VCT).

Lessons on HIV/AIDS and programmes pertaining to youths were activities being carried out by RFDP as well, the Director said.



Osward Lungu HIV/AIDS & Health Facilitator

Health Partnership Meeting



RFDP Programs Coordinator poses for a photo after a Health Partnership meeting recently

The first quarter health review and partnership meeting was convened in March 2010, to which RFDP was invited. RFDP Programs Coordinator, Pastor Lackson Chipeta, represented the organisation.

The meeting, which was organized by the Ministry of Health, was held in the council civic centre Chamber Hall. The meeting attracted many organizations and was well attended. The organizations and departments that participated included Thandizani, Care International, Dunavant, Ministry of Health,

District AIDS Task Force Chikondi, Africare, Local government, ROCS, to mention but just a few. In his presentation, Programmes Coordinator explained the profile of RFDP, current initiatives undertaken, reviewed quarterly progress and constraints and the current staff profile. He further made mention of RFDP donors. Of the many projects that are being implemented by RFDP, it was the issue of the Colour Me Green Micro-Loan Project that interested many participants. The project, which embraces the idea of paying back part of the loan through tree planting, is being sponsored by Color Me In (CMI) from the USA.

National Plan of Action Workshop (NPA)

RFDP attended the National Plan of Action (NPA) workshop in Chipata town. The workshop was organised by the Ministry of sports, youths and child development (MSYCD). The orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) facilitator and the Executive Director represented RFDP at the workshop which was held at Crystal Springs Hotel.

NPA is a commitment by the government and the people of Zambia to our children. Coordination and collaboration are therefore decisive ingredients to the success of an NPA. This plan was for 2008-2010.

The workshop was mainly for the following:

- *Agree on the strategic priorities of activities (SPA) and activity areas that apply to roll out organisations.
- *Agree on targets for expected outputs .
- *Review indicator definitions and finalise definitions guidelines for rollout organisations
- *Review monitoring and evaluation user guideline narrative.

After the workshop, RFDP started implementing the programs in the catchment areas and the response from the community is good.

By Christine Chipeta OVC Program Facilitator.

Witness Mwale, a mother of 4, is the community outreach worker for Kataba catchment area in Kazembe chiefdom. She joined RFDP when it was established. Witness does voluntary work which is not easy. Each month she covers long distances to conduct meetings in the catchment area.

Witness likes the job but she finds it hard to walk especially that she is a women. Her story is not different from other com-

munity outreach workers who have no bicycles. She really needs a bicycle to do the job better.

Witness Mwale at RFDP Annual Review Meeting

She is appealing to well wishes to help her with a bicycle. She enjoys working with RFDP and what it is doing in her area. A bicycle costs only US\$80.

By Melina Mbuzi



BEING A WOMAN, HER STORY IS NOT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER OURREACH WORKERS WHO HAVE NO BICYCLES

RFDP CONDUCT TRAINING OF COMMUNITY LEADERS IN LEADERSHIP SKILLS

With support from partners, RFDP trained 30 community leaders in leadership skills. The training was meant to exchange knowledge and experience in the involvement of leaders in the mitigation of HIV/AIDS. It was also meant to initiate dialogue with Support Group Leaders in the community.

This important training took place on 25 and 26 February,

2010. The training attracted very respectable traditional leaders such as three group head men and one senior teacher. (Group head men) are section leaders in a specific geographical area who work under customary law.

Participants were also drawn from different support groups of

the catchment areas of Lusuntha, Chiwe, Kupenja and Romase/ Kasambamwali.

Head man Lyeko emphasized that effective skills and technical know-how should be put into practical to improve service delivery at community level.

By Oswald Lungu RFDP HIV/AIDS Fa-



Group headman Lyeko relaxing after a leaders workshop in Phikamalaza chiefdom, Lun-

LUNDAZI DISTRICT HIT BY FLOODS

Late October to April are months of rainfall in Zambia. But 2009/2010 rain season has done a lot of good and harm to the people of Zambia. Most parts of the country have been hit by floods. In the capital city, for instance, people had their houses filled with water during the night making houses collapse. Bridges were swept away, towns were cut off from each other and lives were lost. As part of government's rescue operations, people were moved to temporal sites at the Independence stadium.

Lundazi was no exception. The district experienced heavy downpours. About 20 houses were submerged in water while other houses collapsed which left many households destitute. Property was destroyed and most of the people do not have the basic necessities. The disaster management team moved in to help the people move to temporal sites for shelter. The management has also assisted those affected with food while more aid is being sought by government to lessen the impact of this disaster. It will be difficult for people to re-build houses and put life together again.



Tents for the displaced families at a temporal site.



One of the displaced households of Riverside compound.

By Melina Mbuzi

Monitoring & Evaluation Officer.

THE MEANING OF RED RIBBON

When you wear the red ribbon you are saying:

You support safer sex practice (abstinence, mutual, fairness, or condom use).

You will not discriminate against people with HIV/AIDS.

You want to talk openly about the problem of HIV/AIDS and what you can do to help solve it.

Each one teach one another what the Red Ribbon symbolizes.

The Red Ribbon Colour is a sign of danger. AIDS is deadly.

The Red Ribbon is crossed to

show that we need to work together to stop this deadly diseases.

There are no knots in the ribbon to show that the disease will not stop us.

Wear your Red Ribbon everyday with pride.

By Oswald Lungu RFDP Program Facilitator.

T Abstaining from HIV/AIDS

This is the message to all youths, women, men and children. Abstinence is the best way to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS. If abstaining from sex is difficult, better find 1 permanent sexual partner rather than having more sexual partners.

AIDS is truly a killer disease, so lovely people run away from this dangerous disease by abstaining or having 1 sexual partner. Always keep the letters ABC in you heart. A=Abstinence, B=Be faithful, and C=Use condom. Abstinence iliche (Abstinence is good.)

By Lizzy Zulu

RFDP Program Administrative Assistant.



RFDP is running a number of fundraising campaigns to help make a real difference to the communities that we work with. If you would like to donate to any of the projects outlined below or help us to fundraise please get in touch via email on

risingfountain@yahoo.com. More information on specific projects is also available on our website www.risingfountains.org.

Help local community schools:

Zambia has both government schools and community schools. The walk to government schools can be long and dangerous for small children, who often have to contend with wild animals and cross rivers to reach their destination. Community schools have therefore been set up by the community to provide education to children who would otherwise go without and rely on the goodwill of teachers who work for free. These teachers have already taken the first step to securing education for the future generation, help us fundraise to ensure these schools continue and provide the best possible education they can.

Supplies for school children:

There are 1,260 orphans and vulnerable children in RFDP's catchment area. Many of these children cannot go to school because they don't have a uniform, books or other school supplies. With your support, RFDP can distribute school requisites to these children and help ensure they get the education they deserve.

New bicycles for community outreach workers:

RFDP focuses its majority of work in the valley. The valley is a long distance from the office along some of the worst roads in Zambia. To ensure that our projects are well managed and monitored we have a fantastic network of outreach workers based out in the valley. Due to the often impassable terrain, the bicycles they rely on to carry out their work are in urgent need of changing. Help us raise money for new bicycles which will allow outreach workers to carry out their jobs more effectively and serve the community better. It only requires \$80 to buy a new bicycle for the outreach worker.

If you would like your donation to go towards a specific project please specify on the donation form.

Work with RFDP

RFDP works in partnership with both international and local organizations to achieve its goals. We want to work with more organizations so that we can share experience and learn from each other.

If you are interested in becoming a partner of RFDP please contact risingfountain@yahoo.com.