



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009

Kuunika

‘Shedding light on Lundazi District’



Over the last few months the RFDP team has been working hard, and with several new and innovative projects coming up the rest of the year looks set to be a busy and exciting time! We look forward to increasing the scope of our work, the operational areas that we reach and the support we can offer to the most vulnerable members of the community.

“In addition, RFDP would like to offer up many thanks to the Anir Volunteers, in particular Andrew Brown, Nicky Bryan & Johnny Stony for the submission of their eagerly anticipated video documentary, which can now be viewed on our website – be sure to take a look! www.risingfountains.org”

Mathias Zimba Executive Director RFDP

RFDP welcomes visitor from PEPFAR

At the beginning of June RFDP were pleased to welcome PEPFAR (President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Small Grants Fund) representative Brandy Helen to Lundazi. PEPFAR funded RFDP’s OVC Programme earlier in the year and helped increase the well-being and educational attainment of over 300 OVCs through the provision of school requisites and the training of 20 psycho-social counselors and 20 caregivers. Brandy and the team left early in the morning to reach Kazembe Basic School where they were greeted by a band of excited school children, **Mr. Chipeta (Programme Coordinator), Brandy Helen (PEPFAR) and Mathias Zimba (Executive Director) enjoy the performances.**



Website: www.risingfountains.org Email: risingfountain@yahoo.com



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

school staff, the Orphan Care Committee, psycho-social counselors and village Outreach Workers. The visit was a great opportunity for Brandy to see the hugely positive impact that PEPFAR's funding has had in the area and the big role that RFDP play in the community.

(Images: 2 pupils from Kazembe Basic testifying what PEPFAR funding had done to them)

June, July, August – 2009



The visitors were treated to a fantastic series of performances, including poetry readings from female members of the school centering on HIV/AIDS related issues and two moving autobiographical accounts delivered by double orphans who as a result of RFDP's support were able to overcome some of the extreme hardships they had come up against. In addition, the Orphan Care Committee and psycho-social counselors performed some well-received role-plays highlighting the issues that they face and the invaluable skills they had learnt.

(Images: This page: above right, Trained care givers perform role play in Chief Kazembe)



Lundazi hosts a variety of events!

June marked the beginning of a busy events schedule in Lundazi. June 16th saw the commemoration of the International Day of the African Child held in memory of those that participated in the Soweto Uprising in 1976 where over ten thousand black school children protested against the poor

quality of their education and their right to be taught in their own language. RFDP helped to coordinate 2 radio shows with local station Radio Chikaya fronted by 2 pupils from Lundazi Boarding Secondary School and 2 members of CCAP. The event itself was held at Chipenberle Basic School and pupils from Kanele, Lundazi Boarding and various other local schools delivered some powerful and well-informed performances around child rights



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program
and the fight against HIV/AIDS.

June, July, August – 2009



In addition, the 30th June was national VCT (Voluntary Counselling and Testing) day.

(Images: previous page: pupils from Kanele perform a poem. This page – left: marchers display VCT banner and below: pupils from Lundazi Boarding perform a play about Child Rights)



RFDP lead CHIN 'Breaking the Silence' campaign



June and July also saw the launch of a national wide campaign in association with national network CHIN (Children In Need). The campaign 'Breaking the Silence' aims to mainstream HIV/AIDS awareness at household level.

RFDP implemented a pilot workshop in one of its project areas on the plateau (Kupenja) with great success.



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009

Households were mobilized and sensitized to the campaign and took part in a series of activities encouraging family discussion around issues relating to HIV/AIDS and sexual health awareness - educative materials were also distributed to all families. RFDP also organized and facilitated a strategic meeting with LEBF Pastor's Fellowship as part of a district-wide aim to sensitize church leaders to the campaign, as well as organizing a highly successful radio programme at Radio Chikaya with our own Programme Coordinator Lackson Chipeta, District Community Development Officer Christine Banda, other CHIN member Tiyanjane's director Pastor Lungu and 2 family members from the Kupenja community (as pictured above with his family father Elias Shaba, and his picture below far right mother Joyce Muhoni).



(images, left-right: at Kupenja community: the Zyambo family, the Chuna family and the Chavula family)

Focus on Community Outreach Workers – Mary Chipeta

In each newsletter we will profile one of our community outreach workers based out in the valley and the plateau. Outreach workers are fundamental to the success of RFDP as they get to see on a daily basis the problems facing the communities. Working as volunteers they help to set up committees on water and sanitation, HIV/AIDS and Orphans and vulnerable children and also report back on RFDP projects operating in their area.

