



Volume 1, Issue 2.

RISING FOUNTAINS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

April –June, 2010.

Kuunika Newsletter

'Shedding light on Lundazi District'

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RFDP's 2009 ANNUAL REPORT POSTED ON ITS WEB SITE —Executive Director discloses.

By Misheck Nyirongo

Rising Fountains Development Programme (RFDP) has launched its 2009 annual report on its website.

Speaking in an exclusive interview, the Executive Director, Mathias Zimba disclosed, "This has been a busy and productive year for our Board of Directors and RFDP Staff, all this tremendous work was not been done by RFDP single handedly, but through joint effort with Government and other stakeholders."

The Executive Director said, last year 2009, RFDP has recorded success such as supporting 600 children with the assistance from President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief small grants fund (PEPFAR) and Zambia Orphans of AIDS. (ZOAZ).

Other success includes, constructing and handed over 40 VIP



Anir Executive Director presenting school requisites to teachers and pupils of Nundwe Community School.

latrines to Ministry of Education and school authorities and rehabilitated 4 water wells in the communities.

Mr. Zimba also said RFDP carried out 26 sensitization meetings targeting the youths between the age of 15 and 25, grandmothers between the age of 45 to 55, men between the ages 25 and 65, in water and sanitation, care and support for orphans and vulnerable children, agriculture and livelihood and HIV/AIDS with 6556 people attending the meetings.

He added that they have Identified a total number of 1,300 orphans and vulnerable children through the or-

phan care committees (OCC) and school authorities for sponsorship. He said, the organisation has entered into partnership with a U.S based Non Governmental Organisation, Colour Me In (CMI) to pilot the Color Me Green Micro loan Project. He also said, the organisation has received a four wheel drive, 5 seater Nissan Terrano motor vehicle, donated by Fountain of Life Church as a gesture of goodwill and support for easy operations.

The Executive Director mentioned that, RFDP participated the commemoration of 2009 World AIDS Day at Kazembe Basic School, whose theme was 'Universal Access and Human Rights.' Many people representing various stake holders were invited. The Royal Highness Chieftains Kazembe and the ward councilor were in attendance.

"...recorded success such as supporting 600 children....."

(Continued to page 4)

Only 15% of Zambians know their HIV/AIDS status – UNDP envoy reveals.

By Oswald Lungu and Misheck Nyirongo.

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Country representative to Zambia, Mr. Mcloud Nyirongo has revealed that only 15% of Zambians know their HIV/AIDS status and the overall prevalence rate of HIV/AIDS in Zambia stands at 14.3% which is still high and one of the worst HIV/AIDS epidemic

in the world.

Speaking on 30th JUNE, 2010 during the commemoration of the National VCT Day in Khulikuli Middle Basic School in Chief Magodi's area, Lundazi, Eastern Province of Zambia, the UNDP representative said, "In spite all this, the majority of our people still do not know their HIV status and new infections are occurring every day while those infected are

re-infecting themselves because they do not know their HIV status."

The UNDP envoy says if people go for (VCT) Voluntary counseling and testing they will be equipped with the knowledge to either protect them from infection, or live positively with HIV/AIDS and access treatment when they need it.

Continued on page 6.

EDITORIAL TEAM



Executive Director
Mathias Zimba



Lackson Chipeta - Coordinator.



Edina Siwale— Accountant



Oswald Lungu Program Facilitator HIV/AIDS and Health/OVC Facilitator.



Jack Tembo Program Facilitator
Agriculture/ Water and Sanitation



Lizzy Zulu Administrative Assistant

DESIGNING AND
MEDIA
TECHNICAL
SUPPORT
By:
MISHECK NYIRONGO

DEAR READER

I wish to welcome you to this edition of our second issue for this year – 2010. The first thing our frequent readers will observe is that the whole design and focus has changed from our usual newsletters, we have also included other stories from our district. RFDP wish to thank our esteemed readers for their response and support shown to our first issue of the RFDP newsletter. I wish to convey my utmost appreciation and thanks to all the readers world over who have



Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
Melina Mbuzi

continued to support this publication. In addition, I also wish to pay special tribute to the stakeholders for sharing information with us. This gives us hope and inspiration that the spirit of sharing information with the general public and members of staff has been revived. Accordingly, this will effectively close the gaps that have existed in the production for quite a while giving the readers a bumper read. Through this newsletter, it is our desire that you the readers will understand RFDP information and work at the finger tips. The past years has shown that we can look forward for greater things this year and beyond.

Readers are reminded to write their letters for any queries and comments concerning this newsletter. Be part of the RFDP newsletter by sending your articles to the Editor. The letters can be

addressed to:

The Editor,

Rising Fountains Development Program,

Kuunika Newsletter,

RFDP Headquarters,

P.O. BOX 530230,

Lundazi, Zambia.

Email on risingfountain@yahoo.com

website www.risingfountains.org.

***DO NOT FIGHT YOUR FRIEND, BUT
LET US FIGHT AIDS AND MALARIA
IN OUR COMMUNITIES AND
FAMILIES!***

Focus on Community Outreach Workers

By Melina Mbuzi.

In each newsletter we feature one of our community outreach workers based out in the valley and on the plateau. In this edition, we feature Chuwa Banda from Chitungulu catchment area in the valley. Chuwa is married with one child and he has been working with RFDP from its inception. He has set committees on water and sanitation, Orphans and Vulnerable Children and HIV/AIDS and Health. Working as a volunteer is not easy, lifting people lives in this rural part of Zambia. Chuwa finds his job hard as he covers long distances in the catchment area bringing people together and holding meetings with them and reporting back to RFDP office. Like many other community outreach workers. The main problem encountered by Chuwa is transport, he needs a bicycle to help him move easily from village to village conducting meetings and educating the rural community. Chuwa is delighted with the work of RFDP in his area where information of diseases and other developmental issues is hard to be heard. Chuwa is appealing to well wishes to help him with a bicycle. A bicycle only cost 80 US\$.



Chuwa Banda appealing for help in form of transport (bicycle)

RFDP commemorates the Day of an African Child

June 16th is 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. The children were massacred by police. In Lundazi the event started on Tuesday night with different churches that came up together for prayers and candle lighting.

The actual events were held at Lundazi showground were a number of children from different schools surrounding Lundazi district participated in the memorable event. Activities ranged from debate, poems, choral songs, sketches and traditional dancers delivering powerful messages of HIV/AIDS and child rights.

This year's event was colorful and different because pupils who took part in the debate earlier in the week were awarded certificates in their recognition for their outstanding performance. In attendance was Lundazi District Commissioner who was the guest of Honour at this year's event, Government heads of departments, Teachers, NGO's, Churches leaders, Media Personnel, parents, children in school and children out of school.



Children reciting poems during the Day of African Child.

By Melina Mbuzi.

Self Awareness

Every person needs to know who they are and how they react to internal and external stimuli, self awareness is the ability to recognize what you are feeling and what is making you feel this way. Self awareness can make you recognize your own shortcomings. It helps young people to understand their potential strengths and weakness and have a clear sense of their own identity, purpose in life, the culture into which they were born and understand both negative and positive societal expectations in order to face the daily challenges of life. As human beings we are always growing and full of feelings. We need to be aware of these feelings and experience they generate. Additionally, other people may not know how you feel unless you tell them.

Self awareness ultimately leads to the building of positive self esteem and self confidence. Therefore self awareness is about knowing who you are and your position in society. But it does not does not come on its own.

You need to build and develop it.

BY Melina Mbuzi.

The trouble with.....

- ...Doctors is that they give you an appointment six weeks ahead, then examine you and ask, "Why did you wait so long to see me?"
- ...retirement is that you can not leave your problems at the office.

By Misheck Nyirongo

Initiative is never taught!