What is your name, which area do you operate in and how long have you been acting as an Outreach Worker?

Website: www.risingfountains.org Email: risingfountain@yahoo.com



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009

Mary Chipeta, I have operated in the Kuppenja area since June 2008.

What are the main problems you face as a Community Outreach Worker?

There are many problems I face as a Community Outreach Worker. One of the biggest problems is transport limitations and being able to get in contact with headmen and school children.

What are the main problems that the people of Kuppenja face?

Hunger, sicknesses like malaria, HIV, coughing, diarrhoea and lack of education and training.

In what ways do you try and combat some of these problems?

We can combat some of these problems by

- a) Village to village teachings*
- b) Training most of the members*
- c) Meeting regularly*
- d) To remove stigma and discrimination*

What advice would you give to individuals who are HIV positive and are unsure what support is available to them?

The advice that I would give to people who are HIV positive is that you are the same as anybody else – you can do exactly what a HIV negative person can do, even surpass them, as long as you continue with ART (Antri-retroviral Therapy).

Do you have any additional comments?

The newsletter should be featured every month so that people are kept aware and up to date.



(image: Mary Chipeta (Kuppenja Outreach Worker, Oswald Lungu RFDP HIV/AIDS Programme Facilitator)



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program Welcomes and Farewells!

June, July, August – 2009

At the end of May RFDP received another international volunteer from the UK, Anna Parke. Anna has very much enjoyed getting involved with RFDP's work and getting to know the great team here! Anna is due to leave in August, and will be followed by another international volunteer from the UK, Sarah Sutherland in September who will join the team for 3 months.

We also welcome some new permanent members of staff – Oswald Lungu has been an invaluable asset to the team as the new HIV/AIDS Programme Facilitator and Lizzie Zulu, our new admin assistant has effectively and efficiently been keeping us all organized!

Other News!



RFDP were very pleased to receive a Donation of pencils from cub scout pack members in the U.S.A. The pencils were distributed to orphans and vulnerable children (OVCs) in operational areas on the plateau and are no doubt being put to great use!

This month, RFDP are also due to travel to operational area Chitungulu, Luangwa Valley to implement the final leg of their 'Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) and Caregiver Support Project' as funded by ZOAZ (Zambia Orphans of AIDS Zambia). The visit will include the further training of psycho-social counselors and caregivers in the community to ensure the ongoing and sustained protection, security and support of the OVC population.

(images: trained psychosocial counselors from the Valley, OVCs gathered in Kazembe, orphan from Kopenja community on the plateau)

From all of us here at the RFDP it is goodbye for now – be sure to check out our next quarterly update and remember that there are many ways you can help support the important work we are doing!



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009

Rising Fountains Development Program (RFDP) Celebrates, RFDP Board chairperson says.

It is with great joy and appreciation both to God and the leadership of Fountain of Life Church (FLC) for the wonderful offering they gave to us. RFDP received a vehicle from the FLC. It is no ordinary vehicle as it a high range off road vehicle Four Wheel Drive – Nissan Terrano 5 seater with a 2.7 l engine capacity. The Vehicle was donated to us and all we had to do is pay for its clearance fees, and the cost of driving it from the port – Dar es Salaam. The vehicle is valued at ZamK.62, 000,000 inclusive of duty.

This comes as a gesture of goodwill and support from the Church as they provide guidance and spiritual cover for RFDP, for which we are most grateful.

We have been spending a lot of money and lost precious time hiring vehicles to go into our operational areas. Each trip used to cost us on average ZAM2, 500,000 now all we need is budget for fuel and maintenance of vehicle. The trip costs us only about between 60-80 liters of fuel and we were very limited to availability of transport while now the story has changed. It was difficult to do monitoring trips while now we can proudly produce reports directly from the field.

Yours in His Service

Zimba Siyani Rev.
Board Chair Person,
Rising Fountains Development Program (RFDP),
Lundazi, Zambia.

www.risingfountains.org



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009

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 organisation can help or you know of someone who might be interested please email risingfountain@yahoo.com for further information.

We are also 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 the 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 1080 orphans and vulnerable children in the 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 \$75 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.



Change the life of a child



Rising Fountains Development Program

June, July, August – 2009