By Misheck Nyirongo

Mom and Dad decided to send an old chair to my sister. Dad searched for a box large enough to pack it in and finally found an empty refrigerator carton outside a store. Since the box was too large to fit inside his compact car, the only way he could get it home was to tie it onto a roof. As he waited at a traffic light, a woman in the car next to him rolled down her window and asked, "Mister, did you know that your refrigerator's fallen out?"

Briefing points

- Women can be especially vulnerable to the AIDS epidemic.....
- Subordinate position to males can make it difficult to protect selves against AIDS.
- Certain cultural and economic practices can increase the risk of transmission.
- Burden of care in AIDS affected households falls on women and children.

By Melina Mbuzi.



HIV/AIDS EPIDEMIC AFFECTS ALL SECTORS IN SOCIETY.

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By Misheck Nyirongo**

Continued from page 1.

With all smiles of success across his face, further said, "A fundamental factor to the success of RFDP's projects is the involvement of the community at the grass root level in activity implementation and decision making and the ever presence of the organisation in the community".

The challenges:

• **Resources:**

Meeting the growing demand of the community members continues to be the biggest challenge to RFDP yet funding to this effect remains limited. There are lot of expectations for departments of HIV/AIDS and Health, Water and Sanitation, Care and Support for OVCs, Livelihood and Micro Enterprise Development, Environmental and Agriculture but generally, activities have been hampered by lack of adequate funds. Some planned activities were not implemented like outreach programs on HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Diarrhoea diseases.

Organisation background:

RFDP is a growing Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) based in Lundazi district, Eastern Province of Zambia, established in 2000 in the spirit of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

Mission Statement and Objectives:

RFDP's mission is to empower people in rural Zambia by providing them with education, awareness and practical assistance to develop their lives in accordance with their own needs. RFDP aims to achieve the following objectives in the project it implements:

- Improve primary health care and contribute to the reduction of the spread of HIV/AIDS for strategic groups: widow/grandmothers, youths, OVC, PLWA and high risky groups such as small scale miners and fishermen.
- To improve the availability of clean, safe drinking water and sanitation services, promotion of hygiene practices and reduce water borne disease through the rehabilitation of wells, construction of VIP latrines, formation of water and sanitation committees, installation of hand washing facilities and raising community awareness on hygiene issues.
- To improve provision of care and support for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) and youths through distribution of school requisites, clothing, blankets and food, empowering caregivers with knowledge and skills to enable them to provide for their families needs and



RFDP Staff with beneficiaries at Kazembe School.

forming and supporting youth groups.

- To improve access to basic education for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) through the distribution of school requisites, paying school fees and supporting community schools.
- To empower women in rural communities through facilitating opportunities in which their voices can be heard and provide them with the necessary resources to take care of themselves and their families.
- To advocate environmental protection, ecological agriculture and sustainable livelihoods through raising community awareness and empowering them with knowledge, skills, resources and support to make effective, long term changes to their practices.

RFDP Looks Ahead 2010!

In order to be in the spectrum of success this year, RFDP pin points the key activities in each sector of it programme operations:

1. HIV/AIDS and Health:

- ✦ Mainstreaming HIV/AIDS through breaking the silence campaign to 500 community members conduct training for 500 Counselors and care givers.
- ✦ Establish mobile VCT in places were health centers are not available and train people living with HIV/AIDS and conduct awareness meetings in new catchment areas.
- ✦ Train 100 Psychosocial Counselors in HIV/AIDS and peer counseling and establish and provide mobile VCT services to 600 people in RFDP catchment areas.
- ✦ Train 20 community health workers in primary health care and scale up HIV/AIDS prevention to 700 women and girls.

2. Water and sanitation:

- ✦ Source more funds from donors (both external & internal) to embark on major improvements on water and sanitation and conduct training workshops for 100 WASHE committee members on water and sanitation to stimulate extensive hygiene behaviour change.
- ✦ Construct and rehabilitate 60 more water wells for easy access to clean, safe drinking water and construct 100 addi-

tional double VIP latrines at schools and other public institutions for easy access to sanitation services.

- ✦ Form 30 WASH committees in schools to spearhead sanitation initiatives in schools and provide 3000 bottles of chlorine to households in communities.
- ✦ Install 100 hand-washing facilities in schools to improve hygiene and conduct 60 hygiene and sanitation awareness lessons in schools and communities.
- ✦ Develop more partnerships with other NGOs and stakeholders for easy implementation and speedy completion of WASHE projects.

3. Care and support for OVC:

- ✦ Form 10 orphan care committees and support 500 orphans and vulnerable children with school requisites.
- ✦ Train 200 caregivers and 60 psychosocial counselors and 150 orphans and vulnerable children in livelihood skills and form 30 grandmothers groups.
- ✦ Form 10 education child care development centers (Nursery Schools) and train 15 nursery school teachers.
- ✦ Solicit funds to sponsor 10 OVC and purchase and distribute school visual aid, chalk, dusters and teachers' text books to 10 schools.
- ✦ Hold 5 children camps (teaching them on the dangers of HIV/AIDS/ child abuse and children's rights).

4. Environmental and Agriculture:

- ✦ Train 100 RFDP groups members in tree planting and raising tree nurseries and 100 RFDP groups members in sustainable agriculture and environmental protection.
- ✦ Train 100 group members on Agro-forestry and plant 3000 woodlot trees and form 100 enterprises groups in the communities.

5. Livelihood and Micro Enterprise Development:

- ✦ Train 100 RFDP group members in basic entrepreneurship and micro-finance and give seed money (start up) capital to 100 RFDP group members.
- ✦ Identify 100 small scale entrepreneurs establish 100 micro enterprises in the communities.
- ✦ Train 1000 households in business skills training.

Chikaya Community Radio Station Celebrates its 10th Anniversary.

By: Melina Mbuji and Misheck Nyirongo.

Chikaya community radio is a community fm radio based in Lundazi district, Eastern province of Zambia. Radio Chikaya, is pioneer / first and mother of community radio stations in Zambia, initiated by Lundazi community in 1999 upon seeing that the National broadcasting- Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) signal is poor in the district which resulted into people not accessing current affairs, developmental programmes and awareness on cross cutting issues.

In 2000, 12th May, Radio Chikaya started broadcasting after receiving a 30 watts broadcast transmitter equipment from Media Trust Fund (MTF). The radio station has been in existence and broadcasting to Lundazi community for 10 years now. On the 28th May, 2010 Lundazi community celebrated the 10th anniversary of existence of the community radio station.

Addressing the community on behalf of the District Commissioner (DC), Lundazi District Agriculture Coordinator(DACO), Mr. Micheal Ngulube, said, "As Government our role is to support sectors that bring development and radio Chikaya is just that kind of sector that needs our support because it is one of the Non Governmental Organisation that plays a very important role in our daily social and economic activities".

The District Commissioner noted that information is one of the most important development aspects to our community today without information development can not happen.

He said, no one will doubt the important role radio Chikaya plays in disseminating vital informative radio programs to the people of Lundazi district.

He said, "Sir, you will agree with me that members of Lundazi community are now being informed in the shorter and easier way than ever before. It is for this important fact therefore that I feel this effort must be heavily supported by every patriotic Lundazi resident". The DC also said, "As information is vital to the community, I would like to implore you to make this information as accurate as possible because if information reaching the community is distorted a lot of problems shall continue rising".

He asked, "How do we make sure that information is accurate and of true nature? It is only by a way of confirming from the relevant authorities the fact before airing".

DC at 10th Anniversary of Radio Chikaya in Lundazi



The District Commissioner further said he was aware of numerous challenges the radio station is currently facing in its day to day operational affairs like technical, accommodation, transport, skilled man power. The DC made an earnest appeal to all stake holders and well wishers to help and support the growth of the radio station.

In his opening speech, the Radio Chikaya Board Chairperson, Mr Fanwell Botha said the radio Chikaya is now and then seen with a lot of difficulties but due to commitment made by several players, it has stood a taste of time.

Among the gusset observing the proceedings of 10th anniversary of Radio Chikaya in Lundazi.



cont'd to page 5.

Laughter is the best remedy !!!!!!! by Oswald Lungu.

Divorce or No Divorce.

Last week the doctor wanted to examine my urine, I filled the bottle in the evening and put it under my bed for safe keeping. The following Day my wife knocked it off, and replaced the urine with hers, when I finally took the bottle to the doctor at Lundazi District hospital I was told that I am six months pregnant . **The end.**

Wife: My husband, the child has swallowed the needle.

Husband: Hey my wife that should not worry you at all because it is cheap. I will go and buy another one right now. **The end.**

1. Doctor: The Doctor suggested to a

patient that he was over training himself. You should have lighter work. What is your occupation?

2. Patient: House breaking! Replied the patient hesitatively.

3. Doctor: Then try pick pocketing for a few days, suggested the doctor helpfully. **The end.**

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RFDP Photo Focus from the field.



Children in a community school in Kazembe



Professor Russell Lowery-Hart from USA giving out mosquito bed nets to the community in Kazembe during RFDP malaria sensitization meeting.



Community members listening to RFDP staff during a meeting for Livelihood and enterprises in Kopenja.



The VIP toilets constructed by RFDP under Water and Sanitation Program.



Pupils of Lundazi Boarding High Secondary School performing during the Anir volunteer visit.



Community members participating during 2009 World AIDS Day at Kazembe Basic School



Lundazi District Education Board Secretary, Fryson Mbuji reading a speech after receiving newly constructed VIP toilets by RFDP on behalf of the Ministry of Education (right) and on top is the RFDP Executive Director, Mathiasimba speaking during the handover at Kazembe Basic School.



School children participating during the Day of African Child at Lundazi Show grounds on 16th June, 2010.



The Head Teacher of Kazembe Basic School and Programs Coordinator posing for the photo next to the VIP Toilets under construction.



A poster stuck on one of the toilets constructed by RFDP advising people to always wash hands after using the toilet.

Did you know that, Child's rights are Human Rights. So promote United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC) NOW.

Only 15% of Zambians know their HIV/AIDS status – UNDP envoy reveals.

By Oswald Lungu and Misheck Nyirongo.

From page one.

Mr. Nyirongo mentioned that, counseling needs strengthening to help people deal with HIV/AIDS as 60% of HIV transmission happens within marriages, it is important to realize that this is generalized epidemic – not just an epidemic among “high risk groups”.

He also said, “It is also important to remember that out of every 100 Zambians between the ages of 15 to 49, 86 remain uninfected. It is critical to encourage these men and women to take active measures to protect themselves from acquiring HIV and stop the spread of the virus.”

He further said, “We acknowledge a number of challenges in the provision of VCT services such as, shortage of practicing counselors required for the scale up of VCT services, VCT centers being few and far apart geographically, especially here in rural areas and Lundazi is not exceptional.”

Other problems mentioned include inadequate information reaching the general public on the availability of VCT services and inadequate physical infrastructure in most VCT Centres resulting in limited space.

The UNDP envoy added that more and more people from all walks of life are getting involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS in ensuring that people know what HIV/AIDS is and how it can be prevented as others are involved in care and support to people living with HIV and AIDS and results are encouraging.

He mentioned, “We also need to promote the

principle of confidentiality and consent in order for people to feel comfortable with VCT and those involved in counseling and testing need to strictly adhere to their professional ethics; otherwise we are going to scare those who want to test”.

He said, “The VCT launch is not an activity in isolation, but part of bigger picture in accelerating HIV prevention, and these efforts should be sustained as VCT day is important for Zambia and Lundazi in particular as it continues to work towards achieving Universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care and support by the year 2010”.

He appreciated the fact that young people are our window of hope and should be encouraged to test so that they maintain their status, and few who may already be infected may then know how they can lead healthy and productive lives and continue to contribute positively to the development of this country. He however appealed that, “The momentum built over the past weeks should not fizzle out, this is the year of acceleration of HIV prevention and therefore we all must continue with our acceleration activities, including encouraging more people to test for HIV.”

The Government of the Republic of Zambia in 2006 introduced a policy of free Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) so that every person infected with HIV and is in need of treatment can access treatment.

Zambia first observed the National VCT day on 30th June, 2006; and it has since been agreed that the day be recognized annually as it plays an

important role in the response and is in line with the Global effect to accelerate HIV and AIDS prevention. The theme for this year 2010 National VCT Day is:

“Know your HIV status and access care and support.”.

Journey from Kasama part One.

By: Melina Mbuli and Misheck Nyirongo.

An ordinary bemba man traveling from Kasama to Lusaka jumped off a fast moving train hoping he has reached Lusaka, when he heard on radio news.

‘Kuno in ku Lusaka, nthawi so pano ni 11:30 hours’.



Jack Tembo , Water and Sanitation Facilitator monitoring the trees in Nundwe area.

TYPICAL LIFE IN LUNDAZI, ZAMBIA. By: Melina Mbuli.

Lundazi is one of the largest districts in the Eastern Province of Zambia. The district occupies an area of 14 068 Km Square. The district shares boundaries with other surrounding districts of Chama in the north, Mpika on the west, Chipata in the south, Mambwe on the south west and borders with Malawi country on the east.

Lundazi is a growing district with modern structures standing. Just recently another bank was built reducing congestion at the only bank in the entire district. New office structures of other government departments are also being built. E.g Ministry of Education Offices. Also interna-

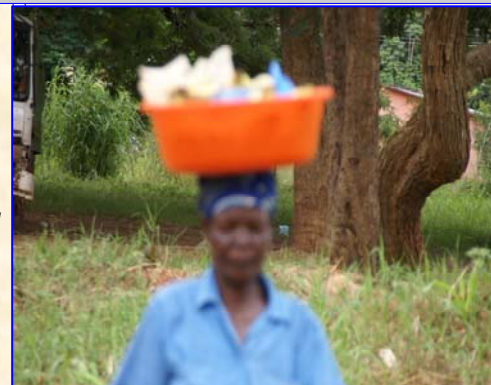
tional contractors are busy with water and sanitations system in the district.

The district is surrounded by villages where life is very hard and most people depend on piece works (a job done for some body and given money there and then).

The most disadvantaged people in the villages are girls, women, children and the elderly.

Most girls do not continue with education as they either get married at a tender age or fall prey to early pregnancies. The children also find life difficult because parents do not manage to provide for them as most of the homes are headed by women and children themselves.

(Continued to page 8.



A grand mother carrying goods on her head for Sale..

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From page one.

Mr. Nyirongo mentioned that, counseling needs strengthening to help people deal with HIV/AIDS as 60% of HIV transmission happens within marriages, it is important to realize that this is generalized epidemic – not just an epidemic among “high risk groups”.

He also said, “It is also important to remember that out of every 100 Zambians between the ages of 15 to 49, 86 remain uninfected. It is critical to encourage these men and women to take active measures to protect themselves from acquiring HIV and stop the spread of the virus.”

He further said, “We acknowledge a number of challenges in the provision of VCT services such as, shortage of practicing counselors required for the scale up of VCT services, VCT centers being few and far apart geographically, especially here in rural areas and Lundazi is not exceptional.”

Other problems mentioned include inadequate information reaching the general public on the availability of VCT services and inadequate physical infrastructure in most VCT Centres resulting in limited space.

The UNDP envoy added that more and more people from all walks of life are getting involved in the fight against HIV/AIDS in ensuring that people know what HIV/AIDS is and how it can be prevented as others are involved in care and support to people living with HIV and AIDS and results are encouraging.

He mentioned, “We also need to promote the

principle of confidentiality and consent in order for people to feel comfortable with VCT and those involved in counseling and testing need to strictly adhere to their professional ethics; otherwise we are going to scare those who want to test”.

He said, “The VCT launch is not an activity in isolation, but part of bigger picture in accelerating HIV prevention, and these efforts should be sustained as VCT day is important for Zambia and Lundazi in particular as it continues to work towards achieving Universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care and support by the year 2010”.

He appreciated the fact that young people are our window of hope and should be encouraged to test so that they maintain their status, and few who may already be infected may then know how they can lead healthy and productive lives and continue to contribute positively to the development of this country. He however appealed that, “The momentum built over the past weeks should not fizzle out, this is the year of acceleration of HIV prevention and therefore we all must continue with our acceleration activities, including encouraging more people to test for HIV.”

The Government of the Republic of Zambia in 2006 introduced a policy of free Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) so that every person infected with HIV and is in need of treatment can access treatment.

Zambia first observed the National VCT day on 30th June, 2006; and it has since been agreed that the day be recognized annually as it plays an

important role in the response and is in line with the Global effect to accelerate HIV and AIDS prevention. The theme for this year 2010 National VCT Day is:

“Know your HIV status and access care and support.”.

Journey from Kasama part One.

By: Melina Mbuzi and Misheck Nyirongo.

An ordinary bamba man traveling from Kasama to Lusaka jumped off a fast moving train hoping he has reached Lusaka, when he heard on radio news.

‘Kuno in ku Lusaka, nthawi so pano ni 11:30 hours’.



Jack Tembo , Water and Sanitation Facilitator monitoring the trees in Nundwe area.

TYPICAL LIFE IN LUNDAZI, ZAMBIA. By: Melina Mbuzi.

Lundazi is one of the largest districts in the Eastern Province of Zambia. The district occupies an area of 14 068 Km Square. The district shares boundaries with other surrounding districts of Chama in the north, Mpika on the west, Chipata in the south, Mambwe on the south west and borders with Malawi country on the east.

Lundazi is a growing district with modern structures standing. Just recently another bank was built reducing congestion at the only bank in the entire district. New office structures of other government departments are also being built. E.g Ministry of Education Offices. Also interna-

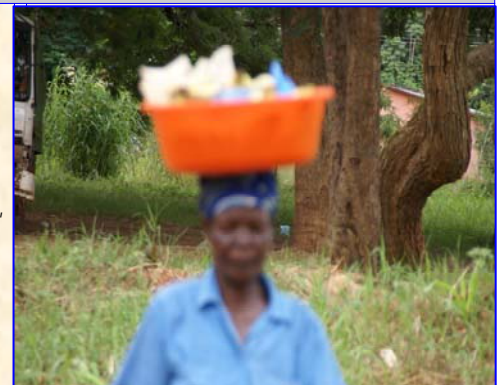
tional contractors are busy with water and sanitation system in the district.

The district is surrounded by villages where life is very hard and most people depend on piece works (a job done for some body and given money there and then).

The most disadvantaged people in the villages are girls, women, children and the elderly.

Most girls do not continue with education as they either get married at a tender age or fall prey to early pregnancies. The children also find life difficult because parents do not manage to provide for them as most of the homes are headed by women and children themselves.

(Continued to page 8.



A grand mother carrying goods on her head for Sale..

RFDP attends Zambia Access Initiative (ZAAI) Launch.

By Melina Mbuzi

RFDP was privileged to attend ZAAI meeting which was held in Lundazi. The main aim of the project is to increase affordability and availability of medicine and make sure that medicine is available everywhere in the clinics, hospitals and shops also to increase over row quality service.

The program will an able everyone have access to drugs, it believed that a small percentage of people have access to drugs. The project also trained some drug dealers in order for them to be testing malaria cases before administering the drugs.

In order to mitigate the fight against malaria the meeting was proceeded by the launch of the program by Zambia Access Initiative in partnership with World Bank, MSH, Malaria consortium, PRA and Lundazi Health Office on 14th May 2010. This is a clear demonstration of government partnership with the private sector.

Lundazi District Commissioner, Alexander Miti (Head of the district), welcomed the entourage from ZAAI, Traditional Leaders, Member of Parliament (MP), different Government Head departments, NGOs, Drug store dealers and the community members present to the launch and thanked ZAAI for choosing Lundazi district to be the first to launch the program which is meant to increase accessibility to drugs.

to increase affordability and availability of medicine and make sure that medicine is available everywhere in the clinics, hospitals and shops also to increase over row quality service.

Chikaya Community Radio Station Celebrates its 10th Anniversary.

From page 4.

The Board Chairperson further lamented that for a long time the community radio station has had no studio of it's own but because of the efforts made by the general community, they have started building their own studio.

He said, "Our aim is to have the permanent studio by the end of this year and once this is achieved, the Radio station will at list lessen its expenditure."

He thanked the honourable chiefs for their generosity towards the construction of the building which currently is underway. Whilst broadcasting to the Lundazi community for the past 10 years, the community radio has had a number of challenges which include lack of transport, lack of up date equipment on the on air studio despite covering a wider area and lack of accommodation among them.



ZASP local musical band entertaining the audience during the 10th Anniversary of Radio Chikaya in Lundazi.

By: Misheck Nyirongo and Merlina Mbuzi.

"As information is vital to the community, I would like to implore you to make this information as accurate as possible because if information reaching the community is distorted a lot of problems shall continue rising".

TYPICAL LIFE IN LUNDAZI, ZAMBIA. By Melina Mbuzi.

Cont'd from page 7

Children shoulder most of the responsibility of attending to household chores like working in the fields, heading cows and most of times selling farm produce to eke out a living. Although the government introduced free education for primary level, most parents do not still afford to provide school requisites hence children drop out of school.

Lavished with HIV/AIDS, elderly people have been left with the burden of looking after grand children with no source of income, no food to provide for the young ones as they have no power to work or do any thing by themselves. Women also are hard hit because of heavy work load they are supposed to carry. RFDP is restoring hope by working with the rural communities, addressing the challenges they face in rural areas.



Women and Children selling farm Produce to the traveling public to make ends meet.

Support Rising Fountain Development Program

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 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 1393 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 \$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.

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Lundazi District Council Launch Keep Lundazi clean and Healthy Campaign

Story by Melina Mbuji and Oswald Lungu.

Lundazi district council launched Keep Lundazi clean and Health Campaign on 7th May 2010. Addressing scores of Lundazi residents the District Commissioner Alexander Miti (Head of the District) said that life is not a material or substance to be molded, rather it is an on going process constantly renewing, remarking, changing and transforming itself. Keep Zambia clean campaign is where our lives need to develop in all daily activities. In deed, life is never static but always is a flux. In nature there are not any entities only transition and transformation.

Keep Zambia clean campaign is an opportunity for all the citizens of the country to participate. Lundazi as a district it is hoped that it will regain and institutionalize a culture of cleanliness and good health practices which will be practiced by all and contribute to personal and national well being.

The District Commissioner further said keep Zambia clean campaign is an on going, government led, multi-sectoral, multi-disciplinary, campaign programmes, where all government line ministries, provincial and district administrators, local authorities, traditional authorities, statutory bodies and other public institutions, private sector institutions and many more at large are encouraged to actively participate in the implementation of a wide range of related activities.

Therefore, as Lundazi district and people of Lundazi may we please do our best to keep our surroundings clean. Let us not leave the cleaning of the surrounding to the local authority alone stakeholders. Let us work together for the betterment of our district.

At the end of the launch, the DC planted a tree to demonstrate and lead by example to encourage community members to plant trees in order to protect the environment. **Remember cleanliness is next to Godliness.**



This during Col-our Me In micro loans workshop at Kamusisi community.

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